

*"A politician sees only as far as the next election.
A statesman sees as far as the next generation."*

If one asks the wrong questions, one is bound to be given the wrong answers.

All laws which guide the LTC Corporation state clearly that when it comes to the OCP, our own constitutional document, in every case the LUB shoe must fit the OCP foot, never the other way around.

IN OTHER WORDS: IN THIS CASE LAND USE BYLAWS OR LUBS ARE THE SHOE WHICH MUST FIT THE FOOT.

THE FOOT OF THIS COMMUNITY IS ITS OCP..

WHAT THE LTC CONTINUES TO INSIST ON DOING IS THIS: OPERATE ON AND ALTER THE FOOT. THEN, ONCE IT IS DISFIGURED, CREATE A SPECIAL SHOE TO FIT THE DISFIGURED FOOT.

We ourselves have learned the hard way to choose LTC actions over LTC words. It is time to ask what kind of leader tells each island community it is "unique", and then takes their tax money and uses it to create mass proposals to convert all Trust area islands into one standardization meat grinder.

Members of the LTC, (both on Hornby and elsewhere), have continued, year in and year out, to either ignore or remain oblivious to how they are perceived by the community while seemingly only heeding their own need to use our hard earned taxes to "**PROACTIVELY TARGET**" us and our OCP.

What on earth makes the LTC assume that Hornby is really about to allow itself to be dragged away from our own comfortable functional status quo when we already have a working OCP of this community's own creation?

What would make members of the LTC remain so out of touch with the constituency of Hornby as to really expect this community of stakeholders to settle for replacing an **Official Community Plan** devised by us with an **Official Gated Community Plan** devised by the LTC?

For those who mistake any of this for "improvement", the reality is that an LTC does not return again and again to pick over the strong bones of our current Hornby OCP only in order to try to dress that OCP up in their own unsolicited proposal rags as if this was simply an afternoon at the free store. This is especially true when all of this has been "proactively" initiated without any justification and when those who ignore constituents then proceed to devour and delete what is ours, and ours alone.

Why would anyone who cares about this community expect it to enter into any undesirable negotiation about the fine print of a written undoing of our lives, accompanied by solicitations for verbal songs of praise for their own unsolicited ideas, - especially when it is relatively easy for most to see that what is actually on the table here is a burial mound dressed up as a proposal which destroys by pre-emptive deletion so much of what is currently ours by right?

Which community in its right mind would willingly forfeit the very freedom we have worked so hard to protect for so long? Whether this process has become demoralizing

by design or by default has become irrelevant. We are weary of witnessing, let alone debating, the fine details of what appears tantamount to a fraudulently arrived at diminishment of choice, a proposed wholesale change to our lives for the worse.

The LTC has never provided a sound reason for any of this, not other than the presentation that there is somehow a pressing need to use "allocated funding", presumably from our tax dollars. There appears to be no legitimate explanation for why this arbitrary process is being imposed at our expense or for why it is occurring at all.

We are not alone. Many other islands are asking just this, demanding to know why their own local economies are being - or already have been - destroyed in just this same manner, one OCP revision at a time. Isn't it well past time for the LTC to stop trying to entrap the community into debating unto the edge of prostrate exhaustion the minutiae of wearisome parts and points of what are in truth outright revisions and abrogations of community held rights?

When exactly did we as a majority of this community ask for:

- **mass rezoning?**
- **wholesale map changes with no maps to provide the visuals to grasp how extensive this really is?**
- **mass doubling of density via secondary suites on all lots greater than 3.5 hectares?**
- **renaming of most of the island?**
- **new kinds of zones?;**
- **new minimum lot sizes?**
- **drastic inversions and deletions of current definitions which permits vacation rentals as a home occupation for both part and full time owners?**
- **deletion of other activities essential for sustainable island living?**
- **outright white out deletions reframed as "amendments"?**
- **with this entire proposal agenda presented by means of distractions and redirects?**
- **with over attention to often irrelevant minor details, presumably meant to to distract from what are actually substantive proposed radical revisions and outright abrogations to our community document, not to mention to our lives, properties and income(s)?**
- **with all of this and more inadequately reframed as "minor amendments", a misuse of the legal intent and definition of this term, apparently employed so as to bypass the provincial legal requirement for the otherwise requisite two full years of community based steering committee input into any revision (versus "amendments"), which even then the community mandates, not the LTC?**

No one we know is anything but worn down, and none are interested in further discussion about whether or not what appears to be tainted OCP appetizers should precede or follow the last meal served up before carrying out an unjust execution of a community's future socio-economic well being.

The LTC certainly seems to view the community as if we are infantile, as if we are not capable of being responsible mature stewards of our own island, its economy, its environment, and our private properties.

This entire protracted exercise is nothing more or less than an uncalled for directive to carry out an aggressive overhaul of all we hold dear, a process which has, from the start, stepped outside the bounds of respectful consideration of the wishes of Hornby constituents, albeit usually politely done.

By rights, none of this should even be happening at all, not unless the mandate for change comes from the stakeholders of this island. And it has not. There is no explanation for ignoring this fact.

What, other than a vain attempt at an exercise in public pretence, is supposed to be the point of unchanged essentials reframed in meeting after meeting, especially when nothing that the LTC has been so set on doing from the get go seems to ever be relinquished?

What is the point of the exercise wherein we witness the LTC sit with a blank stare silence when faced with legitimate and rising resistance, or where we watch as the LTC resorts to circuitous retrenchment to close ranks and reposition?

Why do we mostly only observe how the LTC avoids the obvious path, which is to cease and desist, to leave well enough alone our non enhanced status quo OCP, and to stop calling "enhancements" these LTC initiatives which are in truth full scale OCP revisions. Calling what is happening here "enhancement" is an insult, almost as if all of this were some kind of a perverse advert for a drug for an island version of loval erectile dysfunction.

