

Hidden Grove Plan

Steering Committee

February 12, 2006

MLA Nicholas Simons
Sunshine Coast-Powell River
Sechelt Office

DRAFT

Dear MLA Simons:

Thank you for your interest in the progress of the Hidden Grove Plan Steering Committee. We hope you have found the time to review the binder detailing the history of the efforts to promote and preserve the recreation potential of the Hidden Grove Legacy.

Have you been able to reach out to the Ministry of Forests? Has there been any feedback from the MoF regarding the wishes of the District of Sechelt to assume jurisdiction over the area within the border of the District?

We understand that the District Mayor and Council feel that their Community Forest initiative (at the invitation of MoF) will give them greater control over the lands, including the Hidden Grove. However, no assurances in writing have come from MoF to that effect.

Our last communication to you on this file was November, 2005. We do not wish to rush you, and so we have waited until now to see if there are any developments.

Sincerely yours,

Bob D'Arcy, Chair

Barbara DeMott

Gray Waddell

Gertrude Pacific

Michael Davidson

REPLY: Mail – c/o SHCA, 5866 Deerhorn Drive, Sechelt, B.C., V0N 3A4
Email: hiddengrove@sechelt.net Web Site: <http://hiddengrove.info>
Phone: 604-885-5766

**REPLY: Mail – c/o SHCA, 5866 Deerhorn Drive, Sechelt, B.C., V0N 3A4
Email: hiddeengrove@sechelt.net Web Site: <http://hiddeengrove.info>
Phone: 604-885-5766**

**Hidden Grove Legacy Plan
Meeting Notes**

February 27, 2006 at 1 pm the Pacific/Davidson house

Present: Chair: Bob d'Arcy, Gertrude Pacific, Michaela Davidson, Gray Waddell, Barbara DeMott, Peter Harvey, Valerie Harvey (nee Nash) and Marilyn Jares

1. A report was given on informal discussions with MLA Nicholas Simons which indicated that since HH would be part of the Sechelt Community Forest the matter of HH seemed closed with the provincial government and further that it appears the SCF is a done deal.
2. This set an informal agenda for discussion and resolution of :
 - a. Next step with MLA Simons
 - b. Any course of action with District of Sechelt
 - c. Any course of action with provincial government
 - d. Fund Raising or other activities which might help preserve HH.
3. It was agreed that Barbara DeMott should contact MLA Simons requesting: a) a written response to the committee letter of February 12th, b) a written commitment of support for the project, c) point out that the border line setting the HH within the DoS had again vanished from some forestry maps.
4. Unless and until the DoS actually obtain the CF there is little we can do. At that time consideration might be given to placing a supporter on the new board, soliciting DoS for a commitment of protection or whatever other opportunities present themselves. Prior to the CF the position of the DoS is clearly in favour of pursuing the CF and not dealing with HH as a separate matter.
5. The provincial government may hold little hope at this time based upon MLA Simons report and the need to resolve the CF issue with the DoS and the new Forestry Plan which seems to make any removal of forest from the 'working forest' unlikely. On the other hand there may be some routes to investigate and it was agreed that D'Arcy would look at some website that DeMott had found to see if some opportunities presented themselves.
6. The "Fund Raising" led to some interesting ideas and some conclusions:
 - a. D'Arcy would talk to Betty Keller about setting up a meeting with Howard White of Harbour Publishing to get some insight into the process of major fund raising for the purchase of property or the development of HH. Just a general fact finding mission.
 - b. Pacific/Davidson would look into any contacts with Nature's Trust and how they might offer advice for us to proceed.
 - c. Proceeding to develop amenities within the HH on the basis that one way or the other it is going to be a protected area was raised and this received whole hearted support:
 - i. Paper Materials – maps, brochures, school study materials, flyers would be developed and distributed to show that HH is alive and well and proceeding to be the Legacy we seek. This area was left to a sub-committee of Marilyn Jares and Valerie Harvey (nee Nash).
 - ii. Trail Work – Improvements in the trails should proceed as weather and time permits drawing on the community for workers including some new trails, tidy up current trails and start on the 'handicap trail'. Michael Davidson agreed to head up this division. (as an aside, it is hoped the Jason Herz can lend his machine for the handicap trail when the time comes and D'Arcy will ask him at that time)
 - iii. Woodworking – Peter Harvey and Gray Waddell will work as a sub-committee on wood projects such as:
 1. benches and picnic tables placed where they think best

2. a boxed guestbook and brochure map holders
3. directional signage
4. The 'planned' large sign for the Legacy. If highly skilled wood work is required for this D'Arcy agreed to pursue his contacts with the Sunshine Coast Woodworkers Guild for volunteer services.
7. On a motion from Gertrude Pacific it was agreed to call the whole new initiative the "Legacy Project".
8. It was agreed that the Sandy Hook Community Association board would be approached for 'seed funds' of \$500 at the next meeting of the board.
9. The meeting was adjourned at about 2:30 pm with thanks to the hosts.

2006-03-14 - Robert D'Arcy - Gray Waddell (spiderlegs@dccnet.com) - Hidden Grove.txt
From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
To: Gray Waddell (spiderlegs@dccnet.com) <spiderlegs@dccnet.com>,
Demott and Sam Campbell Barbara (bdemott@dccnet.com) <bdemott@dccnet.com>,
Michael Davidson (kinzer@onelink.ca) <kinzer@onelink.ca>,
Pter and Valerie Harvey (pharvey@codebydesign.com)
<pharvey@codebydesign.com>,
Robert D'Arcy (rdarcy@dccnet.com) <rdarcy@dccnet.com>,
Valerie Harvey (vnash@nashandassociates.org) <vnash@nashandassociates.org>
Date: Tue, 14 Mar 2006 11:08:00 -0800
Subject: Hidden Grove

Hi everyone - some updates:

1. At the SHCA board meeting last night up to \$500 was approved to support the workers on the Legacy Project. I can cut cheques upon a receipt and approval by one other member of the committee.
2. Note that the language used for the motion was careful. Since there is no "permit" to do the work, SHCA is supporting the workers. It cannot support doing something that might be 'illegal' in its own name without asking for problems for the SHCA. SHCA and its HG committee is not doing the work or directing it or anything. But we sure support and encourage those who are and can have meetings to suggest actions!. A fine line which should allow us to carry on OK while protecting our deniability (just like the Bush administration).
3. The report on what the workers are doing was very well received.
4. I have updated the website at HYPERLINK "http://hiddengrove.info" to a more pleasing one (I hope) with a view to looking more professional should we embark on fund raising. Not much new material there but I can add as you think.
5. I have not talked to Jason yet about the machine as he is working or eating out with his wife away and contact not easy. Sigh. Still have to call Betty Keller about Howard Whyte. I'll get to it.
6. Lastly, to save everyone grief sending emails I have created an email address HYPERLINK "mailto:legacy@sechelt.net" legacy@sechelt.net If you use it then an email automatically goes to all the current HG workers - me, Gertrude/Michael, Barbara, Peter, Valerie, Gray without you thinking and having to sort out the addresses yourself. Add this address to your address book. If someone has an address for Marilyn I would appreciate it. I can change and add to the group address upon request.

Cheers,
Bob D'Arcy
HYPERLINK "mailto:rdarcy@dccnet.com"mailto:rdarcy@dccnet.com
Website at: HYPERLINK "http://www.rdarcy.net/"http://www.rdarcy.net



Province of
British Columbia
Legislative Assembly



Nicholas Simons, MLA
(Powell River-Sunshine Coast)

March 24, 2006

Dear Mayor Reid:

I hope you are well.

While I have not heard about an announcement regarding the Community Forest Application, it is my understanding that an announcement regarding the Provisional License will be made in the not too distant future.

In this light, and further to our discussion, I am confident that we will protect the community's values through discussion and involvement of residents and stakeholders.

One group that has been in communication with us both is the Hidden Grove Steering Committee. Like you, I have had the pleasure of viewing the area in question which they would like to see protected from any commercial activity in order to promote and preserve its recreational potential.

I would simply like to add my voice, and that of many others who have taken the time to express their views to me, that this priceless piece of the Sunshine Coast remains in its current state of natural beauty.

While they are confident that the Council's views on this matter reflect the Steering Committee's view, some written assurances would go a long way to alleviate the apprehension that exists—especially in light of the fact that there has been nothing in writing from the Ministry of Forests on this matter.

All the best Cam, and I look forward to meeting with you again soon.

Nicholas Simons, MLA
Powell River-Sunshine Coast

cc. Hidden Grove Steering Committee

Rough Minutes

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING HIDDEN GROVE LEGACY PROJECT

Wednesday, August 2, 2006, 10:00 am.

Attendees: Bob D'Arcy, Gertrude Pacific, Michael Davidson, Gray Waddell, Barbara DeMott, Valerie Nash

1. Review of Old Projects:

- a. Handicapped Trails- discussed and still priority but still need some official approval to do work
- b. Regular Trails-
 - i. brief report on current upkeep
 - ii. Signs are needed to replace poor current ones in all areas
- c. Children's Education- Marilyn Jares will be contacted to:
 - i. See about getting some teachers into the Grove to encourage student field trips in the Fall.
 - ii. With guidance on material, Nash will develop some hand out materials for the teachers to use with their classes
- d. Consultation - meeting with Nicholas Simons June 9 – reported upon and :
 - i. Agreed that we should have a meeting with him about every 3 months to just report progress, etc. Pacific will call Kim to set up meeting after Labour Day in September.
- e. Volkswalkers- No update due to absence of Peter Harvey
- f. Visitor's boxes, trail signs – Pro forma of entrance sign reviewed and :
 - i. Agreed that large sign should go ahead on two posts with space for other signage on the posts.
 - ii. Agreed that rather than a box of maps, brochures there should be an entrance map of everything and then "You are here" maps at interior sign sites.
 - iii. Davidson/D'Arcy to work on new overall map and then it will be prepared in sections for all locations
 - iv. Consideration to be given to colour coded system and D'Arcy to speak with Parks, Perry Smidt, to see if DoS have any supply of colour markers.
- g. 2 minute speech – how to use it – needs revision and discussion with Simons at meeting

2. New Projects:

- a. Dionne Paul: mask artist and Cultural Liaison for the SIB, museum duties-
 - i. Formal letter to Elders to be written by D'Arcy requesting blessing ceremony and that they take tour. Letter will be vetted by some others and finally by Dionne Paul prior to sending.

