

Debbie Schulz

From: Info E-Box
Sent: March 26, 2021 8:50 AM
To: Debbie Schulz
Subject: FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

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

From: Jeremy Beaulne
Sent: March 26, 2021 1:04 AM
To: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Cc: Premier@gov.bc.ca; Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca; ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca; Info E-Box <info@rdos.bc.ca>; savesicklepoint@gmail.com
Subject: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

From:
Jeremy Beaulne
Penticton, BC

To: The Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, 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 run past Sickle Point several times a week, and I always appreciate its serene beauty. It is truly one of the highlights of the stretch of the KVR that runs between Penticton and Okanagan Falls. Whenever I see the huge "For Sale" sign on the property, I think about what a tremendous shame it would be if Sickle Point were chopped up into residential lots. Also, I'm very concerned about the fact that if Sickle Point is sold to a developer, the KVR Trail will have to be opened up to vehicles. Allowing cars and trucks to drive on the KVR will greatly detract from the overall experience of using the trail. What is more, it will create safety issues for the hikers, joggers, and cyclists who enjoy the trail each day

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,

Jeremy Beaulne

Cc: Hon. John Horgan, Premier Premier@gov.bc.ca

Cc: Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Cc: Hon. George Heyman, Minister Environment and Climate Change ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Cc: Roly Russell, MLA, Boundary Similkameen Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Cc: Richard Cannings, MP, South Okanagan West Kootenay Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca

Cc: RDOS Board of Directors info@rdos.bc.ca

Cc: Save Sickle Point Committee savesicklepoint@gmail.com

Debbie Schulz

From: Info E-Box
Sent: March 26, 2021 8:52 AM
To: Debbie Schulz
Subject: FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

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

From: Barb Thomas
Sent: March 26, 2021 6:12 AM
To: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Cc: Premier@gov.bc.ca; Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca; ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca; Info E-Box <info@rdos.bc.ca>; savesicklepoint@gmail.com
Subject: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

From:
Barbara Thomas
Penticton, BC

To: The Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, 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:

I have lived in Penticton all my life and have seen the changes progress has brought to the Okanagan area. One of the largest is the purchase of lakeshore and farm land. These purchases for the most part are for housing development and agriculture (wine industry). In my opinion not enough is being done to keep treasured land for public use and safe for wildlife. Seems it is much more profitable and therefore agreeable to not protect this land by our government. We need a balanced approach. The Sickle Point committee has pointed out some very sound reasons to save this land from sale to property developers. I am in full support of this drive. Please help us!

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,

Barbara Thomas

Cc: Hon. John Horgan, Premier Premier@gov.bc.ca

Cc: Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Cc: Hon. George Heyman, Minister Environment and Climate Change ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Cc: Roly Russell, MLA, Boundary Similkameen Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Cc: Richard Cannings, MP, South Okanagan West Kootenay Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca

Cc: RDOS Board of Directors info@rdos.bc.ca

Cc: Save Sickle Point Committee savesicklepoint@gmail.com

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From: Info E-Box
Sent: March 26, 2021 8:53 AM
To: Debbie Schulz
Subject: FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

From: Ed Schneider
Sent: March 26, 2021 6:35 AM
To: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Cc: Premier@gov.bc.ca; Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca; ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca; Info E-Box <info@rdos.bc.ca>; savesicklepoint@gmail.com
Subject: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

From:
Ed Schneider
Penticton

To: The Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, 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:

Sickle Point is an important ecological zone and is not an appropriate location for development. It should be reserved for public use and kept protected.

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,

Cc: Hon. John Horgan, Premier Premier@gov.bc.ca

Cc: Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Cc: Hon. George Heyman, Minister Environment and Climate Change ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Cc: Roly Russell, MLA, Boundary Similkameen Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Cc: Richard Cannings, MP, South Okanagan West Kootenay Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca

Cc: RDOS Board of Directors info@rdos.bc.ca

Cc: Save Sickle Point Committee savesicklepoint@gmail.com

Debbie Schulz

From: Info E-Box
Sent: March 26, 2021 8:56 AM
To: Debbie Schulz
Subject: FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

From: Mary Ellen Heidt
Sent: March 26, 2021 8:12 AM
To: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Cc: Premier@gov.bc.ca; Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca; ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Roly Russell.MLA <Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca; Info E-Box <info@rdos.bc.ca>; savesicklepoint@gmail.com
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 for the following reasons:

Sickle Point is recognized to have the highest conservation ranking (Class1) by the South Okanagan Similkameen Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (Keeping Nature in Our Future). Part of the property hosts a provincially red-listed water birch - wild rose community, which supports endangered wildlife and aquatic species such as Yellow Breasted Chat, Lewis's Woodpecker, Western Rattlesnake, Pallid Bat.

