

Karters aren't the only losers

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank the many citizens of Youbou I met while a guest in their community for their support of the Capitol City Kart Club's activities at the old mill site. From the fellow early morning dog walkers around the mill site to the local youths who helped out on a regular basis at the track, and not least employees at local businesses, everyone I spoke to was positive, friendly and outgoing.

I do not know how the Cowichan Valley Regional District was able to bump our application for a permit from committee to committee and meeting to meeting but I do know karters will not be the only ones to suffer from the loss of our track.

The youth have lost a positive group of role models, a group where young and old, male and female compete as equals, everyone respected and accepted for who they are: racers.

The youth have lost the option to take their urge to race off the streets and to put it on a track where conditions are controlled and at the end of the day everyone goes home safe.

The businesses have lost the money karters spent on gas, groceries, and meals. Possibly most damaging, Youbou has lost a facility that brought hundreds of people into the community to see the beauty of the surrounding area, experience the fine hospitality of the locals, and spread the word about an island community worth visiting and investing in.

For me personally, Youbou put a sweet taste in my mouth, but the CVRD has left a bitter aftertaste that I can't wash out and just lingers on and on.

Dan Clements, Campbell River