- ii. If and when positive response to letter received then consideration will be given to seeking approval to advise DoS council and some others to attend.
 - iii. Consideration must be given to getting Elders into site and best location.
- b. “Sechelt Community Projects Inc.” (community forest) –
 - i. public meeting to be held on this same afternoon so all encouraged to go.
 - ii. Forms for comment handed out and each to turn one in with key questions(s) relating to protection of Grove.
 - iii. D’Arcy has followed up on a presentation opportunity and has now been advised that it may be to the Advisory Board in September. The secretary (Jackie) is to call and advise but D’Arcy has a reminder set too.
 - iv. It was encouraged that internet research be done into what CI’s have done in other locations to protect and encourage “recreational use”. The Kootneys in particular was cited.
- c. Opening celebration event next summer - With Elders, Councillors, invitees, public, entertainment, food – See Dionne Paul item above plus, agreed we could not/would no have an opening ceremony – just the blessing for now.
- d. Large entry sign (lettering sample) – See above
- e. New Trails – None at this time
- f. Additional members for Hidden Grove committee – Need to seek out residents of other than Sandy Hook as well as more overall. Some names bounced about and those who know individuals will contact them
- g. Eligibility for TD Canada Trust environmental fund (www.fef.ca) – this program was reviewed and it was agreed that “we had nothing to lose” by applying using the handicap trail project as the target for the apparent \$5,000 available. Pacific to meet with TD for more detail and then forms will be completed and submitted by a few working together.

The meeting adjourned at about 12 noon.

Robert D'Arcy

From: Robert D'Arcy [rdarcy@dccnet.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2006 4:27 PM
To: Brian Smart (Business Fax); Warren Hansen (whansen@chartwell-consultants.com); 'kthirkell@dccnet.com'
Subject: Hidden Grove

Hi Brian and Warren,

This is just a short note to thank you very much for all your time today and to thank you especially for your listening to our appeals and story. It was really appreciated (as confirmed by the comments at our post mortem after <grin>)

We look forward to hearing back on the "cut block" soonest and the "BIG PLAN" at your first chance to get your head around it. We stand ready to pitch in as needed.

Cheers,
Bob D'Arcy
Chairperson
Hidden Grove Plan Committee
<mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info>
Website: <http://www.hiddengrove.info>

PS: Keith - thank you too. One of us will talk to you to bring you up to speed on what went on after you had to leave. Your being there was a special bonus for all of us and shows a) you're a nice guy and b) why you got elected.
Bob

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Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.1.405 / Virus Database: 268.12.5/451 - Release Date: 19-Sep-06

Robert D'Arcy

From: Brian Smart [brian.smart@dccnet.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2006 4:42 PM
To: rdarcy@dccnet.com
Subject: Hidden Grove questions

Hi Bob, great tour today, thanks again. I was impressed with the area and your work to date. I have a few questions for you that I came up with during my continued thoughts on the topic of Hidden Grove this afternoon:

What exactly is the arrangement with Cap College to have trails in hidden grove built as part of the trail-building course? Has this arrangement been established in writing at this point? Who is the contact person at the Cap College end for this arrangement?

Could you please show me some documentation from the onset of your committee from the District of Sechelt directing you to undertake the planing that you have done? Something with a date,etc that I can refer to. I need that official link between District of Sechelt's original initiative and today.

I see that Hidden Grove is mentioned on the Tourism BC official site "HelloBC", do you know how it got there? Provincial acknowledgement already!

Talk to you soon.

Brian R. Smart, RPF, RPBio.
Smart Forest Planning
8131 Frances Avenue
Halfmoon Bay, B.C. V0N 1Y1
Phone/Fax: 604-885-7160
brian.smart@dccnet.com

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Version: 7.1.405 / Virus Database: 268.12.5/451 - Release Date: 19-Sep-06

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert D'Arcy [mailto:rdarcy@dccnet.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2006 10:02 AM
To: 'Brian Smart'
Subject: RE: Hidden Grove questions-REPLY

Good morning Brian,

Our 'sweet emails' of yesterday obviously crossed in cyber space. Anyway, about this one of yours,

1) As Michael said to you the talks with Cap College are just in the investigation stage as we only just found out about their proposed new program. As soon as more detail is available we can let you know.

2) We have lots of back and forth with DoS and the Council and they, in turn, have lots of minuted things too. Too much to send so to give you something I am attaching in PDF the Planning Department letter of July 24, 2002 which is self explanatory. If you need more we can fill a book!

We don't know how HG got onto the "Hello BC" thing and until your email I did not know it was there. Neat and shows how the infectious Hidden Grove is.

Looking forward to your next advice.

Cheers,
Bob D'Arcy
Chairperson
Hidden Grove Plan Committee
<mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info>
Website: <http://www.hiddengrove.info>

-----Original Message-----

From: Brian Smart [mailto:brian.smart@dccnet.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2006 4:42 PM
To: rdarcy@dccnet.com

20-Sep-06

Robert D'Arcy

From: Brian Smart [brian.smart@dccnet.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2006 10:14 AM
To: 'Robert D'Arcy'
Subject: RE: Hidden Grove questions-REPLY

Perfect Bob,
That letter is exactly what I was looking for.
Talk to you soon.

Robert D'Arcy

From: Robert D'Arcy [rdarcy@dccnet.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 05, 2006 8:09 AM
To: Brian Smart (brian.smart@dccnet.com)
Cc: Warren Hansen (whansen@chartwell-consultants.com)
Subject: Hidden Grove Update

Good Morning Brian,

We wanted to let you know that our committee had a meeting last night to prepare for a presentation we are making at the District Council meeting on this Wednesday, September 6th at 7:30 pm. It will be pretty upbeat reporting (as we do periodically) on the all the new and exciting developments.

As everyone prepares their little speech bits we were wondering if you had anything to report on the deletion of the cut block from the Hidden Grove/District of Sechelt/Sechelt Heritage Forest area on the CF map. I think you were going to try and get some reading the next day after the tour but a pesky long weekend has probably butted in. Can you let us know?

Maybe we will see you on Wednesday evening?

All the best,

Bob D'Arcy
Chairperson
Hidden Grove Plan Committee
<mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info>
Website: <http://www.hiddengrove.info>

CC. blind to committee
PS. One of the pictures with you in it is up on the website.

--

No virus found in this outgoing message.
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Version: 7.1.405 / Virus Database: 268.12.5/451 - Release Date: 19-Sep-06



SECHELT COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC.

August 4, 2006

Mr. Robert D'Arcy
5866 Deerhorn Drive
Sechelt, B.C.
V0N 3A4

Dear Mr. D'Arcy:

Further to your telephone calls to our office on July 10th and July 25th respectively, we confirm that the Community Advisory Group is the avenue for input into planning the options of the community forest and approval to make a presentation would be through them. Certainly, the Directors could be invited to attend. The next meetings will be held in September, however, in the interim, you are invited to e-mail any maps and ancillary documents to Brian Smart at brian.smart@dccnet.com for his review prior to the next Community Advisory meeting. As mentioned to you, we will have someone from the Community Advisory Group contact you directly to advise you of the date of the next meeting once it has been set.

Thank you for attending our office on August 2, 2006 to view the Forest Stewardship Plan ("FSP"). We understand you were of the impression that a presentation would be made in addition to someone being present for questions and discussion. The purpose of the "Public Viewing" on August 2nd was to encourage interested parties to view the FSP and, in that regard, we ensured that the Planning Forester, who is well versed in the technical aspects of the FSP, was available to fully explain any enquiries regarding the FSP. Your input into the planning surrounding the community forest can be made through the Community Advisory Group and we encourage you to do so.

Your specific questions on the Comment Form will be answered by our Forester at a later date.

Yours truly,
SECHELT COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC.

Kevin W. Davie
Operations Manager

P.O. Box 215, Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0
Phone 604-885-7809 Fax 604-885-7859 E-Mail: scpi@telus.net



SECHELT COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC.

August 4, 2006

Mr. Robert D'Arcy
5866 Deerhorn Drive
Sechelt, B.C.
V0N 3A4

Dear Mr. D'Arcy:

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Your specific questions on the Comment Form will be answered by our Forester at a later date.

Yours truly,
SECHELT COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC.

Kevin W. Davie
Operations Manager

2006-08-04 - Marilyn Jares - legacy@sechel.t.net - -Hidden Grove-.txt
From: Marilyn Jares <mjares@dccnet.com>
To: legacy@sechel.t.net <legacy@sechel.t.net>
Date: Fri, 04 Aug 2006 17:01:30 -0800
Subject: Fw: "Hidden Grove"

Hi Gertrude,

Kerry Mahlman is the principal I took through "Hidden Grove" last year. Could we set up a meeting time as she asks with Bob and you and anyone else who'd like to talk with her? I've contacted the president of the Sunshine Coast Teachers Association too (Denis Fafard is his name, but no response as of yet) It would be good to schmooze with Kerry before taking teachers in anyway. She's a power person.

Marilyn

----- Original Message -----

From: "Kerry Mahlman" <cmahlman@sd46.bc.ca>
To: "Marilyn Jares" <mjares@dccnet.com>
Sent: Friday, August 04, 2006 4:20 PM
Subject: Re: "Hidden Grove"

> Hi Marilyn,
>
> On a personal note - how are things going with your young summer visitor?
>
> Yes, I would be pleased to come out to talk with the chair of the SCHA.
> Can it be the end of next week or the week after? I will do all I can do
> to help promote Hidden Grove as a destination for field trips. I will
> talk about it at the first principals meeting and I will talk to the Pro-D
> chair as well. Lot's of potential ways to enjoy and learn from that
> forest. I will definitely put it on the "must see" list for Aboriginal
> Ed and I know Sally Thicke would do the same for Alternative School
> groups.
>
> I don't want to sound negative, but I anticipate that 3 or 4 teachers
> from each school coming to see Hidden Grove in August might be hoping for
> too much. I think 10 teachers in total would be a success! You might
> have persuasive powers that the rest of us don't - but there has been
> little success in getting folks to turn out to special events in those
> numbers even during working months. In the summer, even if offered
> payment for participating in Pro-D or other events that would be very
> valuable - we have had little response.
>
> Kerry
>
>
>
> Caroline (Kerry) Mahlman
> Principal
> District Aboriginal Programs and Services
> District International Programs
> District Partnerships
> Early Childhood Development Projects
>
> School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast)
> Room 8, The Heritage Building, 805 Gibsons Way
> Box 399, Gibsons, BC V0N 1V0
> Office 604 886 3741
> Pager 604 740 8607
>
> "I can't conceive of anything more varied and rich and handsome than the

2006-08-04 - Marilyn Jares - legacy@sechel.t.net - -Hidden Grove-.txt
> planet Earth, and its crowning beauty is the natural world. I want to soak
> it up, to understand it as well as I can, and to absorb it."
> --Robert Bateman

2006-08-05 - Robert D'Arcy - legacy@sechel t.net - Hidden Grove - August 2. txt
From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
To: legacy@sechel t.net <legacy@sechel t.net>
Date: Sat, 05 Aug 2006 08:45:05 -0800
Subject: Hidden Grove - August 2

Attachments: 060802steeringminutes.doc, 060802steeringminutes.pdf

The company has left so here are some crude minutes for all in Word and PDF. Advise any glaring E&O's.

