

## Debbie Schulz

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**From:** Info E-Box  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 9:18 AM  
**To:** Debbie Schulz  
**Subject:** FW: Save Sickle Point

**From:**  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 7:55 AM  
**To:** [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)  
**Cc:** [Premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Premier@gov.bc.ca); [Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca); [ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca); [Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca); [Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca); Info E-Box <[info@rdos.bc.ca](mailto:info@rdos.bc.ca)>; Save Sickle Point <[savesicklepoint@gmail.com](mailto:savesicklepoint@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Save Sickle Point

From:

Stella Morrison

**To:** The Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

**Subject:** **URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC**

Dear Minister Conroy:

I am writing to you to request your Ministry's and the BC government's financial support for the purchase of the Skaha Lake foreshore marshes and riparian habitat that constitute Sickle Point. This is the last piece of such land remaining on Skaha Lake and one of the few still left in the Okanagan. At present, the 4.8 acres (1.95 ha) are privately owned, but in receivership and other private developers are showing interest. The local community has been strongly against the private development of the Point since the 1990s. We now have what is likely the last opportunity to have this important wildlife habitat, also of considerable cultural significance for the Sylix First Nations, preserved in perpetuity primarily for its natural features.

- I feel that conservation of Sickle Point is urgent. The Save Sickle Point website has listed the numerous reasons for protecting this area.
- *Although I do not live in BC, that piece of land had an impact and still does. My parents lived on Pineview Drive 1999- 2013. My sister and I loved visiting; the area is so beautiful. My parents were very concerned when Sickle point was at risk of being developed. They instilled in us a love of nature and I have pledged as well because this is a vital piece of land that must be preserved for the benefit of other species.*
- *I am so concerned with how humans have destroyed so much habitat in a mere 50-60 years*

- *I am horrified by the degradation of this area due to private owners either not caring or not understanding the importance of the area and the biodiversity it supports.*
- *The BC Government is world renowned for its conservation efforts and so I was surprised to learn that this valuable ecosystem has been overlooked.*
- *I am asking now that the government show leadership and vision and do what is needed to preserve Sickle Point.*

To date, over 300 people, some who do not even live in the immediate area, have pledged over \$300,000. While this amount is a long way from the approximately \$2.5 million asking price for the property, it indicates the importance of this piece of land to people in the Okanagan. To save this precious, increasingly rare, type of lakeshore land in the Okanagan before the opportunity disappears, we need the help of your government to purchase it so that it may be restored to its former glory as wildlife habitat.

If possible, I also request that there be an immediate stay on any development of Sickle Point under the Environment and Land Use Act, to protect this last example of a rare habitat before it is lost forever.

**Yours Truly**

**Stella Morrison**

## Debbie Schulz

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**From:** Info E-Box  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 9:19 AM  
**To:** Debbie Schulz  
**Subject:** FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

**From:** L Goldman  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 8:21 AM  
**To:** [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)  
**Cc:** [Premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Premier@gov.bc.ca); [Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca); [ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca); [Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca); [Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca); Info E-Box <[info@rdos.bc.ca](mailto:info@rdos.bc.ca)>; [savesicklepoint@gmail.com](mailto:savesicklepoint@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

To: The Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

I am writing to you to request your Ministry's and the BC government's financial support for the purchase of the Skaha Lake foreshore marshes and riparian habitat that constitute Sickle Point. This is the last piece of such land remaining on Skaha Lake and one of the few still left in the Okanagan. At present, the 4.8 acres are privately owned, but in receivership and other private developers are showing interest. The local community has been strongly against the private development of the Point since the 1990s. We now have what is likely the last opportunity to have this important wildlife habitat, also of considerable cultural significance for the Sylix First Nations, preserved in perpetuity primarily for its natural features.

I feel that conservation of Sickle Point is urgent for the following reasons:

Our wetlands and important ecological areas must be protected for species and our future. Development of this area will severely damage it and the destruction will be irreversible. Invasive plants are not controlled and native species that have been removed are not regrowing. Sickle Point must be preserved. We can't lose it!

To date, over 300 people, some who do not even live in the immediate area, have pledged over \$300,000. While this amount is a long way from the approximately \$2.5 million asking price for the property, it indicates the importance of this piece of land to people in the Okanagan. To save this precious, increasingly rare, type of lakeshore land in the Okanagan before the opportunity disappears, we need the help of your government to purchase it so that it may be restored to its former glory as wildlife habitat.

If possible, I also request that there be an immediate stay on any development of Sickle Point under the Environment and Land Use Act, to protect this last example of a rare habitat before it is lost forever.

