

April 14, 2022

Dear Director Wilks,

I am a long time home owner (20+ years) at Fernie Alpine Resort and a member of the Fernie Snow Valley Community Association. I was very surprised and alarmed to be told that the process to consider the re-zoning of the Galloway Lands has been accelerated. It is my understanding that you voted in favour of the accelerated process. I would respectfully like to inquire why?

At the January 13 & 14, 2022 meetings, Directors voted overwhelmingly to defer the review process to allow the applicant, Handshake Holdings (“the Applicant”) to address important deficiencies in their application. The RDEK board stated in its press release “...*the Board felt it was premature to move forward to a public hearing without having additional information in several key areas, including road access, wildland and structural fire protection, water and septic, and wildlife corridors*”. What has changed since that time?

To my knowledge, **none** of the deficiencies identified have been addressed to date. The Applicant has been sending out regular “Updates” to the Fernie Snow Valley Community and I expect others. These updates contain **no new information** and do not address any of the concerns identified at the January 13 & 14 RDEK meeting.

The acceleration of the timetable brings a number of questions to be answered:

1. Who requested the accelerated time line and why?
2. Who benefits from the accelerated timeline?
3. Why are the issues of road access, fire suppression, water and septic systems as well as wild life corridors no longer worthy of further study?
4. What convinced so many directors to change their vote on this matter?
5. If we do not address the issues of concern now, then when?
6. Why are the valid concerns of 600+ Fernie Snow Valley residents being sidelined?

I ask you to reconsider your support of the accelerated timeline until the concerns raised at the January 13 & 14 meetings are addressed.

Best regards,

Chris Slubicki
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