



March 5, 2010

South Basin Community Members

As the Council of the RM of St. Clements, we feel it necessary to respond to the invite for the March 6th meeting that was put forward by Mr. Crabb regarding the activity in Beaconia Beach area.

The council has been asking for clarity on this issue since we received a copy of the email which was circulated by Mr. Crabb. Some of you may not be aware of that email but it was printed full of untruths which created much concern on issues alluding to misconduct and lack of process of this Council and the Provincial Government. Council does not understand Mr. Crabb's agenda, but his efforts to advance that agenda with a slanderous campaign force us to take the position that he has lost any credibility he has with this council. It is for this reason that no Council members will be in attendance at this meeting.

We have now been in contact with Selkirk & District Planning Board, Water Stewardship Department (Province), Minister Melnick's office, Minister Blakie's office and DFO (Federal). We have been able to indentify that much of the concern has come from rumors being circulated and false information being presented. We have now contacted the Minister's directly and have made recommendations to them and to the Selkirk and District Planning board to create changes within the process so that we may prevent a reoccurrence of this type of thing again.

Mr. Talbot, who is the Manager of the Selkirk & District Planning Area Board, will be attending this meeting to clarify the actions that have been taken place to date. Mr. Talbot will also speak to the requirement to resolve this issue in a way which is respectful for all.

Council feels that the land owner conducting these waterfront works needs to be worked with in a positive manner, versus an adversarial approach. We understand that his property rights extend into Lake Winnipeg, and entering into this discussion in a negative manner could result in long term negative consequences for all involved. We are hoping through working together in a positive sense, this project maybe completed in a way that protects the environment and benefits all, including public access to the beach and to the artesian well located on his property.

In closing, the council would be happy to invite presentation from the group as a delegation.

On behalf of the council of the RM of St. Clements

Steve Strang
Mayor