

September 10, 2009

Stephen Keast  
Clerk  
Town of the Blue Mountains (TOBM)  
Box 310, 26 Bridge Street E.  
Thornbury, Ontario  
N0H 2P

Re: TOBM Proposal to Impose the Capital Water Charges and/or Sewer Charge for use of the Town's Water and/or Sewer System.

Dear Mr. Keast:

I am writing to you as the owner of 128 Teskey Drive, which has been in my family's continuous possession for 36 years.

Please be advised that I am strongly in OPPOSITION to Town's proposal to impose significant new charges on me for the above captioned project, as outlined in your letter dated August 21, 2009, for the following principal reasons:

(1) As noted in your submission, the power for the Town to impose these proposed charges on me derive from Part XII of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, which reads:

"Deferred benefit: A fee or charge imposed for capital costs related to services or activities may be imposed on persons not receiving an immediate benefit from the services or activities but who will receive a benefit at some later point in time. 2006, c. 32, Sched. A, s. 163 (2)."

The use of the word "will" is intentionally restrictive in its scope, more restrictive in its meaning and scope than had the legislation been drafted to read "may", "could", "hypothetically", etc.

Please be advised that I have no intention of ever using this sewer system as I intend to continue to employ the septic system that I have invested in on this property of mine. As such please be advised that I "will" never receive a benefit either now, or at some future point in time from this expenditure that is being proposed. As such you have exceeded your legal powers if you intend to impose these unwanted charges on me.

A good analogy to understand my opposition of these new charges is to think of my use of the existing septic system as being the equivalent of my having installed wind and solar generation to enable me to be electricity self sufficient and going "off grid".

As a septic system owner, I have no desire to use or to benefit from the sewer system that you are proposing to build for the benefit of others. To impose these charges on me for a

project that I will not benefit from now or at any point in the future exceeds the powers that are conferred to you under the *Municipal Act 2001*, which clearly states can be imposed on me in circumstances where I “will receive a benefit as some later point in time.”

Such is not the case.

(2) I have no intention of having costs being apportioned to me for a project that I will not benefit from and that others clearly will benefit from, and whose intent in inculcating me in this scheme is simply motivated by a desire to lower the cost to themselves by apportioning more to others. This is inherently unfair and undemocratic.

(3) Quite separately from the above, the methodological basis on which you have chosen to apportion costs is highly questionable and inherently unfair. The cost, (and therefore the benefit) of a septic system is a direct function of how many bathrooms and bedrooms a given property possesses. Your methodology pays no regard to this basic concept of septic systems/sewer systems. The number of bedrooms and bathrooms is how a “off grid” septic system is designed in terms of having sufficient capacity. The manner in which you have apportioned costs on a “one size fits all” approach completely disregards this reality.

I have no intention of being burdened with the same costs as another property owner whose home consists of 5 bathrooms and 6 bedrooms, when I only have 3 bedrooms and 1 ½ bathrooms, when the cost to him of his own “off grid” septic bed alternative would be three times the cost of mine, and yet under your proposal, the cost to him of this town sewer system is equal to me. This makes no sense and is inherently unfair, even for those who are “benefiting”, which I am not.

(4) You have apportioned costs under your proposal on the basis that there will be 1003 “growth units” and 150 “benefiting” units and 351 so called “future benefiting” units. Obviously this scheme is being pursued to assist developers in selling more of their lots and at higher prices with town sewage as opposed to not having town sewage and/or a scheme whereby these developers can recoup the upfront costs that they elected to make in the belief that this would assist in the sale of their lots, which remain largely unsold.

What possible interest would I have in helping to defray the cost of this benefit that is being conferred on land developers and others, when I derive ZERO benefit? They are the ones, along with the 150 “benefiting” units who should be paying the full cost of this project and certainly not myself or any of the other 350 so called “future benefiting” property owners.

By involving myself and the other 350 so called “future benefiting” property owners in this proposed scheme, simply serves to achieve the goal of lowering the cost of this property enhancement to those who DO benefit from what would otherwise have been \$16,336 to \$12,544 according to my calculations and/or permit a handful of property

developers who made a bad bet to upfront the cost of sewers in the false belief that this upfront investment would be recouped from property sales that have not materialized.

What possible interest do you suppose I would have in such a proposal or in shouldering after the fact, the risks that were borne by property developers in the false belief that they could turn a quick profit from flipping some land?

I wish to have no part in this proposal of yours. You have neither the legal nor the moral authority (given the methodology employed) to impose these costs on me for a project that I will never benefit from given that I have chosen to go "off grid". Furthermore the methodology you have adopted to apportion these costs is overly simplistic and does not bear any relationship to the benefit conferred on one property owner versus another. Property taxes are not apportioned on a simplistic "one size fits all" basis, so why should the costs of a sewage system?

Please ensure that my views are shared with all the members of Town Council and to those in attendance at the Public Meeting on October 14, 2009 that I do not expect to be in a position to attend.

Thank you in advance.

cc DC

Yours truly,

Brent Fullard  
Owner 128 Teskey Drive  
Roll # 4242 000 006 47010  
647 505-2224

cc. Ellen Anderson, Mayor  
[mayor@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:mayor@thebluemountains.ca)

Robert Gamble, Councillor  
[rgamble@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:rgamble@thebluemountains.ca)

Cameron Kennedy, Councillor  
[ckennedy@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:ckennedy@thebluemountains.ca)

Michael Martin, Councillor  
[mmartin@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:mmartin@thebluemountains.ca)

John McGee, Councillor  
[jmcgee@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:jmcgee@thebluemountains.ca)

John McKean, Councillor  
[jmckean@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:jmckean@thebluemountains.ca)

Duncan McKinlay, Deputy Mayor  
dmckinlay@thebluemountains.ca

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Drohan  
1 Aberfoyle Cres., Unit 905  
Etobicoke, Ont.  
M8X 2K8

RECEIVED  
SEP 15 2009

Sept. 14/09

Down The Blue Mountains  
Box 510 26 Sudge St. E.  
Shenburny, Ont.  
N0H 2P0  
Attn: The Clerk

Gentlemen:

Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the Public Information Centre called for Sept 19/09 to review the proposed By-Laws that will impose Capital Water and for sewer charges to "benefitting property owners" consequently I am writing to express my reaction to the proposed By-Law in the hope that the points outlined will be considered and form part of the discussion at the meeting.

(1) Why are vacant lots not considered "future benefitting owners"? They are not connected to any of the services and like "future benefitting owners" should pay for their Capital costs when they are hooked up. In the case of my own vacant lot (Plan 925 Lot 47) the sewer and water lines which run past the property were paid for 36 plus years ago when they were installed by the developer prior to take over by the Municipality. The same reasoning applies to Plan 925 Lot 48 upon which my cottage is built. These services have long since been paid for; why should I be pay for them again?

My position on the above is that vacant lots should definitely be treated as "future benefitting owners", that Capital costs of sewage collection works and Capital water charges when assessed against Plan 925 Lot 48, should be adjusted by crediting the cost of sewer and water services already in place and paid for years ago.

(2)

CC: LT, DC  
E+PW

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Drohan  
1 Aberfoyle Cres., Unit 905  
Etobicoke, Ont.  
M8X 2K8

(2) Why should a "benefitting owner" when selling, conveying or transferring title to the beneficiary property be obliged to pay the unpaid balance of sewer and water costs? Why can't the obligation be passed on to the new owner the same way taxes and other charges are transferred?

(3) I am confused by the item entitled "Application to Ontario Municipal Board" where the Town of The Blue Mountains is stating a right imposed by law cannot be utilized. Am I misunderstanding this clause and its purpose?

