

PRESS RELEASE - April 5th, 2019

Re: Cancellation of the Bowser Wastewater Project

The Area H Residents Association received surprising news from the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) today announcing their decision to cancel the Bowser Wastewater Project.

From the moment the RDN announced this project nearly two years ago it has been controversial and divisive to our community. Our Association's tireless and unrelenting opposition has been focused against the proposed ocean outfall and supported by up to date science which is well documented on our website www.SOSBowser.ca

On a broad basis, lax and outdated Government wastewater standards enables municipalities to release minimally treated sewage effluent into environmentally sensitive waterways which ultimately places our food chain, human health and the environment at risk. Vancouver Island's Area H is a special place which deserves better than that.

Our Association supports the establishment of a new integrated governance and policy setting mechanism by senior levels of Government to protect the Salish Sea and Baynes Sound – a premiere Canadian aquaculture, fishing and recreational area.

We remain supportive of careful development initiatives in Bowser – just not at the expense of our marine ecology. Our belief is that the best opportunity ahead is to become a model green community – one that uses innovative on-land disposal technology for its wastewater and is truly sustainable.

Change must start somewhere and today it started in Area H on Vancouver Island - the biggest winner is the environment.

Bryan Holyk

Executive Director

CC: T. Gates, Campaign Director