

From: [Douglas Holmes](#)
To: ["Penny Cote"](#); [Mike Irg](#)
Cc: [John Jack](#); [Wilfred Cootes](#); [Debbie Haggard](#); [Sharie Minions](#); [John McNabb](#); [Tanya Shannon](#); [Bob Beckett](#); [Dianne Bodnar](#); [Wendy Thomson](#)
Subject: RE: Further to the sweep on the Sproat River
Date: June 16, 2020 5:58:36 PM

Penny, I confirm that we will provide this matter to the committee for consideration as a late item.

Thank you also for the summary that you have provided below. That is how staff understands that situation which informs the design of a potential service.

When we begin to prepare the reports for consideration by the Board, here is an initial summary of aspects of service provision that we would need to address:

Define the service:

- Installation of a sweep engineered to hold back significant debris
- Periodic inspection and certification for continued engineering integrity for its intended purpose
- Periodic removal of material that collects against the sweep and disposal of that material

Elements necessary to deliver the service:

- Secure land use tenures for the anchoring points of the sweep
- Secure easements or other access for periodic inspections and debris removal
- Establish contract(s) for the periodic inspections, certifications, and debris removal and disposal
- Staff oversight of the agreements and service delivery

Understand the risks related to delivering this unconventional local government service:

- Discuss the service with our insurers
- Examine questions such as:
 - Will the taxpayers be liable for anything that gets through/under the sweep that damages any part of the built or natural environment?
 - Will the taxpayers be liable for any downstream effects of a sweep failure?
 - Will the taxpayers be liable for anyone who is hurt while playing on the sweep (despite the signage that would almost certainly be installed)?

Determine the governance and funding of this service:

Usually determined by an agreement among the Directors as to which jurisdictions benefit from the proposed service

Are there alternatives to establishing the service?

This would need to be discussed.

I look forward to connecting with you all during the meeting tomorrow.

Regards,
Douglas.



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From: Penny Cote <coteart@shaw.ca>
Sent: June 16, 2020 4:39 PM
To: Douglas Holmes <dholmes@acrd.bc.ca>; Mike Irg <mirg@acrd.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: Further to the sweep on the Sproat River

Hi Doug and Mike,
Hope all is well in the office with everyone.

Sorry to be a pain but.....

This is not a new issue and Mike and I have discussed multiple times. The Sproat River sweep is a high ranking safety measure at the mouth of the Sproat River that has been in place for as many years as I can remember. This is in very close proximity to the Petroglyphs, SL Provincial Park and Boat Launch with visitors from other areas on one side and residents on the other. Further the Fish and Duck commercial venue is very near which draws many boaters to that end of Faber Arm and they also rent to persons inexperienced to the area, boats and houseboats.

In the past I believe Catalyst did maintenance but recent times the debris build up has broken the sweep and has not been addressed so there has been an unmonitored hazard created. The SL weir has also been an issue that is now being addressed annually by Catalyst with thanks. The last few years the sweep has been broken by debris and fast currents causing an open hazard that has seen boats dragged down. Two years ago I heard of a swimmer that was taken down the river and luckily not badly hurt. I do not know how many other non reported incidents there have been. It seems that it is just a matter of time before there is a serious injury. The community has brought this issue forward many times and individuals have so much as offered to pay to have the

sweep repaired and maintained annually. I agree that SL can budget for an annual clean up maintenance program if we can get permissions in place, but if this is simply a matter of Paper Excellence not taking responsibility of their property and securing safety for the community they should be held accountable when there is an incident. A few years ago DFO had agreed to remove the debris from the sweep but the sweep broke before they could safely manage the project. Agreements must have been in place for access which could be agreed upon once more. Please have staff identify what steps are required to secure the safety of our community. I will be asking for this to be a late item for tomorrow AV & Bamfield Committee Meeting.

Thank you,
Penny