I do trust the points made herein will be reviewed and considered when the proposed By-laws are being finalized.

Yours truly;  
J. F. Drohan  
129 Lakewood Drive

RECEIVED

SEP 17 2009

September 12, 2009

Town of the Blue Mountains  
Box 310 26 Bridge Street E.  
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

TOWN OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

**Att: Mr. Darcy Chapman**  
**Capital Accountant**

Subject: Proposed By Law to impose capital water charges for the use of the town  
Waterworks (Camperdown service area)

Dear Sir:

The undersigned, being long term residents of Hoover Lane (some as far back as fifty years plus), strongly object to the proposed distribution of the capital cost for water distribution works as outlined in your schedules C and D.

Our objections are as follows:

GENERAL

It is our opinion that the capital cost of \$3,855,907.00 for the water mains and reservoir storage and pumping station were solely driven by new development and therefore should be paid for by the developers responsible for and benefiting from the 1,068 "GROWTH RELATED UNITS". It is grossly unfair to burden the 699 (+11) owners of the "NON GROWTH RELATED UNITS" for any part of these capital costs. We are not against development but believe that the cost of development should be paid for by the people who directly will benefit from it. We trust that the Council of the Town of the Blue Mountains will respect and act upon our concern.

SPECIFIC

In the mid 80's when the water supply system was expanded along Highway #26 east from Thornbury, the residents of Hoover Lane (at that time referred to as Camperdown West) were bypassed in favour of potential future development without notification or explanation. Perhaps ignored would be a more appropriate term. At the time of this unexpected move by the Township the residents of Hoover Lane were left without the benefit of essential Town water. We jointly approached the Council of the Collingwood Township and were advised that there was no more money available and that the debt load of the Township was at it's limit.

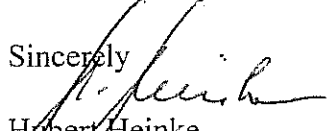
cc- S. Keast

Hoover Lane residents responded by organizing each and every resident to pay \$5,000.00 cash to front end the cost of water service. As well, each resident dedicated FREE OF CHARGE 20 feet of their property for a road allowance to the Township. This was a considerable saving to the Township. In fact, two parcels of land were left out of this arrangement and the Town of the Blue Mountains had to purchase at a later date these two parcels in order to complete the road allowance of 40 feet. Those purchases cost the Town of the Blue Mountains of \$8,000.00 and \$5,000.00 respectively. The contribution of the Hoover Lane homeowners was therefore (\$5,000.00 + \$6,500.00) \$11,500.00 per residence, for a total FMV contribution of \$126,500.00, in order to get water services.

Over the past 20 years, the residents of Hoover Lane have enjoyed a self-funded system that has provided an adequate water pressure, volume and supply of good quality water. We have no need for any change or upgrade. Changes were only necessitated by new development. We front ended and paid all these costs and therefore submit it is unfair and inappropriate that we be called upon to pay a second time. We do not support this assessment which has already been paid and which is being incurred now simply to support and supply water to "GROWTH RELATED UNITS"

Respectively and unanimously submitted by the residents of Hoover Lane.

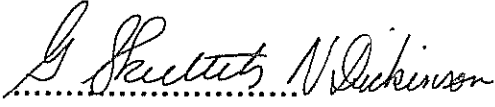
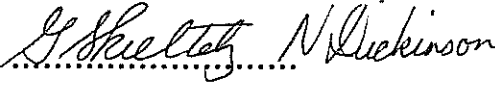
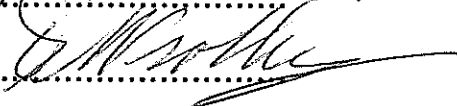
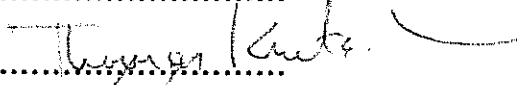
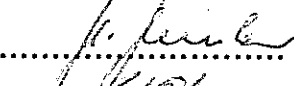
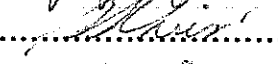
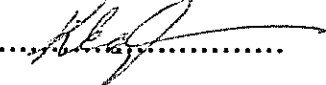
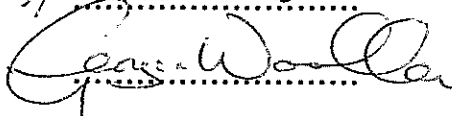
Sincerely




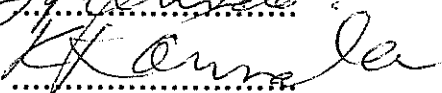
Hubert Heinke  
127 Hoover Lane

R. R. #2/D5

Clarksburg, ON N0H 1J0

<u>ROLL #</u>	<u>REGISTERED OWNER</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
11-03000	SKULTEDY GORDON	
11-03110	WELSH JACQUELINE	AGREED / NOT AVAILABLE FOR SIGNATURE
11-03200	SKULTEDY GORDON	
11-03300	ELSLEY ROBERT	AGREED / NOT AVAILABLE FOR SIGNATURE
11-03400	WOOLLER PERCIVAL	
11-03500	VAN ALLEN LORRAINE	AGREED / NOT AVAILABLE FOR SIGNATURE
11-03600	KRITSCH THOMAS	
11-03601	HEINKE HUBERT	
11-03700	CHRIS GEORGE	
11-03800	EAGLESON KATHRYN	
11-01300	TURNER KAREN	OUT OF TOWN (COULD NOT BE CONTACTED)
11-01370	VAN DOLDER TIM	AGREED / NOT AVAILABLE FOR SIGNATURE
11-01380	WOOLLER GEORGIA	

Located on Hoover Lane east of creek. Paid \$5,000.00 each for water installation but retained a private right-of-way and did not dedicate land to the Township.

11-02100	VAARSI FAUL	AGREED / NOT AVAILABLE FOR SIGNATURE
11-02200	RANALLA HARRY	
	RANALLA KARIN	

Patricia A. Yeager  
123 Campbell Crescent  
Blue Mts., ON L9Y 0P9

September 21, 2009

RECEIVED

OCT 01 2009

Mayor Ellen Anderson & Council  
Town of the Blue Mountains  
26 Bridge Street  
Thornbury, ON L9Y 3Z2

Dear Mayor Anderson & Council:

I'm not sure if an individual can request "stimulus" money; nevertheless, I am writing on behalf of myself and my neighbors in Plan 915 to make such a request.

For the last two months (and more to come), we have been living in a "combat" zone surrounded by bangs and clangs and screeches; mud and dust, and what I hope is not "flying" asbestos. We have been temporarily without cable, telephone, hydro and water...and the gas lines have been cut. (That was really scary.) On more than one occasion, we have been unable to leave our homes because of heavy mud while the windows, doors... and my good glasses shook and rattled to the tune of the roller man.

But even more depressing was the sight of all those venerable old Pines and Spruces paraded down the street in the jaws of a giant fork lift...on the way to the chopping block.

All of this, I'm told, is to improve the road and the services. Well, I, for one, have never had a problem with either. The road (to nowhere) is used only by the residents, and in my thirty-five years as a witness, has never caused an accident. As far as the services are concerned, an occasional broken pipe would be preferable to what we have been facing here on Campbell Crescent.

I'm sure there are beneficiaries of it all. It will probably tie in very well with continuing development, and of course, there are those who have benefited from the "stimulus" money. It's just that I am not one of them. Which brings me back to the point of my letter to you: "stimulus" money for landscaping.

