

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

**AREA A - EGMONT/PENDER HARBOUR
ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION**

April 28, 2021

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AREA 'A' ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
HELD ELECTRONICALLY VIA ZOOM

PRESENT:	Chair	Peter Robson
	Members	Dennis Burnham Jane McOuat Gordon Politeski Alan Skelley Catherine McEachern Janet Dickin Yovhan Burega Sean McAllistar Tom Silvey Alex Thomson Gordon Littlejohn
ALSO PRESENT:	Electoral Area A Director	Leonard Lee (Non-Voting Board Liaison)
	TELUS Representatives	Chad Marlatt (Guest) Doug Anastos (Guest)
	Recording Secretary	Kelly Kammerle

CALL TO ORDER 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA The agenda was adopted as presented.

MINUTES

Area A Minutes

The Egmont/Pender Harbour (Area A) APC Minutes of March 31, 2021 were approved as circulated.

The following minutes were received for information:

- Planning and Community Development Committee Minutes of March 18, 2021

REPORTS

TELUS Telecommunication Tower – Egmont Mine – Request for Local Government Concurrence

Key points of discussion:

- The APC agrees that for safety and convenience, cell coverage is much needed in this area.

Recommendation No. 1 *TELUS Telecommunication Tower – Egmont Mine – Request for Local Government Concurrence*

The Area A APC recommends approval of the Telus Telecommunication Tower located at the Egmont Mine near the Skookumchuck Narrows.

Planning Processes – Administrative Improvements

The Area A APC received the staff report for information, “Planning Processes – Administrative Improvements” and noted the following comments:

- The proposed changes are hardly subtle or administrative. They will reduce substantially matters to be referred to APCs for comment—altering a practice of garnering community input that has been in place for over 20 years.
- There is no data or evidence that the benefits will outweigh the obvious pitfalls; these changes will create APCs that have little or no relevance—other than portraying the illusion of public consultation.
- Community input on specific applications is more relevant than ever: site sensitive knowledge and historical context are crucial to good decision making, especially in light of the current issues with sinking subdivisions, limited water supply, inadequate parking and staff turnover.
- These changes fly in the face of the SCRD stated strategic goal of: proactively engaging with residents by fostering and promoting public consultation.
- Less is not more in a community where there is no daily newspaper, no contemporaneous media outlet and no internet visibility to applications and SCRD files. If residents in the community do not know of proposed applications and pending decisions, it is impossible to be engaged, proactively or otherwise.
- The solution is not to remove notice and information, but to make better information more accessible.

Recommendation No. 2 *Planning Processes – Administrative Improvements*

The Area A APC recommends that a letter be sent to the SCRD Board detailing the APC’s concerns about the proposed Planning processes and administrative improvement changes.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director's report was received.

NEXT MEETING May 26, 2021

ADJOURNMENT 8:30 p.m.