

This is the 1st affidavit of
Susan Poulsen in this case and
Was made on December 8, 2025

No S2512336
Victoria Registry

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

**RE: THE VILLAGE OF SAYWARD IN THE MATTER OF SECTION 129 OF THE
COMMUNITY CHARTER, SBC 2003, C. 26**

AFFIDAVIT

I, Susan Poulsen, Council member at the Village of Sayward, of 652-A H'Kusam Way
PO Box 29, Sayward, BC, V0P 1R0, SWEAR THAT:

1. I am an elected council member of the Village of Sayward (the "**Village**"), and as such, have personal knowledge of the facts and matters deposed to by me in this affidavit save and except where they are stated to be based upon information and belief, and where so stated I believe those facts and matters to be true.
2. I am 78 years old and now retired.
3. I was first elected to Village Council in a by-election November 2020. I was re-elected in 2022.
4. I have known Mayor Baker personally since about 2012. Since that time and before I was elected to Council in 2020, I have had several unpleasant interactions with him.
5. Since 2020 when Mayor Baker was elected as Mayor and I was elected to Council, we have had a very difficult working relationship.
6. In or about June 2023, I received from Mayor Baker a letter of apology in response to complaints submitted by Councillor Burchett and his wife, Talia Clark.

7. Around that same time, Mayor Baker began a campaign to try to censure me and prevent me from participating at council meetings and in public life for possibly contravening section 117 of the *Community Charter*.
8. Both Mayor Baker and I attended the 30 September 2025 *in camera* meeting via Teams. The CAO did not give me a copy of the agenda such that I had no idea what topics were being discussed. It appeared that Councillors Coates and Johnson all had hard copies of the agenda before them at the meeting.
9. The CAO refused to provide me with a copy of the agenda for the meeting and demanded that I declare a conflict even though I didn't know what the issue or topic was before Council. I refused to declare a conflict without knowing the subject matter of the discussion. The CAO continued to refuse to provide me with a copy of the agenda, so I left the meeting in protest.
10. On 06 October 2025 CAO Andrew Young advised me and Councillor Burchett that a redacted copy of the agenda for the October 7th *In Camera* meeting to be held at 7:20pm would be available for review but only in person at the Village Office between 2:00 pm and 4:30 pm on the 7th. I was out of town and advised the CAO that I could not attend in person in advance to review the agenda for the meeting.
11. At the 07 October 2025 *in camera* meeting, which I attended via Teams, the CAO refused to provide me and Councillor Burchett with a copy of the agenda that showed the topics that were to be discussed. I was out of town and again advised the CAO that I could not attend in person to review the *in camera* agenda.
12. The CAO again stated that I had to recuse myself. I refused to declare a conflict because I had no knowledge of the subject matter that was to be discussed. I left the Teams meeting in protest.
13. Since I now know that the Village filed this petition to reduce quorum on 14 October 2025 and that the CAO commissioned Mayor Baker's affidavit in support

on 07 October 2025, I believe that the matter that was on the agenda for the 07 October 2025 meeting that Mayor Baker and the CAO did not want me to know about was this petition and the plan to go ahead with the censure motion and to consider starting additional proceedings against me and others.

14. Up until 14 October 2025, when I received an email from the CAO advising me that the Village had applied to reduce quorum under section 129 of the *Community Charter* to proceed with the censure proceedings against me and Councillor Burchett and to consider possible additional proceedings against us, I had no idea that any of this had been discussed in Council.
15. I have not received any meeting agendas or attended any council meetings, *in camera* or otherwise, where Council was to discuss and vote on the following matters:
 - (a) Whether to continue with the censure proceedings started against me and Councillor Burchett in 2023;
 - (b) Whether to bring proceedings against me and others for willful misconduct;
 - (c) Whether to release the censure proceedings from *in camera*; and
 - (d) Whether to bring an application for an order under section 129 of the *Community Charter*.
16. I am also not aware of any Council meeting at which Mayor Baker has declared that he is in a conflict of interest regarding the censure proceedings against me or Councillor Burchett, or new proceedings for willful misconduct.
17. It is possible that the Village made decisions without my knowledge while the CAO and Mayor were refusing to provide me with copies of the meeting agendas.
18. I have not been provided with copies of the minutes of any meetings that address the matters in paragraph 15.