I will get to the letter I am to start as soon as I get a chance and inspiration.

Some of us attended at the Community Forest offices on Wednesday. My impression was not good. All that was available was to look at one map on a wall and wait to talk to one person who did not have many answers about plans or anything (although he was pleasant and polite). Some other directors were in there initially but just got coffee and went into a closed door meeting in a private office leaving public to mill around waiting for the one employee to handle. It was rude and certainly not any sort of public consultation. If this is the "new" standard of public consultation that was promised following the granting of the license then it is all bit hopeless. Sigh.

Bob D'Arcy
Website: [http://www, rdarcy.net](http://www.rdarcy.net)

Hidden Grove Plan

Steering Committee

August 22, 2006

The Elders
Sechelt Indian Band
PO. Box 740
Sechelt BC
V0N 3A0

Dear Elders,

In 2002 some of our committee had the pleasure of making a presentation before your Council and then later, at a lunch meeting, before your Elder group. In 2003 we were honored to receive your letter of support for our plan to preserve a special place in the district of Sechelt – what has become commonly known as the Hidden Grove.

As you know we have always been aware of the need to protect First Nation interests in this area and the plan book we have put together includes protection of native species for native use and interpretation of native uses of some of the materials for the benefit of all. Recently, we were able to witness, first hand, the cedar bark stripping process and document some of this on our web site.

You may also be aware this portion of the forest has recently been included in the District of Sechelt Community Forest and until we have formal recognition from the new "Sechelt Community Projects Inc." we cannot proceed to fulfill our mutual dream. Our recent efforts at making part of the area accessible to the handicapped are on hold along with any other long term improvements.

We are writing for your help. In 1998 you kindly blessed the newly created Sechelt Heritage Forest protected area which was in part due to efforts by some of the same people as are now working for Hidden Grove. Your support then was invaluable. If you can find it in your heart to perform one of your beautiful ceremonies at Hidden Grove we feel it may assist in moving this matter forward. In any event it can only make the Grove more precious.

If you should agree to this special request we would appreciate meeting with a representative of the Elders to formalize the occasion. We would provide transportation if needed and will be pleased to provide on site refreshments.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours respectfully,
Hidden Grove Plan Committee of
The Sandy Hook Community Association

Per:

Bob D'Arcy
Chairman

REPLY: Mail – c/o SHCA, 5866 Deerhorn Drive, Sechelt, B.C., V0N 3A4
Email: hiddengrove@sechelt.net Web Site: <http://hiddengrove.info>
Phone: 604-885-5766

Page 1 of 1

2006-08-31 - Keith Thirkell -Sea to Sky Media Ltd - Robert D'Arcy - Hidden Grove.txt
From: Keith Thirkell -Sea to Sky Media Ltd <kthirkell@dccnet.com>
To: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
Date: Thu, 31 Aug 2006 10:47:58 -0800
Subject: Re: Hidden Grove

A shucks Bob,

Thanks for the nice words. All the work done to date on Hidden Grove has added a real gem to our community. I'd hate to see that amount to anything less than what we saw on our tour. Brian confirmed to me what I've thought for years, Hidden Grove does represent one of the most easily accessible examples of an intact coastal rainforest to be found in Sechart's boundaries.

Keep up the great work.

Councillor Keith

**Hidden Grove Planning Committee
Notes of meeting September 4, 2006**

Present: Gertrude Pacific, Michael Davidson, Marilyn Jares, Valerie Harvey (nee Nash), Gray Waddell, Bob D'Arcy

Meeting primarily to prepare for upcoming presentation the DoS council on September 6th.

1. Agreed Bob send Brian Smart an email query about cutblock and apprise him of presentation.
2. Agreed hand out at meeting to councillors would be a) fridge magnet with motto changed to "Discover It" b) One page sheet of highlights from Valerie would be updated slightly and emailed to Bob to run off on coloured paper with logo.

Speakers and Subjects

- 1:15
1. **Introduction** (Bob D'Arcy) – keep it upbeat - that we have so much that is new:
 - a. Committee has expanded and includes Pender Harbour and Gibson reps
 - b. As always we want something – not money and will get to that later
 - c. VERY brief history lesson
 2. **Tourism** (Gertrude Pacific) – covering aspects:
 - a. Web scene with listing/description of sites where HG shows
 - b. Tourism – Seaside Centre Bureau handout, Pier 17, others?
 - c. Visitors – Club Tread, Trail Peaks, others?
 3. **Sechelt Indian Band** (Gertrude Pacific) – new and contributing contact with SIB cultural coordinator, Dionne Paul – web site – cultural modification trees – ceremony? – "Join the Cultures"
 2. **Cap College** (Michael Davidson) – complete update on possible use of Northern Section as practicum or laboratory
 3. **School District 46** (Gray Waddell) – overall description of visit and hopes of principals from Marilyn's notes. Some of Kerry's remarks. NEED FOR "OFFICIAL CERTAINTY".
 3. **Wheelchair/Handicapped** (Gray Waddell) – Describe progress
 - a. GPS survey to 5% grade by volunteer
 - b. SHCA has allocated \$500 to this so far
 - c. Equipment/Operator volunteer prepared to start at no labour cost – just equipment but NEED FOR "OFFICIAL CERTAINTY".

This used to introduce Valerie
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 8. **Community Forest and Closing** (Bob D'Arcy) –
 - a. We are on list for presentation to Advisory Board and there has been a casual meeting with the CF Chair, Len Pakulak
 - b. Visit of Brian Smart and Warren Hansen along with Councillor Keith Thirkell. All saw and spoke to the virtues and the potential, etc.
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 - d. The cut block incident coupled with the requirement of educators, contractors and donors alike for anything done in the HG to be under some official or legal clearance makes OFFICIAL CERTAINTY critical.
 - e. We hope and ask that this council who have been such advocates and supporters exert any influence they may have to give the HG this.
- 1:30
- 2:45

Hidden Grove Plan

Steering Committee

September 5, 2006

Sechelt Community Projects Inc
Attn: Mr. Brain Smart, RPF.RPBio
Planning Forester
P.O. Box 215, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A0

Re: Draft Operational Plan

Dear Mr. Smart,

While this letter is being delivered to you in person during your visit to the Hidden Grove today, we would be happy to mail another hard copy on to you. This letter is a formal response to your notice in the August 17, 2006 'The Local' paper wherein you invite written comment on the referenced proposal.

In response to a telephone inquiry, we have heard from Mr. Kevin Davie stating that the Community Advisory Group is the avenue for input but your notice is specific to 'written' submissions. We do not want to miss an opportunity or "fall through the cracks".

We are seeking the formal authority from your corporation to proceed with our plans for this special area. We cannot develop the handicapped trails or some of the educational features of the area without some formal clearance from someone. Over a period of over 6 years we have had the jurisdiction for this area change constantly so that each time we had a new entity to approach. You are the latest and since you are, in a manner of speaking, an instrument of the District of Sechelt, we hope that you will be able to finally give us some sort of green light. The "Hidden Grove Plan" only needs some formal clearance from someone responsible for the area and, to seem to repeat, you are the responsible party now.

We know you have no plans to do any logging in the area as evidenced by your "Sechelt Community Forest Tenure Timber Supply Study" of March, 2005 wherein Hidden Grove was specifically shown as part of the 'netdown'. This was appreciated by all the supporters of the Hidden Grove. Recently (August 21st) we noted that your Draft Operational Plan maps also confirms this position which was again appreciated.

The history of the Hidden Grove clearly confirms the universal support for the Plan but recounting it all would be too much for a letter so we wish to just highlight certain points confirming this. These are not in any particular order and full documentation for each item can be sent as needed.

- 2001 – Over 130 individual letters written to the MoF to support retaining the area for natural recreational and educational use.
- Changes implemented to Forestry maps to correctly show area as within the District of Sechelt. (Vigilance needed as old files keep surfacing with wrong description.)
- Interfor - "Hidden Grove is not in Interfor's developments plan now or in the foreseeable future"

REPLY: Mail – c/o SHCA, 5866 Deerhorn Drive, Sechelt, B.C., V0N 3A4

Email: hiddengrove@sechelt.net Web Site: <http://hiddengrove.info>

Phone: 604-885-5766

- 2002 – **District of Sechelt** approaches Sandy Hook Community Association to prepare an overall plan for this area and this committee was formed. A complete a detailed plan was prepared and presented to the DoS council and planners. It was adopted with enthusiasm and then submitted to the Provincial authorities to obtain the land grant and approvals. The ministries in the provincial government then went through profound changes which resulted in no one or particular ministry able to maintain focus and then grant the request.
- **Sunshine Coast Tourism**, Public Recreation and Commercial Recreation Study includes Hidden Grove.
- SIB- "the **Sechelt Indian Band** is in full support of the Hidden Grove Plan"
- Harold Long, **MLA** – "You have my support"
- Hidden Grove is now on **local tourist maps** – an additional recreation destination, especially from Porpoise Bay Provincial Park. Local tourist bureaus include Hidden Grove handouts to visitors
- Nicholas Simons, **MLA** – "let me know how I can further assist you in achieving your laudable goals" ...for Hidden Grove.
- **Mayor of Sechelt**, Cam Reid – "If we can't get it (*the Hidden Grove as a park*) then at least we can protect it and implement the plan as part of the Community Forest."
- Hidden Grove through its direct connection with the already protected **Sechelt Heritage Forest** includes trail bike connections to the entire coast as far as Gibsons and Egmont.
- **School District No. 46** is looking into using Hidden Grove as a resource for education in nature and first nation's cultural activities.
- Hidden Grove Committee in conversations with **Forest Coalition** representatives who state that their members are well-trained workers and could build amenities such as handicapped trails and shelters, etc. should the area receive a new designation
- A "too numerous to list" selection of **Sunshine Coast organizations** support the plan.

