

**AGENDA**

**TOWN OF LAKE COWICHAN**

**Public Works and Environmental Services**

**Committee meeting to be held on**

**Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.**



**Page #**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS** (if applicable)

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**3. BUSINESS ARISING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**(a)** 2015 Sewer CCTV Inspection and Smoke Testing Programme – Update.

**(b) Ongoing Items Still Being Addressed:**

(i) Duck Pond Footbridge – Upgrade Plans.

(ii) Gateway Signage – Update.

(iii) Sidewalks and Walking Trail for North Shore Road – Update.

**4. DELEGATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS**

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

**(a)** David Work, Café Mochica re: Concerns relating to South Shore Road Improvements.

**3**

**6. REPORTS**

**(a)** Director of Finance– Update on Garbage and Organics Waste Collection.

**5**

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**(a)** Variable Speed Sign on Highway 18.

**(b)** Boil Water Advisories- Status

**8. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**9. PUBLIC RELATIONS ITEMS**

**10. MEDIA/PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

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Feb 05/2016

To: the Mayor and Town Counsellors of Lake Cowichan:

Some of you may already know that I was disappointed that the South Shore road improvement project was executed and completed without giving any attention the Stone Ave./South Shore Road intersection where our home and business are located. I approached Nagi Rizk about this as the program was nearing completion and he informed me that there was nothing in the plan for our corner and that they were already over budget. Nevertheless, he also stated that improvements could always be done at this spot sometime in the future. I have been waiting patiently for some years now but with Sunfest coming to the Lake, I believe it is time to revive this issue.

I would like to thank Town Counsel for acting on my recommendation to post 30k school zone signs along this stretch as that has been a big help in slowing traffic. However, while the majority of drivers do respond to signage, not all do and this is why there is still a need for traffic calming measures which actually force drivers to slow down and be more cautious. The traffic calming measures that were installed throughout the downtown core do indeed work, so I am confused as to why the Stone/South Shore intersection was the only section that did not receive the same attention. If these measures were justified everywhere else then why are they not justified at our corner? Not only is it a school zone but it is still part of the commercial sector being home to South Shore Cabinets, Gerard's Specialty Foods, an apartment block, the Laundrymat, Cafe Mochica and I understand that the food bank will be moving up to this area as well.

In the summer, I often set up my art on the sidewalk and as I sit there observing the traffic it is very obvious that improvements need to be made. It is only natural that vehicles will pick up speed coming down the hill from Honeymoon and drivers do not see the 30k sign until they are in front of our store and have already entered the school zone. I still see many vehicles rushing down the hill, past the sign and then you see their brake lights coming on as they reach the bottleneck of flashing lights, crosswalk, traffic balloons, and median that have all been installed at the entrance to the school. Why was so much attention paid to that side of the school zone yet absolutely none on the other side?

During last Summer's Lake Days event we had a drunk teen driver take out the 30k sign and crash into our house. When I notified the Town to have the sign replaced I asked if they could put the sign back on the other side of Stone Ave. so that approaching drivers could be warned to slow down before actually entering the zone. I was told that the sign had to be where it was because vehicles turning right on to South Shore from Stone needed to see it. Strangely this same logic was not applied on the other side of the school zone where the 30k sign is posted on the block preceding it and drivers turning left on to South Shore from Cowichan Ave. cannot see it. But still, if our sign has to be where it is, could we not install another one before the Stone Ave. intersection to warn drivers that they are approaching a school zone? Surely one more traffic sign isn't going to cost so much?

Not all students cross the road at the main entrance where they have all those traffic calming measures. Quite a few live on the other side and leave the school grounds from Stone Ave. and some try to cross the road at the Stone/South Shore

intersection . Other pedestrians cross there, going to and fro from the apartments or the bus stop there. I cannot envision any good reason why there is not traffic balloons and a crosswalk at that corner, especially in light of the fact that every other corner throughout the business section has traffic balloons. Not only do traffic balloons narrow the road, causing traffic to slow down but they also delineate the parallel parking areas. I am quite surprised at how many visitors stop in front of my art display on the sidewalk and ask if it is okay to park there. It seems obvious to me that there is parking allowed there but obviously it isn't clear to some and I think traffic balloons would eliminate the doubt.

