

From: Erin Towson [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2023 4:51 PM
To: briangregg@sitepathconsulting.com
Cc: Alex Allen; northinfo; Grant Scott
Subject: Questions and concerns regarding the proposed Rogers Communications Radiocommunications Tower

Dear Brian Gregg,

I am writing to you in regards to the proposed 63.0 meter Rogers Communications Radio communications Tower for Hornby Island.

You are asking to build this tower on Crown Land on Hornby. It has come to my attention that this land has been in discussions for year round housing for the community which is one of the most critical needs for residents on the island. Have you looked at other locations on Hornby? Possibly one that isn't also so close to where many of the community gather?

I would like to request that you come to Hornby for an in person meeting to present to us what Rogers is proposing. Having one online meeting is just not conducive to most residents on the island. December 8th at 5pm was just not a convenient time. If given enough notice at a better time of year, I feel like the community would have a chance to meet you in person and find out what this proposal is all about. If the community consultation process is 120 days and it started on November 14th, 2022 then you should have another 60 days to come up with a way to meet with the community in person.

I have taken a quick look at the Model Strategy for Antenna Systems. It mentions the consultation process should inform, incorporate local knowledge, harmonize with ISED regulations and guidelines, be transparent, be consistent, be predictable and be expeditious. I do not feel that providing only an online meeting with the community is following those guidelines.

Regarding public consultation, you are required to notify all property owners and residents within a notification distance of 10 metre for every one metre of height of the tower. From what I understand the proposed tower location is within the list of discouraged locations. The tower will not share land with, but is within the vicinity of, the school, day care, playground, recycle depot/free store, library, community health

centre, medical clinic, bank, farmer's market, community hall, Joe King Ball Park, radio station, fire hall and Spark. These are all places where residents in the community gather or work for numerous hours per week. Was this something that Rogers took into consideration when choosing the location?

The last revised update of Safety Code 6 that I could find online was in 2015. It is currently 2023. It states that the radio frequency EMF exposure to the residents of Hornby is safe. With the rapid change of technology and this clearly outdated exposures guidelines, does Roger's feel confident that they are willing to take any risk of liability for the community in case it turns out to be wrong? Government once stated that cigarette and asbestos were safe for its citizens, and with time those proved to be incorrect. What benefits other than better cell service does this cell tower provide Hornby residents where we should take any risk of it affecting our health?

I think the community should be aware of how many year round Rogers cell phone customers are on Hornby Island. In the peak summer months of tourism what does that amount of daily users go up to that would require use of a Rogers cell tower? Would the tower be able to service that many new customers at one time? I am a Telus cellular customer. Will I benefit from having the tower at that location on Hornby Island? Will Telus or other cell service providers be leasing space on the tower as well, so that I and others in the community will benefit from better cellular reception? Has Rogers done any research on smaller communities, specifically islands to see whether or not insurance on our properties would be impacted if there is the potential risk of a fire from the tower? These are things a small community like us, needs to know.

I still own property on the mainland but I also now co-own property here on Hornby Island near my family. My brother, his wife and young family live, work, go to school and play most of the year on Hornby. My sister-in law who just went through a [REDACTED] works up at the Depot. She will be working very close to where the potential tower is, so I have concerns for her health. The family is not a member of the Spark Maker-space but they do spend time there and I am sure that as my little nephews grow older they will be spending more time there. My brother is on the board of Joe King Ball Park and the entire family spends many hours there spring, summer and fall. I, myself, have spent more time on Hornby in the last year. I am sensitive to EMF and find my body functions a lot better when I am away from the city where it is all around me. I have enjoyed not having cell service at my property on Hornby. If I need to use my cell phone I can walk to the local beach where there is a booster.

As I was unable to attend the December 8th session, was it recorded and can I please have access to it so I can feel more informed? With all of the feed back and questions you have received from the community, what is the next step and how will the Hornby residents be apprised of it? Today is the last day to send you concerns, so what happens now?

I am a cellular phone or wireless device user with Telus. Once my contract is over, I plan to not have cell phone and will use only my land line.

I do not feel it is an appropriate location for the proposed facility as it is way too close to numerous community gathering locations and where a large majority of residents earn their income.

I thank you for your time listening to my concerns and in advance for answering my questions.

In regards,
Erin Towson

[REDACTED]
Hornby Island, BC
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]