

Debbie Schulz

From: Info E-Box
Sent: March 26, 2021 2:39 PM
To: Debbie Schulz
Subject: FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

From: Randy Cranston
Sent: March 26, 2021 12:54 PM
To: Hon Doug Donaldson MLA <FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Premier@gov.bc.ca; Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Hon. George Heyman <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

Randy Cranston
Kaleden, BC

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

I am requesting your Ministry's and the BC government's support (financial or otherwise) for the purchase of Sickle Point the last remaining foreshore marsh and riparian habitat on Skaha Lake. This is the last piece of wetland remaining on Skaha Lake and one of the few left in the Okanagan. Sickle Point is privately owned, but in receivership. Private developers continue to show interest the most recent one considering the construction of a wind surfing venue. The local community has been strongly against the private development of the Point since the 1990s. We now have, probably, the last opportunity to have this important wildlife habitat, which is also of considerable cultural significance for the Sylix First Nations, preserved in perpetuity primarily for its natural features.

I believe saving Sickle Point is critical for the following reasons (to name just a few):

- the chances of wildlife returning or it continuing to be on the migratory flight path if private development happens is basically zero
- this wetland-riparian area can be restored quite rapidly with knowledgeable restoration action
- having the KVR as the road access to Sickle Point with motorized traffic would defeat the purpose of having a biking/walking trail and I believe would deter tourists from the KVR
- the Okanagan Water Basin Board has concluded in a study done in February, 2020 that flooding of Skaha Lake is likely to significantly increase as climate change continues. Mapping estimates indicate there is a 15% chance that Sickle Point will be flooded within the next 30 years. Wetlands help prevent flooding and shoreline erosion.
- there are a number of red-listed plant species that are a critical habitat for federally listed and endangered wildlife
- it has been given the highest ranking for ecological values by the South Okanagan Similkameen Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, and

- it is culturally important to the people of the Syilx Nation. The place name for Sickle Point in the nsyilxcen language six ncaquq?iwltn which means place to land or park a canoe. The Penticton Indian Band has been opposed to development of Sickle Point and wish to see it conserved in perpetuity.

Pledges continue to be made to support the conservation of Sickle Point. Over 300 people, many who do not live in the Kaleden area, have pledged over \$400,000. 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 as a wildlife habitat.

If financial support is not possible, I 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,

Randy Cranston, Ph.D.

I acknowledge that I live, work, and play on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) Nation

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 2:40 PM
To: Debbie Schulz
Subject: FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

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

From: Diane Courneyeur
Sent: March 26, 2021 1:04 PM
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

Diane Courneyeur
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 is imperative that we save for our Community and the Okanagan Valley this pristine land of Sickle Point for our future, the future of this Community and the future of the serene beauty that surrounds us. Development along this corridor will have a huge impact on the natural beauty, wildlife and vegetation that are indigenous to this area and most of them are at great risk now!!!

Sickle Point should be Conserved.

I pray that this happens before it is too late!!

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,
Diane Courneyeur
Resident of Kaleden and fellow
Protector of our Environment

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 2:43 PM
To: Debbie Schulz
Subject: FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

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

From: Tricia White
Sent: March 26, 2021 2:04 PM
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: Tricia & Justin White
Okanagan Falls,

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:

[ADD YOUR REASONS]

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

Thanks and have a great day!

Tricia White

Debbie Schulz

From: Info E-Box
Sent: March 26, 2021 2:45 PM
To: Debbie Schulz
Subject: FW: URGENT: Purchase and protection of threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

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

From: Mike & Chris Gane
Sent: March 26, 2021 2:14 PM
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:
Mike Gane
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:

This area has been a natural area that I thoroughly enjoyed in my youth in the 1960's and 1970's. It remained this way until an owner decided that he had all the rights in the world to forever alter it.

This property needs to come to public ownership so it can be (hopefully) returned to its former glory.

In history, this property as well as two other points (now known as Banbury and Ponderosa) were to be park land, but the company who held these properties went bankrupt and the properties were sold off. I often wonder how this community would look today if they had been retained as parkland.

So please ensure that the one remaining point can be preserved for all to enjoy.

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,
Mike Gane

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

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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