We have files of back up documentation and most importantly there was a complete illustrated plan developed. It is readily available on our website at www.hiddengrove.info and we are pleased to supply one copy for your firm's today. In addition we are pleased to give you're a 'digest' version as a sort of souvenir.

We are anxious to undertake the construction of the trails for the handicapped soonest. We have volunteers and some very limited financial resources ready to go.

We look forward to your formal authorization. Thank you very much.

Yours truly,
Hidden Grove Plan Steering Committee
Of the Sandy Hook Community Association

Per:

Robert D'Arcy
Chair

REPLY: Mail – c/o SHCA, 5866 Deerhorn Drive, Sechelt, B.C., V0N 3A4
Email: hiddengrove@sechelt.net Web Site: <http://hiddengrove.info>
Phone: 604-885-5766

2006-09-05 - Robert D'Arcy - legacy@sechel t. net - Hidden Grove Notes. txt
From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
To: legacy@sechel t. net <legacy@sechel t. net>
Date: Tue, 05 Sep 2006 09:12:00 -0800
Subject: Hidden Grove Notes

Attachments: 060904meeting.doc

Attached in Word and below for a quick read are my notes from last night. You should already have a copy of my email to Smart. Doing fridge magnets - need Valerie submission.

Comments welcomed.

Bob
Hidden Grove Planning Committee

Notes of meeting September 4, 2006

Present: Gertrude Pacific, Michael Davidson, Marilyn Jares, Valerie Harvey (nee Nash), Gray Waddell, Bob D'Arcy

Meeting primarily to prepare for upcoming presentation on the DoS council on September 6th.

1. Agreed Bob send Brian Smart an email query about cutblock and apprise him of presentation.
2. Agreed hand out at meeting to councillors would be a) fridge magnet with motto changed to "Discover It" b) One page sheet of highlights from Valerie would be updated slightly and emailed to Bob to run off on coloured paper with logo.

Speakers and Subjects

1. Introduction (Bob D'Arcy) - keep it upbeat - that we have so much that is new:
 - a. Committee has expanded and includes Pender Harbour and Gibson reps
 - b. As always we want something - not money and will get to that later
 - c. VERY brief history lesson
2. Tourism (Gertrude Pacific) - covering aspects:
 - a. Web scene with listing/description of sites where HG shows
 - b. Tourism - Seaside Centre Bureau handout, Pier 17, others?
 - c. Visitors - Club Tread, Trail Peaks, others?
3. Sechel t Indian Band (Gertrude Pacific) - new and contributing contact with SIB cultural coordinator, Dionne Paul - web site - cultural modification trees - ceremony? - "Join the Cultures"
4. Cap College (Michael Davidson) - complete update on possible use of Northern Section as practicum or laboratory
5. School District 46 (Gray Waddell) - overall description of visit and hopes of principals from Marilyn's notes. Some of Kerry's remarks. NEED FOR "OFFICIAL CERTAINTY".
6. Wheel chair/Handicapped (Gray Waddell) - Describe progress

2006-09-05 - Robert D'Arcy - legacy@sechel.t.net - Hidden Grove Notes.txt

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This used to introduce Valerie

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a. We are on list for presentation to Advisory Board and there has been a casual meeting with the CF Chair, Len Pakulak

b. Visit of Brian Smart and Warren Hansen along with Councillor Keith Thirkell. All saw and spoke to the virtues and the potential, etc.

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--

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Version: 7.1.405 / Virus Database: 268.12.5/451 - Release Date: 19-Sep-06

3.2 Hidden Grove Planning Committee- Update

A delegation including, B. D'arcy, G. Pacific, G. Waddell, V. Nash, and M. Davidson presented an update, highlighting that:

- the committee has expanded
- there is an increased amount of information regarding the Hidden Grove available to the public on the internet,
- a donor to support further park and path development, an in-kind commitment of machine time to undertake path grading to a level where paths could be accessed by people with stroller or mobility aids, and a \$500 commitment from the Sandy Hook Community Association have been secured. Without official park status or certainty, it is not possible to move forward with park development activities,
- Capilano College is interested in including eco-sensitive trail design and building in the north section of Hidden Grove as part of its Mountain Bike Operations Certificate program,
- School District #46 representatives have toured the site and have expressed interest in the educational value of Hidden Grove,
- Community Forest representatives have met with the committee. It has been noted that marking on Community Forest maps including Hidden Grove areas indicate "Timber Resource Areas" not cut blocks.

Mayor Reid encouraged the delegation to work with the Community Forest Advisory Community process to ensure their concerns and opinions regarding this area are considered.

Presentation to DoS Council September 6th, 2006

Introduction (By SHCA HG Chair Bob D'Arcy)

Your Worship and councillors - thank you for your time tonight.

As you know the Hidden Grove Planning Committee was formed in 2002 at the request of the District with the end goal to be the establishment of a permanent forest preserve for a multitude of purposes. We have reported to you periodically when there is news and we have lots tonight. I am also pleased to advise that the committee has expanded to include a member in Pender Harbour and one in Gibsons. As usual we have a request – not for money – but I will save that for the end.

The support of the District and this council has always been appreciated but to set the tone for tonight's rather upbeat presentation let me read a bit from a letter we have and I quote:

"It is totally inappropriate for any logging of any kind to occur within Municipal boundaries. The District of Sechelt is experiencing a high level of development activity. ...this municipality is ranked fifth in Province...in growth rate. In particular, the Sandy Hook area is destined to be the recipient of a large percentage of our anticipated growth with a major "impact" development of approximately 1000 dwelling units"

Sounds like today but that letter is from 1994 and the author was the District of Sechelt.

Now with out further ado I turn the floor over to Gertrude Pacific.

Speakers and Subjects

- 1) **Tourism** (Gertrude Pacific) – covering aspects:
 - a) Web scene with listing/description of sites where HG shows
 - b) Tourism – Seaside Centre Bureau handout, Pier 17, others?
 - c) Visitors – Club Tread, Trail Peaks, others?
- 2) **Sechelt Indian Band** (Gertrude Pacific) – new and contributing contact with SIB cultural coordinator, Dionne Paul – web site – cultural modification trees – ceremony? – "Join the Cultures"
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- 6) **Fundraising** (Valerie Nash) describe professional skills and NEED FOR "**OFFICIAL CERTAINTY**". Maybe that we have agent for charitable status?

Closing Remarks By Bob D'Arcy

Thank you, Valerie.

You may be wondering how the new Community Forest fits into all of this.

I can confirm that we are on the list for a presentation to the Advisory Board as soon as it is functioning and there has been a casual meeting with the Chairman, Len Patulak.

On August 22nd, Foresters Brian Smart and Warren Hansen along with Councillor Thirkell were taken on a tour of Hidden Grove. Afterwards they extolled on the virtues of the Grove and complimented our plans.

Nevertheless, we have real concern as the latest Community Forest plan map shows a very large cut block deep in the heart of Hidden Grove. Brian Smart advised he would review this and get back to us quickly but to date we have not had any word.

This cut block matter and the requirement of the educators, contractors, financial donors and volunteers alike all cry out for some Official Certainty or legal clearance. Without it we are stalled and can not even begin real work on the wheel chair access. We believe it is within the grasp of Sechelt to move forward through the Community Forest vehicle.

Tonight we have shown the need. We are just asking you - who are such strong advocates and supporters of the Hidden Grove - to exert every bit influence you have to see this move forward again.

Thank you very much and we welcome any questions you may have.

Memories from questions and remarks by Mayor after:

- Have no doubt we fully support the Hidden Grove and all that you are doing. No mistake about that. Thank you and keep up your fine work.
- we have delegated this authority to the CF and so you call Brian Smart for the letter(s) you need
- we are hands off as we have a CF board we appointed. If they do not proceed as we wish we would change the board
- we are the sole shareholder
- they (CFP) are doing things very fast

2006-09-07 - Robert D'Arcy - legacy@sechel.t.net - Hidden Grove Update.txt
From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
To: legacy@sechel.t.net <legacy@sechel.t.net>
Date: Thu, 07 Sep 2006 13:55:30 -0800
Subject: FW: Hidden Grove Update

The following comes after a telephone conversation with Brian Smart this morning at 9:30. The call was to ask him for a letter of permission for : proceeding with our 7 year plan including all the building and equipment aspect, freedom of use by schools and general public, the use by Cap College for the Northern bike part, any reasonable use to further the goals of the Grove. Whew! I allowed that the letter AT THIS TIME did not have to declare they would never log anywhere as I allowed that this might be part of a larger decision relating to the overall recreational use. That commitment can always come later. I referred him to the support of council and he suggested he might call the Mayor.

He did come up with a strange one about calling Powell River for trail building approvals and I countered that it seemed silly that the CF would have to phone to build a trail and all we were asking was delegation of that authority. He admitted he was abit out of his depth on this one so undertook to call Ullman himself.

As for last night, everyone did super. There were more comments at the end as Jason Herz raised the matter again of how since the land was within the District they could have a say aside from the CF factor. In any event it is my opinion that the Mayor (with council's silent or otherwise concurrence) fully committed himself and if we do not see fast progress from the CF then I would have no hesitation to reappear at council on September 20th to call for direct action by the District. My recollection of the remarks that bear on this - short handed:

- Have no doubt we fully support the Hidden Grove and all that you are doing. No mistake about that. Thank you and keep up your fine work.
- we have delegated this authority to the CF and so you call Brian Smart for the letter(s) you need
- we are hands off as we have a CF board we appointed. If they do not proceed as we wish we would change the board
- we are the sole shareholder

added in later - they were doing things very fast

That was enough for me.

Hang on to your hats folks, I think we are in for a ride.

