
Fw: Proposed zoning bylaw

From legislativeservices <legislativeservices@cvr.bc.ca>

Date Mon 3/30/2026 3:01 PM

To legislativeservices <legislativeservices@cvr.bc.ca>

From: K Wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2026 2:43 PM
To: Ben Maartman <ben.maartman@cvr.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Proposed zoning bylaw

Thank you Ben,

I viewed yesterday's meeting online this morning. My greatest concern is the zoning. I am becoming familiar with the proposal, but unfortunately did not have any earlier insight into its development. I own my home and my property is currently zoned R-2 in the Diamond and would be re-zoned to R-1.

Can you please let me know, or point me in the direction of who to ask these questions:

- Are properties allowed to be re-zoned without owners knowledge/consent?
- What is the process going forward for the public to voice concerns and opinions? How should I best insert myself into this process?
- Will existing properties be grandfathered?

If this proposal is approved and my property becomes re-zoned it would quite honestly destroy my life.

I moved here five years ago as a single mother with my daughter to start a new life. I chose Ladysmith for many reasons and I chose the property I live on because I wanted my daughter to grow up with farm animals and to learn about sustainability and farming. My seven year old attends Ladysmith Primary School and I am a piano teacher with over thirty-five local students. Re-zoning would force my family to move and it would significantly lower my property value as I have a barn and ring set up for horses that would be unusable.

I run a small farm that is very well known and loved in the community. Every July I take animals to the Oyster Harbour Seniors Center to spend time with the residents. I let the public come on my property with their kids to spend time with the animals. I run very successful spring and summer day camps for children wishing to learn about farming and animals. Every year I donate fertilized chicken eggs and incubators to LPS, the Boys and Girls Club, and other local daycare centers so that they can hatch chicks with the children.

I realize this process is in the early stages, but I haven't slept in 48 hours because this has me so upset.

I appreciate any information you can provide and hope you continue to hear my concerns.

Thank you.

Karla

On Fri, Mar 27, 2026 at 11:02 AM Ben Maartman <ben.maartman@cverd.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Karla

You are being heard. The concern was raised by directors at yesterday's meeting (which is being carried over to next Wednesday – April 2). This is very early in the process and we are all learning about this and discussing before it is approved for public engagement. We are months from making a decision.

The issue of backyard chickens needs to be taken into context with the zoning. My understanding is this bylaw is intended to permit backyard chickens in residential zones (something that currently we don't have a bylaw that allows this). If you wish to know how this specifically might affect (or not) your property please send me your address and I will get back to you on that.

In Service

Ben

From: K Wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 9:54 PM
To: Ben Maartman <ben.maartman@cverd.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Proposed zoning bylaw

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Thank you for your response, it is appreciated. I do live and own a small farm in Area H.

I know there are a lot of very concerned citizens right now discussing this proposal. It's so disheartening.

Karla

On Wed, Mar 25, 2026 at 9:37 PM Ben Maartman <ben.maartman@cverd.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Karla

Thank you for your email and your concerns. Food production is very important and I want all directors to read your comments.

I will forward to this tonight and also to the CVRD staff. I am anticipating a lot of discussion tomorrow. Note – staff are recommending this go to first reading which is in essence a draft. However, that will be a decision of the directors.

I also appreciate you taking notice of this. Would you mind me asking if you are in Area H?

In Service

Ben

From: K Wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 9:30 PM
To: Ben Maartman <ben.maartman@cverd.bc.ca>
Subject: Proposed zoning bylaw

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I am writing as a concerned community member regarding the CVRD proposed zoning bylaws. I feel this is very poor community planning that will impact local farmers, sustainable living, and food security.

We have a small farm and a few acres, with chickens. If this proposed bylaw is approved we will no longer be selling eggs at farmer markets. We will no longer be selling eggs to local residents and our neighbours. We will no longer be able to share the experience of raising chicks and promoting food literacy and sustainability to children at farm camps or lend incubators and fertilized eggs to local daycares or school teachers.

I moved to Ladysmith five years ago to start a new life with my family. I have loved every moment living in this community, until recently. I feel the focus on certain aspects of the proposed bylaws to be quite ridiculous. Why on earth would council suggest posing a \$50,000 fine on people raising backyard chickens? Are there no other issues of greater importance that could be dealt with at this time?

I am urging you to consider the impact this proposal will have on the community and on the chance for this council to be re-elected in the fall.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments and concerns.

Kind regards,

Karla