

Overview:

- Our Society supports the communications tower replacement on PKOLS-Mount Douglas as originally proposed by Saanich near the existing tower but strongly objects to the revised location somewhere (as yet undisclosed) in the summit parking lot.
- Parking lot location will be a visual and functional disaster. This is a 50 year decision.
- A parking lot tower has to be 30-40% higher. It, and its foundation, will therefore be approximately twice as costly since cost is proportional to the square of the tower's height.
- A local crane company that has done previous work in the park, including at the summit, has stated island based cranes can easily support installation near the existing tower with no environmental damage.
- Saanich Council requires staff to provide report on tower design and location before final approval
- We are very concerned that the report will only present parking lot location without alternatives.
- It is critical that the report to Council also includes the summit location next to the existing tower.
- **Without timely direction from Council**, staff and its contractor have no requirement to include comparison in their report of the original summit location near the current tower with the new parking lot idea.

Action Item:

Please write Council to direct staff to include in their upcoming report, a solution for the replacement tower to be located at the summit near the existing tower. Without such direction, the report might only have the parking lot location giving Council no choices.

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See our letter to Council: https://pkols-mountdouglas.ca/web/LetterToCouncil_2024-02.pdf

Photos: <https://pkols-mountdouglas.ca/wp/2023/11/20/tower-update-nov-20th/>

Further notes:

- Sadly, our Society has been excluded from process; learned details four months after contractor discussions began. We are still excluded from project information.
- We have received second hand information that “all possible sites” will be considered. That might mean all those in the parking lot. We have never specifically heard they will consider the summit site near the existing tower as specified in the original RFP.