One thing I have noticed in my eight years operating our business at the Lake and that is that The Town and many of the residents here don't seem to recognize, pay attention to, or include the "uptown" area as part of the business section. The glaring omission of traffic calming measures in the uptown business section is proof of this. Last year as I was paying my Business license I made a formal request for some Town maintained garbage cans uptown. Again, if we take a look downtown we find several Town maintained garbage bins on each block .... but that stops at the school entrance just like the traffic calming does. School kids are notorious for littering in any town and Lake Cowichan is no exception. The pedestrians that purchase coffee or fast food at places downtown are finished with it by the time they reach uptown where are no garbage cans. Guess who has been picking up all their garbage? In 2015 Town greatly reduced the size of our garbage cans so now I barely have room for my own garbage let alone public garbage that did not originate from my business.

Another safety issue is that our driveway entrance is right at the intersection of Stone and South Shore. When we are turning into our driveway, regardless of which direction we approach it, it is confusing for drivers sitting at the stop sign at Stone Ave. They may see our turn signal but have no way of knowing that we are turning into our driveway and not Stone Ave. Of course we have the right of way, but if they assume we are turning on to Stone Ave. they sometimes go ahead and make their turn on to South Shore just as we decide to turn into our driveway. There have been several occasions where we have nearly collided with these turning vehicles. Now my wife and I always wait and let those cars turn first even though we have the right of way. It can also be difficult backing out of our driveway into that intersection because we have three directions that we have to watch for oncoming traffic. There is probably no way to rectify this situation short of putting the driveway somewhere else and that really is not an option. My point is that there is a lot going on at this busy intersection , the road is big and wide in this section and anything that could be done to encourage cars to slow down and be more cautious would be beneficial.

As I've already stated, if all of these improvements that were done on South Shore were justifiable then why are they not justified on our block? Why were we the only section to receive no improvements? Surely what I'm asking for will not cost so much. There was no problem finding the money to come up with grand entrances, brightly coloured flags hanging from decorative lamp posts, flowerbeds, etc. How about finishing off the traffic calming measures because it seems like your engineer missed a spot? As I have taken the time to write this letter to express my concerns I do expect a written response.

Thank You  
David Work, Cafe Mochica



# Memo

**TO:** Chief Administrative Officer  
**FROM:** Director of Finance  
**DATE:** February 26, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** Update on Garbage and Organics Waste Collection

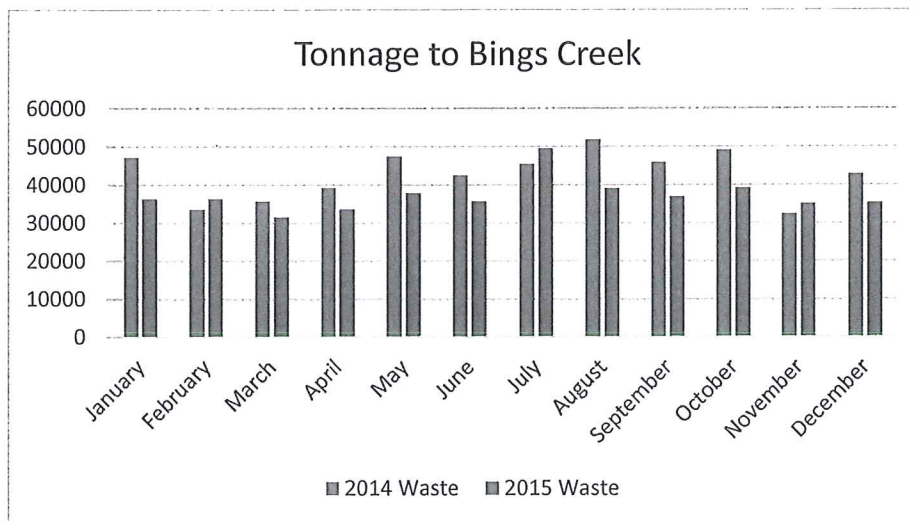
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The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on the Town's curbside solid waste collection and the depot tonnages progress report on the automated waste collection program.

