

Webb, Bruce (CON)

ALZ

From: Don Zirbel [orcoba@live.com]
Sent: November-22-10 3:16 PM
To: Webb, Bruce (CON)
Subject: Beaconia Beach development concerns

Environmental Assessment & Licensing Branch
Manitoba Conservation
123 Main Street, Suite 160
Winnipeg MB R3C 1A5
Fax: (204) 945-5229
Email: Bruce.Webb@gov.mb.ca BW

Re: File 5486.00 - Rettie Boat Access

November 22, 2010

Dear Mr. Bruce Webb:

As a naturist and Board member of the Naturist Action Committee (NAC), the political lobby arm of The Naturist Society, I am concerned with the environmental integrity of the bio-diverse marsh area surrounding Beaconia Beach, Manitoba. I therefore fully support the position paper sent to you on November 19, 2010 by the Eastern Beaches Conservation Coalition (EBCC), as well as by NAC member, naturist and environmentalist, Judy Williams, and urge Conservation and Water Stewardship to order Mr. Rettie to stop any further marsh degradation or so-called amenities and additions such as docks or launching ramps.

Marshes control air and water quality, flooding, and serve as debris traps. The causeway to Beaconia Island is severely compromised by flooding exacerbated by the length of the channel dug by developer, Robert Rettie. It is more than double the length that he initially indicated to Fisheries he would be digging. As documented on the EBCC website (and in their position paper to you), there are too many unanswered questions As well as a lack of due public process for the Rettie development to continue. Additionally, as an example to other would-be developers, Mr. Rettie should be made to return the marsh as much as possible, to its natural state, in order for the marsh grasses to begin to re-establish.

If the Rettie development is allowed to continue, it will set a precedent for all other would-be developers who wish to re-charge the area's socio-economic "batteries" at the expense of the bio-diverse and passive recreational nature of the area.

In addition, through my membership on NAC, I call your attention to our efforts to safeguard Beaconia Beach and its beautiful marshland in 1992 when NAC member, Judy Williams, represented us through on-site visits and in-person negotiations with your provincial Prosecuting "Attorney to maintain traditional clothing-optional usage of the beach.

By so doing, the Naturist Action Committee (NAC) also successfully assisted the Manitoba Naturist Association (MNA) and the FCN in their efforts to uphold the nude usage tradition at Beaconia in 1992 by appealing to the Rural Municipality's Reeve and Council. It is important for you to realize that our representative, Judy Williams, is very familiar with the area between Grand Marais and Beaconia and Patricia Beaches.

It is also essential to recognize the intrinsic value of marshes to revenue generated by all kinds of passive recreational tourists from nudes to fisher-folk! With the "erosion" of the marshes through development, this

important boon to the local economy will be lost. As an example of revenues generated from naturist tourists, Wreck Beach, Vancouver, North America's largest clothing-optional beach, generates millions of dollars annually. Haulover Beach in Miami, Florida generates over half a million tourist dollars annually.

While there, Ms. Williams had the opportunity first-hand observe teaming wildlife in that vast and precious marsh, which has now been negatively compromised by Mr. Rettie in a precedent-setting way, unless your EAO office takes stern action against the channel that was dug without proper application and without adequate transparency.

Concerns regarding the above Environment Assessment Proposal re: Rettie's Property (In no particular order):

