

Letters



Accepting fill is 'very lucrative'

To the Editor

The town of Erin is making changes to the filling by-law and it appears they are doing it without consultation with the citizens that initially started the bylaw process and without consultation to other concerned Erin citizens.

The bylaw as it stands now allows a property owner to accept fill with minimal restrictions and no consideration to noise of truck traffic - fill can enter these sites on weekends and regularly does.

There are currently three active sites that are accepting over 150 truck loads per day. There are apparently three other sites under approval. This is a very lucrative endeavor for the site owner.

The fill coming from these sites are from the greater

GTA and this whole issue is going to become more of a concern as the region is growing.

I am sure that most residents of Erin think that this type of problem could not occur in their back yard because they are in the green belt - unfortunately they are sadly mistaken as the green belt legislation provides clear approval for these industrial sites.

I have made multiple requests to the town to provide disclosure and have only been successful in a very slow and limited way. They are experts at passing the hot potato.

The concern I have is that these sites require no consultation with the residents in the area and once the site is established it can be given extensions without any input from stakeholders. There are no environmental impact studies and there does not appear to be any concerns

regarding the impact to water quality, dust and noise control.

Any other site similar to this would require extensive applications and require proper site control - there is definitely a loophole in the system and a lot of people taking advantage of this.

I have also contacted the Mayor of Halton Hills whose residents have been complaining regarding the sudden and extensive truck traffic to these sites. He passes the buck clearly to the Town of Erin for not having strong enough bylaws.

I think the topic will very quickly become a regional matter as the more southerly sites fill up and the GTA starts moving north.

Thanks, Dr. M. Wevers

Cell towers an insult to Terry Fox?

Dear Editor,

Did you know that Port Coquitlam City Council may likely set a national precedent by letting Rogers build a 40-metre cell tower, starting at the very cemetery where Terry Fox rests?

For City Council, the past seems a foreign country, and for all Canadians this would be an offence to the memory of one of our greatest heroes, whose name recognition exceeds almost all others. He is known around the

world.

To add insult to injury, Rogers began the process in March, coinciding with the Paralympic Games, not long after the opening ceremonies in February, when Terry's mother, Betty Fox, was a flag bearer. Does no one in City Council remember that Betty Fox was also considered a leading candidate throughout British Columbia (and across Canada) for the lighting of the Olympic Cauldron?

In Canada, there are 32

roads and streets named after Terry, 14 schools, seven statues, nine fitness trails, even a mountain in the Canadian Rockies.

There is an annual Terry Fox Run in virtually every school and community across the nation - and even internationally. But he rests in only one cemetery. And, it could be the first cemetery in Canada to host a cell tower.

What kind of precedent does Port Coquitlam want to set for other cemeteries and forgotten heroes

across our nation? Does cash from Rogers come before heritage? Would this not represent a terrible stain on our national prestige? Just because others have "passed" does not mean you can throw away the past - or treat it with disrespect. Ask those in the "know" why we have cemeteries.

If you want to help keep Terry's memory, and that of many, many others, from being sullied (now, and in the future), please state your opposi-

tion to the mayor, Greg Moore, and council at: mayorcouncillors@port-coquitlam.ca - and to Rogers PR person: sara.holland@rci.rogers.com

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Joerge Dyrkton,
D.Phil.
Anmore, BC

Canvasser says 'thanks'

To the editor

A big thank you to all residents of Peel Street.

For several years, I have been canvassing this street for the Cancer Drive.

Starting out is always a bit scary, but you made it all worthwhile. Some families had the money already set aside, or they

even dropped it off at our home. A special little girl donated money from her own wallet. That is pretty special!

We all know of someone who has or is affected by cancer, and once again, we hope a cure may be found.

Thank you very much,
Your Canvasser.

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