I, myself, have lost a beautiful Willow and a grand thirty-four foot Spruce...both planted over thirty years ago. My two Pines and several Cedars are dying due to having their roots cut, and there's more to come. The man from Hydro

Mayor Ellen Anderson

-2-

Patricia Yeager

warned me that I'd probably lose my entire frontage (which is wider than most) when the hydro lines are moved closer. Alas! Can you not help my neighbors and myself with this?

Do you think you could find some extra money in the kitty to replace lost trees? Since this project was budgeted before the Stimulus Package came through, could you please send some of this extra money our way. The arborist would benefit; we would benefit, and we'd surely vote for you next time around. Maybe, you could think of it as "combat" pay.

Thank you, Mayor Anderson and Council, for your consideration. May I please hear back from you with your decision.

Sincerely,

  
Patricia A. Yeager

cc: Mr. Michael Campbell  
Mr. Thomas Gray  
Mr. Stephen Keast ✓  
Mr. Reg Russwurm

RECEIVED

SEP 30 2009

T.A. Bourque | 167 Scandia Lane  
RR #2, Ravenna | NOH 2E0  
Home 705-445-6999  
Cell 705-351-8845

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September 20, 2009

Mayor Ellen Anderson & Councillors  
Town of the Blue Mountains  
26 Bridge Street,  
Thornbury, Ontario

Subject: Road Maintenance, 167 Scandia Lane

Dear Madam Mayor & Council,

We are writing to address a number of concerns we have in regards to the road up to our home at 167 Scandia Lane.

1) We purchased the property in February 1994. At that time Municipality refused to clear snow on this portion of Scandia Lane. The reasons given were the chance of damage to the plow, due to a difficult grade and the lack of a turn-around at the top. At that time the property was a vacation home and the snow removal problem was not a major hardship. We felt that we could reasonably accommodate the Municipality.

Times and circumstances change. Since 2001, 167 Scandia Lane has been our full-time residence. The cost of snow removal has risen dramatically, from about \$300 initially to an all time high of \$1500 for last season (please see attached invoice). In that same period, our property taxes have almost tripled and we are still forced to fend for ourselves every winter. We have been left on our own, denied the service that all other taxpayers receive as a right. We have never been given a tax adjustment for this reduced service and since 911 Access has been mandated we have also had to accept responsibility for that.

It has come to our attention that the Municipality is now paying a contractor to ensure access to the water tower on Hamlet Road here in Swiss Meadows. The entrance of the water tower road

CC E & PW -

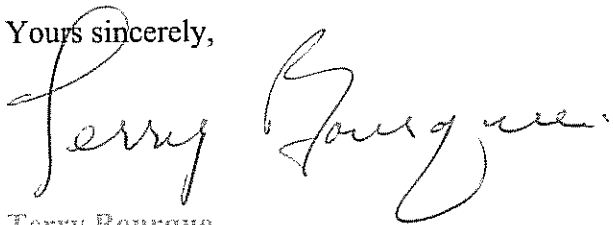
is directly adjacent to our portion of Scandia Lane and so, it is now a reasonable time to re-examine the fairness of the current situation. We see no reason why the Municipality cannot hire the same contractor (who has already been our contractor for all these years) to also clear our portion of Scandia Lane, which is part of a public roadway. We feel this is only fair as all other taxpayers in this subdivision are provided with snow removal up to their personal driveways at no extra cost. We also deserve the same accesibility to 911 Services accorded to all the other taxpayers.

2)Because this portion of Scandia Lane is a hill and quite steep, it requires a bit of acceleration to get up, especially in winter when the intersection at Scandia Lane and Hamlet is at it's most dangerous. With the increased traffic in the area we have had a couple of close calls caused by people missing the stop sign at the corner of Scandia Lane and Hamlet. A larger or a flashing stop sign and some tree trimming there would help to alleviate the problem.

3) There has also been a dramatic increase in snowmobile traffic in the community over the past few years. We have had snowmobilers racing up and down the roadway creating some very unsafe situations. It is extremely difficult for any vehicle to stop on this hill once in motion, either coming up or going down. There have been a number of incidents where snowmobilers have behaved recklessly and dangerously when we have been coming or going from our home.. We would like a "No Snowmobiling" sign placed at the base of the hill. This would give some peace of mind to our family and would afford the Municipality some protection in case of an accident and any resulting liability.

We thank you in advance for your consideration in dealing with these issues. We firmly believe that these are reasonable requests. We are Taxpayers in good standing and these are issues that are interfering with our ability to fully enjoy our property.

Yours sincerely,

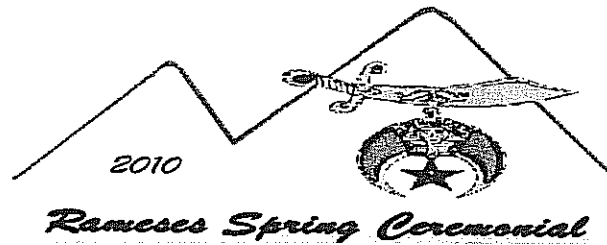
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Bourque". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Terry Bourque

tabourque@sympatico.ca



## Meet with Manito on the Blue



RECEIVED

SEP 28 2009

The Town of Blue Mountains,  
Thornbury Harbour,  
Thornbury, Ontario.

Sept. 21, 2009.

Mayor Ellen Anderson and  
Members of Council

Manito Shrine Club of Collingwood and District are hosting the Rameses Spring Ceremonial, June 10, 11, and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

The Shrine Ceremonial was last held in Collingwood in 1980. We are expecting approximately 2,000 Shriners coming to the Collingwood area for that weekend. We have over 700 rooms reserved at Blue Mt. Resorts at this time with bookings open till May 2010.

Manito Shrine has an action packed weekend planned, starting with the Flag Raising at the Town Hall in Collingwood, on Thursday afternoon, the Golf Tournament at Monterra on Friday morning followed by a Flea Market and beer gardens at the Eddie Bush Arena through Friday afternoon. There will also be a barbeque and dance to The Martel's Rock and Roll on Friday evening. Saturday morning is the new Candidates Installation at C.C.I. followed by the parade downtown Collingwood. Saturday evening is the formal dinner and dance at Blue Mt Resorts. Sunday

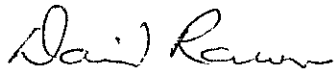
CC F & A  
R. Potter

morning is a wreath laying at the Cenotaph in Collingwood to be followed by a farewell brunch at Manito Shrine Club on Fairgrounds Rd.

As this is going to be a major tourist attraction and with many businesses benefiting in the Georgian Triangle, we would appreciate your consideration of financial assistance of \$2,500.00 from the Town of Blue Mountains.

Thank you, any questions do not hesitate to call.

Yours truly,



David Rawn,  
Director General,  
Manito Shrine Club.  
705-428-0115  
[daverawn@ymail.com](mailto:daverawn@ymail.com)



*Doug Reycraft*

*Chair, Community Schools Alliance*

*399 Ridout Street North, London, Ontario N6A 2P1*

*519-287-2015*

*reycraft@sympatico.ca*

*www.communityschoolsalliance.ca*

Monday, October 5, 2009

**RE: MPP Letter in Support of a "Smart Moratorium" on School Closures**

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Community Schools Alliance, I am writing to encourage you to write to your MPP in support of a "Smart Moratorium" on school closures.

The goal of the "smart moratorium" is to provide time for the Ministry, school boards and municipalities to work together to develop policies addressing issues such as planning for declining enrolments, a mutually agreed upon Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) process, a review of funding to rural and small community schools and establishing a working relationship between municipalities and school boards that is transparent and accountable.