- Because marshes perform a vital role in the health of our environment and are to be a protected resource, the development of Rettie's boat access channel is unacceptable.
- The proposal includes numerous differences in specifications and scope from the original plan submitted by Mr. Rettie.
- The report is incomplete, as "Appendix 6 - Land Use Designation for Site and Adjoining Land Plan" is missing.
- The proposal includes the Green Spaces Environment Report, showing the huge diversity of wildlife which are at substantial risk due to this development.
- There are numerous issues with the process that were followed prior to the channel being dug, including lack of confirmation of the property line and the required 90' setback from the ordinary high water mark, which has also yet to be confirmed.
- There has been no drainage plan provided as required by the development permit, and the effects of this channel on the water table have yet to be determined.
- There was no consultation with the public nor with the Lakeshore Erosion Technical Committee, as required by Selkirk and Area District Planning requirements. There has also been no complete scope on this and further development provided by Mr. Rettie.
- If the channel is not returned as closely as possible to its original form through infilling, what is the province and Mr. Rettie prepared to do to ameliorate the current flooding issues to both the causeway and beach with debris such as escaped docks plugging up the marsh?
- What type of pre-construction monitoring or environmental assessment was done by a certified environmental consultant?
- What monitoring will be done as a follow-up to the environmental damage which Mr. Rettie has already caused?
- What can be done to encourage more turtles to nest there?
- The practice of allowing jet skis (PWC's) and jet boats into the marsh, when it is proven they are deleterious to fish and wildlife, is a terrible intrusion into the marsh and lake. One single PWC in an average life span of 7 years can put as much as 600 gallons of jet fuel into the receiving waters, regardless of whether they are two- or four-stroke engines. They should be banned from Canadian waterways!

- Why and how does Fisheries think the channel is going to encourage new fish species, and what is their response to those species who have now abandoned the marsh?
- What preservation plan was developed and followed for the marsh reptiles' safety, particularly for the safety of the two turtle species that have been there for decades?

In consideration of the above issues, we encourage you to protect your water resources and deny any further development and to mandate the restoration of Beaconia Marsh to its original state.

Conclusion

The Naturist Action Committee fully supports the Eastern Beaches Conservation Coalition position paper in their opposition to the Rettie Channel and boat access. We are grateful to the wonderful grassroots activists determined to protect Beaconia Marsh, and to prevent future ill-conceived developments from moving forward before approval can be obtained under proper regulatory permits.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Zirbel

Board of Directors, Naturist Action Committee - www.naturistaction.org
Member Advisory Board, The Naturist Society - www.naturistsociety.com

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LAKE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION

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November 22, 2010

Environmental Assessment & Licensing Branch
 Manitoba Conservation
 123 Main Street, Suite 160
 Winnipeg MB R3C 1A5
 Fax: (204) 945-5229
 Email: Bruce.Webb@gov.mb.ca

BW

Dear Sir: Re: File 5486.00 - Rettie Boat Access

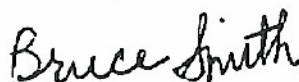
The Lake Winnipeg Foundation is committed to maintaining and restoring wetlands and shorelines surrounding Lake Winnipeg.

Every year we see projects in the wetlands and along the shore that seem to just happen without any public input. This project is very different in that a group of local residents have spoken out. We have followed the development of this project with much interest throughout the spring and summer. It appears from the many news reports and from information that was circulated to the public that this project highlights gaps in the project approval process.

The Lake Winnipeg Foundation has recently joined with a group of other environmental organizations to request that the Provincial Government place a temporary halt to all new developments affecting wetlands and shorelines until it can develop a rational, consistent policy to ensure the development is done responsibly and sustainably.

We suggest that this project should remain on hold until the policy is defined.

Sincerely,



Bruce Smith
 President
 Lake Winnipeg Foundation Inc.

JNS

ary Filmer, PC, OM
 oyd Attorney, PC, OC OM Ph.D.
 Uruski

BOARD

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Webb, Bruce (CON)

A44

From: Karen Grant [kgrant@fcn.ca]
Sent: November-22-10 11:07 AM
To: Webb, Bruce (CON)
Subject: File 5486.00 - Rettie Boat Access

Mr. Bruce Webb *BW*
Environmental Assessment & Licensing Branch
Manitoba Conservation Branch

Re: File 5486.00 - Rettie Boat Access

Dear Mr. Bruce Webb:

As a naturist and President of the Federation of Canadian Naturists (FCN), I hereby support the position paper sent to you on November 19, 2010 by the Eastern Beaches Conservation Coalition (EBCC), as well as by FCN and NAC member, naturist and environmentalist, Judy Williams. I urge Conservation and Water Stewardship to order Mr. Rettie to stop any further marsh degradation or the addition of so-called amenities such as docks or launching ramps.

