

## Donald Riezebos

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**From:** dean Rankin [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 27 March 2023 9:44 am  
**To:** Donald Riezebos  
**Subject:** Wanaka/ Upper Clutha region to Leave QLDC  
**Attachments:** Cody Tucker QLDC letter.htm; 1b-map-final-proposal-district (1) (1).pdf; dangerous water QLDC.htm; trouble to come QLDC.htm; rates bombshell QLDC.htm; QLDC releases damning survey – 80% dissatisfied with council.eml; LTP Submission.docx; Wanaka Council Petition Responses as at 250323 - Cleaned (2).pdf

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Donald Riezebos, Principal Advisor for the Local Government Commission,

I started a petition to see how much support and interest there is for Wanaka to leave the Queenstown Lakes District Council. There are many of us who feel Wanaka isn't getting the correct support from QLDC.

There has been more than the minimum number of signatures which is 10% of the population of rate payers and people on the electoral roll needed to lodge a case with the local government commission to have a look into the viability of Wanaka making its own council and splitting from the QLDC. The Number of signatures as of 9.00am on the 27 of march 2023 is 1822 and still climbing.

I would like to forward this petition to the Local Government Commission on behalf of all those who have added their signatures to it. My contact details are as follows.

Dean William Rankin  
[REDACTED]

The affected area in which we would like to involve is the Wanaka Ward/Upper Clutha Electoral district, of the QLDC as in the Map Attached. This is Wanaka, Hawea, Albert Town, Luggate, Cardrona, West Wanaka and Makarora. 1b-map-final-proposal-district (1).pdf

We propose forming our own council for the Wanaka/Upper Clutha region, having control of our own assets and resources, a complete split away from the QLDC, replacing a minority council voice with a Genuine and effective one for residents and ratepayers in the Upper Clutha District. This would mean local rates going to local issues, not propping up the major financial mistakes made by the QLDC in Queenstown that have nothing to do with the Upper Clutha district at all. The Upper Clutha Region does not have faith in the QLDC current regime for the correct amount of growth which we are currently having and are going to see in the near future.

Evidence of increasingly divergent interests and demands are as follows,

The Lakeview Development in Queenstown has come at a major cost to all QLDC ratepayers. This of no benefit to us in the Upper Clutha ward. The QLDC had agreed to sell off this site which was gifted to them once they had done major earthworks and stablition at the cost of around \$57 million dollars (all paid by Rate payers). This was fast tracked and done on the quiet. Once the earth works and stablition work was done the developers wanted to increase the size of the building which was not allowed under the building regulations in the district plan for that area so then they lost the sale of the land and are looking to sell it for \$20 million less. Which was a loss of \$20 million of ratepayers money.

Tangled \$17 million web of pipes on the Shotover bridge, which has been a massive blow out in budget. Which we presume the QLDC has paid for? Some of it has been made Public knowledge that The QLDC has paid, but these things are always kept very quiet and hope to be swept under the mat.

The big Sewage system upgrade "Project Pure" carried out by the QLDC and finished around 2012, but had problems at the start of operation, has now reached full capacity and was overflowing in the December/January period which has just been.

The Wanaka Airport was being lined up by the QLDC to put in a big international airport at, which was going to benefit the QLDC more than Wanaka itself, a lot of money was also wasted with is by all the consultancy paid by QLDC.

In general the amount of money paid by the QLDC in consultancy is very large and a lot of the projects never get off the ground. To me this is just a waste of ratepayers money.

What work that the QLDC has done for Wanaka recently isn't really what we need done eg the walkway from the dinosaur park to marina done by Blakely Construction from Darfield and in which the whole Lakeside road was completely closed for months, where the new hotel opposite the marina was fully completed with keeping the road open?

The lakefront upgrade which has all been done by outside companies not from Wanaka or even the region. JFC was the main contractor on the lakefront from Auckland.

We were under water restrictions due to the hot summer. All the household water in Wanaka is sourced from the lake and we get a lot of pollution from Lake Snow into the water because of this. People constantly have to clean filters on water supplies and household appliances due to slime and other pollution blocking up filters. We have a great source of filtered pure water coming out of the hill above lake, this is more than enough to supply the town and it's 100% pure water uncontaminated.

The transport options in the Upper Clutha area are limited to two taxi companies. No public transport of any sort, this is reflected in the long waits for commuter traveling in to town for work each day, these workers travel from Hawea and Luggate mainly but really from all around the region. A couple of buses running from these to main places would save a lot of time and money for many people.

The sports fields and facilities are way behind what you would expect for the population on living here. We had a pre-season rugby game here in the weekend which had to be played on a field with no rugby posts and the field marked out over the top of soccer fields. Admittedly the Wanaka A and P show is on this weekend which is also the Upper Clutha Rugby club ground, but we really don't have what we need here compared to what is in the Queenstown district.

Another good example of no consulting happen last week when someone noticed poles going up for security cameras around town, when the deputy mayor for the QLDC who lives in Wanaka was asked who's are they and what are they for he answered "sorry I really don't know" , yet this week we have all found out they were ordered by the QLDC at the ratepayers cost. We have no transparency with the QLDC.

There have been major mistakes made by the QLDC in the last couple of years which has brought a massive cost to the Upper Clutha Ward ratepayers, these have also all been made in Queenstown and really have nothing to do with the Wanaka/Upper Clutha ward of the QLDC.

These are just some of the ridiculous amounts of Upper Clutha District ratepayers money which we get no benefits from. The population of Wanaka and the Upper Clutha region is going to surpass Queenstown. We need to have our own council and governing body. Infrastructure demands have been left behind for years for Wanaka and Upper Clutha Region, whilst the main st of Queenstown has had a \$70 million makeover yet the Wanaka lake front has had a cursory amount spent and just finished on it. This pales given the amount spent on Queenstown.

Wanaka has a lot more going for it than Queenstown but yet a lot of us feel we are paying rates to help fund council mistakes made in Queenstown.

There are also many other projects that have ended up at a great loss of QLDC/Upper Clutha ratepayers money which do and will not have any benefit to the Wanaka/Upper Clutha region.

Most of the decisions made are Pro Queenstown and we are one ones on this side of the hill being forgotten

The things that are important to us are fixing the infrastructure and planning for the future. This would be best achieved by establishment of a separate Council for Wanaka and the Upper Clutha. We currently have four councilors out of 12 from Wanaka for the QLDC which doesn't give Wanaka any real or assured say in it future.

I've been talking with one of the Wanaka council members who told me he has to travel to Queenstown 3 times a week to talk about Queenstown issues and Wanaka doesn't even get a mention.

Thanks for you time Donald and please let me know what else I can do to help the Wanaka/ Upper Clutha region get the correct help we need

Regards your sincerely

Dean Rankin

Please noted I have reattached the map of the Wanaka/Upper Clutha ward of which we would like to move from the QLDC.

Also a letter from Cody Tucker, newly elected QLDC councilor from the Wanaka Ward, Various news articles from our local independent news company Crux.

There is also a letter from Wanaka Developer Peter Marshall which was sent in to QLDC afew years ago which has fallen on deaf ears

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