

April 19, 2010

Re: Oshawa Harbour

Mayor Gray and Councillors,

As outlined in my note to you yesterday, the long battle (18 years) that was waged on your (City of Oshawa) behalf to see Second Marsh (now, Second Marsh Wildlife Area) saved from harbour development, and finally, in 1993 having the wetland returned to City ownership from the federal government was a battle I led and engaged in at great cost to myself and my family. I do not intend to sit idly by and watch any of you 'piddle' this away; it was my life's work! I spent 32 years as the Executive Director of the Second Marsh Defence Assoc., then, with Friends of Second Marsh.

Likewise, my work with General Motors in establishing the McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Reserve was also a 'gift' to the City. Many people and partners with 'Friends' have invested much time and money to see the area rehabilitated and preserved. This will not go to waste because of a "deal" with the Federal government and opening the Gifford Hill to another incinerator (the ethanol plant). I plan to fight this proposal like never before.

I will be calling each of you over the next few days to set up meetings in your office at your convenience while I determine if I need to start up the Second Marsh Defence Assoc., once again. Guess with this being an election year, the opportunity couldn't be greater to see the Federal deal scrapped in the name of what's really best for the Oshawa waterfront.

Looking forward to discussing the issue(s) with you,

Sincerely,

Jim Richards