Ms. Williams has kept the Federation apprised of this situation since 1982. I completely support her tireless efforts to aid in the preservation of precious wetlands that are home to so many species of migratory birds. I am also in complete support of her work to preserve the traditional clothing-optional status of Beaconia Beach.

Please note the concerns that Ms. Williams has brought to the board of the FCN, and that I support. As well, she has advised us of the grave damage to a sensitive and necessary ecological area that this "project" can incur:

- Marshes perform a vital role in the health of our environment and are to be a protected resource; therefore the development of Rettie's boat access channel is unacceptable.
- The proposal includes numerous differences in specifications and scope from the original plan submitted by Mr. Rettie.
- The report is incomplete as "Appendix 6 - Land Use Designation for Site and Adjoining Land Plan" is missing.
- The proposal includes the Green Spaces Environment Report showing the huge diversity of wildlife, which is at substantial risk due to this development.
- There are numerous issues with the process that were followed prior to the channel being dug, including lack of confirmation of the property line and the required 90' setback from the ordinary high water mark, which has also yet to be confirmed.
- There has been no drainage plan provided as required by the development permit and the effects of this channel on the water table have yet to be determined.
- There was no consultation with the public nor with the Lakeshore Erosion Technical Committee as required by Selkirk and Area District Planning requirements. There has also been no complete scope on this and further development provided by Mr. Rettie.
- If the channel is not returned as closely as possible to its original form through infilling, what is the province and Mr. Rettie prepared to do to ameliorate the current flooding issues to both the causeway and beach with debris such as escaped docks plugging up the marsh.
- What kinds of pre-construction monitoring or environmental assessment did a certified environmental consultant do?
- What monitoring will be done as a follow-up to what damage Mr. Rettie has already wrecked?
- What can be done to encourage more turtles to nest there?
- Jet skis (PWC's) and jet boats being allowed into the marsh when it is proven they are deleterious to fish and wildlife, is a terrible intrusion into the marsh and lake. One single PWC in an average life span of 7 years can put as much as 600 gallons of jet fuel into receiving waters. They should be banned from Canadian waterways! It doesn't matter, either, whether they are two- or four-stroke engines.
- Just why does Fisheries think the channel is going to encourage new fish species and what is their response to those species who have now abandoned the marsh?
- What preservation plan was followed for the marsh reptiles' safety, particularly for the safety of the two turtle species that have been there for decades?

Due to the above issues we encourage you to protect your water resources and deny any further development and to mandate the restoration of Beaconia Marsh to its original state.

As President of the Federation of Canadian Naturists, I am in strong support of the Naturist Action Committee, and

the Eastern Beaches Conservation Coalition position paper in their opposition to the Rettie Channel and boat access.

Naturally,
Karen Grant
President
Federation of Canadian Naturists

Karen Grant
Federation of Canadian Naturists
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Etobicoke, ON M9A 4X2
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Webb, Bruce (CON)

AUS

From: Ross Vickers [rvickers@fcn.ca]
Sent: November-22-10 9:11 AM
To: Webb, Bruce (CON) BW
Subject: Beaconia Beach

November 22, 2010

Dear Mr. Bruce Webb:

As a naturist and Board member of the Federation of Canadian Naturists (FCN), I am concerned with the environmental integrity of the biodiverse marsh area surrounding Beaconia Beach, Manitoba. I therefore fully support the position paper sent to you on November 19, 2010 by the Eastern Beaches Conservation Coalition (EBCC), as well as by FCN and NAC member, naturist and environmentalist, Judy Williams, and urge Conservation and Water Stewardship to order Mr. Rettie to stop any further marsh degradation or so-called amenities/ additions such as docks or launching ramps.

