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OCT 17 1996

His Worship Mayor Ernie Palfrey
and Councillors
District of Coldstream
9901 Kalamalka Rd
Vernon BC V1B 1L6

Dear Mayor Palfrey and Councillors:

I am responding to your letter of May 22, 1996 to my predecessor, the Honourable Moe Sihota, regarding a golf course proposal on the southeast side of Silver Star Provincial Park. I have received similar written representations from the Regional District of North Okanagan. I apologize for my delay in replying.

After consulting with staff, I have decided that it is not necessary to review this project under the *Environmental Assessment Act* to ensure a technically sound environmental review. In my view, a review conducted under the *Land Act*, with referrals to all interested government agencies and public groups would be sufficient to determine whether this golf course project should be approved.

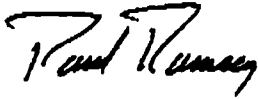
I understand that the primary basis of concern is the potential for impacts on the community watershed of downstream communities. The *Land Act* referral process is well equipped to examine these issues, with the full participation of your district, the regional district, the Village of Lumby, First Nations, the general public and provincial government agencies.

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Thank you for bringing council's views to my attention.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Ramsey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Paul Ramsey
Minister