

Friday, March 15, 2019

Re: Peaks Bay Waterfront access - letter to council in support of Vic Vandergust's March 18 presentation to Council

I write this letter in support of Vic Vandergust's March 18 2019 presentation to council.

I am unable to be present at this meeting but have voiced my support in the past and will continue to do so until Public access is restored to the Delphi Point waterfront.

Kindly provide this letter to Council to support Vic Vandergust in his council address.

My family and I are resident in Peaks Bay.

Over the course of the last year, a boulder barrier has been erected that has resulted in blocked access to public waterfront. Prior to purchasing our property, it was well advertised that the waterfront was public.

The waterfront is Public.

We are opposed to the limitation imposed by this boulder wall.

The Town of Blue Mountains should be promoting public access on public lands and not taking those rights away from the public. My family is mindful of the ANSI and feel as though rather than restricting access; signage and public education would have the same effect of protecting these fossils. The waterfront area is a beautiful area which was a major factor in the purchase of our home.

The fact that access to the waterfront has been taken away is not in keeping with the mandate of the Town of the Blue Mountains. The public should not be denied this valuable educational and recreational resource.

We also feel as though walling off the water and blocking beach access creates a dangerous precedent which will be taken advantage of by anyone with a home near waterfront with the financial means to spark surveys (which can range in conclusions).

A review of the area shows significant landscaping construction in and around the ANSI area and no plan to fence the shore-front owners and their guests, just the rest of the public. Access should be consistent for all.

The wall and diminishing waterfront access will undoubtedly have a detrimental financial effect on our property value and have the effect of placing more public on less waterfront which will carry its own problems.

Please restore unlimited public access to Peaks Bay waterfront. Remove the wall. Allow us to use the beach.

Regards,

James V. Leone