Bob D'Arcy
Chairperson
Hidden Grove Plan Committee
HYPERLINK "mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info"mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info
Website: HYPERLINK "http://www.hiddengrove.info"http://www.hiddengrove.info

-----Original Message-----

From: Brian Smart [mailto:brian.smart@dccnet.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2006 10:38 AM
To: 'Robert D'Arcy'
Subject: RE: Hidden Grove Update

Hi Bob,

Thanks for your call this morning.

I will continue looking into this today and into next week. Frank Ullman is away until Monday.

2006-09-07 - Robert D'Arcy - legacy@sechelt.net - Hidden Grove Update.txt

It's a bit of a confusing issue for a community Forest to inherit, but we'll get it worked out.

Brian R. Smart, RPF, RPBio.

Smart Forest Planning

8131 Frances Avenue

Halfmoon Bay, B.C. V0N 1Y1

Phone/Fax: 604-885-7160

brian.smart@dccnet.com

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert D'Arcy [mailto:rdarcy@dccnet.com]

Sent: Tuesday, September 05, 2006 8:09 AM

To: Brian Smart

Cc: Warren Hansen

Subject: Hidden Grove Update

Good Morning Brian,

We wanted to let you know that our committee had a meeting last night to prepare for a presentation we are making at the District Council meeting on this Wednesday, September 6th at 7:30 pm.

It will be pretty upbeat reporting (as we do periodically) on the all the new and exciting developments.

As everyone prepares their little speech bits we were wondering if you had anything to report on the deletion of the cut block from the Hidden Grove/District of Sechelt/Sechelt Heritage Forest area on the CF map. I think you were going to try and get some reading the next day after the tour but a pesky long weekend has probably butted in. Can you let us know?

Maybe we will see you on Wednesday evening?

All the best,

2006-09-07 - Robert D'Arcy - Legacy@sechel t. net - Hidden Grove Update. txt

Bob D'Arcy

Chairperson

Hidden Grove Plan Committee

HYPERLINK "mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info"mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info

Website: HYPERLINK "http://www.hiddengrove.info"http://www.hiddengrove.info

CC. blind to committee

PS. One of the pictures with you in it is up on the website.

--

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Version: 7.1.405 / Virus Database: 268.12.4/449 - Release Date: 15-Sep-06

Robert D'Arcy

From: Robert D'Arcy [rdarcy@dccnet.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2006 1:55 PM
To: legacy@sechelt.net
Subject: FW: Hidden Grove Update

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That was enough for me.
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Bob D'Arcy
Chairperson
Hidden Grove Plan Committee
<mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info>
Website: <http://www.hiddengrove.info>

-----Original Message-----

From: Brian Smart [mailto:brian.smart@dccnet.com]

Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2006 10:38 AM

To: 'Robert D'Arcy'

Subject: RE: Hidden Grove Update

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Brian R. Smart, RPF, RPBio.
Smart Forest Planning
8131 Frances Avenue
Halfmoon Bay, B.C. V0N 1Y1
Phone/Fax: 604-885-7160
brian.smart@dccnet.com

Robert D'Arcy

From: Robert D'Arcy [rdarcy@dccnet.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2006 9:31 AM
To: Brian Smart (brian.smart@dccnet.com)
Subject: Hidden Grove Update

Tracking: **Recipient** **Read**
Brian Smart (brian.smart@dccnet.com) Read: 14-Sep-06 9:34 AM
legacy@sechelt.net

Good morning Brian,

Needless to say the entire committee is waiting with 'baited breath' to hear from you regarding our conversation last Thursday, the 7th. My recollection is that you were going to talk to Powell River on Monday regarding the trail matter and then see what you could do about the all inclusive letter (tree cutting issues set aside for now).

We have had more inquires from our potential corporate donor and we have had follow-ups with some school persons. Yesterday I ran into Stan and Lori Dixon who once again expressed their interest and support as SIB members. Mayor Reid did say the CFP Inc. was moving fast but it appears we have an even faster engine running.

Can you let me know where we stand and I can advise the others.

Thanks a lot and have a good day,

Bob D'Arcy
Chairperson
Hidden Grove Plan Committee
<mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info>
Website: <http://www.hiddengrove.info>

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Version: 7.1.405 / Virus Database: 268.12.4/449 - Release Date: 15-Sep-06

Robert D'Arcy

From: Robert D'Arcy [rdarcy@dccnet.com]
To: 'Robert D'Arcy'
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2006 9:44 AM
Subject: Read: Hidden Grove Update

Your message

To: Brian Smart
Subject: 14-Sep-06 9:31 AM

was read on 14-Sep-06 9:43 AM.

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No virus found in this incoming message.
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Version: 7.1.405 / Virus Database: 268.12.4/449 - Release Date: 15-Sep-06

Hidden Grove Plan

Steering Committee

September 7, 2006

Brenda Santaga
PFP, Branch Manager
TD Canada Trust
PO Box 1698
5500 Sunshine Coast highway
Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0

Dear Ms. Santaga:

Thank you for the phone call yesterday. The Hidden Grove Plan Steering Committee was so happy to hear of your enthusiastic interest in Hidden Grove Legacy. We would like to request that TD Friends of the Environment Foundation act as the first and primary sponsor for our Accessible Trail Project with a donation of \$10,000. We anticipate that this donation, combined with existing funding, extensive inkind and volunteer support, will give us the resources needed to fully complete this aspect of our plan.

Hidden Grove Legacy is a short drive from Sechelt on the Sunshine Coast and within hiking distance of Porpoise Bay Provincial Park and the residential community of Sandy Hook. The area is comprised of 120 acres of crown forest land characterized by a mix of majestic old and second growth, with topography that includes wetlands, bluffs with views of the town and inlet, and Davis Brook – a salmon bearing stream. Local resident and visitors alike have developed a strong appreciation for the diversity and beauty of Hidden Grove.

The goal of the Accessible Trail Project is to establish a 5% (or less) grade trail through Hidden Grove that renders this ecologically unique area of the Sunshine Coast accessible to multiple users including individuals in wheelchairs and other mobility devices, parents with strollers and toddlers, and seniors seeking a low impact walk.

In order to make this happen we will undertake the following activities:

- Secure the entrance with a gate
- Enlarge the existing parking area
- Complete a 5% or less grade trail of at least 2k in length using dense aggregate for the trail bed and crusher dust to refine the trail to wheelchair and stroller standards
- Create signage throughout the trail highlighting features of interest
- Install at least two rest nodes with benches
- Develop brochures that promote Accessible Trails in Hidden Grove and recognize TD Bank as the primary sponsor of the project

As you know the support for this project is tremendous and includes: District of Sechelt and Sechelt Community Forest (municipal body and sole shareholder of Sechelt Projects Inc. who are responsible for managing the Community Forest); Sechelt Indian Band (interested in utilizing the area for cultural

REPLY: Mail – c/o SHCA, 5866 Deerhorn Drive, Sechelt, B.C., V0N 3A4
Email: hiddeengrove@sechelt.net Web Site: <http://hiddeengrove.info>
Phone: 604-885-5766

and educational activities); School District 46 (interested in outdoor teaching, especially Early Childhood Development Projects, District Aboriginal Programs and Services, International Programs and Partnerships, community service learning); Capilano College (about to embark on the world's first Mountain Bike Trail Building Program and interested in Hidden Grove as a trail building practicum location); Sunshine Coast Conservation Association (will provide continued support, promotions and advocacy); and Sandy Hook Community Association (provide ongoing support and a financial donation of \$500 towards the Accessible Trail Project).

The amount of residential development on the Sunshine Coast has doubled and then tripled, making recreational areas a priority to balance our quality of living standard. The Sunshine Coast needs to remain beautiful, and makes the preservation and low-intensity 'park' development a necessity.

The Hidden Grove Plan Steering Committee was established in 2002 at the request of the District of Sechelt to create a plan for Hidden Grove. Entirely volunteer led, the committee has developed a plan (copies available on the website www.hiddengrove.info) and over the past four years has worked diligently and in close collaboration with other environmental groups, government entities and community associations. The fiscal agent for the Accessible Trail Project is Sunshine Coast Association for Community Living (SCACL) an established registered non-profit society.

Thank you for this opportunity to request much needed funding that will be used to:

1. Protect and preserve a special forest environment with both cedar and fir old growth,
2. Provide an outdoor teaching and recreation area for children, youth and families
3. Provides opportunity for partnerships with other local and regional environmental organizations

Do not hesitate to contact us if you require additional information or if you would like a tour of Hidden Grove. You can reach us at 604-885-3797 or via email: kinzer@onelink.ca

Sincerely,

Gertrude Pacific
Committee Co-chair and Archivist

Project Budget

Line Item	Estimated Cost/Value	Requested from TD Bank
Benches	\$1,000	-
Trail building materials	\$5,000	\$4,000
Equipment	\$10,000	\$2,000
Signage materials	\$1,000	
Gate	\$5,000	\$3,000
Chain saw fuel	\$500	-
Labor	\$5,000	-
Brochures	\$1,000	\$1,000
	\$28,500	\$10,000

REPLY: Mail – c/o SHCA, 5866 Deerhorn Drive, Sechelt, B.C., V0N 3A4
Email: hiddengrove@sechelt.net Web Site: <http://hiddengrove.info>
Phone: 604-885-5766

Hidden Grove Plan

Steering
Committee

September 7, 2006

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PFP, Branch Manager
TD Canada Trust
PO Box 1698
5500 Sunshine Coast highway
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The goal of the Accessible Trail Project is to establish a 5% (or less) grade trail through Hidden Grove that renders this ecologically unique area of the Sunshine Coast accessible to multiple users including individuals in wheelchairs and other mobility devices, parents with strollers and toddlers, and seniors seeking a low impact walk.

In order to make this happen we will undertake the following activities:

- Secure the entrance with a gate
- Enlarge the existing parking area
- Complete a 5% or less grade trail of at least 2k in length using dense aggregate for the trail bed and crusher dust to refine the trail to wheelchair and stroller standards
- Create signage throughout the trail highlighting features of interest
- Install at least two rest nodes with benches
- Develop brochures that promote Accessible Trails in Hidden Grove and recognize TD Bank as the primary sponsor of the project

As you know the support for this project is tremendous and includes: District of Sechelt and Sechelt Community Forest (municipal body and sole shareholder of Sechelt Projects Inc. who are responsible for managing the Community Forest); Sechelt Indian Band (interested in utilizing the area for cultural

and educational activities); School District 46 (interested in outdoor teaching, especially Early Childhood Development Projects, District Aboriginal Programs and Services, International Programs and Partnerships, community service learning); Capilano College (about to embark on the world's first Mountain Bike Trail Building Program and interested in Hidden Grove as a trail building practicum location); Sunshine Coast Conservation Association (will provide continued support, promotions and advocacy); and Sandy Hook Community Association (provide ongoing support and a financial donation of \$500 towards the Accessible Trail Project).

