

June 13, 2018

Members of Council
Town of the Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street
P.O. Box 310
Thornbury, ON
N0H 2P0

Attention: Members of The Town of Blue Mountains Council and Staff

Subject: Waterfront Plan in support of Staff Report CSPW.18.015 Delphi Waterfront Management Plan June 25, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Dear John McKean, Mayor
Gail Ardiel, Deputy Mayor
Robert Gamble, Councillor
Joe Halos, Councillor
Michael Martin, Councillor
John McGee, Councillor
Shawn Everitt

My name is Ron Duke, [REDACTED] Ellis Drive, Peaks Bay East

My wife Kathy and I have lived in Peaks Bay since 2013 and over this time have witnessed the destruction to plants and trees in the TPZ as well as the removal of shale samples from the ANSI designated zone to the north of our property.

Over the last few years, through consultation and meetings with the Town of The Blue Mountains and Skelton and Brumwell, we have become increasingly aware of the important significance of the ANSI zone and why it is necessary to protect the fossilized shale in this area.

Over the last three years, Town staff and Skelton and Brumwell have thoroughly investigated the significance of this national heritage and have developed a Parks Management Plan to minimize potential damage to the fossilized shale, while at the same time affording the public access to Georgian Bay.

I have attended all meetings to date related to the Park Management Plan for this area and have previously voiced support of option 3 of the proposed Park Management Plan. This plan, once implemented, protects the broken shale to the west of the drainage ditch, that MNR has identified as the most sensitive area of the ANSI, while at all times allowing the public access to Georgian Bay through a trail to the East of the walkway adjacent to the drainage ditch, and access to the flat unbroken shale to the West, during periods of low water.

My wife and I unfortunately will not be able to attend the June 25th Committee of the Whole meeting as we will be in BC, however, I would like to respond to a comment made by one of the people deputized at the June 4th meeting. This comment was in relation to the proposed installation of a fence on the east side of the drainage ditch, in the Delphi Waterfront Management Plan, to restrict access to the broken shale in the ANSI zone to the West of the drainage ditch. The comment was made; that a fence was not necessary, that the Town could just put a sign up that said “no access” and that reasonable people would obey the sign. I agree that reasonable people may obey a Town sign, however, the destruction of trees and vegetation in this ANSI area, as well as destruction and removal of fossilized shale is a strong indicator that a sign would not be sufficient to protect the ANSI shale, or the Tree Preservation Zone.

Since we are not able to attend the June 25th meeting, my wife and I would like to reconfirm that we fully support option 3 of the Park Management Plan and encourage Council to approve the plan that includes a fence and replacement of the trees that were destroyed in the TPZ zone, in order to restrict access to the broken shale in the ANSI area.

Thanks for considering our request,

Ron and Kathy Duke