During the AMO Conference, a standing room only crowd of over 200 Community Schools Alliance Inaugural Meeting attendees sent a strong message to Minister Wynne that we believe our community schools are vital pieces of our public infrastructure that we can not afford to lose. For many in the room, the inaugural meeting provided the opportunity to voice their frustration with the accommodation review process and to discuss the impact that this flawed process will have on their community.

We took our request for a "smart moratorium" directly to Education Minister Wynne during a recent meeting. In response to our request, the Minister provided us with a draft policy entitled "Encouraging Facility Partnerships". While this policy is a first step in addressing some of our concerns, it only begins to address our collective goal of protecting our vital public infrastructure.

Therefore, we need to take further action to convince the Minister and her colleagues that a "smart moratorium" on disputed school closures is required immediately. To assist us in this effort, I encourage you and your municipality to review the attached draft letter to your MPP and to create your own letter in support of a "smart moratorium".

I thank you for your attention to this request and if you would like to learn more about the Community Schools Alliance please visit our website at [www.communityschoolsalliance.ca](http://www.communityschoolsalliance.ca).

Yours truly,

Doug Reycraft  
Chair, Community Schools Alliance

-DRAFT-

**RE: Support of A “Smart Moratorium”**

Dear MPP,

I am writing to request your support of a “smart moratorium” for disputed school closures.

Earlier this year, the Community Schools Alliance was formed by municipal leaders from across this province who were frustrated by the negative impact that school closures were having on their community’s socio-economic fabric and the lack of meaningful consultation for these decisions. In response to this issue, the Community Schools Alliance united municipalities across Ontario behind the common cause of obtaining a “smart moratorium” on disputed school closures.

The goal of the “smart moratorium” is to provide time for the Ministry, school boards and municipalities to work together to develop policies addressing issues such as planning for declining enrolments, a mutually agreed upon Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) process, a review of funding to rural and small community schools and establishing a working relationship between municipalities and school boards that provides transparency and accountability.

The members of the Community Schools Alliance know that the current system for determining which schools stay open and which schools are closed is a flawed process and school boards are closing schools, amalgamating schools, transporting students out of their community, and building new schools without reviewing the impact of these decisions on our communities. As a result, municipalities across Ontario have become frustrated by the ARC process and the impact these decisions are having on sustainable municipal growth and municipal planning.

I encourage you to stand with the parents, students and municipal leaders from across this province that support a “smart moratorium” for disputed school closures. Please encourage Minister Wynne and your party leader to learn more about the goals of the CSA and to support a “smart moratorium” before we lose more of our vital public education infrastructure in Ontario.

Should you have any questions or require more information, please contact me at *phone or email here*.

A formal reply would be gratefully appreciated.

Yours truly,

Cc: Premier Dalton McGuinty (fax 416-325-3745)  
Hon. Kathleen Wynne (fax 416-325-2608)  
Tim Hudak, MPP (fax 416-325-0998)  
Andrea Horwath, MPP (fax 416-325-2770)  
Community Schools Alliance (fax 519-434-0638)



Minister of Public Safety

Ministre de la Sécurité publique

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0P8

RECEIVED

OCT 07 2009

SEP 29 2009

Her Worship Ellen Anderson  
Mayor of The Blue Mountains  
P.O. Box 310  
26 Bridge Street East  
Thornbury, Ontario N0H 2P0

Dear Madam Mayor:

Thank you for your correspondence of September 2, 2009, concerning federal assistance for damages caused by the tornado that touched down in the Town of The Blue Mountains on August 20, 2009.

Public Safety Canada administers the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements on behalf of the Government of Canada. The Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements are intended to assist provinces and territories with response and recovery costs that exceed what they might reasonably be expected to bear on their own. The Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements Guidelines are applied consistently to all events across Canada to ensure fair and equitable federal financial support following natural disasters.

It is important to note that the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements do not provide financial assistance to municipalities directly affected by the disaster, but rather cost share eligible provincial expenditures once the expenditures exceed the provincial per capita threshold, which in the case of Ontario is approximately \$12.9 million. Once the threshold is exceeded and the Province requests federal financial assistance, the federal share of eligible expenses can be as high as 90%, depending on how much the Province spends on its recovery efforts.

Each province and territory establishes its own financial assistance program and is responsible for the provision and administration of assistance to affected individuals, small businesses, farms and local governments. The Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements do not cover any provincial program expenditures related to loss of income to affected individuals or businesses. All decisions regarding financial assistance to those affected by a natural disaster are taken solely by the Province. The Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements place no restrictions on the provincial program.

I appreciate the opportunity to clarify the role of the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements in supporting provinces and territories following natural disasters. I share your concern for the people of the Town of The Blue Mountains and please be assured that the Government of Canada will be ready to respond should the Province of Ontario request federal financial assistance under the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements.

Thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Van Loan', with a stylized, sweeping flourish.

The Honourable Peter Van Loan, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Public Safety

Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing

Office of the Minister  
777 Bay Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M5G 2E5  
Tel. 416 585 7000  
Fax 416 585 6470  
[www.ontario.ca/MAH](http://www.ontario.ca/MAH)

Ministère des  
Affaires municipales  
et du Logement

Bureau du ministre  
777, rue Bay, 17<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M5G 2E5  
Tél. 416 585 7000  
Télééc. 416 585 6470  
[www.ontario.ca/MAH](http://www.ontario.ca/MAH)



09-47097

September 23, 2009

Mr. Peter Tollefsen  
Director of Special Projects  
Town of The Blue Mountains  
26 Bridge Street East  
PO Box 310  
Thornbury ON N0H 2P0

RECEIVED

SEP 23 2009

Dear Mr. Tollefsen:

Thank you for your letter of July 16, 2009 asking for an amendment to the Provincial Policy Statement, requiring developers to make a percentage of housing units in new developments available to households with low or moderate incomes.

I appreciate your acknowledgement of my ministry's consultation process as we move forward in developing a long-term affordable housing strategy. As you are aware, the ministry is continuing with our consultations, seeking valuable input from our municipal partners, stakeholders and the public to determine the best course of action to support the development of affordable, adequate and suitable housing across Ontario.

It is encouraging to know that municipalities such as the Town of The Blue Mountains are pro-actively working on long-term development strategies that will identify goals and actions to serve their residents and communities.

I would like to acknowledge the challenges faced – not only by your community but also by all of our partners – in the delivery of affordable and adequate housing. With your help, our government is confident we can develop a strategy that better meets the needs of Ontario's families, both now and in the future.

The use of zoning-approval processes will be considered as part of the framework of solutions that will make up our Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy. I encourage you to continue sharing your ideas to help us develop an action plan to meet the needs of your community as well as those of all Ontarians.

Once again, thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Sincerely yours,

Jim Watson, MPP  
Minister

c: ✓ Mayor Ellen Anderson, Town of The Blue Mountains



RECEIVED

OCT 05 2009

Dear Sir/Madame,

On behalf of the Historica-Dominion Institute, please find enclosed a complimentary copy of the *Veteran Appreciation Days* Planning Guide and Toolkit.

The Institute launched this special initiative in 2006 and since then has helped communities plan more than 20 special **Veteran Appreciation Days** in areas across Ontario. Designed to recognize the contribution veterans have made in their community outside the traditional Remembrance Day period, **Veteran Appreciation Days** have reached more than 1,000 veterans and thousands of community leaders, young people and educators. In 2009, eight additional communities hosted an event in their community including London, Windsor, Hamilton and North Bay.

At each event the community's Mayor proclaimed the date as Veteran Appreciation Day in front of the local cenotaph, together with an audience that includes different generations of veterans, community groups, students, local police and fire departments and political representatives.

