

## Lagoon bridge at the end of its life

Re: Colwood aims to tame speed zone, *News*, July 9, 2010.

No wonder Colwood has a runaway tax problem. And they want to stick the rest of us taxpayers with it.

It's difficult to believe that Colwood is going to spend millions upon millions of taxpayer dollars pouring sand and rocks down a bottomless hole being rentlessly excavated under the bridge foundations by the sea.

And only to mollify a handful of rat-running commuters — whose speeding will supposedly be controlled by spending even more taxpayer money on enforcement. "benefit" (if you can call it that) Where are they going to get the "spare" officers to do this when there never seems to be enough enforcement to go around? Does anyone really believe that you can have a "speed trap" on the Coburg Peninsula? Where are they going to hide? Behind

the one scraggly pine tree? There would have to be a patrol car there 24/7.

Yes, I know, the bridge is "needed" for emergency services. We could probably fly fire trucks in there by Sikorsky helicopter cheaper — in the long run — than maintaining the bridge, because emergency services will naturally evolve over time on the other side of the lagoon, especially with Royal Bay in the works. The real issue is that the locals want their private scenic speedway.

The fact that Colwood is going after federal dollars simply means that the money is coming out of the pockets of all Canadian taxpayers, not the locals who will "benefit" (if you can call it that) by maintaining their personal shortcut.

Here is a golden opportunity to phase out the ageing and decrepit bridge at the end of its useful life. There is no way any amount of money will hold back the erosion of the spit now that the gravel pit

isn't supplying replenishing material.

Spending my money on this is just plain wrong.

Various levels of government take more than half my income, and it just keeps going up. No wonder, when it's completely wasted like this.

*Cynthia Brossard  
Colwood*

## Letters to the Editor

The *Goldstream News*

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## Keep bridge, road open for all

Re: Colwood aims to lame speed zone, *News*, July 9, 2010.

As a resident of the lagoon for 29 years and a user of Ocean Boulevard for 29 years, I have never had a problem witnessing speeding, but there is always some jerk to spoil it for others.

Why should we not be able to enjoy the ride through the park to get to the beach? We as residents go to the arena, golfing and gym at West Shore Parks and Recreation. Why should we have to go bumper to bumper on the highway. Where is the green thinking in this? You see young and old coming to the beach to enjoy and sit there sometimes for hours. This is for the public to enjoy, not just for a few bird watchers.

At one time we enjoyed a beach fire by permit, and because every time a couple of neighbors saw smoke they phoned the fire

department and look what happened. Don't let a few bird watchers spoil it for young and old to enjoy. Why should Milburn and Lagoon roads take all the traffic going down to the beach?

*Frances Cannade  
Colwood*

## Protecting lagoon bridge next step

Re: Esquimalt Lagoon bridge repair underway, *News*, July 9, 2010.

Finally long-overdue action on the Lagoon bridge. It is gratifying to see Colwood finally stepping up to the plate to fulfill its responsibilities to maintain important infrastructure entrusted to the municipality.

The next step is to protect the bridge from next winter's storms and high tides.

The municipality also needs to restore the channel and pools that have been changed by the unfortunate demise of Gotha spit, which in itself promises the original design of the bridge.

Hopefully the alarmism (see editor's comments "Bumps in the Coburg road," July 9, 2010) regarding the demise of the entire spit which has been in place for thousands of years and not significantly changed in recorded time (except for man's recent interference at Gotha spit), will not serve as

yet another reason to delay this necessary action.

*Doug Foreman  
Colwood*