

The Honourable Peggy Breckenridge

Mayor, Township of Tiny

130 Balm Beach Road West RR#1

Perkinsfield, Ontario

L0L 2J0

Date:

RE: TINY TOWNSHIP STRATEGIC PLAN

***TINY TOWNSHIP'S STRATEGIC PLAN
ENDS ALMOST TWO CENTURIES OF
HISTORICAL PUBLIC USE AND ENJOYMENT
AT ARDMORE COMMUNITY BEACH***

Dear Ms. Breckenridge,

I am a member of the Ardmore Beach Community Association in Tiny township who is writing to inform you that I am strongly opposed to what I interpret as the removal of my right to use and enjoy my community beach, as described in the "Guiding Principles" of the above-referenced proposed Strategic Plan.

I clearly understand that the principle of beach "access" - as outlined in this proposed Plan's Guiding Principles - does not at all guarantee me the right to continue to "use and enjoy" my community beach in the future, *as has been the case for almost two centuries!*

In point of fact, should this Plan become law my "access" (as described in the Guiding Principles of the Draft) will in future allow me to only walk along the water's edge, take a little dip and then get out! As such, it directly contravenes another of the Draft's Guiding Principles, which states that this same Strategic Plan will endeavour to "*protect, nurture and enrich our heritage through respect for our distinct cultures and traditions*".

Well, allow me to tell you something about those "*traditions*": As Ardmore Beach residents, my extended family has been enjoying the spectacular natural recreational resource called Ardmore Beach for more than ___ years. Throughout those years, we have built sand castles, learned to swim, chased seagulls and butterflies, caught pollywogs and frogs in the freshwater streams which intersect the vast expanse of crystal sand on their way to the waters of Nottawasaga Bay.

We have enjoyed countless family lunches on the beach, suntanned all the live long day, played catch, rambled about with our summer friends and pets, scrambled over the abundant boulders and built floating diving rafts. This indescribable summer experience, book ended by Ardmore's incomparable sunsets, have all been a part of the fabric of our community since the first land survey of 1821! *This is our "heritage" and these are the "distinct cultures and traditions" that have been in existence our community, Ardmore Beach, since the early 19th century!*

Furthermore, this is the way of life I expect my Mayor to forever safeguard and protect.

We too have a life long attachment to this area. This tradition, our way of life, is historically not exclusive to beachfront property owners. And, throughout the decades, these enjoyments have been extended to the wider community – beyond the confines of Ardmore beach – without restriction and reservation. Members of the wider public in Tiny Township have also been welcomed to partake of these same summer pleasures.

I am writing to you today as a constituent who is vitally concerned that this proposed Strategic Plan is not in my best interests as a community stakeholder. You are not striving to “protect, nurture and enrich our heritage” with respect to our historical public use and enjoyment of our beloved Ardmore Beach. What it sounds like to me is the prelude to the privatization of our waterfront by beachfront property owners. What you are really doing – in fact what is buried in the nuances of this so-called Strategic Plan – is creating a legal infrastructure that ensures the ongoing privatization of *our* waterfront. This will make policing easier for beachfront residents who are already behind the scenes (through a misuse of the Ontario Boundaries Act) in the process of creating private waterfront compounds for their exclusive use and enjoyment – out of what is at present a ***thriving community recreational resource***.

What I expect from you, however, as my Mayor, is that ANY STRATEGIC PLAN that the township might be considering, which impacts the community use of Ardmore Beach, will always and necessarily value the distinct culture and tradition that has flourished here since 1821.

In closing I am opposed to any Strategic Plan that restricts our historical tradition – which means full public usage of our beach.

The beaches of Tiny Township are a natural wonder which call out for protection by **all levels of government**.

Please confirm receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,

Name:

Tiny Township Address:

Home Phone number: