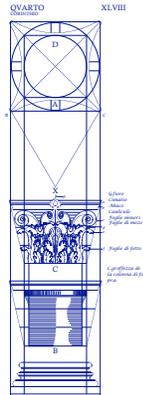


Jumbo Glacier Resort Master Plan

Appendix 8-R

Letter to Minister Ida Chong



May 29, 2007

Hon. Ida Chong, MLA
Minister of Community Services
Province of British Columbia
PO Box 9056 Stn. Prov. Govt. Room 323 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9E2

Re: Jumbo Glacier Resort

Dear Minister Chong,

We have been working on the approval process for Jumbo Glacier Resort since making an application in accordance with the Commercial Alpine Ski Policy (CASP) in the Spring of 1991.

Following a public input period managed by the Province in the summer 1991 and a proposal call in January 1993, the Province granted an Interim Agreement to the proponent, Glacier Resorts Ltd. in March 1993.

In November 1994 the project received a favorable land use decision from the East Kootenay Table of the Commission on Resources and the Environment (CORE), which was endorsed by the Province in April 1995 and confirmed in the regional land use plan.

In June 1995 the project was transitioned into the Environmental Assessment Act review process and in May 1998 the Environmental Assessment Office issued its project specifications, in a three-volume document. In 2003 the proponent completed a thirteen-volume response to the project specifications.

The project received its Environmental Certificate in October 2004, following a total of thirteen years of process and review. The Certificate includes nearly 200 conditions on the construction the project. In the environmental review process, the project was also scaled back significantly to cooperate with local stakeholders. This included a reduction of the number of bed-units (the project will be half the size of Big White and less than 1/10th the size of Whistler at build-out), a reduction of the number of lifts and ski runs, and a sizable contraction of the resort's footprint.

The proponent has submitted a master plan and has completed the CASP process and expects to receive a master plan approval and a Master Development Agreement from the Province in the near future.

The local Regional District voted unanimously in 1996 to request the Province to create a Mountain Resort Municipality for the project, but in 2005 it rescinded its prior resolution and voted to refuse to participate in the master plan approval process currently under way.

The project has now been in process for sixteen years. It is the most extensively reviewed and thoroughly debated project of its kind in the Province. We believe that the proponent would be denied justice by further delays and by the initiation of new review processes or the duplication of past reviews.

Jumbo Glacier Resort will offer the only high-alpine (above 3,000 meters) access in Canada with unparalleled sight seeing and the only truly year-round skiing in North America. It will be a showpiece for British Columbia that will be a destination for international visitors. This is the kind of showpiece resort development envisioned and promulgated by the BC Resort Task Force in response to the Premier's challenge to "think big" with regards to year-round tourism and resorts in British Columbia.

We are therefore writing on behalf of the proponent, Glacier Resorts Ltd., general partner of the Glacier Resorts Limited Partnership to request the application of Section 16 of Bill 11 – 2007, which has become part of Section 11 of the Local Government Act, to create a mountain resort municipality with the objective of overseeing the implementation of the approved master plan as soon as a Master Development Agreement is completed by the Province.

This project is a key project for the future of skiing and mountain tourism in British Columbia. A portion of the planned ski terrain is already utilized by the Canadian national ski team as the only suitable area for summer training in Canada. The project needs a strict timeline to progress to the construction stage.

A strict timeline is also necessitated by the duration of the Environmental Certificate, which specifies that the proponent "must have substantially started the construction of the Project within five years of the date of issue of this Certificate." The Certificate was issued on October 12th, 2004.

The implementation of a mountain resort municipality dedicated to this project and adopting the approved master plan as an official community plan for the recreation area, is the only avenue that remains open for the timely completion of this generation-long process.

We are formally requesting your Ministry to start the process that is necessary to prepare the letters patent that will create a needed mountain resort municipality for Jumbo Glacier Resort.

We wish to thank you, your Government and your Ministry for implementing the farsighted legislation that will permit projects of national significance such as this one to proceed.

With kind regards,
Pheidias Project Management Corporation

Per: Oberto Oberti, MAIBC, AAA
President

CC: Hon. Stan Hagen, Minister of Tourism, Sport and the Arts
Mr. Bill Bennett, MLA
Mr. Ralph Sultan, MLA
Mr. Grant Costello

OO/td