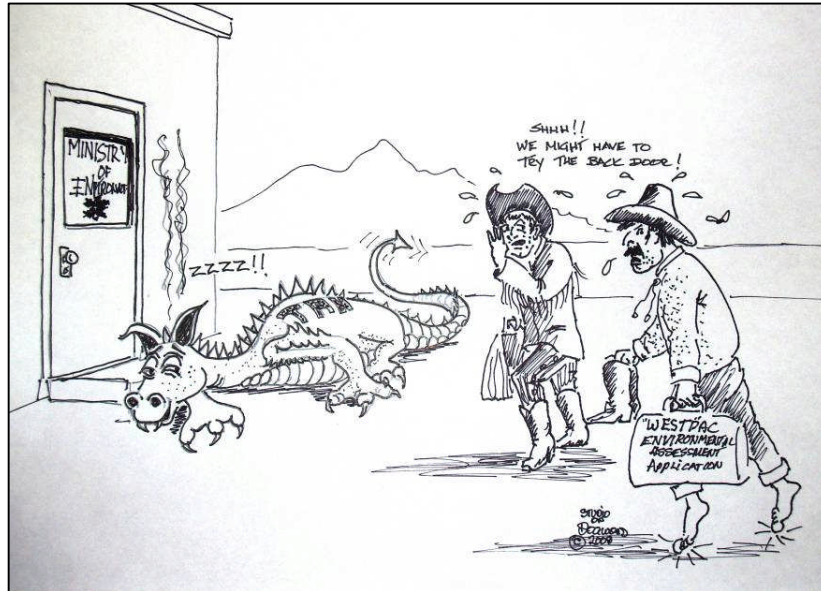


Texada Action Now (TAN) Community Association

Newsletter, November 2008

www.texadaactionnow.org

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TEXADA ACTION NOW COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Sunday January 18 2009 – 7:00 pm - Texada Community Hall

All residents and ratepayers of voting age are automatic members of TAN with full voting rights – no dues required. We will be voting on the amount for 2009 paying members at the AGM and selling memberships after the meeting. We are soliciting nominations for four positions as directors. Please contact Norm or Peggy MacLean at 486-7120 with your nomination. Norm has also graciously agreed to conduct the elections.

We were right..... This is not a done deal.....Nor is it a won deal.

The resurgence of TAN was mandated from two town hall meetings in the fall of 2007 in response to a flyer and public meeting organized by WestPac LNG. Chuck Childress, Richard Fletcher, Paula Brunelle, and Judy Stanford became officers of TAN and Rob McWilliam, Doby Dobrostanski, Mickey Feldman, Heather Stephen and Leslie Goresky became directors.

Hours of volunteer energy immediately went into research, networking, fundraising, communications and forming government strategy. Valuable contacts were made and the Alliance to Stop LNG was formed. Most notably we would like to thank Arthur Caldicott for his untiring efforts, Debra Conner of the Georgia Strait Alliance and Eric Swanson of Dogwood Initiative. These and many more off-island people have, and continue to be great resources and advocates for our cause.

On Oct 17th 2007 we kicked off a door - to - door Texada-wide petition that was later presented to the Powell River Regional District and the Provincial Government.

TAN participated in the recommendations given to the Provincial Climate Action Team. We advertised in several publications and have printed and distributed informational materials and newsletters. We have brought this issue to various Regional Districts, the Islands Trust, and municipalities up and down the coast. More recently Chuck Childress attended the Union of BC Municipalities where the membership passed two resolutions in support of our position. Richard Fletcher has recently been presenting to the BC Hydro Long Term Acquisition Plan hearings. WestPac is on record as an intervenor in these hearings.

View from the Chair-chuck childress

Is the Texada LNG proposal dead? Everyone is asking the question and the short answer is no. Westpac has stated that it still plans to proceed with its application in early 2009. Today it looks like the project is not economically viable. What about Tomorrow?? The world is on an economic roller coaster ride that sees prices rapidly rise and then dive steeply, sometimes on a daily basis. Is the boom over? Are we diving into a depression? Are we on the road to recovery? The "experts" and our leaders have been wrong so far, so all I can add is that NO ONE Knows. We must continue to fight until this project is dead, no matter what the economic outlook. We must continue to consider the Texada LNG project very much alive until the Provincial and/or Federal Government, or Westpac tells us differently.

And what a fight it has been so far. The message that Texada LNG is a bad idea is slowly getting accepted around the coast and throughout BC. The Union of BC Municipalities endorsed our Regional District's resolutions; one calling for an LNG tanker ban, and another asking that any new gas fired generation plants have zero emissions. I was in the room in Penticton when our regional director, Dave Murphy, intervened to prevent the tanker resolution from dying on the order paper. Thanks Dave for a job well done. And thanks to all who have contributed in any way, please keep helping, for with a thousand paddlers Texada's ship will never stop.

Texada Supporting Texada

The success that TAN has had so far is largely because of the support of Texada Islanders. Let's not stop at TAN or just one cause. This community will be healthy, happier and stronger if we always do our best to pull together and support each other. A true community only exists where people help the less fortunate and each help each other. And it feels good!

We on Texada are blessed with some talented individuals and excellent businesses that support local causes and employ Texada residents. Why bypass the farmers market to support international agribusiness corporations with questionable quality control? Imagine for a minute what Texada would look like without your two favorite local businesses? If we want a healthy Texada , then we each have to do our small part by supporting and helping each other. We'll be all the better for it.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE REPORT

The Intergovernmental Committee's project for the months of September and October was to contact

and determine for publication the positions of the Federal candidates for the West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast Sea to Sky riding as to LNG tanker traffic in the Georgia Strait and a gas fired electricity generating plant on Texada.

Russ Sparks did the initial leg work gathering positions of the candidates then Sandi McCormick, Doby Dobrostanski and Russ edited the positions for publication in the Peak on October 8th. As well, Russ Sparks asked the essential questions in an all candidates' debate held in the Evergreen Theatre on October 7th.

In summation, three of the candidates were unequivocally against LNG tanker traffic but varied regarding the construction of a power generation plant. The eventual winner and now our MP Mr. John Weston, was decidedly obtuse. He feels we need more energy and favours development of alternate sources and would subject the proposed LNG plant to "a full, public and transparent environmental assessment review." He did not take a stand on LNG tanker traffic.

What should TAN and Texadans expect from our new MP, John Weston? We believe he is skeptical of WestPac's proposal. WE should expect him to carry forth our concerns much as John Reynolds (a former MP) did in the fish farm debate. We have established good contact with him and we will use it when needed.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RAFFLE WINNERS!

- 1st Prize – an Amanda Martinson painting – went to Betty Zaikow
- 2nd Prize – a luxury weekend at Whistler, contributed by Sandy McCormack - went to Angie Beaumont
- 3rd Prize – donated by Lorrie Pirart and Shades to Dream By – went to Leah Hartwell

Thank you to the many volunteers that helped man the TAN tables at various functions this summer including the Sunday Farmer's market, Diversity, the Fly-In, Van Anda Days and Sandcastle weekend. All of your/our efforts are successfully creating a growing awareness. ..and most importantly, thank you to us, the many people who continue to support TAN with their purchases, donations, time and involvement.

TAN will be hosting the concession at the Rock Island Player performances on the 27th, 28th, 29th of Nov. Anyone able to volunteer some baking, please contact Leslie Goresky at 604-483-8423.

In respect of all that sustains us and the dreary task of washing a lot of dishes, please bring your own mugs & napkins!