



# *The Corporation of the District of Central Saanich*

June 5, 2001

File: 5600-06

Capital Regional District  
524 Yates Street  
P. O. Box 1000  
Victoria, B.C. V8W 2S6

**Attention: Capital Regional District Board**

Dear Chair Causton and Directors:

**Re: District of Central Saanich – Senanus Water Quality and Supply Issue**

As you are aware, at its May 23, 2001 Meeting the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board received a series of delegations pertaining to the Senanus water quality and supply issue. After considerable discussion and consideration of a report from the Executive Director, the Board adopted a Motion to request the Regional Medical Health Officer to "review all of the reports on the Senanus Drive water quality issue, and to provide a report to the Board as to the extent of the health hazard."

Please be advised that at its Regular Meeting held on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2001, the Central Saanich Municipal Council further considered this matter, and adopted the following Motion, the contents of which I trust are self-explanatory:

*"That a letter be written to the Capital Regional District Board expressing Council's serious concerns in regards to the process and outcome of the May 23, 2001 Board Meeting as it pertained to the discussion and vote on the Senanus water quality and supply issue, with the letter to specifically address the following concerns:*

- 1. The lack of sufficient technical and background information which was provided to the Board on this issue, and the inaccuracy which was contained in the Executive Director's Report that was presented at the May 23, 2001 Board Meeting;*
- 2. The critical need for the Capital Health Region (CHR) to be in full possession of all relevant background reports and prior technical data pertaining to this complex issue, and for the CHR to liaise with Central Saanich staff to confirm that it is in possession of all pertinent and current information in this regard;*

*1903 Mount Newton Cross Road, Saanichton, B.C. V8C 1L2 A9  
Phone: (250) 652-4444 Fax: (250) 652-0135*

3. *The CHR be requested to engage a neutral third party to conduct an independent analysis and review of this issue, as opposed to referring the matter to its Regional Medical Health Officer for a report as to the extent of the health hazard; and*
4. *The need for the afore-noted independent analysis/review to focus on the state of the water quality in the area, and not include an examination of the various technical options available for the provision of water to the Senanus area."*

In regards to the preamble and first point noted in the above Motion, Council has further requested that the Board be advised of its frustration that the three Central Saanich Councillors who were in attendance at the Board Meeting were not afforded an opportunity to speak to this issue. In addition, it is Council's understanding that letters previously written to the Board by at least two of the speakers at the Board Meeting were not included on the agenda for discussion. This, combined with the absence of any substantive background reports or technical analysis on this very complex issue, resulted in the Board being, in Council's opinion, less than adequately informed prior to passing its Motion.

Finally, Council wishes to correct the statement in the Executive Director's report that water service has been "denied" to the Senanus area. In fact, to date Council has only stated that it is not prepared to apply for Infrastructure Grant funding for a Mount Newton waterline project, nor is it prepared to see the project proceed by way of a Specified Area Bylaw which would result in an unacceptable number of property owners being charged for a service which they neither require nor support.

Council respectfully requests that the foregoing points be duly considered by the Board in its future deliberations with respect to this issue.

Yours truly,

Gary C. Nason,  
Clerk-Administrator

/pb