This repeat upheaval has become a model of what many feel and have stated is an abusive process. It is not in any way worth what we are told we must be expected to give away. And, at this point the LTC is at risk of giving the impression that they see themselves as free to disregard the majority - or even every last one of us - as they appear to doggedly persevere, and in the process seem to be in taking this wrong headed venture over a constitutional cliff.

If the LTC continues to listen without hearing, to patronize or obfuscate without genuine respect, to make use of circular reasoning to conflate and appear to confabulate,.....

If the LTC remains closed to actual substantive reversal of this process altogether and instead offers only the appearance of openness to persuasion, while at the same time arranging to schedule a public hearing and.....

If the LTC remains essentially inflexible about what seems to be their own single minded agenda, ...

the fact is that they will lose far more than simply what is left of any possible respect for their ability to handle process, - if indeed this happens to concern them at all.

If they do continue, the LTC will also serve to create a new creature born of this anomalous process, perhaps generating an entire island peopled with justified scofflaw stakeholders who may by then have learned by example from their own non representational process to ignore those who would seek to abuse power.

The Precautionary Principle has been discarded here. The supporting science for this kind of whole cloth extreme makeover, or indeed for any regressive change, is simply not there. So the real choice of doing absolutely nothing would more than suffice, had we had the proper opportunity to offer up legitimate community based steering advice, informally offered more than once to date to the LTC.

There is no OCP "solution" since there is no OCP "problem". Those who either seek to harm - or else fail to realize that harm would be the net result of this kind of devaluation of community options done in the name of good - have given Hornby stakeholders the impression that the LTC has by prior arrangement sought to find ways to try to take away home occupation generated vacation income flow, and even seem intent on the destruction the community's own means to pay the property taxes which in ever larger part fund the thrust of the Trust's unseemly expansion during a recession.

All of what we are witnessing certainly appears to be part of a hierarchically devised scheme to demoralize property owners on many islands throughout this process, perhaps hedged by yet another agenda, one which might be aimed at those left with no other options and who would then ultimately fall into the final trap of donating their devalued land back to the Trust's own land trust branch. Ultimately, however, we can only surmise the motives for LTC initiatives to implement such unwarranted destructive policies, proposals, and revisions.

In any event, the process has been overtaken by stealth, a process for an OCP which is ours alone to opt to change - or to not change. All we are saying is please just stop the erosive meetings, and leave the OCP alone, because it is ours.

At this point we want to see hard evidence beyond mere words that the LTC is both competent and confident enough to relent, as of now, and to accept that it is time to bow to the wisdom of the majority and to defer and hand over the reins to the STVR/HOVR (Home Occupation Vacation Rentals) advocacy group that is working so hard to effectively streamline this activity on Hornby.

We remain unconvinced to date that the LTC feels it is able to take this unique opportunity to show true leadership by bowing out and allowing the community to decide on its own whether it is satisfied with its own current OCP, a document hard earned and much beloved by its co-creators.

There really is no further reason NOT to defer to the collated wisdom and well thought out grass roots innovative approach of the vacation rental advocacy group in this HOVR matter, instead of the non viable option of the LTC insisting on having the last word.

Currently these largely absurd proposals themselves have actually managed to take a back seat to the far greater emerging issues:

- the negative impact of a failure to assure legitimate open inclusiveness;
- an inclination to take over the conversation that is the community's to create with one another on an "as needed" basis;
- CIMs which exist only to formalize a direction or to inform an "audience" but which then remain largely unreceptive to the over arching need for the LTC to exercise self examination;
- a bureaucratically closed system process seemingly not capable of embracing well thought out community based plans brought forward on how to keep the status quo intact.

Apparently an absence of transparency during key parts of this process is only observable to those who witness it and who understand the decisiveness of the rule of case law regarding vacation rentals and the lear regulations for LTCs embodied in

provincial law pertaining to how this kind of process must be carried out, as needed, - and only as needed.

We ourselves did not initially enter into this exercise in an adversarial way. Over the years, however, as we have withstood what can only be called repeat assaults to all that this island has collaboratively created, we have been forced to become "proactive" critics of what in fact is an adversarial process based on the creation of a sense of community defensiveness by the adversarial way in which the LTC seems to feel the need to target an entire way of life.

If the LTC continues to listen without hearing while giving the impression of being patronizing and of obfuscating, inadvertently or otherwise,

- if the LTC cannot lead by its own example through genuine respect for the inherent humanity of its "target",
- if the LTC continues to use circular reasoning to return again and again to essentially the same substantive place,
- if the LTC persists in conflating, and even seemingly confabulating, while in reality remaining closed to persuasion,
- if the LTC thinks its main and most important priority is to close ranks and remain essentially inflexible about its own single minded agenda(as defined by Trust Council or otherwise), then this LTC may well remain only a corporate committee that claims it must take its marching orders from Trust Council, but this LTC will not have demonstrated anything approaching leadership.

This community has remained overweeningly polite and has offered up deference and patience beyond all measure toward the LTC during what has most frequently been tantamount to a broken record series of repeat affronts to community sensibilities and priorities.

We have withstood meaningless variations on the same recurring theme of "targeted" proposal schemes created to effect countless adverse changes to every aspect of this community's future. We have overcome intimidation by "trigger" happy enforcement proposals. We have tolerated "proactive" reworking of proposed disfigurements of an island way of life, all of which have only been crafted to appear superficially different from one another, over much of the last decade, but in fact which remain as foreign to the real Hornby way of life as ever.

Enough is not only enough, at this point. Enough is now too much. Heed us: Hands off our OCP.

Rearguards,
Care & Vic Snowdon
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