Along with our sponsor, the Province of Ontario's Seniors Secretariat, the Historica-Dominion Institute is encouraging small to mid-sized communities to plan their own Veteran Appreciation Day to coincide with the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of end of the Second World War in 2010. To assist in the process, we have developed this bilingual Planning Guide and Toolkit. Our aim is to ensure that each municipality receives a copy and considers organizing this truly special event in their area.

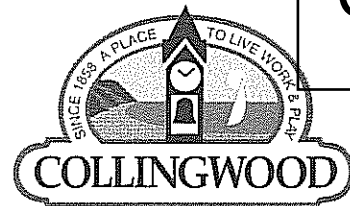
The Historica-Dominion Institute's mandate is to build active and informed citizens through a greater knowledge and appreciation of the history, heritage and stories of Canada. This is a continuation of the important work done by both the Historica Foundation of Canada and The Dominion Institute. Visit [www.historica-dominion.ca](http://www.historica-dominion.ca)

Should you have any questions regarding holding your own Veteran Appreciation Day, please contact the Institute at 1.866.701.1867 or [memory@dominion.ca](mailto:memory@dominion.ca). Once your date is confirmed, we would be happy to include it on our website and promote it to our members in that area.

For more information, please visit <http://www.thememoryproject.com/vetappreciationdays>

Warm Regards,

Marc Chalifoux  
Executive Vice-President  
Historica-Dominion Institute



---

**TOWN OF COLLINGWOOD**

---

*Christopher J. Carrier*  
*Office of the Mayor*

September 22, 2009

RECEIVED

SEP 29 2009

97 Hurontario Street  
Box 157  
Collingwood, ON  
L9Y 3Z5  
Phone: 705 445 8451 ext 3226  
Fax: 705 445 2448  
Email: ccarrier@collingwood.ca

The Town of the Blue Mountains  
Attention: Mayor Ellen Anderson  
Box 310  
Thornbury, ON  
NOH 2PO

Dear Mayor Anderson:

I would like to personally thank you for your contribution to the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor's Golf Challenge Cup, which was held at the Blue Mountain Golf and Country Club on August 13, 2009, it was very much appreciated.

The success of this tournament is due to the generous donations received from the corporate sector throughout the Town of Collingwood and surrounding area. We are very proud to announce this year with your efforts we raised \$18,000.00; all proceeds of this event have been directed to the Collingwood and District Special Olympic Athletes.

As an appreciation of you generous contribution you have received high profile recognition on the Town of Collingwood Website, the Town page in the Enterprise Bulletin, as well as, recognition in the tournament program.

We very much appreciate your support of this worthy event.

Yours very truly,

CORPORATION OF  
THE TOWN OF COLLINGWOOD

Chris Carrier  
Mayor

B L U E  
MOUNTAIN



WATERSHED  
TRUST  
FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 605  
Collingwood, ON  
L9Y 4E8

Tel: (705) 445-0357

Fax: (705) 445-8355

E-mail: [bmwt@bmts.com](mailto:bmwt@bmts.com)  
[www.bmwt.ca](http://www.bmwt.ca)

Registered Charity No.  
89079 8259 RR 0001

C.12

October 6, 2009

Mayor David Guergis & Council  
Township of Essa  
5786 County Road 21  
UTOPIA ON L0M 1T0.

Via Fax: (705) 424-2367

Mayor Guergis & Councillors:

**Re: Resolution for Dissolution of the Nottawasaga Valley  
Conservation Authority**

The Blue Mountain Watershed Trust Foundation (the "BMWTF") is very concerned that the Township of Essa supports the dissolution of the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (the "NVCA"). Our reasons are as follows:

- Municipalities do not have staff that can provide the environmental expertise that is available from the Conservation Authorities;
- Although the Provincial Policy Statement requires the proponent to do environmental studies, it is the CA who can determine whether the study conclusions are adequate and consistent with provincial policies.

We feel strongly that dissolution of the NVCA is against the interests of the municipality and the interests of those that live in NVCA's area of responsibility.

The BMWTF was incorporated in 1995 as a registered charitable organization. Our Mission Statement is: *the restoration, rehabilitation, conservation and sustainable use of the Blue Mountain watershed ecosystem through broad community stewardship.* Our area of interest totals about 50,000 hectares and includes five major watersheds that originate in the Niagara Escarpment and drain directly into Georgian Bay. They are the Batteaux Creek, Pretty River, Black Ash Creek and Silver Creek (the "Blue Mountain Watersheds") plus the Beaver River watershed. As our area of interest includes Georgian Bay, which is downstream of the Nottawasaga River watershed, we feel strongly that an active and vigilant NVCA is essential to preserving and protecting the health of our natural ecosystems.

For over a decade, we have worked closely with relevant town, township and county municipal planning authorities, the CA's and provincial authorities such as the MNR, NEC, OMB and MOE in reviewing development proposals. This has included our involvement over several years in the approval process for the major residential projects in the Silver Creek Wetland, and on the Niagara Escarpment.

We share the concern of the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario (expressed in his 2006/2007 Annual Report) that "planning decisions to facilitate development and growth are trumping priorities and options that would more effectively promote ecosystem and community sustainability". We have observed that, in a number of cases, a municipality is prepared to go ahead with development notwithstanding the adverse impacts that such development may have on the environment. This may be explained by the fact that it is highly unusual for a municipality to have on staff or available to it the kind of necessary environmental expertise that CAs have on staff. Although the Provincial Policy Statement requires the proponent to do environmental studies, it is the CA who can determine whether the study conclusions are adequate and consistent with provincial policies.

As an example of the increasing importance of CA expertise, we note an article from the July 2009 Rural Voice magazine, page 24 which describes the excellent talk by Steve Jackson of Maitland Valley CA about the consequences for the agricultural community from climate change and recommended measures for dealing with it. This is another example of the type of expertise that will be increasingly needed and which cannot be provided by municipal staff.

Yours Sincerely,



BLUE MOUNTAIN WATERSHED TRUST FOUNDATION  
Donald J. Kerr, Director

Cc. Wayne Wilson, CAO Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority  
Mayor Chris Carrier Town of Collingwood  
Mayor Ellen Anderson The Town of The Blue Mountains  
Mayor Ken Ferguson Township of Clearview  
BMWTF Directors

Prepared by: NJW  
Date: October 6, 2009  
File: NVCA\_Support\_Letter\_to\_Essa\_October\_6\_2009\_V2

24, rue Clarence Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
CANADA K1N 5P3

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Fax/Télec. : 613-241-7440

www.fcm.ca

**President  
Président**

Mayor Basil Stewart  
Summerside,  
Prince Edward Island

**First Vice-President  
Premier vice-président**

Director Hans Cunningham  
Regional District of Central  
Kootenay, British Columbia

**Second Vice-President  
Deuxième vice-président**

Councillor Berry Vrbanovic  
Kitchener, Ontario

**Third Vice-President  
Troisième vice-présidente**

Councillor Karen Leibovici  
Edmonton, Alberta

**Président sortant  
Past President**

Maire Jean Perrault  
Sherbrooke, Québec

**Chief Executive Officer  
Chef de la direction**

Brock Carlton  
Ottawa, Ontario

September 21, 2009

RECEIVED

SEP 28 2009

Her Worship Mayor Ellen Anderson  
and Members of Council  
Town of The Blue Mountains  
26 Bridge Street East  
P.O. Box 310  
Thornbury, Ontario  
N0H 2P0

**Project Title:** Town of The Blue Mountains Sustainable Community  
Improvement Plan (CIP)  
**Application Number:** GMF 9708

Dear Mayor Anderson and Members of Council:

We would like to inform you that a payment was made from FCM to the  
Town of The Blue Mountains in the amount of \$13,350. This amount  
constitutes payment of our first contribution to the project.