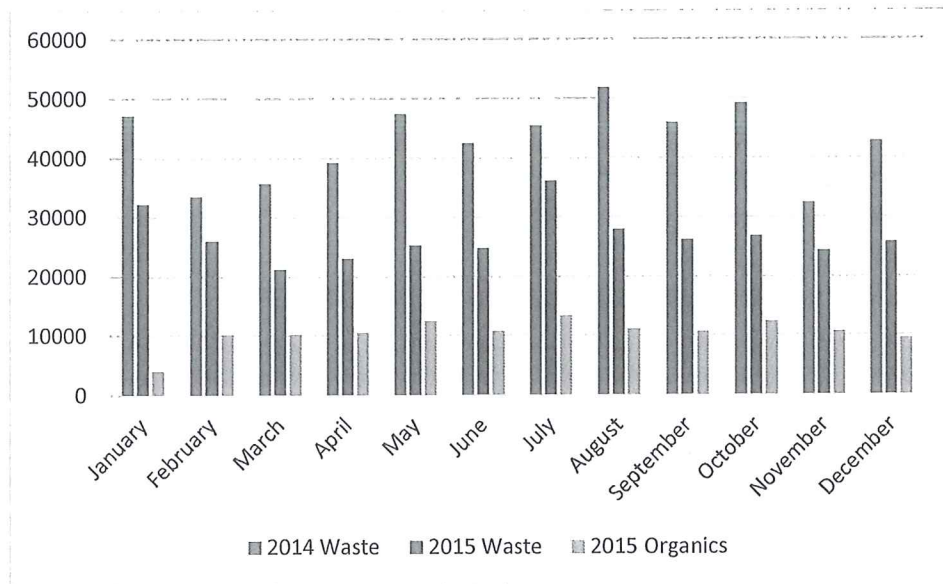
As the program was implemented in January 2015, we are still in the implementation and educational stage. The diversion of organics from the waste collection stream has been in place for the residential single family sector for a full year, and this included standardized container sizes for each service.

Some of the commercial and multi-family sectors are still in the process of being converted. Although many commercial enterprises chose not to participate in the organics program as there was little or no organics for them to separate. The program however, was welcomed by those in the food services area. We did learn that the larger producers of organic waste already had made other arrangements for diverting their organic waste.

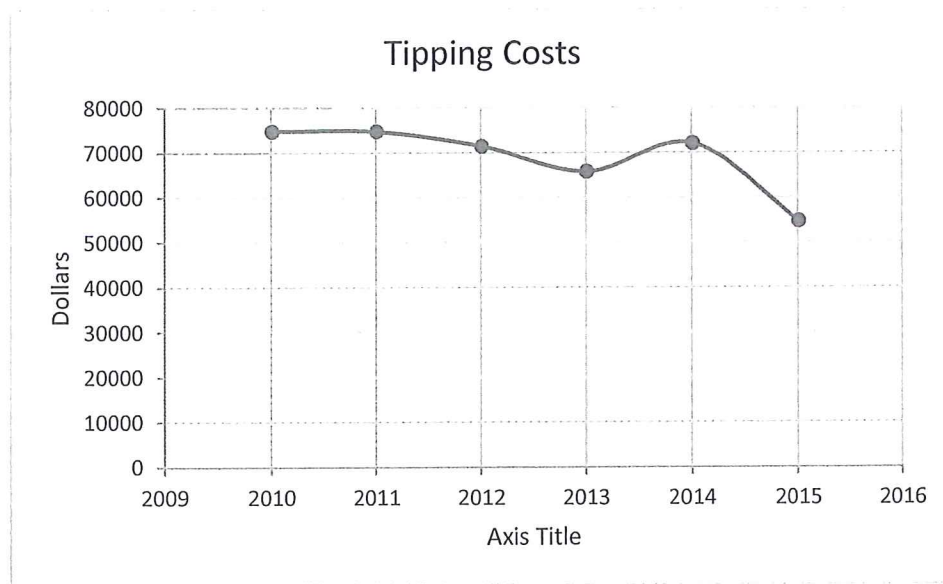
The table below illustrates the decrease in total tonnage from 2014 to 2015.



The table below shows the breakdown of tonnage between waste and organics collection:



The organics program has resulted in a 40% diversion of organics from the waste stream in 2015. There has also been a cost savings in tipping costs.



There should be increased participation with the organics program going forward, we hope to see increases to the organics being diverted from the waste stream. The savings in costs, greenhouse gas emissions and landfill capacity are beneficial.

Ronnie Gill, CGA