
FW: Re:

From Ben Maartman <ben.maartman@cprd.bc.ca>
Date Sat 3/28/2026 9:36 AM
To legislativeservices <legislativeservices@cprd.bc.ca>

For the record

From: Casey Raimondo [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2026 7:12 PM
To: Ben Maartman <ben.maartman@cprd.bc.ca>
Subject: Re:

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Hi Ben,

Thank you for getting back to me. I wanted to add an additional concern after more review of the document - the equestrian facilities. I am a riding coach, our property is 3 acres. Horses are a huge part of our lives and livelihood. It would be devastating for a lot of people if this were to pass. I can only imagine how anti-agriculture the people behind this must be. I hope you'll do everything you can to stand behind the AG families in your area.

Thanks,

Casey

On Fri, Mar 27, 2026 at 7:02 PM Ben Maartman <ben.maartman@cprd.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Casey

Thanks for the email. And I appreciate your concerns and thoughts. The place to go for information is www.planyourcowichan.ca – you will also see when the open houses are scheduled and you can also subscribe to updates. Questions can be sent to zoning@cprd.bc.ca

These are early days and this document is the first draft. Directors are just learning about it – and so much so we extended this weeks meeting until next Wednesday to complete our review of the document and then decide if its ready for first reading. (Note bylaws require 3 readings before adoption).

Your input is appreciated. I will forward it to legislativeservices@cprd.bc.ca so it becomes part of the public record.

In Service
Ben

From: Casey Raimondo [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 10:19 PM
To: Ben Maartman <ben.maartman@cvrd.bc.ca>
Subject:

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Dear Mr. Maartman,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the potential changes in regulations outlined for backyard hen keeping and beekeeping in residential zones.

While I understand and appreciate the intention to balance residential livability with small-scale backyard agriculture, I am concerned that some of the restrictions may be overly limiting for residents who are responsibly keeping hens for personal food sustainability, education, and environmental benefits. The Diamond, particularly, has always been a predominately agricultural neighbourhood and that is something that I, and many others, are incredibly proud of. Caring for our animals is an integral part our lives, I am raising two young boys whose upbringing is shaped by our rural lifestyle.

In particular, the limitations on the number of hens permitted based on parcel size, as well as the strict enclosure and siting requirements, may make it difficult for otherwise suitable properties to participate in backyard agriculture. For many families, keeping a small flock contributes to local food resilience, waste reduction through composting, and provides valuable learning opportunities for children.

Additionally, the prohibition on certain common practices may unintentionally discourage responsible animal stewardship or create barriers for residents who are committed to maintaining clean, quiet, and well-managed backyard flocks that do not create neighbourhood nuisances.

I would welcome consideration of more flexible or tiered regulations that recognize differences in property layout, existing agricultural use, and demonstrated responsible animal care. Community education, reasonable standards, and complaint-based enforcement may be more effective approaches than strict blanket limitations.

Thank you for taking the time to consider feedback from residents who value sustainable living and backyard agriculture. I would be grateful to hear if there are opportunities for community input, future reviews of the bylaw, or ways residents can participate in constructive dialogue on this topic.

Sincerely,
Casey Hickey

[REDACTED] grouhel rd