

Pamela Martin

Subject: FW: Public Notice Bylaw

From: Sue Hodgson <sue.hodgson@peninsulanewsreview.com>

Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 10:44 AM

To: Emilie Gorman <Emilie.Gorman@csaanich.ca>

Subject: Re: Public Notice Bylaw

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Hi Emilie,

Please include this for the meeting. Please confirm receipt.

From my perspective as the Publisher of the Peninsula News Review and a local community resident is that the consideration for a Public Notice bylaw which will forgo the requirements for newspaper notices is an **accessibility** issue for the community; on the inability to see these Public Notices in a timely, efficient and consistent manner. The Peninsula News has been around for decades and continues to be the source for hyper local news, local government issues and a commitment to excellent local journalism. We are a member of the National News Media Council, have won numerous awards and are an accredited publication, whereby our circulation (14,500 every week) is verified quarterly through Alliance for Audited Media.

The staying power of our type of medium is essential for these public notices and gives the widest reach, especially considering our older demographics and the nature of our rural and agricultural community. Relying solely on the district website and social media does not have the same ability.

Accessible

The publication methods are easily accessible for people and have broad reach in the community. To meet the principle of accessibility consider whether the method(s):

- are accessible to a broad spectrum of the local population (e.g., age, location);
- provide an easy way for people to find and read the public notice information (considering also

persons with disabilities, community demographics, and language needs);

- provide different ways for the public to be informed (e.g., in print and online);
- have limited barriers to access (e.g., one is free if the other is a paid subscription); and,
- take into consideration local circumstances (e.g., lack of reliable internet or a local newspaper).

I would recommend that the Peninsula News continues to be included in at least one of the recommended publications. Meaning at least one issue (as opposed to two) as this will at least allow for a balanced approach. We also support these public notices by having them on our own PNR website: the following are our numbers as it relates to our website: **Page Views: 44,158 average // 154,943 total. Unique users: 14,016 average // 52,525 total.**

Thank you.

Sue

Publisher-PNR

250-516-6489

Pamela Martin

From: H Mc <[REDACTED]>
Sent: January 21, 2024 5:28 PM
To: Municipal Hall
Subject: Repeat regarding public notice comments

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Subject: Re: Public Notice Bylaw Comments

Harold McCarthy 7075 East Saanich Road , Saanichton, BC V8M 1Y3

I am writing to comment on the Public Notice Bylaw Discussions.

I am not in agreement with the stopping of newspaper notices. The taxpaying public needs to have a transparent view of matters facing our community. . Not all people have registered for social media accounts and should not have to pay for online access such as the monthly internet bill from Telus or other to enable them to check on municipal matter. Not all cel phones are smart phones.

The notice I am responding to was printed in the Victoria TimesColonist , 3 days before the scheduled meeting . I do not know if there was a previous publishing of this notice. I do not habitually peruse the Central Saanich municipal website. This notice took up one third of a page, likely at significant expense . Therefore it suggests the matter is an important one. It also means that those inserting it had to be intentional and forward thinking. To be able to rely on potential selective and easily changed notices , even possibly easily deletable removes opportunity for the taxpayer to keep up with progress in the district.

I encourage the retention of newspaper notices . I am quite willing to have them in a smaller format. The printed page is a very useful part of public openness, and to remove public notices from printed media will weaken local knowledge and opportunity for participation .

Council members and staff are dependent on the taxpayers for their positions and remuneration . I hope they are willing to be seen to be carefully completing their duties.

Harold McCarthy

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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