Members of the Board

Cowichan Watershed Board

Hello Friends! This note comes to you from the Vancouver Island’s **whitewater paddlesport community**, representing kayakers, canoeists, stand up paddleboarders, board surfers, and boogie-boarders.

As river stewards, we fully support the “***WEIR READY***” campaign. We actively supported the **Cowichan Valley Regional District**’s 2018 referendum to undertake watershed management service

In September, 2019, our community delivered a PowerPoint presentation to the **Cowichan Watershed Board**. We requested that the engineering designs of the weir and riverbed might include, if feasible, a limited number of **recreational play features** (surf waves, holes, and eddies) for the use of paddlers.

Such features would not interfere with water storage, nor would they have adverse effects on fish habitat or riparian integrity.

Since our presentation, we’ve met with **Leroy Van Wieren**, Project Director. He’s aware of our request, and his willingness to work with us has been most encouraging. **Tom Rutherford**, CWB Executive Director, is also aware of our campaign, and his suggestions have been invaluable.

We can also report that we have begun a **fund-raising campaign** to help defray the cost of a feasibility study.

For those of you who missed our presentation on September 30, at your request I can follow up on this note by **mailing you a flash drive** containing our PowerPoint slide show and speaking notes (edited for brevity!). (Please email me at <rickbryan@shaw.ca> and provide an appropriate **postal address**.)

Additionally, the minutes from the September, 2019 meeting were quite complete in recording many of our discussion points. (Thanks, Jill!) Herewith the link – please see pp 2-3 and pp 6-7:

<https://cowichanwatershedboard.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/DRAFT-MEETING-minutes-Sept-30-2019.pdf>

Our thanks for your consideration.

Yours for safe and responsible recreational water use,

Rick Bryan

Recreational Events Coordinator

Recreational Canoeing Association of BC