Marshes control air and water quality, flooding, and serve as debris traps. The causeway to Beaconia Island is severely compromised by flooding exacerbated by the length of the channel dug by developer, Robert Rettie. It is more than double the length that he indicated to Fisheries he would be digging, initially. As documented on the EBCC website and in their position paper to you, there are too many unanswered questions and *lack of due public process* for the Rettie development to continue. In addition, as an example to other would-be developers, Mr. Rettie should be made to return the marsh as much as possible, to its natural state, in order for the marsh grasses to begin to re-establish.

If the Rettie development is allowed to continue, it will set a precedent for all other potential developers who wish to re-charge the area's socio-economic "batteries" at the expense of the bio-diverse and passive recreational nature of the area.

In addition, through my membership on FCN, I call your attention to our efforts to safeguard Beaconia Beach and its beautiful marshland in 1992 when FCN member, Judy Williams, represented us through on-site visits and in-person negotiations with your provincial Prosecuting "Attorney to maintain traditional clothing-optional usage of the beach.

By so doing, the Federation of Canadian Naturists also successfully assisted the Manitoba Naturist Association (MNA) and the NAC in their efforts to uphold the nude usage tradition at Beaconia in 1992 by appealing to the Rural Municipality of St. Clements Reeve and Council. It is important for you to realize that our representative, Judy Williams, knows the area between Grand Marais and Beaconia and Patricia Beaches very well.

It is also important to recognize the intrinsic value of marshes to revenue generated by all kinds of passive recreational tourists from nudes to fisher-folk! With the "erosion" of the marshes through development, this important boon to the local economy will be lost. As an example of revenues generated from naturist tourists, Wreck Beach, Vancouver, North America's largest clothing-optional beach, generates millions of dollars annually. Hanlans Point in Toronto does as well, and Haulover Beach in Miami, Florida generates over half a million tourist dollars annually.

While there, Ms. Williams had the opportunity first-hand observe teeming wildlife in that vast and precious marsh that has now been negatively compromised by Mr. Rettie in a precedent-setting way unless your EAO

office takes stern action against the channel that was dug without proper application and without adequate transparency!

Concerns regarding the above Environment Assessment Proposal re Rettie's Property.

(To reiterate the EBCC's concerns, in no particular order):

- Because marshes perform a vital role in the health of our environment and are to be a protected resource, the development of Rettie's boat access channel is unacceptable.
- The proposal includes numerous differences in specifications and scope from the original plan submitted by Mr. Rettie.
- The report is incomplete as "Appendix 6 - Land Use Designation for Site and Adjoining Land Plan" is missing
- The proposal includes the Green Spaces Environment Report showing the huge diversity of wildlife which are at substantial risk due to this development.
- There are numerous issues with the process that were followed prior to the channel being dug, including lack of confirmation of the property line and the required 90' setback from the ordinary high water mark, which has also yet to be confirmed.
- There has been no drainage plan provided as required by the development permit and the effects of this channel on the water table have yet to be determined.
- There was no consultation with the public nor with the Lakeshore Erosion Technical Committee as required by Selkirk and Area District Planning requirements. There has also been no complete scope on this and further development provided by Mr. Rettie.
- If the channel is not returned as closely as possible to its original form through infilling, what is the province and Mr. Rettie prepared to do to ameliorate the current flooding issues to both the causeway and beach with debris such as escaped docks plugging up the marsh.
- What kind of *pre-construction* monitoring or environmental assessment was done by a certified environmental consultant?
- What monitoring will be done as a follow-up to what damage Mr. Rettie has already wrecked?
- What can be done to encourage more turtles to nest there?
- Jet skis (PWC's) and jet boats being allowed into the marsh when it is proven they are deleterious to fish and wildlife, is a terrible intrusion into the marsh and lake. One single PWC in an average life span of 7 years can put as much as 600 gallons of jet fuel into receiving waters. They should be banned from Canadian waterways! It doesn't matter, either, whether they are two- or four-stroke engines.
- Just why does Fisheries think the channel is going to encourage new fish species and what is their response to those species who have now abandoned the marsh?.
- What preservation plan was followed for the marsh reptiles' safety, particularly for the safety of the two turtle species that have been there for decades?