The amount of residential development on the Sunshine Coast has doubled and then tripled, making recreational areas a priority to balance our quality of living standard. The Sunshine Coast needs to remain beautiful, and makes the preservation and low-intensity 'park' development a necessity.

The Hidden Grove Plan Steering Committee was established in 2002 at the request of the District of Sechelt to create a plan for Hidden Grove. Entirely volunteer led, the committee has developed a plan (copies available on the website www.hiddengrove.info) and over the past four years has worked diligently and in close collaboration with other environmental groups, government entities and community associations. The fiscal agent for the Accessible Trail Project is Sunshine Coast Association for Community Living (SCACL) an established registered non-profit society.

Thank you for this opportunity to request much needed funding that will be used to:

1. Protect and preserve a special forest environment with both cedar and fir old growth,
2. Provide an outdoor teaching and recreation area for children, youth and families
3. Provides opportunity for partnerships with other local and regional environmental organizations

Do not hesitate to contact us if you require additional information or if you would like a tour of Hidden Grove. You can reach us at 604-885-3797 or via email: kinzer@onelink.ca

Sincerely,

Gertrude Pacific
Committee Co-chair and Archivist

Project Budget

Line Item	Estimated Cost/Value	Requested from TD Bank
Benches	\$1,000	-
Trail building materials	\$5,000	\$4,000
Equipment	\$10,000	\$2,000
Signage materials	\$1,000	
Gate	\$5,000	\$3,000
Chain saw fuel	\$500	-
Labor	\$5,000	-
Brochures	\$1,000	\$1,000
	\$28,500	\$10,000

Hidden Grove History and with the Community Forest

July 2001 – District Council passes motion and writes letter formally requesting the formation of Hidden Grove committee to create a plan for the area to formally become a park within the District boundaries. Upon presentation of a plan in 2002 the committee was encouraged by Council to carry on their work to get to a successful conclusion. The committee did carry on then and still is.

Prior to formation of SCPI (CF) – Unqualified assurances from the Mayor and others on several occasions that the community forest was the best protection for Hidden Grove. With a community forest “it would be protected by the District”.

2006

July 10 – called CF and spoke to Jackie about making a presentation. She advised that a presentation would be good to the Advisory Group and that she would arrange it along with having the main board directors attend if they agreed. Would be in August sometime.

July 25 – Called Jackie to remind and she advised that the Advisory Group was delayed due to lack of members so our presentation would now be early September.

August 2 - FDP viewing but no word on presenting at that time.

August 4 – letter from Kevin Davie – confirmed we would be invited to next meeting (in September) and the CF Directors could be invited too. Recommended working with Brian Smart.

August 22 – showing of CF cutting plans in Library meeting room. Map does not show District boundaries and shows large ‘cut block’ bite taken out of Hidden Grove south centre. Invited Smart.

August 29 – took Smart on tour. At the end he expressed that he could see how important it was and he undertook to clear up the issue of the apparent ‘cut block’ and the ‘map problems’ and to get back to us the NEXT day. (Confirm/chased by HH email September 5 – no response)

Note: He passed off his own “Tenure Timber Supply Study” of 2005 that excluded Hidden Grove from logging as just research! He assured, unofficially, the ‘cut block’ on the cutting plan just showed where timber was - not what they were going to ever cut!

Same day exchange of emails regarding schools and ending with him saying” perfect” and would talk ‘soon’. Nothing further received.

September 5 – emailed Smart that we preparing for presentation to council and asking if he had any word or contribution. No response.

September 6 – Committee appeals to Council in presentation for some certainty in order to move forward and receives full support and compliments. Also we are advised by Mayor: CF is working very fast, is at arm’s length, DoS is sole shareholder, if CF does not do what DoS expects then board could be replaced.

Committee urged to keep up its work and instructions are to call Brian Smart for the needed letter.

September 7 (9:30 am) – called Brian Smart as instructed. Notes of call as sent to committee:

“The following comes after a telephone conversation with Brian Smart this morning at 9:30.

The call was to ask him for a letter of permission for : proceeding with our 7 year plan including all the building and equipment aspect, freedom of use by schools and general public, the use by Cap College for the Northern bike part, any reasonable use to further the goals of the Grove. Whew! I allowed that the letter AT THIS TIME did not have to declare they would never log anywhere as I allowed that this might be part of a larger decision relating to the overall recreational use. That commitment can always come later. I referred him to the support of council and he suggested he might call the Mayor. (I encouraged it)

He did come up with a strange one about calling Powell River for trail building approvals and I countered that it seemed silly that the CF would have to phone to build a trail and all we were asking was delegation of that authority. He admitted he was a bit out of his depth on this one so undertook to call Ullman himself.

(Email confirmation from Smart)

September 14 – Email reminder to Smart – Receipt confirmed. Nothing back. Advisory Group met but no invite to HH received.

Since CF formed – we have talked, informally at least, with someone at every level of SCFI.

Conclusion: Nothing determined on map error, ‘cut block’, presentation, logging or letter. **NOTHING!**

For Council Presentation – September 20, 2006 – Hidden Grove Committee Chair D’Arcy

3.2 **Mr. R. D'Arcy regarding Hidden Grove**

Mr. D'Arcy expressed his frustration over the possibility that substantial funding for development of the park could be lost due to a perceived lack of cooperation from?

Sechelt Community Projects Inc. (SCPI) in supplying requested information. Mr. D'Arcy was also concerned about information he had received that the northern corner of the lot might be logged, and he asked that Council respond to both issues in support of the park.

Ms. Gertrude Pacific expressed her disappointment that the best recreation site that Sechelt has could be ruined.

Mayor Reid advised the delegation it was the Province of British Columbia and not the District that owned the property in question, although the property was managed to some?.
degree by SCPI. Mayor Reid further advised that although the idea for Hidden Grove park was supported by Council, the 2002 request to the Province for a park was rejected. The Mayor also clarified that while Council could work with SCPI on the park issue, Council had no authority over SCPI in that regard. ??

Mr. D'Arcy reiterated that he was only asking for what he considered had been promised over the past six years, and for which a number of volunteers had contributed a lot of work and borne expense.

Councillor Allan requested a Point of Clarification as to whether SCPI would bring their annual cut report to Council. The Director of Planning responded that SCPI was in a planning process and that a plan had not yet been approved.

Mr. Jason Herz, indicated that he had spoken with Mr. Kevin Davie, the operations manager for SCPI, and that Mr. Davie had been unaware of the boundaries for Hidden Grove, and that he was unsure of its status.

Your Worship and Councillors

Thank you very much for your time especially on such short notice but we are at a loss trying to figure out what to do about the Hidden Grove, part of the District actually in the OCP as park.

As you will recall two weeks ago we outlined some exciting developments that would move ahead this dream for a natural recreational park with new educational interests, new tourism interests, new handicap interests and the potential for substantial funding. This is a dream held by the all the communities of Sechelt, the SCR D, the tourism industry, the cycling interests, the Sechelt Indian Band and, firmly on the record, by this Council and the District of Sechelt.

We set out that we could lose a window of opportunity for substantial funding. We asked for your advice as we needed some certainty and permissions in written form to proceed.

In reply to the specific question by Gertrude Pacific we were told to ask Brian Smart of Sechelt Community Projects Inc. for the required letter. We have done so and received nothing. Not even the courtesy of a reply to a polite reminding email.

I have a sheet here for each of you which clearer sets out the lack of cooperation by the Community Forest body. We pray we are wrong but it indicates that they have no intension of adhering to the expressed wishes of Council for Hidden Grove as set out over six long years or more.

Your Worship and Councillors, two weeks ago we asked you to quote “exert every bit of influence you have” unquote to further this along and we followed your precise instructions to no avail. Now we need you to become directly involved to obtain cooperation as only you can demand as the sole shareholders of the Community Forest Corporation.

Please respond now with more than just encouragement. Thank you in advance, I hope.

Summary sheet on correspondence, etc. with Community Forest handed out to each.

(Discussion ensued between Mayor and D’Arcy, Gertrude Pacific, Michael Davidson, Jason Herz, Linda Williams with very small input from Inkster and Shanks.)

Follow-up after meeting:

Just two quick items, your worship.

First, while I am still not able to reveal names I must correct an error in my statements. The statement relating to logging in the northern section was that it “may be” logged and not that it “will be” logged. A subtle difference but I apologize nevertheless.

Secondly, I think it is important to recall that the last word from the Province, Minister Abbott, was a deferring of the decision pending the community forest process and that if

it went forward we should deal with that. The letter is available on the website at hiddengrove.info.

Thank you.

2006-09-22 - Robert D'Arcy - legacy@sechel.t.net - Hidden Grove GOOD NEWS.txt
From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
To: legacy@sechel.t.net <legacy@sechel.t.net>
Date: Fri, 22 Sep 2006 08:38:14 -0800
Subject: Hidden Grove GOOD NEWS

(This email sent as a blind cc (but for Hidden Grove committee) to a bunch to protect privacy)
Sorry if you get duplicates but you are on more than one list of mine then.

Hi everyone,

I will get to a more detailed report up for the website when time allows but for now a FLASH report on how the Community Forest meeting went last night.

We were there and we stood up several times about the Hidden Grove. Finally, Gray conceded they had a problem giving us the needed 'permission' letter (more on the website) but asked why, in the meantime, they can't give us a promise of NO logging in all the Hidden Grove for, say, 5 years while things are sorted out. Surprise! The chairman of the board agreed. Further when gently pushed for clarity agreed that the Hidden Grove we are talking about has the same boundaries they have and that this commitment would be in writing right away. They have my card for the address.

There was more but I have to get running now but wanted the news out.

Each day with no trees cut is a victory so last night we had 1825 of them!

