

Okanagan Indian Band

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VIA EMAIL: hankcameronrft@gmail.com

Hank Cameron,
President
Cherry Ridge Management Committee

Mr. Cameron,

The Chief and Council of the Okanagan Indian Band were recently visited by Cherryville resident and Okanagan Nation member Roxanne Lindley regarding the Cherry Ridge road construction/logging project. She indicated that her reason for visiting was to request a letter of support for the residents of Cherryville concerned about road construction and the desire for community driven soil and hydrology testing.

Recent news stories indicate that slide assessments and hydrology reports were conducted by an "independent professional," and that the forest service has done its "due diligence," in this matter.

As Okanagan Elder Ralph Marchand said, "water is life, without water there is no life," and the OKIB remain committed to protecting ecologically valuable watersheds.

The Chief and Council of the Okanagan Indian Band understand the sense of frustration that can arise from the perceived lack of consultation and desire to have your voices heard.

We are in support of your efforts to conduct community sourced soil and hydrological studies and call on the involved parties to review any community draft plans for such testing before making further decisions regarding road construction.

We also invite you to present your draft plan to our council. You may contact Sherry Louis, Executive Secretary to Chief and Council to be added to our agenda. Her email is sherry.louis@okanagan.org or she may be called at 250-542-4328.

Sincerely,

OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND

Chief Byron Louis