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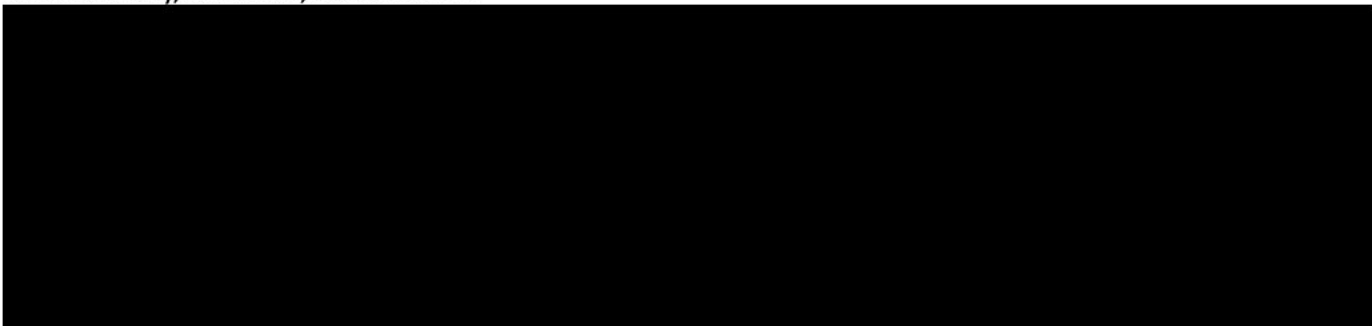
**FW: Opposition to proposed CZB and request for public hearing**

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**From** Ben Maartman <ben.maartman@cverd.bc.ca>  
**Date** Mon 3/30/2026 9:45 AM  
**To** legislativeservices <legislativeservices@cverd.bc.ca>

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**From:** Kristen Card <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 30, 2026 1:51 AM



**Subject:** Opposition to proposed CZB and request for public hearing

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To the Board of Directors & Cowichan Valley Regional District staff,

I am writing to express serious concern over the proposed Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw No. 4373. I am a current landowner in Area B and I am deeply discouraged by the direction that the CVRD is taking with the new zoning bylaws. I am asking that the Area Directors, members of the CVRD board, and staff carefully consider the negative effects of the highly prescriptive and punitive proposed CZB on rural properties in the CVRD. Due to the complexities and far-reaching effects of the proposed CZB, scheduling a public hearing is necessary.

Specific issues that warrant formal public scrutiny include:

- \$50,000-per-day fines for bylaw violations, which could theoretically reach into the millions for ongoing infractions.
- Highly prescriptive rules governing everything from bedroom definitions to chicken coops, dock usage, shipping container bans, unlicensed vehicle storage, and RV living and the banning of other creative housing solutions.
- Site-specific development blueprints embedded directly into the bylaw, including detailed architectural controls and density caps.
- Major infrastructure implications, with thousands of new units requiring water, sewer, drainage, and fire service capacity that many areas currently lack.
- Timing concerns, with adoption targeted for September - just five weeks before the October election, effectively locking in a near-permanent regulatory framework before voters can

respond.

- The idea that anything not expressively permitted is now illegal, rather than the test that anything prohibited is illegal. We should live in a democracy rather than a dictatorship and the CVRD should not change the current approach.

Given the scale, complexity, and long-term consequences of Bylaw 4710, I urge you to advocate for a formal public hearing. This is not about opposing growth or modernization. It is about ensuring transparency, accountability, and democratic legitimacy in decisions that will shape our communities for decades.

The Cowichan Valley has long been valued for its rural character, self-sufficiency, and community independence. It is essential that future planning respects these values while balancing broader regional goals.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Kristen Card  
Property owner in Area B