The FCM is grateful to the Town of The Blue Mountains for its initiative and  
its partnership with the Green Municipal Fund.

Yours sincerely,

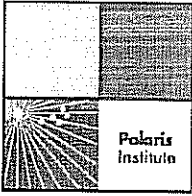


Brock Carlton  
Chief Executive Officer

BC:at

cc: P. Tollefsen  
R. Cummings





RECEIVED

SEP 29 2009

Dear Mayor and Council,

Thank you for your commitment to public water and the environment.

Over the past year, municipalities throughout Canada have been actively working to enhance their local environment, to reduce waste and protect their water resources by phasing out the provision and sale of bottled water.

Of the many different services that municipalities provide, it is often said that no service is as critical to the health of citizens as the supply of clean water. The decision to phase out bottled water on municipal property and promote public municipal water shows real leadership.

We want to thank you for the leadership you have shown on this issue. Right now in Canada 70 municipalities from 8 provinces and 1 territory have followed your lead and taken action on bottled water. Additionally the Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO), the Northwest Territories Association of Communities (NWTAC) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) have all endorsed municipal efforts to restrict bottled water. Meanwhile, across the country school boards, universities, unions, and private enterprises are catching on and taking action.

Many municipalities have implemented innovative projects to provide accessible drinking water in city facilities, promote the quality and accessibility of municipal drinking water, and phase out the bottle. We would be pleased to discuss the range of options available to you in more detail.

It is clear that bottled water is no substitute for the public tap; however, some people have not yet heard the message. Increasingly industry lobbyists for many large bottled water providers have been contacting municipalities urging them to rescind their bottled water policies. Perhaps you have already been contacted. In some cases money for recycling projects has been offered in return for a policy reversal. We want to encourage you not to be fooled. Efforts need to be directed at reducing waste rather than on creating markets for plastic products that are harmful to produce and transport and require tremendous resources to recycle. Recycling is not the answer to bottled water, strong public water services are.

We want to once again thank you for your leadership on this issue and encourage you to further expand your efforts to promote municipal water. Should you have any questions or concerns we would be glad to discuss them further.

With Regards

Joe Cressy  
Campaigns Coordinator  
Polaris Institute  
E – [jocressy@polarisinstitute.org](mailto:jocressy@polarisinstitute.org)

Meera Karunanathan  
National Water Campaigner  
Council of Canadians  
E – [meerak@canadians.org](mailto:meerak@canadians.org)

Institut POLARIS Institute

C.15



Vidas J. Augaitis LL.B.  
Thomas D. Baulke LL.B.  
Michael D. Stahr LL.B.  
Stella C. Hines LL.B.

Email: tom@collingwoodlaw.com  
Our File No: 09-C068-B

September 28, 2009

Fax: 519- 599-7723

Town of the Blue Mountains  
P.O. Box 310  
26 Bridge Street  
Thornbury, Ontario  
N0H 2P0

Attention: Mayor and members of Council

Dear Sirs:

Re: 12<sup>th</sup> Side road Residents - Request by Snowmobile Clubs to reverse ban on use of side road for snowmobiles

We act as legal counsel for a group of residents who own various properties which use the 12<sup>th</sup> side road as their sole means of access. For the reasons set out below we ask that Council defer any further consideration of the use of the 12<sup>th</sup> side road as a snowmobile route until the following has occurred:

1. A public meeting is held to discuss the issue among the broader public and after appropriate notice has been provided through local media.
2. The 12<sup>th</sup> side road residents group has been given an opportunity to make an independent deputation to Council.
3. Council has reviewed and considered an independent road use report which is being commissioned by our clients in relation to the 12<sup>th</sup> side road. Given the refusal of the Town to commission and deliver such an independent report our clients have taken it upon themselves to commission an expert report.

Given the significant safety and security issues involved in the use of this particular side road as a snowmobile thoroughfare, (which have been recognized by past Municipal councils) Council should not consider a rescission of by-law 2000-32 (the snowmobile ban by-law), until these steps have occurred. Furthermore, there should be a concerted effort made to convince the County that the trails can be accommodated within the 100 foot wide County road allowance behind the snow banks and off of the paved shoulder. That alternative is vastly superior to the proposal to use the 12<sup>th</sup> side road as a snowmobile route.

150 Hurontario St.  
P.O. Box 100  
Collingwood  
ON L9Y 3Z4

Tel: (705) 445-4930  
Fax: (705) 445-1871  
www.collingwoodlaw.com

*R. Russwurm*  
*cc: S. Everett*  
*J. McCanell*  
*J. Metras*

Background

We delivered a detailed letter to Shawn Everett on this matter on January 20, 2009 which outlined the concerns of our clients and which requested the delivery of various information and reports. It is our position that the information and reports outlined in our letter are critical and necessary material needed by Council in order to properly deliberate and decide on the matter of the snowmobile ban. We were advised that our letter had been turned over to the Town solicitor for review and response. Since then we have made the following additional requests for a response to our letter and for delivery of reports and information:

February 2, 2009	-	Telephone call to Shawn Everett
March 13, 2009	-	Letter to Town Solicitor
April 20, 2009	-	Letter to Town Solicitor
May 26, 2009	-	Letter to Town Solicitor
June 1, 2009	-	Email to Town Solicitor
June 12, 2009	-	Email to Town Solicitor
July 31, 2009	-	Email to Town Solicitor

Out of all of this, we received two (2) concrete pieces of information, namely:

- Engineering and Public Works would review the matter.
- A meeting of the Infrastructure and Recreation Committee (the "Committee") was scheduled for September 8, 2009 to which we were invited to attend.

We were provided with no other information in relation to this matter. The only material circulated with respect the September 8, 2009 Committee meeting was the initial draft report of Shawn Everitt from 2008 and a copy of our letter of January 20, 2009.

We made a presentation to the Committee and again reiterated our clients' request for independent reports in relation to the safety and security issues concerning the 12<sup>th</sup> side road. We were advised that a report would be forthcoming from the Engineering and Public Works Department and the matter would be then be reviewed at an upcoming meeting of the Committee. We were also advised by the Chairman of the Committee that independent studies would not be undertaken primarily because of the cost and time associated with external studies and reports.

On September 22, 2009 the Committee received a report from Jim McCannell, Manager of Roads and Drainage and then recommended that a by-law be passed to repeal the prohibition of snowmobile use on the 12<sup>th</sup> side road as outlined in that report.

### The Side road

- In 1999 the Municipality passed a by-law (99-67) which prohibited the use of the 12<sup>th</sup> side road for use by snowmobiles primarily for safety and security reasons. The ban was not immediately put into effect and the local snowmobile clubs were given the winter of 1999/2000 to regulate snowmobile traffic on the road. It became evident that the local clubs could not regulate either their members or out of town snowmobilers and the safety and security concerns continued.
- In 2000 the Municipality passed by-law 2000-32 which prohibited any future use of the 12<sup>th</sup> side road for snowmobile use.
- In 2003 the Municipality was encouraged by the local snowmobile clubs to re-open the side road for snowmobile use on the basis that they would be able to regulate both their members as well as out of town users. The residents once again expressed their safety and security concerns and the fact that, notwithstanding the ban, snowmobilers continued to use the side road at all hours without authorization. The Municipality once again recognized that the use of this very narrow and precarious side road as a snowmobile route was inappropriate from a safety and liability perspective.
- In 2008 once again the Municipality was approached by the local snowmobile clubs to re-open the side road for snowmobile use on the basis that the County had advised that it would no longer allow the use of the County road for snowmobile traffic. The convenient route to the upper mountain trails had been taken away. Apart from that, nothing has changed from either a safety or security perspective in relation to the 12<sup>th</sup> side road. It remains a narrow, precarious street servicing local residents and passive recreational users. In fact the only real change has been the increase in both residential and passive recreational users of this street and consequently the increase of safety and security issues.

