



North Westside Ratepayers Assn.

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October 3, 2011

Honourable Christie Clark
Premier of B.C.
P.O. Box 9041, Stn. Prov. Govt.
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9E1

Dear Premier Clark:

Re: Westbank First Nations/Canadian Aggregates - Proposed Gravel Pit
on Westside Road, 27 km. North of Hwy. 97, ILMB Application #3412092

I have had time to reflect on our letter dated July 8, 2011 re the above
noted subject and wish to bring some additional information forward when
considering your response.

In March 2011 Murray Tekano, Regional Director, Ministry of
Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI), Ben Stewart, MLA and Jim
Edgson, Regional Director, Central Okanagan West called a meeting at
LaCasa Resort on Westside Road to advise of road improvements. Mr.
Tekano was the speaker for the evening. He was asked several times if
there was any particular reason for the improvements (pullouts) and he
responded in the negative. Following the meeting residents asked
Murray Tekano and Ben Stewart directly if this had anything to do with
WFN's proposed gravel pit and they answered in the negative. We felt
then and continue to feel that they were being less than truthful.

Subsequent to this meeting I had a phone conversation with Ben Stewart
wherein he advised that he attended a meeting at Wilsons Landing in the
Spring of 2010 and it was clear to him that the attendees wished the road
to be improved. He believed the residents were telling him that if the road
was improved the gravel pit would be acceptable. We believe he, based
on his perception of the meeting, went forward to the MOTI and started
negotiations for road improvements and the WFN gravel pit. We also
believe that at that time our Regional Director, Jim Edgson was acting in
conjunction with Ben Stewart in advocating for this gravel pit. By copy of
this letter we are asking Mr. Edgson to respond to us letting us know if
this was indeed the case.

Several from our Association were at the Wilsons Landing meeting and
we can tell you that a very small percentage of attendees took this
position. Most of the residents who attended believed, and logically so,
that when Government officials toured Westside Road, a gravel pit would

be out of the question. Most of the attendees were from Traders Cove and after personally petitioning that area, we can tell you they are not in favour of a gravel pit. There is already a new pit being opened on Crown Land above Traders Cove which will create heavy truck traffic. . . a private company from Alberta. This traffic will travel through Traders Cove along Westside Road. If the Westbank First Nations pit is approved traffic will also travel through Wilsons Landing and Traders Cove to Highway 97. Traders Cove in particular will be inundated with gravel truck traffic. We suspect one every few minutes.

Ben Stewart also ignored, or is unaware of the petitions and emails that went to the ILMB against this gravel pit - vastly more than all the attendees at the Wilsons Landing Meeting. It is incomprehensible to me how our elected official could come out of this meeting believing small road improvements would be an acceptable tradeoff for gravel trucks on Westside Road. I can tell you it is not the case and sadly for a process that started in 2009, we remain uninformed, skeptical and looking for answers. We feel our elected and Ministry officials were, and are, evading the issues around this gravel pit and the condition of Westside Road. No amount of improvements to Westside Road will make it safer with tandem gravel trucks pounding up and down every few minutes.

We wish to remind you of the increased dangers gravel trucks will pose on this already dangerous road. Is your Government prepared to be held accountable when even more deaths occur because of a decision to allow this quarry to go ahead.

Murray Tekano and Ben Stewart are the same players that were seen on television recently in an attempt to justify the proposed WFN land swap (separate from our issue). They claimed 700 acres traded for 8 acres is equitable to both parties and that Government can do what they want in these issues. I am sure you have heard there is a huge outcry over this proposed land swap which is soon to become a political football for your Government. As Premier you have the responsibility of being guardian of our Crown Land. Crown Land belongs to all residents of B.C. and any agreements over tenure and ownership of such valuable assets needs to be dealt with in an open and honest manner.

I received confirmation from your office with respect to our previous letter (no file reference number) and wish this information included. We look forward to your response.

Yours truly,

Diane Baldwin, President
for:
Board of Directors
NORTH WESTSIDE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

cc: Ben Stewart
Jim Edgson
Murray Tekano
Rich Coleman
Terry Lake
Robert Hobson
Ron Fralik
Friends of Fintry
LaCasa Strata Owners
Steve Thomson
Wilsons Landing Association
Doug Findlater