

John W Abernethy
Chair
Peachland Council Highway Committee
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14 April 2013

Mr. Grant Main
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure
PO Box 9850 Stn Prov. Govt
Victoria, BC, V8W 9T5

Dear Mr. Main,

Re: Accompanying: "THE NASTY BLACK CLOUD THREATENING PEACHLAND ---"

At the April 8th meeting of Peachland's District Council Highway Committee it was decided to send the accompanying message to the MOTI and also a copy to our local paper, The Peachland View. The most recent communication from MOTI to the District was by Mike Lorimore, Regional Director. He stated that he and Mr Dave Duncan "*look forward to working together on the planning for improvements to Highway 97 through your community*" As expressed in the enclosure this is precisely the message that we did **not** want to hear nor is there any sense of the urgency justified by the greater time required for a serious bypass evaluation.

The potential for a bright future for Peachland is no longer an abstract concept. Current developments under way and imminent, promise a second chance. But the clock keeps ticking. The Committee of Council and the residents' Hwy 97 Task Force Society (550 members and growing again) reflects the high level of community concern. That concern is increasing palpably as traffic volumes increase visibly. In the meantime we, their representatives, have nothing tangible to show for years of good faith attempts to collaborate with the MOTI

It is well past time for the MOTI to clear the doubts and demonstrate that they are indeed prepared to put at least equal energy and ingenuity into the design and evaluation of an elegant bypass solution that enhances Peachland's viability and MOTI's credibility. Peachland will be waiting anxiously for an official response.

Yours very truly

John W Abernethy P.Eng
Chair, Highway Committee

C/C Editor, Peachland View