

BIYC OCP SUBMISSION

The Municipality should support physical activities, sports etc.

We are an island and special consideration should be given to understand, protect and use our marine environment. While this is obvious, we do little to encourage the value of our marine environment in our community. This should cover swimming and basic understanding of boats and the sea.

The Municipality should have a marine emergency policy to cover single boat accidents through to a large vessel sinking near the island(ferry). To facilitate this there needs to be policy and physical preparations in the form of boat launching ramps on most beaches to cover the four points of the compass.

In the cove there should be a working launching ramp at all stages of the tide. There should be provision for marine servicing businesses to operate on Bowen. This might include work shops and launching area. All the dock/marina/government docks should be rationalised when/if the new ferry comes to Bowen. Simply to rearrange these has the potential to greatly increase the moorage area, creating jobs and thus benefiting the Bowen Island economy. The lower mainland has a dire shortage of mooring/marina facilities and Bowen is in a position to benefit from this. The restrictions on the use of cars for passenger pick up on the central pier needs to be reconsidered.

The sailing club sees it self continuing to grow its present activities: racing series in the spring and fall, the Round Bowen Race and the kids sail training program. To do this the island demographics need to maintain the balance of age and youth to allow sail training in 2030. We would like to offer adult sail training in the future out of the marina.

Regarding physical facilities the club runs the kids programs out of Tunstall bay and the adult racing out of the cove. Unfortunately the two are hard to combine. The reliable winds in summer are on the west side of the island, while the marina is on the east side.

The Municipality should create an area for a simple boat house in Tunstall Bay and a club house in the cove. Private money should fund the construction/conversion of both. Interested parties like TBCA, BIYC and BI SEA Kayaking should be encouraged to work together to make this happen.

The boathouse will need a dedicated launching ramp to safely launch the dinghies. Remember these are ten year old kids and boats are costly, dropping them on a rocky shore damages them. Glass fibre does not breakdown in the marine environment very quickly if at all. A launching ramp will prevent this inconvenience and protect the environment. BIYC feel the utility of a launching ramp out weighs the degradation of the foreshore. Can a ten foot wide launching ramp on a three hundred meter beach be that degrading on the environment. The position of the road acces at Tunstall may mean two launching ramps are needed on this beach.

The sailing club is small so the club house should be shared with other NPO's, perhaps a GVRD cottage?

Yours

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