

CRD directors make wide-ranging decisions

Re: “Just being grumpy doesn’t fix regional challenges,” comment, Dec. 3.

Gary Holman’s defence of the Capital Regional District underlines one of its inherent problems.

When we voted for Saanich councillors, we voted for them to make decisions about Saanich. We did not consider that the councillors would then appoint one another to various CRD committees to make wide-ranging decisions about the future of the Island.

The most egregious example of this is a CRD committee of various councillors with the ability to decide the fate of public water in East Sooke. Since we do not vote for CRD representatives, the public perception is that the councillors of our 13 municipalities appoint one another to various CRD committees to spread the work around and augment one another’s salaries.

If the CRD is “the governance entity that was created to enable collaboration,” as Holman contends, then we, the public, need to know much more about all councillors’ opinions on all regional issues at election time, not simply those of the municipality.

Gary Henkelmann

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