

I would like to thank the council for this opportunity to speak regarding the issue of sewage disposal at the Papineau dump site.

I will not go into the long list of concerns that the cottagers have expressed in their 440 petitions sent to council, but rather try to offer some reasonable alternatives.

The Papineau Lake Association has been very busy this summer due to the ill advised decision by council to consider the Papineau dump site as the preferred site for the waste disposal trenches. We were very troubled to find out that council had chosen to appoint consultants and gave them a very narrow scope of selection for these sites. The requirement imposed by council to only look for sites on land owned by the municipality or existing waste disposal sites seriously limited the options available to the consultants.

Within a short period of time, some of our association members were able to come up with some viable options.

Some of the options are:

- 112 acres of land at the end of the East Lake Road, well away from any watercourses, that is available to council for around fifty thousand dollars.
- 47 acres of land on the Little Papineau Lake Road for around eighty thousand dollars.
- Mr. Craig Davidson has some property that he is willing to sell for this facility.
- Tom White of Lynvale Construction is willing to purchase or lease land and set up the trenching facility and operate it as a private enterprise.
- There are two large pieces of property on Hicks Road that the owners would be willing to lease to Lynvale for construction of this facility.

Some other obvious options would be to:

- Advertise in the local papers for land suitable for the facility. There are large tracts of land that have been logged and are not suitable for agriculture that the owners may be glad to get rid of to reduce their tax burden and so sell it at a reasonable price.
- Issue requests for quotation for companies such as Lynvale who are in the septage disposal business, for a turnkey operation by private enterprise with municipal controlled prices for sewage disposal.

Certain council members have expressed the concern that “it has taken 4 years to get this far and if we have to changed (the location) now, it will take another 4 years”. It is difficult to imagine why it would take any proficient consultants 4 years to produce the existing report, considering that most of the site reconnaissance was done by maps and aerial photography. If council decided to spend a little money on a piece of property away from existing cottage and residential locations, environmental assessments could be finished by next year and the facility built well before the 2014 deadline.

Surely these options would be more expedient than to waste money in a legal battle with the cottage association.

In conclusion, I request that council pass a resolution to open up the site selection and remove Papineau Lake dump site from the proposed sites. **Speech by Ian Salgo**