Bob D'Arcy
Chairperson
Hidden Grove Plan Committee
HYPERLINK "mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info"mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info
Website: HYPERLINK "http://www.hiddengrove.info/"http://www.hiddengrove.info

NEWS

~ SANDY HOOK

Residents fight to save Hidden Grove

CHRISTINE WOOD
STAFF WRITER

More than four years of work by the Sandy Hook community to save and develop a portion of forest dubbed Hidden Grove could all be for naught as the fate of the forest lies in the hands of Sechelt Community Projects Inc.

The approximately 130-acre forest off Sechelt Inlet Road in Sandy Hook has long been a labour of love for members of the Sandy Hook Community Association who took on the task of developing a plan for the area when asked to do so by the District of Sechelt in 2002.

That plan includes walking and biking trails that hook up with the trails in the Sechelt Heritage Forest, a wheelchair accessible route and improved signage throughout the area.

So far the group has developed trails and signage in the southern half of Hidden Grove through volunteer labour. Recently they put up a new sign at the entrance making Hidden Grove a little less hidden. It has been getting increased pedestrian use and can now be found on a number of recreation websites touting it as a destination for hikers of all ages and abilities.

The area holds some



CHRISTINE WOOD PHOTO

Bob D'Arcy and Gertrude Pacific show off the new sign the Sandy Hook Community Association recently had made for the entrance to Hidden Grove.

low elevation old growth stands that are fairly rare on the Coast, as well as a well-established second growth forest.

Since the plan was developed and presented to the District of Sechelt planning committee in November of 2002, community members involved have found great interest in using Hidden Grove for educational purposes.

"There is some talk about creating an interpre-

tive forest and the Sechelt Indian Band wants to join in on the project to use it for cultural purposes," community association chair Bob D'Arcy said.

He noted there have also been talks with Capilano College to develop the planned biking trails in the northern section as part of the trail construction course being offered at the college this year.

"But all of that is up in the air until we can get the

authority from someone to do the work in there," D'Arcy said.

Getting the authority is proving more difficult than imagined.

In the beginning, the District of Sechelt seemed to have authority over Hidden Grove, although Sechelt Mayor Cam Reid said Hidden Grove meant only the southern portion to council at the time.

Continued page A23

HIDDEN GROVE

From page A22

"That was the land within the municipal boundary and that was what we looked at," Reid said.

He added council was in support of the plan for that portion of Hidden Grove and asked the Sandy Hook Community Association to present their plan for the area to the province.

"That plan was rejected," Reid said.

Later the area would be included in a Ministry of Forests map that took all of Hidden Grove out of the district's jurisdiction. Once the community forest was approved earlier this year, it was evident the entire area dubbed Hidden Grove was within the community forest's potential areas for harvesting.

"So we've been running around trying to get the okay from someone to finish our work in [Hidden Grove] and we keep getting passed on from one body to the next," D'Arcy said.

Members of the Sandy Hook Community Association who have been working on the Hidden Grove project for the past four years spoke to council on Sept. 5 and asked what they should do next.

Council told them to make a presentation to the community forest advisory committee and try to get support and authorization from Sechelt Community Projects Inc., the company that holds Sechelt's community forest licence.

"We have people who are willing to donate substantial amounts of money to this project, specifically to the wheelchair accessible route we are proposing to build, but that money could very well disappear if we don't get approval from the community for-

est people soon," D'Arcy noted.

The community association drafted a letter to Brian Smart, lead forest manager with the community forest, asking for permission to continue with their work in Hidden Grove and to let the school groups and the Sechelt Indian Band use the area for educational purposes, but they have yet to hear a response.

"It's getting very frustrating. We keep going through the proper channels but we never seem to get an answer," D'Arcy said.

"It's getting very frustrating. We keep going through the proper channels but we never seem to get an answer."

Bob D'Arcy

Smart told *Coast Reporter* the community advisory group is currently looking at recreational uses throughout the community forest and said it wasn't as simple as just giving the Sandy Hook Community Association permission to carry on with their work.

"We have to look at the liability of the trails. It's a humongous issue and it's a bit convoluted. Whose liability are they and who would plan to build, maintain and fund the trails? There's no argument that what they have there is really cool but we want to look at recreation within the whole community forest not just little one offs,"

Smart said.

D'Arcy said the community association would continue to build and maintain the trails, and funding could come from the private donors who have expressed interest in the Hidden Grove plans.

"It makes sense that we would continue doing the work because we have been doing the work. It doesn't seem that difficult to us. We feel like we're just being frozen out here despite all the work we have done over the years — work we were asked to do by Sechelt council," D'Arcy said.

Chair of Sechelt Community Projects Inc. Len Pakulak said there is no logging planned for the Hidden Grove area this year, although he notes there is some dispute over what exactly the Hidden Grove boundaries are.

"There appears to be a difference of opinion where the boundary actually is," Pakulak said, noting the board did not want to get into a dispute with the community association over it and that their maps are the most recent versions available from the province.

However, in the portion identified as Hidden Grove by the District of Sechelt and agreed to by Sechelt Community Projects Inc., Pakulak said the board would be willing to give their approval to get the work done.

"If that's what they're waiting for, we are happy to give the okay to develop that land as long as they stay within the area agreed to," Pakulak said.

At press time, no formal letter from Sechelt Community Projects Inc. allowing the community group to proceed had been produced.

September 26, 2006 Public Works Meeting - DoS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Hidden Grove Forest

The Director of Planning, Ray Parfitt, provided a chronology and status report on the Hidden Grove initiative, including the application to the Crown for park status in 2002 which had not been approved as the Ministry of Forests had not wanted to remove the area from the Provincial Forest. Mr. Parfitt noted that the area was now in the tenured area of the Sechelt Community Forest, and he reviewed details around that and emphasized the inter-ministerial nature of this proposal.

Mr. R. D'Arcy, a member of the Hidden Grove Steering Committee of the Sandy Hook Community Association, spoke of his attendance at a recent Community Projects Inc. meeting during which a five year moratorium on logging in the Hidden Grove area had been agreed to by the Board. As a result of the moratorium, Mr. D'Arcy indicated that the Steering Committee thought that they might be able to re-introduce the initiative. Mr. D'Arcy distributed material on the Steering Committee initiative regarding the forest, a copy of which is on file in the District office.

2006-09-27 - Robert D'Arcy - 'l legacy@sechel t. net' - How did it go today-. txt
From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
To: 'l legacy@sechel t. net' <l legacy@sechel t. net>
Date: Wed, 27 Sep 2006 08:21:00 -0800
Subject: RE: How did it go today?

Hi everyone,
Yesterday afternoon and Hidden Grove. In attendance: Chair Shanks, Inkster, Allan, Poole, couple of staff, Joyce Colibis and me.

At the start I stood and advised that Gray (who was there then) was handing out some information since we appreciated that 2002 was a long time ago and they might need some refreshing. Also that I was available with lots of files if any questions arose. I would now shut up and I did. The package contained: the cartoon strip; a souvenir booklet; the letter of Minister Bell, the map of the OCP showing HH as park; a clear map showing all the boundaries of the HH and the district at 1986.

Parfitt rose and gave a short history emphasizing that it was a complex jurisdictional matter with different ministries and the SIB and the CF and DoS involved and none really settled what to do next. He advised that we had presented twice to council and had been at the AGM of the CF on Thursday but did not describe results.

I asked and was granted the chance to stand and advise of some good news - on Thursday we were given a firm undertaking by the Chairman Pakalak that there would be a moratorium on ANY logging in HH for 5 years at least and that we would get this in writing. that maps were handed out and CF clearly understood where HH is. Sat down.

Shanks laughed and said something like "well he sure got pushed into something, I was there. Whether or not he has the approval of his board remains to seen." (I butted in, "the whole board was there") More nervous laugh and then some comments supporting the 'concept but there may be some confusion on the boundaries.

Allan opined that he was for the first time seeing that the HH was on the OCP clearly and then muddled some support that was really ineffectual. Inkster came on strong in support of the HH as a green buffer between the DoS and the developments that would come and that it was important to maintain these green buffer zones, the matter should be resolved soon and he hoped the letter would come soon.

Then Poole got going. (I noticed he had been reading the booklet during the earlier part of the meeting rather than paying attention to committee business and that he had taken a pen and scribbled - not written - on a page of it) He said the area involved was confusing and needs to be resolved right. He recalled that "back when" that in the north where it shows bike trials that there had been some talk of cutting thing off around "Davis Creek" since it would be sensitive. From there on maybe some selective logging would work since that would open up things for the bikes and help get the bike trials built. He felt they needed to settle the boundaries and not just take what the HH committee had said. He liked the part south of "Davis Creek" alright but needed to settle the "disputed areas" (plural was used)

Closing remarks from Shanks were the usual supportive stuff about the nice forest and the nice trees.

I ask Christine Woods after if she had EVER heard of the disputed area issue or the dropping of the piece in the north and she was obviously a bit pissed at the idea and certainly did not have any knowledge of anything.

There you have it. No more for now since it just makes me upset.
Bob

-----Original Message-----
From: Marilyn Jares [mailto:mjares@dccnet.com]

2006-09-27 - Robert D'Arcy - 'legacy@sechel.t.net' - How did it go today-.txt
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2006 8:44 PM
To: legacy@sechel.t.net
Subject: How did it go today?

Anybody have a little update for me? Marilyn

--

No virus found in this incoming message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.1.407 / Virus Database: 268.12.9/456 - Release Date: 25-Sep-06

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No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Free Edition.
Version: 7.1.407 / Virus Database: 268.12.9/456 - Release Date: 25-Sep-06



SECHELT COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC.

September 22, 2006

Mr. Robert D'Arcy
5866 Deerhorn Drive
Sechelt, B.C.
V0N 3A4

Dear Bob:

Thank you for attending the Public Meeting on September 21st.

Further to the discussions that took place at the Public Meeting, for our reference and file, would you kindly provide us with a map outlining the boundaries within the Hidden Grove proposal together with any supporting documents.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,
SECHELT COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC.

Kevin W. Davie
Operations Manager

COMMUNITY FOREST

Hidden Grove conservation group gets its wish

PATRICIA HALL
STAFF WRITER

The Sechelt community forest board has promised not to log in Hidden Grove for at least five years.

At a public meeting in Sechelt Sept. 21, Len Pakulak, chair of the Sechelt Community Projects Inc. board, agreed to a Sandy Hook residents' group request for a five-year moratorium on logging in Hidden Grove. Pakulak also agreed to put it in writing.

