

**To whom it may concern:**

**9/28/2020**

**Re: Save Sickie Point**

**The south Okanagan Similkameen is a biologically unique area with both high wildlife diversity and high numbers of species at risk, and is recognized as one of Canada's most endangered natural systems.**

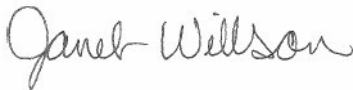
Sickie Point and its immediate surroundings are an ecologically important area. with the highest conservation ranking (Class 1) by the Southern Okanagan Similkameen Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (*Keeping Nature in Our Future*).

Sickie Point's water birch and wild rose communities, which support endangered wildlife such as the yellow-breasted chat, Lewis's woodpecker, Western Rattlesnake and pallid bat, are red-listed by the province. Sickie Point is also part of the migratory path for both resident and migrant wildlife, including the American white pelican and sandhill crane.

Our OSCA board believes that to the greatest extent possible, the area should be a preserve/protected area, not a cultivated park, with consideration given to:

- replanting the upland area with native tree species, such as ponderosa pine and cottonwood
- leaving the central area of the property pretty much as is
- rezoning of the property from RS-1 (low density residential) to PR (parks and recreation)
- removing the marsh road in its entirety and allowing it to return to nature. With the help of vegetation restoration efforts.

Our bottom line is that **Sickie Point must be preserved.**



**Janet Willson, OSCA Chair**