

From: Larry Flynn
Sent: February 3, 2024 1:40 PM
To: Mike Tippet <Mike.Tippet@cvrd.bc.ca>
Subject: Cowichan Estuary Restoration

We understand there may be a public hearing on February 7, related to the estuary restoration and changes to the dike system next to the former Dinsdale Farm Land. Regretfully, we have another commitment that day, however we wanted to put forward our opinions on this proposal.

We are walkers and hikers, living within the city of Duncan. This includes hiking with two organized groups within the Cowichan Valley and walking together. We walk the estuary trail with the groups several times a year and at least monthly as a couple, occasionally with our grandson. We appreciate the wildlife, the views and the sights and smells of the area.

*We want to express our **support** for the proposed changes.*

The value we see in returning this land to a "living" estuary is immense. It should provide valuable habitat for sea and land birds, mammals and fish. We expect it to improve conditions

for many species, as well as continue to provide an area for those of us who love the outdoors. We appreciate the attention which has been paid to maintaining trails and a viewing platform for those who will continue to use the trails for exposure to nature.

We note there appears to be some opposition to these changes from people who do not recognize the value of these conditions. The campaign being waged with signs and meetings does not appear to reflect the years of planning which has gone into the proposals, nor recognize that those most directly affected, including First Nations organizations, also support the proposal. The mis-information being spread by these opponents to the changes, information which ignores the more than three decades of planning for the estuary restoration, is truly deplorable.

It is unclear whether you are the appropriate contact to whom to send this letter of support. However, we request your assistance in forwarding this letter to the organization which is managing the restoration.

Sincerely,

Larry and Trudy Flynn