Quite simply, this roadway has always been an inappropriate stretch of highway for use by snowmobiles. Those who use it for its primary intended purpose know how challenging it can be during the winter months. In essence they are often limited to the center of the road which of course will be the same ground sought by the snowmobilers. There has always been a concern of access for emergency vehicles which may well be compromised by compacting of fresh snow by snowmobilers on the traveled portion of the road. As you may know, the Scott Mission has residents at its property every weekend who rely on access and use the road for passive recreational use.

We have asked that the safety and security issues be reviewed by an independent expert. The Town should simply not consider re-opening this road for snowmobile use without such a study. Where significant safety and liability

issues are already known, all of the hard questions should be asked and answered before a decision is made. Those are the matters that an independent expert study will address. The Town should not expose itself and its ratepayers to potential liability without such an independent study.

Use of the unopened road allowance

It is interesting to note that in order to address some of the safety concerns Mr. McCannell, recommends the use of the unopened portion of the side road. This raises significant nuisance issues for one of the residents namely David Roffey. This new proposed thoroughfare will pass within 60 feet of his home and at a point where snowmobilers will be at their maximum revolution to climb the hill. The Town should not, as an abutting land owner, allow the use of its property in a manner that will create both a nuisance to, and a devaluation of, the property of an abutting land owner.

There is a rush to deal with this matter to placate the snowmobile enthusiasts. They continue to have an alternate route to the upper trails without the use of the 12<sup>th</sup> side road. Notwithstanding the repeated requests of the affected ratepayers, their concerns have been ignored. They have been asked to make presentations to committees, however they have not been given true participant standing in the process. Their perception is that the decision was made and subsequently, as a matter of formality, they were asked for their views. They have consistently maintained that the side road be studied independently so that the ultimate decision in this matter is based on an appropriate third party assessment of all of the safety and security matters.

We strongly encourage you to follow the steps referred to at the beginning of this letter before any decision is made in relation to by-law 2000-32. Anything less will lead to a legal challenge by our clients.

Yours very truly,

BAULKE AUGAITIS STAHR LLP

Per:



THOMAS D. BAULKE

TDB/del

Copy to clients

F:\APPLIC\WP51\DOCS\DEL\12th Sideroad Residents\Letter to Council September 26, 2009.wpd -



Vidas J. Augaitis LL.B.  
 Thomas D. Baulke LL.B.  
 Michael D. Stahr LL.B.  
 Stella C. Hines LL.B.

Email: tom@collingwoodlaw.com  
 Our File No:09-68-B

October 8, 2009

Via Email

Town of the Blue Mountains  
 P.O. Box 310  
 26 Bridge Street  
 Thornbury, Ontario  
 NOH 2P0

Attention: John Metras

Dear John:

**Re: 12<sup>th</sup> Side road Residents - Request by Snowmobile Clubs to reverse ban on use of side road for snowmobiles**

I confirm our telephone discussion of October 5, 2009.


My clients have retained Jones Consulting Group Ltd. to prepare an engineering road report with respect to the 12<sup>th</sup> side road and preliminary work has commenced on the report. As you can no doubt appreciate, the completion of that report will take some time, however, we have assurances that the consultant will work expeditiously in completing the report. Frankly this is precisely the type of independent study that the Town should have commissioned early this year as we pointed out in our initial letter to the Town in January. As a result of the Town's failure to do so, our clients have been forced to undertake this critical study at their own expense. We therefore ask for written assurance from the Town that further consideration of reopening the side road will be deferred until this report is finalized.

Additionally, our clients have asked that the issue of reopening of the 12<sup>th</sup> side road be discussed at a public meeting duly advertised for that purpose. This should be in conjunction with a deputation on the matter by our clients. These should occur once the road study is finalized.

An earlier email from Reg Russworm indicated that a by-law may be considered by Council at its meeting of October 14, 2009. In light of the above, we trust that the matter will be deferred as requested and ask that you confirm so in writing.

Yours very truly,

BAULKE AUGAITIS STAHR LLP  
 Per:

  
 THOMAS D. BAULKE  
 TDB/del

cc. clients

F:\APPLIC\WP51\DOCS\DEL\12th Sideroad Residents\METRAS letter October 8, 2009.wpd

*cc. Shawn Everitt  
 Reg Russworm  
 Jim McCannell*

150 Hurontario St.  
 P.O. Box 100  
 Collingwood  
 ON L9Y 3Z4

Tel: (705) 445-4930  
 Fax: (705) 445-1871  
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**Stephen Keast**

**From:** Shawn Everitt  
**Sent:** September 28, 2009 6:31 PM  
**To:** Stephen Keast; Reg Russwurm; Jim Mc Cannell  
**Cc:** Duncan McKinlay  
**Subject:** Fw: Snowmobiles on 12th Concession

Please direct to council as requested by author

---

**From:** Stephen Christie <schristie@christiecummings.com>  
**To:** Shawn Everitt  
**Cc:** Shawn Postma  
**Sent:** Mon Sep 28 18:00:25 2009  
**Subject:** RE: Snowmobiles on 12th Concession  
 Shawn,

I understand you have been speaking today with my sister about a development permit issued by the NEC to allow the construction of bridges to be used by snowmobiles on the un-opened road allowance for the 2<sup>nd</sup> line between Grey Road 19 and the 12<sup>th</sup> concession. As she may have pointed out, our family owns property at the north east corner of Grey Road 19 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> line.

We are considering an appeal of the development permit issued by the NEC to permit construction to accommodate snowmobiles on the 2<sup>nd</sup> line.

In the interim, it is my understanding that the related issue of permitting snowmobiles on the 12<sup>th</sup> concession is to be considered by council this evening. I only learned of this just now, and apologize for not providing comments earlier.

I would like to go on record, on behalf of our family, as objecting to the opening of the 12<sup>th</sup> concession to snowmobile traffic. The 12<sup>th</sup> concession would undoubtedly be a connecting route to the 2<sup>nd</sup> line, which in turn leads to the Pretty River Park (three stage) area.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> line is currently well used by many people for hiking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing and biking. The introduction of snowmobiles to this environment is incompatible with such uses. Snowmobiles travel at very high rates of speed and pose a significant danger to all others. Upgrading the 2<sup>nd</sup> line and opening the 12<sup>th</sup> concession to allow snowmobile traffic will undoubtedly lead to increased use of those corridors for ATV's, hummers and the like. Such uses are not compatible with non-motorized uses.

A trip to the Pretty River Park (three stage) area in the winter will demonstrate how snowmobile use is incompatible with any other use.

Please bring these thoughts to the attention of council.

Thank you,

Stephen J.D. Christie  
**CHRISTIE/CUMMINGS**  
**BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS**  
 325 Hume Street  
 Collingwood, Ontario

*cc: S Everitt  
 J. Metras  
 R. Russwurm  
 J. McCannell  
 Council  
 S. Keast*

L9Y 1W4 |  
(tel) 705 444 3650 ext. 24  
(fax) 705 444 0024

**CHRISTIE/CUMMINGS** provides legal services to individuals and businesses in the areas of residential and commercial real estate, corporate law, estate planning and administration, commercial litigation and family law.



