
Subject: FW: Re-zoning of 5310 Russman Rd

-----Original Message-----

From: Brock kirkwood [Redacted]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2026 9:09 PM
To: cityclerk <cityclerk@princegeorge.ca>
Subject: S.22

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Dear Council Members,

I have only lived in Prince George for a few years, but this plot of land has already become my favourite spot in town. I have dedicated hundreds of volunteer hours to the maintenance and repair of the unmanaged mountain bike trails which are located on this land. Last summer I organized weekly rides here. Building community, bringing together up and coming Down Hill Bike racers, young free riders, long time locals who have been using utilizing the steep slopes of Cranbrook Hill for 20 years, as well as other “transplants” like myself. Drawn together by a love for the challenging terrain and advanced trails which simply do not exist anywhere else in the city.

The following statement was drafted by Glen Nicholson please consider the points he makes and keep the option for future recreation open.

Cranbrook Hill is the escarpment that forms one side of Prince George’s bowl, dropping steeply from the plateau down to Foothills Boulevard. For many years, the steep face of that hill has supported an informal network of advanced mountain bike trails used by a small but dedicated group of riders.

The current situation is not ideal. There is no proper parking at the top, limited parking at the bottom, and riders exit directly onto Foothills Boulevard, which raises legitimate safety concerns. This is unmanaged recreation, and unmanaged recreation always carries risk.

The rezoning proposal before you allows up to twelve residential lots on relatively level land at the top of the escarpment. Most of the existing trails are on steep terrain unsuitable for housing and are not inherently incompatible with residential use. In fact, the needs of residents and riders are quite different: residents want level, quiet, accessible land; bikers want steep, technical slopes.

The proposed access road is important. With thoughtful design, it could improve safety by allowing controlled parking and a clear trailhead, rather than continuing the current situation at a sharp road bend and at Foothills Boulevard.

I am not asking Council to approve or fund a bike park today. What I am asking is that this rezoning not unintentionally close the door on future recreational options. With clear boundaries, signage, and preserved access corridors, residential development and recreation can coexist.

This is an opportunity to replace unmanaged use with a safer, more predictable arrangement—now and in the future—without preventing housing development. I encourage Council to consider conditions that preserve that flexibility.

Sincerely
Mr. Brock Kirkwood
1044 Hansard Cres
Redacted

Sent from my iPhone

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