-Due to the above issues we encourage you to protect your water resources and deny any further development and to mandate the restoration of Beaconia Marsh to its original state.

Conclusion

The Federation of Canadian Naturists and Naturist Action Committee fully supports the Eastern Beaches Conservation Coalition position paper in their opposition to the Rettie Channel and boat access. We are grateful to the wonderful grassroots activists determined to protect Beaconia Marsh and to prevent future cart-before-the-horse developments from moving forward before approval can be obtained under proper regulatory permits!

Most sincerely yours,

Ross Vickers

Director, Federation of Canadian Naturists

rvickers@fcn.ca

From: Stephane Deschenes [stephane@fcn.ca]
Sent: November-22-10 6:20 AM
To: Webb, Bruce (CON)
Subject: File 5486.00 - Rettie Boat Access

Mr. Bruce Webb **BW**
Environmental Assessment & Licensing Branch
Manitoba Conservation Branch

Re: File 5486.00 - Rettie Boat Access

Dear Mr. Webb:

I am writing to express my strong support for the November 19, 2010 report presented by the Eastern Beaches Conservation Coalition (EBCC), as well as by FCN and NAC member, naturist and environmentalist, Judy Williams, and to implore you to order Mr. Rettie to put to a stop to the Beaconia marsh degradation.

We have been following closely the events surrounding Beaconia Beach as far back as 1982 when Judy Williams reported to us on her site visits and in-person negotiations to maintain traditional clothing-optional usage of the beach. Beaconia is an ecological treasure and an important part of the limited, but important, collection of clothing-optional/naturist beaches in Canada.

I would like to reiterate and summarize the concerns that Ms. Williams has brought to us and that we strongly support:

1. Because marshes perform a vital role in the health of our environment and are to be a protected resource, the development of Rettie's boat access channel is unacceptable.
2. The proposal includes numerous differences in specifications and scope from the original plan submitted by Mr. Rettie.
3. The report is incomplete as "Appendix 6 - Land Use Designation for Site and Adjoining Land Plan" is missing
4. The proposal includes the Green Spaces Environment Report showing the huge diversity of wildlife which are at substantial risk due to this development.
5. There are numerous issues with the process that were followed prior to the channel being dug, including lack of confirmation of the property line and the required 90' setback from the ordinary high water mark, which has also yet to be confirmed.
6. There has been no drainage plan provided as required by the development permit and the effects of this channel on the water table have yet to be determined.
7. There was no consultation with the public nor with the Lakeshore Erosion Technical Committee as required by Selkirk and Area District Planning requirements. There has also been no complete scope on this and further development provided by Mr. Rettie.

8. If the channel is not returned as closely as possible to its original form through infilling, what is the province and Mr. Rettie prepared to do to ameliorate the current flooding issues to both the causeway and beach with debris such as escaped docks plugging up the marsh.
9. What kind of pre-construction monitoring or environmental assessment was done by a certified environmental consultant?
10. What monitoring will be done as a follow-up to what damage Mr. Rettie has already wrecked? What can be done to encourage more turtles to nest there?
11. Jet skis (PWC's) and jet boats being allowed into the marsh when it is proven they are deleterious to fish and wildlife, is a terrible intrusion into the marsh and lake. One single PWC in an average life span of 7 years can put as much as 600 gallons of jet fuel into receiving waters. They should be banned from Canadian waterways! It doesn't matter, either, whether they are two- or four-stroke engines.
12. Just why does Fisheries think the channel is going to encourage new fish species and what is their response to those species who have now abandoned the marsh?.
13. What preservation plan was followed for the marsh reptiles' safety, particularly for the safety of the two turtle species that have been there for decades?
14. Due to the above issues we encourage you to protect your water resources and deny any further development and to mandate the restoration of Beaconia Marsh to its original state.

