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December 16, 2022

File: 5200-30 Biosolids

0620-20 Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan General

The Honourable George Heyman Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy PO Box 9047 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Via email: <u>ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca</u>

Dear Minister Heyman:

## RE: SHORT-TERM MANAGEMENT OF CRD BIOSOLIDS

As Chair of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board, I would like to congratulate you on your reappointment as the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy. We are looking forward to continuing to work with your ministry in the coming years to address the environmental challenges facing our region.

Beneficial use and sustainable management of biosolids generated from the CRD's Residual Treatment Facility remain a priority for the CRD. Ministry staff have been made aware of the challenges faced by the CRD this past year with consistently utilizing the biosolids as an alternative fuel, the primary use outlined in the CRD's <u>Biosolids Beneficial Use Strategy (2019 Definitive Plan)</u>. Further to my letters of July 30, 2021 and December 17, 2021 (attached), the CRD Board continues to request that the ministry decision to prohibit landfilling of biosolids in a biocell at Hartland Landfill be reconsidered and that the Organic Matter Recycling Regulation be updated as soon as possible to reflect the current science, best practices and the state of knowledge on emerging contaminants of concern, in order to address concerns related to public health and environmental values.

The CRD Board would like the ministry to provide updated public information showing that land application of biosolids does not pose a risk to public health or the environment.

Once again, on behalf of the CRD Board, I would like to extend our congratulations on your reappointment as the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, and we look forward to hearing from you regarding these important issues.

Sincerely,

Colin Plant

Chair, Capital Regional District Board

## Attachments

cc: The Honourable David Eby, Premier of British Columbia

The Honourable Lana Popham, MLA for Saanich South

The Honourable Murray Rankin, MLA for Oak Bay - Gordon Head

The Honourable Mitzi Dean, MLA for Esquimalt – Metchosin

The Honourable Grace Lore, MLA for Victoria – Beacon Hill

The Honourable Rob Fleming, MLA for Victoria – Swan Lake

John Horgan, MLA for Langford – Juan de Fuca

Adam Olsen, MLA for Saanich North and the Islands

**CRD** Board of Directors

Ted Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD

Larisa Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services, CRD