



Sunshine Coast  
Conservation  
Association

PO Box 1969, Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0

March 20, 2007

Daniel Bouman, Executive Director, SCCA  
1025-D North Road  
Gibsons, BC V0N1V7

District of Sechelt  
Mayor and Council  
PO Box 129  
Sechelt, BC V0N3A0

Dear Mayor and Councilors,

We received notice on February 18, 2007, that the District of Sechelt has received a copy of our complaint to the BC Ombudsman. We trust that staff, Mayor and Council has had sufficient time since then to review the complaint and its attached documentation.

We have now received direction from the Ombudsman's office on how to properly proceed. The general practice of the Ombudsman's Office is to ask a complainant to contact the named authority and request a direct response to the issues raised in a complaint. The purpose of this letter is to comply with the Ombudsman's suggestions in the hope that the District of Sechelt will look into our concerns and perhaps resolve the matter. While this process is underway, our complaint will not be under investigation.

We summarize the specific allegations of the complaint against the District of Sechelt as follows;

- The District failed to comply with the application requirements prescribed in the Community Tenures Regulations.
- Prior to submitting their applications to the Ministry, the District failed to conduct a public review of the Applications or consult with the public, other public stakeholders or First Nations.
- The District knowingly falsified information contained in the Applications relating to aspects of public support.
- In communications with the Ministry, the District willfully mischaracterized the position of the public, other public stakeholders and First Nations.
- The District failed to provide adequate and appropriate response to concerns identified by the public, other public stakeholders and First Nations.

- The District did not act in good faith with regard to its prior commitment to the public that it would not harvest timber within the public drinking watersheds for 100-150 years.
- The District did not act in good faith with regard to the signing of and obligations within the Joint Watershed Management Agreement.
- The District allowed itself to be inappropriately influenced by special interests.

We ask you to refer to the complaint text and footnoted documentation to more fully understand these allegations. And finally, in making this complaint to the Ombudsman, the SCCA relied on the Principles of Administrative Justice (2003) and alleged that the District of Sechelt's conduct in regard to the above issues was unfair in the extreme, regardless of whether or not actual mistakes in law were made.

We look forward to receiving your explanations and your suggestions as to how best to resolve these many outstanding issues.

Yours truly,

Daniel Bouman, Executive Director  
Sunshine Coast Conservation Association

cc

Office of the BC Ombudsman  
Sechelt Indian Government  
Sunshine Coast Regional District  
Town of Gibsons  
Nicholas Simons, Powell River Sunshine Coast MLA

