



The website is now live and can be accessed at [www.cwvpos.com](http://www.cwvpos.com). We are actively seeking members and donors. Please send this email to those you feel will be impacted by FN control of the Columbia and Windermere Lake.

The Society is actively engaging with both Federal and Provincial governments to address the ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation's proposed initiatives. Our efforts include formal submissions and direct outreach to the stakeholders (businesses, communities, and property owners) who would be most impacted by potential property development moratoriums. Furthermore, we are challenging proposed lake stewardship plans that seek to significantly restrict, or in some instances entirely prohibit, watercraft activities on Lake Windermere and Columbia Lake.

We received a response to our request for process transparency and information from the BC Department of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship which indicated that there has been no change to the application and evaluation processes, however, their staff have engaged in several discussions with the ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation. We have sent a response to the Minister requesting a meeting, and the sharing of information so that we can understand how the Ministry will make decisions and how we can actively engage in the process.

Further, the ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation has made a written submission to Transport Canada for a Vessel Operating Restriction Regulation ("VORR") to effectively ban wake surf boats claiming environmental risk and long-term impact to fisheries and lakeshore health, and has been designated as the local authority for the Windermere and Columbia Lake by Transport Canada. Only municipalities and FN's are eligible to be deemed the local authority, and RDEK declined to pursue a request to be the representative. We understand the ʔakisq̓nuk will be required to consult with local users prior to any decision regarding lake usage. We have submitted a letter to Transport Canada indicating we will participate in discussions regarding lake usage and are working closely with the Columbia Valley Boating Association on this issue.

The Society has incurred expenses for the preparation of letters to governments and anticipate that we will be engaged in a challenging and lengthy process with both the Federal and Provincial Governments that will require additional capital.

Please visit our website to become a member for \$50, or to donate. We will be sending regular updates to our members, so that you will be aware of progress and challenges. The Society is

also seeking two more Directors, as we would like someone to assume the Treasury position, and another Director for manage the website; please contact us if you are interested.

Regards,  
Douglas Kay  
President, CWVPOS