Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board Box 577 Smithers, BC, V0J 2N2

March 20, 2007

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Box 820 Burns Lake, BC, V0J 1E0

Dear Jason Llewellyn

## RE: Smithers Telkwa Rural Official Community Plan

Thank you for sending the Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) a formal referral for the Smithers Telkwa Rural Official Community Plan (OCP). The BVCRB prime responsibility is to ensure the Bulkley Land and Resources Management Plan (LRMP) is fully implemented and respected by government agencies. We were thus was pleased to see the Ecosystem Network, which includes Core Ecosystems and Landscape Corridors, Sensitive Plant Communities, and Wildlife Habitat Management Areas identified as Schedule C to the Official Community Plan.

We encourage the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako to include stronger wording in the OCP to protect the Ecological and Wildlife Values identified on the Schedule C map than the present wording which states "The Regional District support and encourages development proponents to incorporate protection and enhancement of these areas and associated values in the design and development within the plan area". Similarly, the Plan Goals, which presently states as a goal "protection and stewardship of environmentally sensitive attributes (including fish, riparian and wildlife habitat; and quality and quantity of ground and surface water)", could be changed to include all the values shown on the Schedule C map.

We receive referrals from BC Lands regarding applications for disposition of Crown Lands, and comment on them at that time for their consistency with the LRMP.

Regards,

Adrian de Groot Chair, Bulkley valley Community Resources Board