Hidden Grove, near Porpoise Bay Provincial Park, covers approximately 52 hectares of forested area containing trails. The Sandy Hook Residents' Association's Hidden Grove plan steering com-

mittee has been working since 2002 to have the area protected under provincial park status.

Brian Smart, the lead forest manager, recognized the uniqueness of the area and its recreational opportunities. "We want [trails] to be a part of what gets managed here," Smart said. He noted his consulting work specializes in non-timber forest values.

The Hidden Grove group has a website (<http://hidden-grove.info>) and Sechelt Community Projects Inc.'s website is www.sccf.ca.

The focus of the meeting, which drew approximately 20 people, was to gather feedback from the public on the forest stewardship plan and operating plan. The District of

Sechelt is the shareholder of Sechelt Community Projects Inc. A week earlier, the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) board had responded to the community forest plans.

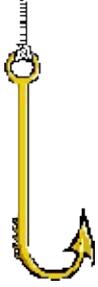
The SCR D board is requesting the District of Sechelt protect the regional water supply and consult the public in all the communities along the Sunshine Coast, especially Halfmoon Bay (Area B) and Roberts Creek (Area D) where part of the forest licence tenure falls.

More specifically, the board is asking Sechelt to work closely with those two communities around "community watershed protection, water quality protection, larger mining/aggregate project proposals,

recreational lake protection, public access, visual quality protection, road standards, urban interface forest buffers, pesticide avoidance, water burning/air quality management, wildfire management, debris flow management, industrial noise, species at risk, old growth management, ecologically balanced forest network planning and heritage value/use protection," the motion reads.

As well, the board asks that regional urban interface forest resource management be kept in mind during operations. The SCR D also wants to be a referral agency for community forest decisions.

The SCR D's requests were to be sent to the District of Sechelt for comment.



Sandy Hook Community Association

5916 Skookumchuk Road,
Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A4
Email: sandyhook@sechelt.net
Web site: <http://sechelt.net>

October 1, 2006

Mr. Len Pakulak
President and Chairman of the Board
Sechelt Community Projects, Inc.
5606 Wharf Avenue,
P.O. Box 215
Sechelt, BC,
V0N 3A0

Dear Sir,

Re: Hidden Grove

We are following up regarding the letter which was promised by you in your official capacity as the CEO and Chairman of Sechelt Community Project Inc. at the public meeting of September 21, 2006. You will recall that the commitment was for confirmation, in writing, that absolutely no logging would take place in the area known locally as the "Hidden Grove" in Sechelt for a period of not less than five (5) years. A map clearly showing the area was made available to you, Mr. Kevin Davie, Mr. Brian Smart and others at the meeting. Maps are also available at the District office as part of the Hidden Grove plan on file and as a section of the District's Official Community Plan of 1986 as well on the special website, www.hiddengrove.info. You, Mr. Davie and Mr. Smart confirmed you were fully aware of the location of the Hidden Grove.

The Hidden Grove Steering Committee has legal status as a sub-committee of the Sandy Hook Community Association, a registered society (See letters from and to District of Sechelt, July 2002). We feel the need to point out the legal position since some of the presentations at the September 21st meeting were by members of the Hidden Grove Committee who are also directors of this Association: Mr. Gray Waddell and Mr. Bob D'Arcy. Your response therefore was seen as a commitment to not only the general public and residents of Sechelt but specifically to this Association. All of this has a bearing on our next point.

Mr. Bob D'Arcy received a letter dated September 22, 2006 from Operations Manager Kevin Davie requesting a map and materials regarding "boundaries within the Hidden Grove". Mr. D'Arcy advises he is not prepared to answer the letter as a private citizen. We, as an Association, can advise that there are not, and never have been, any boundaries "within the Hidden Grove." The Hidden Grove Plan was adopted by the District of Sechelt, is on file with them, and was filed by them on behalf of the citizens of Sechelt with the Province of British Columbia. It is also available in full on the referenced website or by writing us.

This Association and its sub-committee are encouraged by your no logging commitment and, in turn, we will be pleased to work in a cooperative way with your firm. In response to your plea at the meeting we have already submitted two suitable links for your website to your webmaster. We have circulated an email and made a special note on our website complimenting you on your commitment at the meeting and one of our directors updated the Public Works Committee of the District of Sechelt at their meeting on September 26th.

We continue to seek certainty regarding the status of the Hidden Grove and look forward to receiving your letter making official the commitment to do no logging for at least five years. We would also appreciate an opportunity to meet with you and your board to further the development of this worthwhile project.

Thank you for your attention. We appreciated your openness and friendliness at the September 21st meeting.

Yours truly,
Sandy Hook Community Association
and Hidden Grove Steering Committee

Per:

Peter Harvey
President

Bob D'Arcy
Chair of sub-committee

Attachments:

1. Copy of Sechelt Community Project, Inc. letter of September 22, 2006 (received September 28, 2006)
2. Clear map of Hidden Grove and 1986 boundaries
3. Extract map of District of Sechelt Official Community Plan

cc:

Mayor and Councillors of the District of Sechelt
Mr. Ray Parfitt, Director of Planning, District of Sechelt

By Email:

Community Associations of Sechelt through Sechelt Community Association Forum

tiser agrees the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of error in any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement.

Online 10/7

way it was scary

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Are you pleased to see a five-year moratorium on logging in Hidden Grove?

HOW YOU VOTED:

NO 13% YES 87%

TOTAL VOTES: 62

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you think a vehicle on Skookum will be fined for environmental damage?

See story on page 10

HOW TO ANSWER:

To answer go on www.coas.com

The results will appear next week

OCT 6/06

07 - Robert D'Arcy - SHCA Board (sandyboard@sechel.t.net), Legacy@sechel.t.net, Bul a Hess - Hidden Grove
From: Robert D'Arcy <rdarcy@dccnet.com>
Date: Sat, 07 Oct 2006 15:55:00 -0800
Subject: Hidden Grove News

(This email sent as a blind cc to all to protect privacy - there may be some duplication)

Hi,
Not having received any letter or any response to our letter of Monday, I phone Keith Thirkell this afternoon for some insider news.

On Thursday (I think that was the day) the council received an in camera report on the Community Forest from Pakulak. They then asked him about the letter. In no uncertain terms he was told to get the letter out to us and that there was no dispute about boundaries as they are clear in the OCP. Keith suggests give it a week from now and then get in touch again if no action. The action was unanimous by council excluding Steeves who was away - even dear Cam was a supporter. That is the good news.

Other bits:

- Cam still used the phrase that the province turned them down for a park. I clarified again the letter from Pat Bell which uses the very different term "deferred" and Keith is going to bring it up.
- They want the green space and also committed to looking into the legalities of getting us the trail building rights, etc, within the CF framework if nothing else.

That's it or now.

Bob D'Arcy
Chairperson
Hidden Grove Plan Committee
HYPERLINK "mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info"mailto:participate@hiddengrove.info
Website: HYPERLINK "http://www.hiddengrove.info/"http://www.hiddengrove.info

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SECHELT COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC.

October 10, 2006

Mr. Robert D'Arcy
Chair of Sub-Committee
Sandy Hook Community Association
5916 Skookumchuk Road
Sechelt, B.C.
V0N 3A4

Dear Sir:

Thank you for coming to the Community Forest Open House.

As you are probably aware, our Community Forest license is a probationary license for five years. You are also aware that the Hidden Grove area and the Sechelt Heritage Forest are both within the Community Forest Tenure. With respect to your query regarding logging in the Hidden Grove area, we commit to no logging in the Hidden Grove area during the Probationary Period, being 2006 through 2011. Your enclosed map of the Hidden Grove extends in an easterly direction, only as far east as the Municipal Boundary, which extends in a south-southeast direction, to join the easterly boundary of the Heritage Forest property.

We have no decision making authority for trails on your project, nor do we accept any responsibility or liability for any works or structures in Hidden Grove.

Yours truly,

Len Pakulak
Chairman
Sechelt Community Projects, Inc.

c.c. Board of Directors
c.c. Christine Wood, Coast Reporter



SECHELT COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC

October 10, 2006

Mr. Robert D'Arcy
Chair of Sub-Committee
Sandy Hook Community Association
5916 Skookumchuk Road
Sechelt, B.C.
V0N 3A4

Dear Sirs:

Further to our letter of October 10, 2006 regarding Hidden Grove, we have met with Frank Ullmann, Recreation, Sites and Trails Officer, who is located in Powell River. Frank's area covers the Sunshine Coast District as well as a large section of Vancouver Island and is responsible for managing designated trail approvals and construction standards.

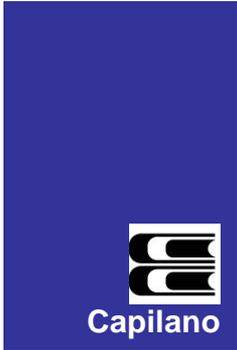
As a result of our meeting with Frank Ullman, please be advised that due to liability issues that have yet to be resolved, Sechelt Community Projects Inc. cannot at this time approve or promote trails.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,
SECHELT COMMUNITY PROJECTS INC.

Kevin W. Davie

cc: Lee DeLisle, President



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Michael Davidson
Hidden Grove Plan Steering Committee
Sechelt, BC

Friday, December 98th 2006

Dear Mr. Davidson and Hidden Grove Plan Steering Committee,

Thank you for hosting us on a tour of the Hidden Grove land. The purpose of the visit was the first step in assessing the appropriateness of the Hidden Grove area as a fieldwork site for our Trail Design and Building courses offered at Capilano College as part of our Mountain Bike Operations Certificate Program. From the initial assessment, the land is very suitable and could be considered for both of our courses as a future fieldwork site. We are looking for community organization such as yours to partner up with for the creation of new mountain bike and multi-user trails on the Sunshine Coast and are excited at the potential that Hidden Grove can offer. Under the guidance of instructors, students design and build trails using sustainable concepts as a pillar of learning. At this stage, the next steps would be for our Trail Design and Building instructors to have the opportunity to tour the land and discuss potential options with the Committee and to work toward getting approval from land managers or agreement holders to proceed with a trail design and building project.

Sincerely,

Caroline Dépatie
Capilano College
Sunshine Coast Campus
Mountain Bike Operations Certificate
Program Convener

