



Mount Newton Neighborhood
Association (MNNA)
c/o 906 Mount Newton Crossroad,
Saanichton V8M 1S2

January 1, 2009

Mayor and Council
District of Central Saanich
1903 Mount Newton Cross Road
Saanichton, BC V8M 2A9

Dear Mayor Mar and Members of Council,

We, the Undersigned members of the Mount Newton Neighbourhood Association (MNNA) do not accept the validity of the waterline petition, Certified by the District on April 1st, 2008.

The MNNA notes the long and complex history of the pipeline debate, many disagreements about its necessity and its merits, and the existence of alternative solutions that have not yet been considered. The MNNA would like to see the acrimonious nature of this issue resolved through a fair and equitable process that reflects best practices available.

Given that the new Council would also benefit from a thorough unbiased review of this contentious project, the MNNA proposes that Council bring in an independent third party expert mediator from a certified independent mediation agency to review the project in its entirety, as earlier recommended by the Minister for Sustainability, who offered to fund this service¹. MNNA requests that archaeological monitoring and First Nations Interests be included in any project review.

This review would be in advance of any new petition, would benefit all residents in the proposed Local Service Area (LSA), would facilitate open and informed discussion on the issue for those involved, and would allow Council to focus on larger issues of interest to the District as a whole. Ensuring a cost-effective economically-equitable solution is particularly necessary during this time of global economic uncertainty, when people's ability to pay increased taxes is compromised, and when the currently proposed taxation imposes the greatest proportionate taxation increase on the lowest assessed value properties, with the added uncertainty of open-ended cost-over-runs and therefore unknown taxation increases.

¹ <http://www.senanus.net/d0k5/2005-05-Let-GAbbottMinSustRes-2-CSCouncil-MEDIATOR.pdf>



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Because the process to date, as documented, has been exceedingly flawed and is legally problematic, MNNA is requesting the Municipality undertake the above fair, reasonable, and workable approach as a gesture of good faith and to ensure proper and legal process. Please contact MNNA should any of the above require clarification.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Waters		
Brook Clayards	Noel C. Richardson	
	Andrew Yerman	Timothy Vernon
M E Clayards	R. Fitz Cunningham	Carole Carmall
	Linda Sheridan	Robert Bocky
		B. C. Juttler
Meriel Christoff		
Dave Crane		
D. A. Clark	Jennifer Down	
Rosalind du Saba		
Dale Shpak	Jarlene Befus	
Heather Graham		

cc:
Mr. Kirk Handrahan, Infrastructure Development, Min. Economic Dev.
Mr. Glen Brown, Infrastructure & Engineering, Min. Community Services
Hon. Lynne Yelich, Minister of Western Economic Diversification Canada
Western Economic Diversification Canada
Hon. Blair Lekstrom, Minister of Community Development
Mr. Dale Wall, Deputy Minister of Community Development
Mr. Murray Coell, MLA
Mr. Gary Lunn, MP Saanich-Gulf Islands
The Ombudsman of British Columbia
Office of the Inspector of Municipalities
The Union of British Columbia Municipalities

The Rt. Hon. Premier Gordon Campbell
Ms. Jessica McDonald, Deputy Minister to the Premier
Hon. Barry Penner, Minister of Environment
Ms. Joan Hesketh, Deputy Minister of Environment
Ministry of Environment Water Stewardship Division
Mr. Oliver Brandes, POLIS Project, University of Victoria
Mr. Eric Bonham CAVI / BCWAA Climate Change Committee
Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium
Veins of Life Watershed Society
Ms. Irene Faulkner, Barrister & Solicitor
Ms. Deborah Curran, Environmental Law Centre, University of Victoria
Mr. Calvin Sandborn, Environmental Law Centre, University of Victoria