

## Debbie Schulz

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**From:** Info E-Box  
**Sent:** March 18, 2021 12:59 PM  
**To:** Debbie Schulz  
**Subject:** FW: Sickle Point Preservation

**From:** Margarita  
**Sent:** March 13, 2021 4:48 PM  
**To:** FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca  
**Cc:** Rob.Fleming.MLA@leg.bc.ca; ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca; Info E-Box <info@rdos.bc.ca>; Richard.canning@parl.gc.ca; dan.ashton@bcliberals.com; savesicklepoint@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Sickle Point Preservation

Bruce and Margarita Nodwell

**To:** The Honorable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development

**Subject : URGENT.** Purchase and protection or threatened Sickle Point, Skaha Lake, Okanagan Valley, BC

Dear Minister Conroy,

We are writing you to request your Ministry's and BC government's financial support for the purchase of the Skaha Lake foreshore marshes and riparian habitat that constitute Sickle Point. This is the last piece of such land remaining on Skaha Lake and one of the few still left in the South Okanagan. At present, the 4.8 (1.95ha) are privately owned, but in receivership and other private developers are showing interest. The local community has been strongly against the private development of the Point since the 1990s. We now have what is likely the last opportunity to have this important wildlife habitat, also of considerable cultural for the Sylix First Nations, preserved in perpetuity primarily for its natural features.

We feel that conservation of Sickle Point is urgent for the following reasons:

1. Sickle point is the last wetland-riparian area left on Skaha Lake and one of the few remaining in the South Okanagan.

2. In the South Okanagan Similkameen Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, Sickle Point is given its highest ranking for ecological values.
  
3. The KVR trail is an extremely important amenity for non-motorized recreation for both local people and visitors, however, since it is the only possible access to the Sickle Point property, if the property were built on, hikers, bicyclists and horseback riders would have to contend with vehicles. Aside from being dangerous it would most seriously reduce the value of the trail for recreation.

To date, over 200 people, some who do not even live in the immediate area, have pledged almost \$300,000. While this amount is a long way from the approximately \$2.5 million asking price for the property, it indicates the importance of this piece of land to people in the South Okanagan. To save this precious, increasingly rare, type of land before the opportunity disappears, we need the help of your government so that it may be restored to its former glory as a wildlife habitat.

If possible, we also request that there be an immediate stay on any development of Sickle Point under the Environmental and Land Use Act, to protect this last example of a rare habitat before it is lost forever.

Yours Truly,

Bruce and Margarita Nodwell