



Village of Sayward

April 28, 2026

Dear Sayward Residents,

RE: Recent Statements on Facebook

In recent days, some statements have been made on the Sayward Rant and Rave Facebook site regarding the Village's solicitor Dana Goodfellow attending a legal hearing on February 11th and 12th, 2026 in the matter of Mark Baker vs John France. The hearing in February was held to consider a PPLA application from John France. PPLA stands for Protection of Public Participation Act.

In response, I have the following statement to make.

Andrew LaCroix is legal counsel for Mayor Mark Baker.

Dana Goodfellow – Phoenix Law – is legal counsel for the Village of Sayward in relation to the hearing of the Village's application to reduce Village Council quorum.

Pursuant to section 5 and Schedule "A" of the Village of Sayward's Appointment of Officers Bylaw No. 488, 2022, the Village of Sayward's CAO (Andrew Young - me) instructed Dana Goodfellow to attend at John France's PPLA application hearing in the case of Mark Baker v. John France, SCBC, Duncan Registry No. 22667 on behalf of the Village of Sayward.

Many of the submissions, including evidentiary submissions, presented in the hearing by Douglas Eyford, KC and his associate Jared Cummings of Eyford Partners LLP in the representation of John France affect the Village of Sayward's submissions in the Village of Sayward's Petition for reduction of Village of Sayward Council quorum and especially since Nathalie Baker also a lawyer of Eyford Partners LLP represents Councillors Burchett and Poulsen in relation to the hearing of the Village's application to reduce Village Council quorum.

It was anticipated that Eyford Partners LLP, the same law firm representing John France, Councillors Burchett and Poulsen, would seek to make evidentiary submissions on behalf of John France to the court hearing John France's PPLA application to not admit evidence related to some

Sayward Village Office, 652 H'Kusam Way, PO Box 29, Sayward, BC, V0P 1R0
Phone: 250-282-5512 Fax: 250-282-5511 e-mail: village@saywardvalley.ca

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of the facts and issues in both the PPLA proceedings and the Village's application to reduce Council quorum.

For that reason, Dana Goodfellow was instructed by the Village's CAO to attend the hearing on behalf of the Village of Sayward. Councillor Burchett's and Councillor Poulsen's legal counsel was also advised of the reason why Dana Goodfellow was instructed to attend the hearing on behalf of the Village of Sayward.

As anticipated, Eyford Partners LLP did make such submissions on February 11th and 12th, 2026 at the court hearing for John France's PPLA application.

Justice Hamilton who presided at the hearing of John France's PPLA application has not yet issued a decision (as of April 28, 2026).

Eyford Partners LLP on behalf of Councillors Burchett and Poulsen also filed an application on April 14th, 2026 seeking the court to not admit evidence relied on by the Village in support of the Village of Sayward's application to reduce Council quorum based on similar arguments that Eyford Partners LLP raised at John France's PPLA application.

Lastly, Dana Goodfellow – the Village of Sayward's legal counsel – attended the PPLA application hearing on a pro bono basis. Ms. Goodfellow did not charge the Village of Sayward for attending the two-day PPLA hearing.

Any statements to the contrary are untrue.

Sincerely,

Andrew Young, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer & Corporate Officer
Village of Sayward

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