

JAN 18 20

2560-50 Resilient Saanich

Vivian Cheung

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**From:** carmel thomson [redacted] >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 17, 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Mayor; Susan Brice; Judy Brownoff; Nathalie Chambers; Zac De Vries; Karen Harper; Teale Phelps Bondaroff; Colin Plant; Mena Westhaver  
**Cc:** Council  
**Subject:** (External Email) Re: Resilient Saanich Technical Committee (RSTC) Update – Agenda Item of the January 16, 2023 Council Meeting  
**Attachments:** RSTC Status Report – Follow-up letter.pdf

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January 17, 2023

Dear Mayor Murdock & Councillors,

**Re: Resilient Saanich Technical Committee (RSTC) Update –  
Agenda Item of the January 16, 2023 Council Meeting**

Further to my January 15, 2023 letter, I wish to express my sincerest gratitude to you, Staff and the Chair of the RSTC for last night's open and transparent exchange regarding the RSTC Status Report and work currently underway.

Speaking for myself, it has been a long, challenging and uncomfortable journey from 2015 when first the EDPA Bylaw came under fire. Having been on an almost 40-year journey in Saanich supporting sustainable development and environmental reform, I will admit the bylaw's complete repeal two years later crushed me.

I was not looking forward to, in the words of at least one Councillor, another "tortuous" meeting. But the tone of last night's session was, I felt, collaborative, cooperative, and civil. Difficult questions were respectfully asked and ably answered. I appreciated better understanding the relationship and process among Consultant, Staff and Council.

It's easy to complain. Sadly, when I wrote to you on January 15, I could offer no suggestions to address delays; I did not then understand the challenges being experienced by the RSTC during development of the new bylaw. Wishfully, I was looking to Council to help the Committee and Staff find their footing, and to help them move forward in an expeditious manner on what is a complex and challenging undertaking.

Not wanting to sound cliché, simply, I want to say thank you! I feel reassured and encouraged this Council will be making reasoned foundational decisions balancing ecological health and sustainable development today and for future generations.

Carmel Thomson  
█ Prospect Lake Road