

June 5, 2025

Honourable Tamara Davidson
Minister of Environment & Parks
P.O. Box 9047 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Via Email: ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Davidson:

Congratulations on your recent appointment as Minister of Environment & Parks. This critical portfolio is paramount to the preservation of this beautiful province we call home.

I am writing to you today to express my extreme disappointment in the handling of the bridge replacement project at Whiskers Point Provincial Park. It is my understanding the integrity of the 4 small bridges located in the park was identified last fall so I was shocked to hear your response to MLA Gidden's questions a few weeks ago, where you stated this project was currently in the "planning and design stage". This issue was identified more than six months ago so planning and design should have been completed by now.

Having frequented Whisker Point many times with both my children and grandchildren, I am very familiar with what this project entails and speaking with industry representatives who install large bridges, consensus is this project should take no longer than 6-8 weeks. Had planning and design taken place over the winter, this project could have begun in April, and access to Whiskers Point would have been available in July and August. Instead, the inadequate asset management of this park has resulted in full closure for the entire 2025 camping season.

I am pleading with you to ensure Whiskers Point is fully operational for the 2026 season. As a community that has suffered countless job losses over the past 5 years due to mill closures, Mackenzie is working to diversify our economy with the development of tourism opportunities in the region. Having no access to one of the most popular provincial parks in the area and no public boat launch access to one of the largest lakes in the region only adds to our challenges.

I recently visited the BC Parks website and searched "Whiskers Point Park" which clearly states "bridge replacements are underway" which further adds to the confusion as to when this project might be started and completed.

I look forward to BC Parks timely response to this critical issue. Please reach out if you have questions or concerns.

Kind Regards



Joan Atkinson
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I acknowledge that I live and work within the traditional territory of the Tse'khene People of the McLeod Lake Indian Band

c.c. MLA Kyle Giddens

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