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May 28, 2021

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

The Honourable Katrine Conroy Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development PO Box 9049, Stn Prov Govt Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Conroy:

## Re: Support for Cascade Skyline Gondola Project

Please accept this letter as support for the Cascade Skyline Gondola Project (CSGP).

We understand that the Province, through your Ministry is in the process of considering an application for a Crown land tenures for the CSGP which will be an eco/cultural tourism project with its infrastructure situated exclusively on Cheam (Pilalt) First Nation lands.

We also understand that your Ministry is also in receipt of an expression of interest from another group, Bridal Veil Mountain Resort (BVMR), which is proposed to be an all-season resort in the same area. From the information we have received and read through the media, this endeavour is proposed to be a massive ski resort with multiple villages and supportive amenities.

As a Council, we are concerned about the negative impacts that will affect our community and adjoining communities - including view corridors and the night sky. More importantly, these negative impacts would also have a detrimental effect on wildlife impacts and our ecological environment.

Another concern for our community is the amount of water that will be generated through melting snow (due to the low elevation of the area will need to be made through a snowmaking process), and the impact that this will have, especially into the Fraser River during freshet. This should be of significant concern to the Province and to all communities downstream of the proposed ski hill.

The Cheam First Nation and Bridal Falls Gondola Corporation are co-proponents in the Cascade Skyline Gondola Project and together have spent the last several years working on a vision for protecting and restoring the lands of the Chipmunk Creek watershed to a more sustainable use, restore traditional use and restore environmental and wildlife values vs clear cut logging, uncontrolled and unsanctioned motorized use, etc. At the core of the CSGP project, it is a simple, small impact, eco-tourism, cultural tourism amenity providing more natural/human power activities and experiences for the local community and visitors alike.

For the reasons listed above, we again express our support for the Cascade Skyline Gondola Project based on the ecological and cultural benefits that it will bring to the community through tourism.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Pranger,

Mayor

Cc: Charlene Mortensen, Land Technical Officer, Mountain Resorts Branch (FLNR&RD)

Allan Johnsrude, Executive Director South Coast Region (FLNR&RD)
Jennifer Goad, Executive Director, Mountain Resorts and Heritage (FLNR&RD)
Chief Andrew Victor, Cheam First Nation

MLA Kelli Paddon, Chilliwack-Kent