

From: [Director Cathcart](#)
To: [Director Martin](#); [Charles Hamilton](#)
Cc: [Director Cathcart](#); [Lynda Shykora](#)
Subject: water bottling discussion - proposed policy - Agenda Item September 19
Date: September 4, 2019 7:44:21 PM
Importance: High

Good evening Chair Rhona and Charles

Over the past few months there has been a “movement” in Golden led by residents in both the municipality and the rural communities to stop a proposed water bottling plant in the Town of Golden. At last night's Council meeting not only was it standing room only in council chamber but folks with protesting signs were outside listening in on the meeting, as well as many emails and telephone calls to councillors and myself. Not only from community members but activists, from the Freshwater Alliance of BC, etc.

Clearly folks do not want to see our water extracted for commercial bottle water sales and exported across the globe. And frankly, I have to agree. There are so many reasons why this is fundamentally wrong. Specifically for Area A, we continue to have a water quantity issue in many of our neighbourhoods. This is not getting better, it's getting worse. And because Area A does not have land use planning and zoning, I would like to propose to the Board to support a policy for Area A that does not support the extraction of fresh water resources for the purposes of commercial bottled water sales. Please see Sunshine Coast Regional District water bottling policy. Further, I welcome other Directors to get on board with a policy such as this for their respective communities.

I fully understand that a policy is not as strong and binding as a bylaw. A policy will send a clear message to the province that our Area A community, and hopefully municipality, Town of Golden stands firm on this subject. If the bylaw route is the way to go – so be it. However, timing is of the essence here.

I am open to your thoughts and suggestions.

Sincerely,

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