Sickle Point also contains rare plant communities and species at risk. The marsh area, which extends both to the north and the south of the property, along Skaha Lake, has been recognized in the South Okanagan region as critical habitat for aquatic and terrestrial plant species as well as many avian species and has been given the highest relative biodiversity ranking for ecosystem significance and sensitivity as it provides critical habitat to many endangered species. It is the only remaining natural sandy point on Skaha Lake.

The property borders the popular hiking and biking trail that connects the South Okanagan and is used intensively by tourists and residents, private use of the property will allow motorized vehicles on it and be detrimental to the trail.

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

Mary Ellen and Steve Heidt
Kaleden, BC

Debbie Schulz

From: Info E-Box
Sent: March 26, 2021 9:08 AM
To: Debbie Schulz
Subject: FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

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

From: karen damato
Sent: March 26, 2021 8:27 AM
To: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Cc: Premier@gov.bc.ca; Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca; ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca; Info E-Box <info@rdos.bc.ca>; savesicklepoint@gmail.com
Subject: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

From:
Karen Damato
Penticton BC

To: The Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, 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:

For wildlife; We have to protect water front so all living species have a chance. For us humans; In this last year we have become very aware of how the great outdoors has a positive effect on our well being. For the environment; Building concrete homes is not helping anything with the exception of a few rich people. Skaha lake had very limited natural shoreline left. Please save 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.

Sincerely,
Karen Damato

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

Sent from my iPhone

Debbie Schulz

From: Info E-Box
Sent: March 26, 2021 9:10 AM
To: Debbie Schulz
Subject: FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

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

From: Sandes Ashe
Sent: March 26, 2021 8:38 AM
To: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Cc: Premier@gov.bc.ca; Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca; ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca; Info E-Box <info@rdos.bc.ca>; savesicklepoint@gmail.com
Subject: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

From:
Sandes Ashe
Kaleden BC

To: The Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, 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: It provides a safe place for children to explore the natural world. There is a real experience of animal, bird, fish and reptile in a natural environment, an ecosystem... it's a place of learning. Growing up in Kaleden, my friends and I spent long hours swimming, skating and playing at the point... it's a perfect park and the community deserves it as such.

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,

Cc: Hon. John Horgan, Premier Premier@gov.bc.ca

Cc: Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Cc: Hon. George Heyman, Minister Environment and Climate Change ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Cc: Roly Russell, MLA, Boundary Similkameen Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Cc: Richard Cannings, MP, South Okanagan West Kootenay Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca

Cc: RDOS Board of Directors info@rdos.bc.ca

Cc: Save Sickle Point Committee savesicklepoint@gmail.com

Sent from my iPhone

Debbie Schulz

From: Info E-Box
Sent: March 26, 2021 9:11 AM
To: Debbie Schulz
Subject: FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

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

From: Mark Rawkins
Sent: March 26, 2021 9:05 AM
To: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Cc: Premier@gov.bc.ca; Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca; ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca; Info E-Box <info@rdos.bc.ca>; savesicklepoint@gmail.com
Subject: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

From:
Pat Evelyn A. Rawkins
Okanagan Falls, BC

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

I am writing to you to request your Ministry's and the BC government's support for the protection and possible purchase of the Skaha Lake foreshore marshes and riparian habitat that constitute Sickle Point. This is an important and sizeable 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.