I fully support the Federation of Canadian Naturists, the Naturist Action Committee, and the Eastern Beaches Conservation Coalition's opposition to the Rettie Channel and boat access.

Yours naturally,

Stephane Deschenes
Director
Federation of Canadian Naturists

Stéphane Deschênes
Federation of Canadian Naturists
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direct: (416) 219-5856

Webb, Bruce (CON)

From: Dick and Ellie Springer [delispringer@myfairpoint.net]
Sent: November-23-10 2:07 PM
To: Webb, Bruce (CON)
Subject: File 5486.00 - Rettie Boat Access

38 Maple Street
Peaks Island, ME 04108-1412
USA
Phone: 207-766-3388
November 22, 2010

Environmental Assessment & Licensing Branch Manitoba Conservation
123 Main Street, Suite 160
Winnipeg, MB R3C 1A5
Bruce.Webb@gov.mb.ca BW
Re: File 5486.00 - Rettie Boat Access

Dear Mr. Webb:

I am a naturist and board member of the Naturist Action Committee (NAC), the lobbying arm of The Naturist Society. I wish to preserve the environmental integrity and biodiversity of the marsh area adjacent to Beaconia Beach, Manitoba. I enthusiastically endorse the position paper sent to you on November 19, 2010 by the Eastern Beaches Conservation Coalition and by NAC board member and environmentalist Judy Williams and ask Conservation and Water Stewardship to order Mr. Rettie to stop any further marsh degradation by construction of docks, launch ramps, or other unnatural structures.

If the Rettie development is allowed to continue it will be the entering wedge for other developers at the expense of the biodiverse nature of the area. In addition, as a member of NAC, I wish to call your attention to the efforts of our NAC board member Judy Williams to preserve Beaconia Beach and its marshland in 1992, when she negotiated in person with you Provincial Prosecuting Attorney to maintain traditional clothing-optional use of the beach. By doing so NAC successfully assisted the Manitoba Naturist Association and the Federation of Canadian Naturists in upholding traditional nude usage at Beaconia in 1992 by appealing to the Rural Municipality's Reeve and Council.

The Naturist Action Committee and I strongly support the Eastern Beaches Conservation Coalition's position paper in its opposition to the Rettie Channel and boat access.

Sincerely yours,

Meredith N. Springer
NAC Board Member

A48

submit me a separate, detailed response to the proposal.

**** DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS IS NOVEMBER 22, 2010 ****



Please show your support of this important issue by sending your submission to Manitoba Conservation via mail, fax, or email :

Mail: Environmental Assessment & Licensing Branch
Manitoba Conservation
123 Main Street, Suite 160
Winnipeg MB R3C 1A5

Fax: (204) 945-5229

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Email: Bruce.Webb@gov.mb.ca

BW

Help Center Fees

Subject Line: File 5486.00 - Rettie Boat Access

Dave Crabb
Chairman,
Eastern Beaches Conservation Coalition (EBCC)
<http://www.EBconservation.ca>

PLEASE FORWARD TO ANYONE INTERESTED IN PROTECTING AND RESTORING WETLANDS IN MANITOBA

New | Reply | Reply all | Forward | Delete | Junk | Sweep | Mark as | Move to |

Dec 20/10.

Dear Bruce

Sorry for the late reply this submission was over looked when we first

Thanks

[Handwritten signature]

- The marshes at the south end of the lake seem to be primary filters as the sediments ebb & flow through the south basin.
- The lake near the bend is in increasingly worse condition. Therefore, marsh dredging that has been allowed in the past has not been appropriate.
- The lake will fill in the canal as has been noted in other dredged areas in a very short time and this travesty will have to be repeated many times over in the next few years until the Pettis runs out of patience or money to continue dredging.
- If this project is actually for the Pettis own use why connect the lake access to the north end of the marsh point properly instead of the south.
- Let the rest of the canal be restored and let the vegetation grow back
- minimize the damage.

K. J. Keane.

Bolton Harbor.