

Mayor Peake and Councilors of The Lake of Bays

My name is Brad Legg and I have the cottage at [REDACTED]

Since a day in late November 1970 when my dad and I rented a boat for the day to visit cottages on The Lake of Bays that were for sale [after many day trips from the city we decided we could cover more sites by boat than in our car, especially as daylight was getting short] and I stepped on to the carpet of pine needles, I was in love with Bigwin.

I was living at home, 26 years old, finished with university, back from a year playing hockey and touring Europe, paying off my student loan and driving a 1963 VW.

When I saw John MacDonald's A-Frame nestled in the trees that was it. I had to have it.

It was \$15,000.00 and had a \$13,000.00 mortgage. I scraped together the \$2,000.00 and jumped in to my first piece of real estate. You may have discerned that I am very passionate towards my little "piece of heaven".

In the spring of 1971 I purchased a small used 14 foot Chrysler boat from Jeff Robertson and kept it with him at Glenmount Road Marine along with my new neighbours; the Fajdics, the Gibsons, the Hudsons, Dr. Pauline Dycoff and several others.

We learned from our neighbours on the island [you could never know the true meaning of "neighbour" until you lived on an island and ran out of pasta or ketchup or?] that we had "rights" to the use of the facilities of Bigwin. Parking at Norway Point etc. I even joined the golf coarse but it closed in the summer of 1971 and they gave me my \$200 back.

In the mean time I was married and my new wife and 3 year old son started summering full time where soon they became very active in the Lake of Bays Sailing Club, one as a pupil and the other a director.

My wife, Marg, never one to sit on her hands when she could be volunteering also became a director of the Lake of Bays Association.

Those were great times when you could boat down the lake and get those great "sticky buns" from the bakery on # 117 that had the monkey in a cage that you could see from the highway and also go to The Cove Marina and buy some of those outstanding home made pies.

When Jeff Robertson died very prematurely and Morris bought the marina to use as a sales office and staging area for the sale of the lots on Bigwin that they acquired through bankruptcy [again], Chris Winger ran the marina.

When Chris gave it up the docks physically deteriorated and at that point we who docked there began to worry about our ability to park on the south shore. My wife, Marg, was in almost constant contact with Malcom Scott to see what could be done for us as the docks were getting dangerous and with a lack of supervision there was quite a bit of vandalism. He kept telling her he was working on something and to be patient as there was land nearby the township was trying to get for back taxes that would suit the needs of all of the people using the rickety docks at Glenmount.

Then in the spring of 1987 Malcom Scott personally told the group of us that from now on we were to dock and park at the new facilities being built at Norway Point. We had Mr. Klump at Port Cunnington Marina, who stored our boat [now a 16 footer], take our

boat to the new docks at Norway Point and we have docked and parked there and our many guests have parked there for all of these 23 years without incident until this summer when twice twelve cars had their tires vandalized.

In the mean time Stan and Peg Plumb at The Cove Marina closed their business and some of the boats that were mooring there came to Norway Point.

As well as The Cove closing, John Copeland sold his Langford Marina. It ceased being a marina. Anthony at Lake of Bays Marina decided he could make more money getting rid of most of his docking clients and using those slips for the people leaving boats with him that needed repair.

Some of those disposed people also came to Norway Point.

Eventually as some of the original cottagers on Bigwin sold to a new generation of families those new people also came to dock at Norway instead of at Peter and Lonnie Runney's Port Cunnington Marina.

With all of the construction [not Eagle Landing] that was taking place this summer, on Bigwin as well as other islands and the fact that many people who moor their boats at marinas or have mainland property on Haystack Bay but have their guests park at Norway Point to shorten their drive, it was inevitable that the fishermen would have problems launching their boats and finding a place to park their trucks and trailers.

It also is highly probable that there will be a reoccurrence of the vandalism and that may lead to violence.

My wife, Marg, and I believe that the proposal that the township's staff have suggested, with modifications as suggested by the 18 of us islanders who have no other means of reaching our little "piece of heaven", will allow us to reach a mutually agreeable solution that satisfies the day users of the launching ramp and trucks with trailer parking facilities and at the same time also respects our historical right to use Norway Point without the use of "public" money, bearing in mind that we are also "the public".

Sincerely

Brad and Marg Legg

And the next group:

Bruce Madeleine Elisabeth

● "Piece of Heaven"