

## REQUEST TO ACCESS GOVERNMENT RECORDS UNDER BC FoIPPA

November 1, 2017

Selina Williams, Corporate Officer  
Town of Gibsons  
474 South Fletcher Road  
Box 340, Gibsons, BC. V0N 1V0

### Re: Peer reviews of technical reports for George Hotel DA

Dear Selina,

I have communicated with staff at the Town of Gibsons off and on for months, trying to access specific information about to the hydrogeological, geotechnical and contamination issues related to the proposed George project. I asked for project plans, reports and peer reviews for the George to be posted on the Town's website. Some reports were posted, which is great. However, those reports are not what I am looking for and there are still some major gaps in information, so I am filing this FOI request.

Please provide GABC with the following records:

1. The most recent project plans for the George Hotel and Residences.
2. Geosystems L.P. Peer Review Report dated April 18, 2017 (referenced in Keystone Environmental June 29, 2017, Remedial Plan)
3. Horizon Engineering Inc.'s Draft Report dated May 15, 2017. (referenced in May 29, 2017 letter to Town of Gibsons from Geosystems, L.P.)
4. Geosystems L.P. review of Horizon Engineering Inc.'s Draft Report of May 15, 2017 dated May 29, 2017. (referenced in May 29, 2017 letter to Town of Gibsons from Geosystems, L.P.)
5. Notes, minutes, briefing communications re: Geosystems L.P. teleconference with Town of Gibsons. May 23, 2017. (referenced in May 29, 2017 letter to Town of Gibsons from Geosystems, L.P.)
6. Any and all peer reviews of the George project done by Waterline Resources Inc. and Levelton Engineering between May 12, 2015 and November 1, 2017.

I am making this request under the B.C. Freedom and Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Given that the documents labelled 1-4 above are referenced in other public documents published on the Town's website and similar documents are posted on the Town's "George" page on the website,<sup>1</sup> my expectation is that documents 1-4 are routinely releasable under FoIPPA. I have asked the Director of Engineering, Dave Newman, to send documents 2 and 4 to me via email and post them on the Town's website. I am cc'ing Dave in this correspondence and would appreciate it if you could confirm with him that documents 1-4 may be posted on the town's website.

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<sup>1</sup> Isherwood Geotechnical Engineers July 27, 2017 Technical Memorandum No 3: Deep Mixing Design Basis Memorandum and Geosystems May 29, 2017 "The Proposed "The George" Mixed Use Development Summary of Items Required as Permitting Conditions" are already on the Town's website.

Note: I could have filed two separate FOI requests for documents 1-3 and 4-6. However, historically you have asked me to combine requests, to make your job easier. So I included all of the records in this one request. In return for being mindful of your needs, I'll ask you to be mindful of mine. I.e. please do not wait until all responsive records are compiled to send them to me all at once. Please release documents 1-4 asap. The best and simplest way to do this would be to post the documents on the Town's website. That way, the public will have easy access to the records and not have to rely on GABC to access them.

Under section 75 (5) of the FoIPPA, the head of a public body may excuse an applicant from paying all or part of the fees if the record relates to a matter of public interest, including the environment." As you know, GABC is currently engaged in an appeal process with the Environmental Appeal Board of BC re: apparent risks to Gibsons Aquifer and the environment from the proposed George project. GABC has also filed a petition for Judicial Review of the town's issuance of environmental, geotechnical and aquifer protection area development and building permits for this project. The requested records directly relate to risks to the environment and the public. As always, GABC will use the records to inform the public. Thus, we ask you to excuse GABC from the requirement to pay fees for the fulfillment of this request.

If you wish to negotiate this request, please call or email me.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Senger, President GABC Society  
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