

JOHN W. KRON

March 3, 2010

Dear Neighbour;

Re: HISTORY IS REPEATING ITSELF

Our family has occupied property on Pine Portage Bay for over 100 years. Although we now reside in Toronto, we spend summers, and all the time we can find, on Lake of the Woods.

In the mid 1980's, a group of residents of Pine Portage Bay formed an organization (**Pine Portage Bay Homeowners Association**) to monitor the environmental impact of the "Three Buoys Houseboats" operated out of Northern Harbour's facilities in Pine Portage Bay. Residents were concerned with poor controls, excess alcohol use, and erratic behaviour by renters. There were other issues that were also of concern to residents.

In any event, through the efforts of the Association and the cooperation of the OPP and other government agencies, the problems were dealt with and eventually Three Buoys declared insolvency. Progress was also made in other areas and the Association had many socials, pot-luck dinners, and established a good relationship and community feeling.

The Association became dormant in 1989. Remaining funds (\$3,200) of the Association are held at the Copperfiin Credit Union in Kenora

As Vice Chair and after the death of Chairman Lawrence Moyer, I assumed the responsibility of Chair and now wish to contact previous members plus other area residents that are interested in developments in and around Pine Portage Bay / Bigstone Bay.

You are all aware that the Government is increasingly transferring tax responsibility down to the property owners. Land Taxes, Educational taxes, Local Roads Boards, Local Services Boards, are all in a state of flux with the responsibility being assumed by the residents.

The area and particularly Pine Portage Bay is threatened with dramatic changes being proposed by Northern Harbour in the North East corner of Pine Portage Bay. An application was submitted last fall to the MNR that proposed extending the dockage area to the east and south, thereby surrounding a current non associated resident. Plans call for blasting of the cliff, building a road along the shore and putting in 6 or 8 additional docks that appear to be about 600 feet long stretching west into Pine Portage Bay.

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Needless to say, when rumours of this application leaked out, the resident in the N.E. corner of the bay (Mr. & Mrs. Phil Carlson) were very concerned and contacted various interested parties. There was huge negative response from residents, elected officials and other interested parties.

The MNR rightly returned the application responding that they were not willing to consider the matter at this time.

We now understand that Northern Harbour have contacted the MNR and residents trying to counter the negative opinions of most residents.

I personally feel that we should re-activate our Area Homeowners Association and fight the over-commercialization of our bay with full regard to environmental, social, aesthetics, and the peaceful enjoyment of residents.

HISTORY DOES REPEAT ITSELF. It is imperative that all residents/ taxpayers get involved to protect our equity and lifestyle.

If you share our concerns, please respond by sending the attached form to me and I will help in the re-organization of the Association. Although I am unable to act in a leadership role because of age, I would be more than pleased to help.

I am suggesting a meeting be called for the long week end in May. We have been given permission to use the Longbow Lake Firehall for our resident's meeting. I would also suggest the name be changed to the Pine Portage/ Bigstone Bay Ratepayers Association, subject to membership approval.

I await your comments.

Thank you.

John W. Kron

Attachment (1)

INFORMATION REQUEST

You are invited to attend a meeting of Residents including Pine Portage Bay, Bigstone Bay, and that part of Lake of the Woods adjacent to the area affected.

MEETING INFORMATION

PLACE **Longbow Lake Area Firehall
Storm Bay Road - 50 yards south of Highway 17.**

DATE & TIME **Sunday, May 23, 2010 at 2:00 PM**

Please provide the following information for our records:

Name (s):
.....

Permanent Address:
.....

Permanent Phone Number: ().....

E Mail Address:Year Round (_____)

Kenora Address: (Bell- Blue Tag)

Local Mailing Address:

Local Phone Number: (807)

Location Information: (e.g.) (PPB Channel East side, South of Needle Point).....

Assuming a reasonable turnout of concerned citizens, we will either arrange a further meeting to elect an executive and/or Board of Directors and provide the necessary formalities or will finalize matters before the meeting is adjourned.

Thank you for your assistance.

P.S.:If you have any questions, please call the writer at (416) 923-3758 or E Mail at jkron@rogers.com. I plan to be in Kenora by May 15th or thereabouts and you can reach me there at (807) 548-4135. **Please return questionnaire to Toronto Address or email to the address above.**