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From: Alex Maxwell [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2020 9:39 PM

To: Corrina Giles [REDACTED]; Krista Royal [REDACTED]; Sarah Merrifield [REDACTED]; Shawn Everitt [REDACTED]; Ryan R. Gibbons [REDACTED] >

Subject: Fw: Water is it a right or a privilege

To The Town Of Blue Mountains, Mayor Alar Soever, Council, Municipal Clerk Corrina Giles, Deputy Clerk Krista Royal, Sarah Merrifield, CAO Shawn Everitt, Ryan Gibbons, all relevant Municipal Staff and the Sustainability Committee

Several upper tier governments and First Nations speak to water as a universal right. The UN also considers the rights to clean safe drinking water as a fundamental human right. Most of the language in relevant documents speaks to safe drinking water and not directly to access to water for recreational enjoyment .

Please think about this conversation around water: water for drinking, agriculture, manufacturing and recreation.

Sure we can talk about riparian rights, portage acts, water taking, ground water, drainage navigable waters protection act, Great Lakes Protection ACT, SON, Great lakes shoreline right of passage act and other well-intended legislation. We can talk about this until the cows come home. Elected Council just think about the sheer madness that many local residents not have access to recreational water in our municipality situated on the Great Lakes due to unsafe overcrowding conditions amidst Covid19.

The public have heard conversations around the sale of water front lots and parking fees. Not fully understanding the thinking behind this I can only say that this seems counterproductive to the idea of securing greater public access to water. Covid 19 protocols and a shrinking shore line due to mother nature and human activities have also negatively impact access to our greatest local resource.

Elected Council, will you direct staff to look at as many tools as possible in the municipal tool box to achieve greater public access to water, be it re-opening previously open municipal access points to water, partnerships or municipal agreements?

Alex Maxwell