Having grown up in the community of Kaleden I always enjoyed Sickle Point as a child. Since returning to the area I continue to enjoy it's beauty and natural features when walking and cycling on the KVR trail or paddling. I was appalled that the lakeshore had been compromised so roughly by the unauthorized access road and have always wondered how that was ever allowed to happen. I urge all levels of government to return the illegal road area to it's natural state, put in place stringent protections to prevent any further development damage, and to see that these protections are adhered to. There is now an opportunity to have this important wildlife habitat, area of considerable cultural significance for the Sylix First Nations, and natural lakeshore preserved in perpetuity.

To date, over 300 people, some who do not even live in the immediate area, have pledged over \$300,000. While commendable this amount is a long way from the approximately \$2.5 million asking price for the property. It seems clear to me that this is a project of sufficient importance to the broader public and as such requires support from all levels of government. Measures to strictly control what can be done on the property and to remove the illegal access are immediate actions that government could take to protect Sickle Point. Acquiring the land as regional and/or provincial parkland or protected habitat such as is the case at the north end of Vaseaux Lake seems the logical path forward. This should not, in my opinion, be the responsibility of any one small community. It's importance is of such value that it should be supported much more widely by government. 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 and protected as invaluable 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,
Pat Evelyn A. Rawkins

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

Sent from my iPhone

Debbie Schulz

From: Info E-Box
Sent: March 26, 2021 11:29 AM
To: Debbie Schulz
Subject: FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

From: Dennis Stolen
Sent: March 26, 2021 11:01 AM
To: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
Cc: Premier@gov.bc.ca; Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca; ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca; Info E-Box <info@rdos.bc.ca>; savesicklepoint@gmail.com
Subject: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

From:
Dennis Stolen
Penticton, BC

To: The Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, 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:

I have lived in the Penticton area, which includes the pristine *Sickle Point* region, since 1970 (over 50 years). Since that time I can still recall the last of the classic old heritage steam engines billowing out their smoke, as they chugged along past *Sickle Point* on the west side of Skaha lake on the KVR (Kettle Valley Railway), moving in transit to Penticton. All who value a local history would agree what a poignant and important image of historical nostalgia that scene conjures, and they would also acknowledge that without *Sickle Point* being a part of that image, it would be incomplete. But as importantly, I have also seen over time how this section of the KVR has now transitioned into something equally as positive and important for our collective communities, that of the creation of a much valued and much used recreational pathway from Penticton, through Kaleden, past the beautiful and unique riparian area of *Sickle Point*, and on to Okanagan Falls. And though now without its steam engines, *Sickle Point* remains at the essence of this part of the KVR, and has become even more important, and enjoyed by more, than it ever has before.

As a previous teacher and school administrator for collectively 33 years, I spent much of my professional life promoting to our future citizens (our students, your children), the importance of respecting and valuing not only our local history, but as importantly promoting and preserving our valuable local land resources, especially if they are our vulnerable, pristine areas ... before they become lost to us forever. When we lose these, *Sickle Point* among them, we lose an essential part of ourselves, and we lose a quality of life that can never be regained. Those future citizens (our students of the future ... your children and grand children of the future) are the inheritors of that loss.

And this final point becomes most personal. At 75 years of age, a past multiple Ironman finisher, I now cycle this KVR corridor several times a week. Having two diagnosis of cancer, including pancreatic cancer, I remember clearly riding my bike on what I knew might be my last time. I stopped at *Sickle Point* to rest a bit, to soak in its scenery, to value how fortunate I and others, are to have it to enjoy. And while in this quiet contemplation, 'seven swans a-swimming' drifted by, gifting me what I thought was a magnificent parting gesture before I would undergo major radical surgery, having been informed of very slim chances for survival. ***That was four years ago.*** And now, every time I cycle by *Sickle Point*, I recall the gift of the swans, and even more than ever, acknowledge the gift of *Sickle Point*. I am not anti-development, I am *Pro-Preservation* of what is important in life ... as should we all be.

Den (Dennis Stolen)

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,

Cc: Hon. John Horgan, Premier Premier@gov.bc.ca

Cc: Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca

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Cc: Roly Russell, MLA, Boundary Similkameen Roly.Russell.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Cc: Richard Cannings, MP, South Okanagan West Kootenay Richard.cannings@parl.gc.ca

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Cc: Save Sickle Point Committee savesicklepoint@gmail.com