Peter, Laura and Peter - I realize what a difficult choice you have to make regarding where this CREST tower is placed. I urge you to take your time, see the big picture, and recognize that it may be possible to create a win-win if we approach this decision with an open mind and heart.

Here are some of my concerns about this tower siting.

**CREST - Possible Conflict of Interest?**

Planetworks, the company Reardon works for, helps companies site cell towers and was chief consultant on the P25 digital system upgrade for the province of BC. Planetworks lists the CRD, CREST and E-Comm (more on that below) as Clients. **Is Planetworks also the consultant for this CREST upgrade?**

According to the Victory Times Colonist and other sources, the current CREST analog emergency system was *itself* a disaster in urban places, although it worked in rural areas. This system was designed by Motorola in 2003. Reardon stopped working for Motorola as Vancouver Managing Director and Head of Product Development in 2001. The current CREST P25 system is also being built in collaboration with Motorola.

 **P25 & Data Security**

The P25 system CREST is adopting is easily hackable, subject to cyber attack, and is not data secure.

Our network will be sharing a platform with the Vancouver E-Comm network and through a new Canadian Public Safety Broadband Network, we will be connected to the US govt's FirstNet.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

“FirstNet—pitched as a state of the art communications network for paramedics, firemen and law enforcement at the federal, state and local level—will give cops on the streets unprecedented technological powers, and possibly hand over even more intimate data about our lives to the higher ends of the government and its intelligence agencies."

**As we move to this new, interconnected digital platform, how do we insure our personal data is not mined, sold, and used for surveillance purposes?**

**Public Consultation**

Yesterday I visited the 4 homes closest to the proposed tower site on Blain Road.

* The first is home of Uncle Tom's Keto Cafe and my 10-year-old student Sophie. My arriving on her doorstep was the first Sophie's mother had heard about this tower. They will be looking at it from their front yard where Sophie plays and health-conscious people come to eat. Their property values will plummet.
* The elderly couple next door had also not heard about the proposed tower and were appalled.
* The family on the other side of Sophie "had read something about it recently online."
* The last home did recall they had heard something about the project.

Contrary to ISED’s public consultation requirement, the flyer left on residents’ doorsteps was easily confused for junk mail. The face of the flyer did not clearly reference that the recipient was within the prescribed notification radius of the proposed antenna system. Most members of the public were sadly unaware of the Dec 1, 2018 public consultation meeting and that they had 30 days to submit written commentary.

I also spoke with employees of Country Grocer and Heritage Place who had no idea the Legion parking lot was potentially going to become a radio and cellular transmitter hub.