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April 9, 2014.

The Chairman and Board of TLC
P.O. Box 50054
RPO Fairfield Plaza
Victoria, V8S 518

Dear Sirs and Madams,

Peninsula Streams as a group and myself as an aquatic biologist would like to state our support for Mr. and Mrs. Thomson's efforts to protect Maltby Lake from development.

I grew up in Oak Bay, graduated from the U. of Victoria and have spent the last 15 years conserving and restoring upland, stream and marine habitats in Greater Victoria, mainly on Saanich Peninsula. I have been a supporter of TLC and its activities over the years and still have lots of respect and concern about the organization – you still have important conservation work left to do.

I first visited Maltby Lake this winter and I was literally in awe of what I saw. I cannot think of another freshwater habitat in the Greater Victoria area that is in such good condition. Although there may be pristine yet remote and inaccessible lakes in the Sooke/Goldstream watersheds, there is nothing in or near to the core municipalities that approaches the ecological integrity of Maltby Lake. The fact that this lake is so close to the City of Victoria is quite amazing.

Numerous studies indicate that the water quality is as pure as it can get and the presence of sponges and jellyfish indicate that they have survived in this habitat since it was separated from marine contact several thousand years ago. Migratory and resident waterfowl are constantly using the lake and several mammal species are known to be present as well.

I believe that it is a conservation imperative that Maltby Lake environs should not be developed with multiple shoreline lots and that TLC should accept Mr. and Mrs. Thomson's offer to purchase TLC's 35% interest in the Maltby Lake lands.

Sincerely,

Ian D. Bruce, R.P.Bio

c.c. John Shields, Operations Manager, TLC
c.c. Carmel & Woody Thomson, Maltby Lake