The Scott Mission  
A Christian Ministry of Mercy and Love

September 29, 2009

Ms. Ellen Anderson  
Mayor  
Town of The Blue Mountains  
P.O. Box 310  
Thornbury, Ontario N0H 2P0

By e-mail and regular mail

Dear Mayor Anderson,

The purpose of my letter is to object in the strongest possible terms to the Town Council's intention to expand snowmobile access on the Blue Mountain.

As you may know, The Scott Mission owns about 130 acres on the eastern slope of the Mountain. We have assembled this property over the past 30 years through the generosity of our donors in order to provide a peaceful, quiet and green environment for quiet retreats and self-improvement activities for our disadvantaged clients. Our clients, all of whom are from poor and extremely stressful backgrounds, already suffer from a great variety of social disadvantages. Now that we are in a position to offer them this unique green space, we find that the winter peace for these poor people will be invaded by snowmobile traffic.

It will not just be members of approved Collingwood snowmobile clubs who will be using the increased access up to Mountain. This access will be open to anyone. Further, there will be no way to control after-hours use. It is entirely possible that snowmobile traffic will be heavy 24 hours a day throughout the winter. The invasion of motorized recreational vehicles into woodlands, countrysides, beaches and other natural settings is becoming epidemic in Ontario. Blue Mountain Town Council has an opportunity here to make a statement that the Mountain will remain the peaceful, quiet and green space that has always been.

We deplore the absence of any public hearings on this matter. We also regret that no proper studies have been done to establish the extent of the snowmobile traffic. We are perplexed that new routes up the mountain are being approved when other routes already exist. For us, this directly concerns our right to use our property for the long-established purposes for which we acquired it in the first place, and for which we have for many years maintained the property in a beautiful condition and completely in line with all Town fire and life safety regulations.

Sincerely yours,

David J. Smith  
CEO & Executive Director  
The Scott Mission  
502 Spadina Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario M5S 2H1  
(416) 923-8872 ext. 441  
[dsmith@scottmission.com](mailto:dsmith@scottmission.com)

cc. other Town Councillors, Neil Harris

cc: S. Everitt  
J. Metras  
R. Russworm  
J. McAnnell  
Council  
S. Least

**Mirella Taiariol**

143 Wards Road,

Blue Mountains, ON L9Y 0T7  
(705) 446-1229

Oct 14 C.19

October 5, 2009

Town of The Blue Mountains  
Box 310, 26 Bridge St. E.  
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

RECEIVED  
OCT 05 2009

**Re: Imposing of Capital Water Charge for use**

**Of Town's Water System; Camperdown Service Area**

**4242 000 006 34300 PLAN 424, LOT 11 - 143 WARDS ROAD**

I am writing to express my absolute opposition to the imposing of these charges. There is no basis for making current taxpayers who live on Wards Road, like myself, pay AGAIN for receiving town water, when we have all already paid for having town water brought onto the street, and also paid a high price for connection fees to our property.

**NOTHING** has changed in the water delivery to Wards Road.

**NOTHING** has been added, such as sewer services, to Wards Road properties.

**NOTHING** warrants imposing the water charges of \$2,171 on me.

If something has been added, please detail specifically what changes were made in the water delivery system to 143 Wards Road that warrants charges of \$2,171, which represents FOUR MONTHS of my Canada Pension income.

Several years back, a public meeting was held to discuss the extension of water services to the new housing development approved across from Georgian Peaks ski area, north side of Hwy. 26; and for the HUGE housing development approved on both sides of Camperdown Road, south of Hwy. 26. I attended that public meeting, and after listening to TOBM staff speak, I stood and asked a very simple and basic question:

CC: Liz  
Danna

**“I live on Wards Road, a very short distance from this new housing development which is getting new water services. How will I be affected by this extension of services? Will I, as an owner on Wards Road, be made to pay anything extra because of this and other water service extensions within the town?”**

**I was given a very short, swift reply by town staff of:**

**“NO, you will not be affected or charged for any of this work. This has NOTHING to do with Wards Road.”**

**The response, content and delivery, was made in a very dismissive manner, conveying to me that that was a stupid question I had just asked, and that Wards Road was in no way involved or impacted by this expansion of services. And yet I am now faced with a charge of \$2,171 for NOTHING having been done, changed or added, to water delivery to Wards Road.**

**IF some additional changes had to be made to the Camperdown Service Area for the delivery of water to Wards Road, these changes were necessitated by the expansion of services:**

- a) To the new developments on Hwy. 26 across from The Peaks; and**
- b) To the huge housing developments on both sides of Camperdown Road.**
- c) Also, to the recent development of the Georgian Bay Country Club; and**
- d) To the huge Horse Park.**

**These changes would not have been necessary, but for these new developments, and the FULL cost of these changes and service extensions are to be borne by the ‘benefitting’ developments, which are NOT the Wards Road property owners.**

**This is an immoral imposition of charges to regular taxpayers who have in no way benefitted from any of the expansion of services in water delivery to the area. This is a totally shameful money grab by Council, having no relation to the reality and facts of the true situation. Town hall has become a money pit, with money grabs of every kind being made to feed the monster at TOBM. Council is building itself a Taj Mahal, at a cost of over \$2.3 million to taxpayers, of the \$6.9 million**

price tag; it will probably cost much much more before the project is done! Council spends money everywhere, without concern for regular people who live and work within TOBM; many of us are on fixed incomes and cannot afford your largesse, Council.

Council, you need to reconsider this unfair, inequitable, charge of \$2,171, on taxpayers who have benefitted in absolutely NO way from the water and sewer system put in place in the Camperdown Service Area.

Property owners on Wards Road must be exempted from this outrageous, unsubstantiated charge.

Yours truly,



Mirella Taiariol.

P.S. Another example of a shameful money grab is the method of billing for water charges to each residence. Water meters were installed at all properties within TOBM for the purpose of measuring the water consumption at each residence, and to bill the users accordingly. Instead, a system has been put in place which has FIXED CHARGES of \$20.21 per month (\$242.52 per year), which is to include usage of 5 cubic metres per month (or 10 cubic metres per billing period).

My average water consumption per billing period is 3 cubic metres, but I am forced to pay for 10 cubic metres; or perhaps I could simply turn on the tap and allow 7 cubic metres of water to run into the ground, since I have been made to pay for it anyways! What was the point of spending millions to install the water meters, if not to control the amount of water being used, AND to make those who use the water pay for what they use, not some made up figure of 10 cubic metres. Council, you are giving people NO reason to conserve water!

cc: Liz  
Darcy

Oct 14 Public Mtg

RECEIVED

OCT 03 2009

C.20

134 Lakewood Dr.,  
Marksburg, O.

Oct. 8, 2009

519-599-5725

The Blue Mountains,  
P.O. Box 310, 26 Bridge St.,  
Thornburg, O.  
404 210.

Dear Clark

Being a resident of Lakewood Dr for the past 30 years I oppose the By-laws to impose the capital water and/or sewer charge for use of the town's water and/or sewer system.

These services were in place and paid for years ago by the residents of Lakewood Dr. Why should we pay again? I can understand a trunk line hookup charge but the outrageous charge imposed on my property is questionable.

Did the financial planner divide the total expenses of the Lampdown Service Area by the number of properties involved?

Why weren't Lakewood residents given some prior notice of these very large imposing capital charges?

In closing I urge you to drop the proposed By-laws and look for other ways of meeting these spiralling costs.

Respectfully,  
Liz