Sincerely,  
Lori Goldman  
Penticton, BC

Cc: Hon. John Horgan, Premier [Premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Premier@gov.bc.ca)  
Cc: Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure [Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca)  
Cc: Hon. George Heyman, Minister Environment and Climate Change [ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca)  
Cc: Roly Russell, MLA, Boundary Similkameen [Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca)  
Cc: Richard Cannings, MP, South Okanagan West Kootenay [Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca)  
Cc: RDOS Board of Directors [info@rdos.bc.ca](mailto:info@rdos.bc.ca)  
Cc: Save Sickle Point Committee [savesicklepoint@gmail.com](mailto:savesicklepoint@gmail.com)

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**From:** Info E-Box  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 9:21 AM  
**To:** Debbie Schulz  
**Subject:** FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

**From:** dcdalhousie  
**Sent:** March 25, 2021 8:39 AM  
**To:** [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)  
**Cc:** [Premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Premier@gov.bc.ca); [Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca); [ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca); [Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca); [Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca); Info E-Box <[info@rdos.bc.ca](mailto:info@rdos.bc.ca)>; [savesicklepoint@gmail.com](mailto:savesicklepoint@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

From:  
Cathy Ross  
Calgary Alberta

To: The Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

I am writing to you to request your Ministry's and the BC government's financial support for the purchase of the Skaha Lake foreshore marshes and riparian habitat that constitute Sickle Point. This is the last piece of natural riparian habitat remaining on Skaha Lake and one of the few still left in the Okanagan. At present, the 4.8 acres are privately owned, but in receivership and other private developers are showing interest. The local community has been strongly against the private development of the Point since the 1990s. We now have what is likely the last opportunity to have this important wildlife habitat, also of considerable cultural significance for the Sylix First Nations, preserved in perpetuity primarily for its natural features.

**I visited Sickle Point for the first time during the summer of 2020. I was cycling on the Kettle Valley Rail Trail. I knew nothing about the area or that there was an on-going campaign to save this piece of land at the time. I immediately saw it was a special place for wildlife and especially birds. I saw a Great Blue Heron and other waterfowl. It is important to save special habitats like this as the surrounding area becomes more developed.**

**I feel that conservation of Sickle Point is urgent for the following reasons:**

- **Ecological significance**
  - **Sickle Point is the last wetland-riparian area left on Skaha Lake and one of the few remaining in the Okanagan.**
  - **In the South Okanagan Similkameen Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, Sickle Point is given its highest ranking for ecological values.**
  - **The Provincially endangered (Red-listed) Water Birch - Wild Rose community covering part of the property is critical habitat for the federally listed (Endangered) Yellow-breasted Chat. Other Species at Risk (SAR) at Sickle Point are Lewis's Woodpecker, Western Rattlesnake, Pallid Bat, Gopher Snake, and Western Screech-Owl. As well, the Point has areas of shallow water that**

**support cattail and bulrush stands now rare along the Okanagan lakes chain and critical habitat for a wide range of wildlife and fish.**

- **Local Economy**

- **natural habitats also are important to attract visitors. Tourism is a major part of the Okanagan economy. Visitors wish to enjoy recreation within beautiful natural places filled with native birds and other wildlife. Do not over develop this area as its original attraction will be lost forever. Sickle Point is a huge asset to the Kettle Valley Rail trail which attracts many visitors. Sickle Point and the KVR benefits the surrounding local communities servicing tourists - accommodation, restaurants, shops and services. Much like Naramata Bench - I don't go there to see a huge housing development but to see the pastoral vineyards and local landscape.**

To date, over 300 people, some who do not even live in the immediate area, have pledged over \$300,000. While this amount is a long way from the approximately \$2.5 million asking price for the property, it indicates the importance of this piece of land to people in the Okanagan. To save this precious, increasingly rare, type of lakeshore land in the Okanagan before the opportunity disappears, we need the help of your government to purchase it so that it may be restored to its former glory as wildlife habitat.

If possible, I also request that there be an immediate stay on any development of Sickle Point under the Environment and Land Use Act, to protect this last example of a rare habitat before it is lost forever.

**I don't even live or frequently visit this area, however, I strongly feel this last remaining Skaha Lake riparian-wetland should be saved.**

Thank you for your consideration,  
Cathy Ross  
Calgary Alberta

Cc: Hon. John Horgan, Premier [Premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Premier@gov.bc.ca)

Cc: Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure [Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca)

Cc: Hon. George Heyman, Minister Environment and Climate Change [ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Cc: Roly Russell, MLA, Boundary Similkameen [Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca)

Cc: Richard Cannings, MP, South Okanagan West Kootenay [Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca)

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