

SUN PEAKS INCORPORATION STUDY COMMITTEE

c/o - P.O. Box 1002
Sun Peaks, BC V0E 5N0 Canada
Ph: 250-319-0035

November 30, 2009

File: 11.33

The Honourable Bill Bennett
Minister of Community & Rural Development
PO Box 9056, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, B.C., V8W 9E2

Dear Mr. Minister:

The Sun Peaks Incorporation Study Committee presented the updated technical report to more than 100 residents and owners at two meetings held on November 27 and 28, 2009 in Sun Peaks Resort. We wish to draw your attention to the fact that the Chiefs of Niskonlith and Adams Lake Indian Bands requested 5 minutes each to address the Saturday meeting and stated that they were opposed to Municipal Incorporation of Sun Peaks.

The residents and homeowners in attendance appeared to be well informed, generally supportive of the presentation and interested in the process by asking a variety of questions. These covered topics like voter eligibility, zoning, the affect of the HST on the hotel room tax returned to a resort municipality, whether water/propane/sewer would become a responsibility of the municipality, and the future Community Plan.

We also requested the attendees to express their desire for a referendum by completing a secret ballot. Of the respondents, 97 supported the request for an incorporation referendum, while 7 opposed.

Following the public meeting on November 28th, the Study Committee met to discuss moving forward with the incorporation process. By a show of hands (Dr. Dennis Karpiak, who was unable to attend the meetings, was contacted by phone), the Study Committee unanimously decided to request an incorporation referendum. Therefore, on behalf of the Sun Peaks Study Committee, we are respectfully requesting a referendum vote be granted for the incorporation of Sun Peaks as a Mountain Resort Municipality as per the *Municipality Act*.

Although the request for a referendum vote is not contingent upon it, the Study Committee also asks that the Minister consider the following recommendations:

Boundary: The municipal boundary be that of the Controlled Recreational Area. The current Improvement District boundary is too limited in that some assets are only partially located within the ID boundary and therefore are subject to dual taxation authorities. Other concerns are with safety and fire protection issues. Sun Peaks Fire Rescue is only legally able to work within the Improvement District boundary, not allowing them to respond to fires within the CRA but outside of the ID boundary. Wildland fire protection would also be more effective to the protection of the resort if the CRA boundary is used. There are also some environmental impacts that may arise on lands within the CRA above the ID boundary that could have significant impact on the valley areas.

Name: The Committee requests that the new municipality be called the 'Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality'.

Advisory Committees: The Committee recommends the implementation of the following advisory committees

- Non-BC Resident Property Owners Advisory Committee re: tourism & community (includes both non B.C. Canadians and foreign owners).
- Economic Advisory Committee (includes Tourism Sun Peaks and resort businesses)
- First Nations Advisory Committee that represents area bands. It should also include a SPRC representative and must include a councillor rep and the Chief Administrative Officer of the Municipality.
- Improvement District Transition Advisory Committee (on a time limited basis and only required if no current ID trustee is elected to municipal council).

Appointed Council Seat: The Committee strongly recommends that an appointed councillor be a senior member or nominee of Sun Peaks Resort Corporation. This council representative should be appointed for a minimum of 10 years. The Committee notes that 94% of those who responded to the incorporation survey were in favour of an appointed representative of Sun Peaks Resort Corporation and no negative feedback was received at any of the three public meetings held.

Limited Business Rate: The Committee recommends that a maximum multiple of 3.5 be implemented for the first 10 years of incorporation.

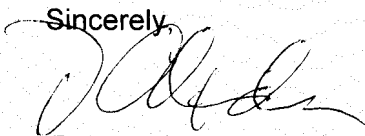
The full Sun Peaks Incorporation Study Committee was then disbanded and a smaller Referendum Committee consisting of Colleen Hannigan, Al Raine and Darcy Alexander was formed.

As you are aware, two of our neighbouring communities, Barriere and Clearwater, recently incorporated. While the regular waiting period between the referendum being granted and voting day is 80 days, these communities were offered a compressed schedule with a waiting period of only 56 days. We are also asking that the same consideration be given to the Sun Peaks Incorporation vote, particularly since this process has been delayed for so long.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact any of the Referendum Committee members or Nicky Braithwaite, Sun Peaks Improvement District Administrative Officer.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Darcy Alexander
Co-Chair



Ines Popig
Co-Chair

cc: Dr. Terry Lake, MLA Kamloops-North Thompson
Hon. Kevin Krueger, Minister of Tourism, Culture & the Arts and
MLA Kamloops-South Thompson
Sun Peaks Incorporation Study Committee members