

From: [Ben Maartman](#)
To: [legislativeservices](#)
Subject: FW: Clarification on Proposed Bylaw Changes – Upcoming Meeting
Date: Sunday, March 29, 2026 9:07:20 PM

From: Leslie McDonnell Personal Real Estate Corporation <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 29, 2026 1:54 PM
To: Ben Maartman <Ben.Maartman@cvrld.bc.ca>; Mom <[REDACTED]@shaw.ca>
Subject: Clarification on Proposed Bylaw Changes – Upcoming Meeting

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Ben,

I hope you're doing well.

I understand there is a meeting scheduled for tomorrow evening regarding the proposed Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw updates, and I wanted to reach out in advance so I can come prepared and make the most of the discussion.

While the proposed changes related to equestrian centres initially caught my attention, as I've spent more time reviewing the material, I've realized there are several areas of the bylaw that I would like to better understand. At this stage, my goal is not to form conclusions, but rather to gain clarity on the intent and reasoning behind the proposed changes overall.

In particular, I am hoping to better understand the rationale behind the proposed changes to equestrian centres—specifically the introduction of minimum parcel sizes, setbacks, and the classification of equestrian centres as an accessory use. It would be helpful to understand what concerns or challenges these changes are intended to address, and how they are expected to impact existing or small-scale equestrian operations.

Furthermore, on a cursory review, some of the proposed regulations appear quite restrictive in how agricultural land can be used, particularly in relation to small-scale or diversified farming activities. I would appreciate more context on how these changes align with supporting local food production and food security, and whether that is part of the broader policy direction.

I also wanted to raise a concern regarding Section 2.2.4 of the draft bylaw, which outlines enforcement provisions. As written, it appears to allow entry onto a parcel, building, or premises at reasonable times by enforcement staff to determine compliance. I would appreciate clarification on how this provision is intended to be applied in practice, particularly with respect to property rights, expectations of privacy, and what safeguards are in place for property owners.

Additionally, I am interested in understanding how the proposed bylaw aligns with the provincial Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act, particularly Section 2, which protects normal farm practices from undue interference or restriction. Some of the proposed limitations appear, at first glance, to place constraints on activities that may otherwise fall within accepted agricultural practices, and I would appreciate clarification on how consistency

with provincial legislation has been considered.

If available, I would also greatly appreciate access to a version of the bylaw that clearly outlines the proposed changes (or highlights the sections that have been updated). I would like to review the material in advance so I can come to the meeting informed, ask thoughtful questions, and avoid making assumptions.

Thank you in advance for your time, and I look forward to the discussion tomorrow evening.

Warm regards,

Leslie McDonnell, MBA
Personal Real Estate Corporation

778-838-BEST (2378)

leslie@lesliemcdonnell.ca

lesliemcdonnell.ca

@lesliemcdonnellrealtor

Instagram | TikTok | YouTube | Facebook

Vancouver Island Real Estate | Royal Le Page Nanaimo