

Colliery Dams Preservation Society
Geraldine Collins' Presentation to Nanaimo City Council
December 17, 2012

Let us believe this can be done. We can keep our treasured jewel and satisfy the Dam Safety Branch that these dams are safe. Is there an opportunity? What are the possibilities?

A Partnership could create Hydro power for the community and put green power into the grid. There is a possibility the power generated could pay for the project in time and create revenue for the city for up to 100 years.

Partnerships are a wonderful way to share costs and expertise. Partnerships with Vancouver Island University and the University of Victoria would allow this project to be a teaching center for many years to come. While lending their expertise in engineering, forestry, fisheries and recreation, it would foster the continuation of ongoing learning and keep the project on the cutting edge of the latest in technologies. In the scheme of dams, Colliery Dam Park is small making it a perfect teaching opportunity.

Partnerships with Fisheries organizations would ensure the lake trout and river salmon are there and enhanced for our future food and survival.

Partnerships with the Environmental Groups, the Historical Society and First Nations could ensure this historic monument is preserved for future generations. As a people, who are we without our history.

In conclusion:

It has been demonstrated:

- A simple low cost siphon would immediately reduce risk to the community in a very short time;
- Following existing cost effective plans already present in current city reports would reduce risk to 1:3000 for the foreseeable future;
- Accomplishing this plan reduces the risk and therefore "Consequences" to well within Dam Safety Board acceptable standards and make a safe place for the community to live and grow.

We are confident given the NEW information we have presented, you will give the Colliery Dam Project NEW eyes. Look at it for the first time a community driven, cost effective plan and a legacy for the future. We ask you to adhere to City Procurement Policy and Procedure by posting any Requests for Proposal or contracts on your website and BC BID. How wonderful would it be if we could keep our tax payers money in the community growing dividends in local employment and initiatives?

We all want the same thing. We want to make Nanaimo a better place. We ask you to listen to the community voice of more than 2,000 people who have rallied to this cause in six weeks. We all want Colliery Dam Park to serve our community for another 100 years. We have greatness as individuals, but together we can create something bigger than all of us.

We ask you for a motion supporting a new approach; to explore options and costs for the “renewal” of Colliery Dams.

Thank you