

**Late Agenda Item**

**Public Hearing and Regular Council Agenda  
August 2, 2022**

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**Recommendation:**

That Council amend the agenda to add the following item, received after publication of the agenda:

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| 5.1. "Official Community Plan Bylaw 2003, No. 1488, Amendment Bylaw (No. 71) 2022, No. 2106" and "Town of Ladysmith Zoning Bylaw 2014, No. 1860, Amendment Bylaw (No. 48) 2022, No. 2107"<br>Add public submissions. | 2           |

Received August 2, 2022

I need to ask Mayor and Council how are you going to protect our interests in Holland Creek and Park with the passing of these amendments? When reviewing what the proposal is about, item #1 is to amend the OCP " to remove policies related to estate residential lots in environmentally sensitive areas and steep slopes from Holland Creek Plan". In addition there are proposed changes to allow amendments to area and intensity of development. Are these changes for the betterment of the community interests?

With the continual development causing removal of the large tree forest and disruption of vegetated slopes on the southern boundary of Holland Creek, this ecosystem is being changed forever. Will these changes be a change for the good?

Holland Creek watershed ecosystem developed around the thick stand of tall deciduous/non-deciduous trees, salal and sword ferns that lined the upper slopes. This vegetation provides benefits of shade, wind and erosion control to allow a forest to flourish and a habitat for animals and fish. The unique nature of this forested creek corridor is that it bisects our Town and is a rare setting for all, townpeople and visitors, to enjoy by use of a network of walking trails and bridges. Holland Creek Park is respected and valued by us all because the forest and ground it grew upon was left to protect this sensitive ecosystem.

This proposed development phase and the previous phases are encroaching on Holland Creek significantly affecting, stressing and possibly degrading this watershed, remaining forest and townsite native park. By allowing more of the slopes and vegetation to be disturbed we are watching the woodland watershed being altered. The forest area is shrinking, sun is penetrating and water is eroding the values of Holland Creek. Add to this the stresses of climate change which is exposing our environment to harsher solar, wind and rain events.

Will passing these amendments or when considering future proposals help to protect the southern slope forested uplands of Holland Creek?

Ron & Debra Cook  
Ladysmith