



The Best Place on Earth

David Jones, Information Officer
Corcan Meadowood Residents Association
1375 Dolly Varden Way
Qualicum Beach BC V9K 2V1

Reference: 185640

Dear Mr. Jones:

APR 12 2010

Re: Highway 19 Access

Thank you for your letter of January 13, 2010, regarding access to Highway 19 from Corcan Road. Please accept my apologies for the lateness of this reply.

My ministry takes its commitment to provide a safe, efficient transportation network very seriously and I was glad to learn that my ministry's District Manager for Vancouver Island, Barbara Thomas, and local Transportation Planning Engineer, David Edgar, met with you on January 26 to discuss your concerns in detail. I am also pleased to hear that representatives from the Regional District of Nanaimo were able to attend the meeting.

As you note, the Regional District of Nanaimo's Official Community Plan (OCP) includes a proposal for the construction of an interchange south of Little Qualicum River. While I understand residents of Corcan Road would prefer to see access built from Corcan Road, any amendments to the existing OCP is the responsibility of the Regional District. As such, I encourage you to continue your dialogue directly with Regional District staff. Should the Regional District wish to re-visit plans for interchanges in the area my ministry would be happy to be part of the process.

I recognize the association would like my ministry to re-visit the possibility of emergency access from Nahmit Road. However, these access gates require constant monitoring to ensure they operate effectively and remain closed when they are not in use. In the past there have been problems with the lock on this gate being cut repeatedly. As tampering with this type of access system can have serious consequences for members of the travelling public, the RCMP requested the gate be closed. My ministry is considering re-opening emergency access from this location as well as determining what measures can be taken to prevent misuse. When these measures have been identified, ministry staff will proceed with re-opening the gate.

.../2