



Council Member Motion
For the Council Meeting of January 14, 2016

Date: January 12, 2016

From: Councillors Loveday, Isitt, and Mayor Helps

Subject: Protection of Drinking Water in the Shawnigan Lake Watershed

Motion

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has approved a contaminated soils facility that permits the dumping of five million tons of highly contaminated material near the headwaters of the Shawnigan Lake drinking water watershed, which supplies drinking water to 12,000 people;

AND WHEREAS Cowichan Tribes, residents of Shawnigan Lake, and the Boards of the Cowichan Valley Regional District and Capital Regional District have expressed opposition to the dumping of contaminated material in drinking water watersheds and concern over the lack of meaningful local government input in the provincial permitting process;

AND WHEREAS there are significant conflicting hydrogeological and technical opinions about the risk the facility poses to the natural environment and to people's drinking water;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria supports the residents of Shawnigan Lake, Cowichan Tribes, and the Cowichan Valley Regional District in calling on the Province of British Columbia to invoke the precautionary principle and respect the need for meaningful local government input by revoking the permit for the property at 460 Stebbings Road in Shawnigan Lake;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria forward this resolution to the Province of British Columbia, requesting that contaminated site regulations be amended to provide for thorough and appropriate consideration of local government input and land use regulations in the contaminated soils permitting process.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Loveday".

Councillor Loveday

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helps".

Mayor Helps

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Isitt".

Councillor Isitt