
FW: Opposition to Comprehensive Zoning By-Law 4710

From Ben Maartman <ben.maartman@cprd.bc.ca>
Date Fri 3/27/2026 4:43 PM
To legislativeservices <legislativeservices@cprd.bc.ca>

FYI – legislative services not included

-----Original Message-----

From [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2026 9:17 AM
To: Development Services <ds@cprd.bc.ca>; PlanYourCowichan <planyourcowichan@cprd.bc.ca>; Public Hearings <publichearings@cprd.bc.ca>; Ben Maartman <ben.maartman@cprd.bc.ca>; Kate Segall <kate.segall@cprd.bc.ca>; Sierra Acton <sierra.acton@cprd.bc.ca>; Hilary Abbott <hilary.abbott@cprd.bc.ca>; Alison Nicholson <alison.nicholson@cprd.bc.ca>; Ian Morrison <ian.morrison@cprd.bc.ca>; Mike Wilson <mike.wilson@cprd.bc.ca>; Karen Deck <karen.deck@cprd.bc.ca>; Jesse McClinton <jesse.mcclinton@cprd.bc.ca>
Subject: Opposition to Comprehensive Zoning By-Law 4710

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from [REDACTED] Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Cowichan Valley Regional District and Electoral Area Directors,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Comprehensive Zoning By-Law 4710, which seeks to implement a single unified system across all electoral areas without adequate public hearings and consultation with the communities you serve. An open house is not enough! This approach is not only concerning but, in my opinion, should be deemed unacceptable.

It is abhorrent to impose a rigid zoning framework on both rural and densely populated areas without considering the distinct needs of each community. We, the residents of Cowichan Valley, demand full transparency and clear communication regarding changes that will affect our existing zones, as well as meaningful public input at every stage of this process.

Many of us chose to reside in rural areas for the freedom it offers, and we do not wish to be governed by the same zoning regulations as those living in more urban settings. The prospect of micromanagement, including regulations on fence height, the number of chickens, or whether we can park an uninsured vehicle on our property, is unacceptable. The threats of unreasonable fines for non-compliance with these new by-laws undermine the very essence of our community.

Cowichan Valley is cherished for its charm, beauty, and the flexibility it provides for multigenerational living. Many families appreciate the option of having a relative stay in an RV or trailer on their property. At a time when we face a housing affordability crisis, this type of flexibility is more necessary than ever. Other jurisdictions are embracing greater housing options, yet the proposed regulations would only

