

Resorts here cost more to build than U.S.: study

A recently completed study by four Georgian College Tourism Management students indicates that building a resort lodge in the Muskoka's in 1984 costs 20 percent more than building a similar facility in the Catskills resort area of New York State.

Project Manager Barbara Sullivan of Rexton, New Brunswick, and Research Assistants Bob Hie of Gravenhurst, Bill Duffin of Collingwood, and Ingrid Peitsch of Huntsville, spent their summer co-op work term conducting extensive research for the project under the direction of Paul Burton, teaching

master, planning and development.

Purpose of the study was to prepare a comprehensive analysis of the capital cost for developing a resort property in Muskoka compared to developing similar property in the Catskills, a popular U.S. tourist destination.

In conducting their research, the team visited 28 resort lodges in Muskoka, and eight destination resorts in New York State. They determined the factors affecting development and related costs including land, hydro and sewer connection, construction materials and labour.

The price of land was discovered to be a

significant factor. One hundred acres of land (an average purchase) in Muskoka costs 44 percent more than the same acreage in the

Catskills!

The study had the full support of Tourism Canada, and funding was provided through Employment and

Immigration Canada's "Summer Canada Works" Program.

"We hope this study will prove to be a useful

resource document for Tourism Canada and the resort industry in their ongoing assessment of the resort climate in Canada."

said Burton.

The final report will be released at the end of this month, and will be officially presented to Tourism Canada.

Agreement with Crown

Ontario Trappers' Association will have increasing responsibility and control over provincial fur resources management under a new co-operative agreement signed with his ministry, Natural Resources Minister Alan Pope announced today.

The OTA's role will continue to expand into the following areas: The determination of quotas; setting seasons;

trapper and public education; training and research; sharing biological information; distributing registered traplines; and, the establishment and administration of a private lands fur management program.

"Although the government must assume ultimate responsibility, it is willing to increasingly share many fur management respon-

sibilities with the Ontario Trappers' Association in the future," Pope said.

"This is part of a general ministry thrust to significantly increase public involvement in natural resource management decision-making."

Pope said, the OTA has already shown itself to be a capable manager of several provincial fur programs. The OTA has been heavily involved in

trapper education programs and in the development and implementation of the new private lands fur management program.

In the past several years, the ministry has also entered into co-operative resource management projects with angling groups, corporations, schools and municipalities.

Farm Labour Pool office opens

A seasonal office of the York-Simcoe-Peel Canada Farm Labour Pool to serve North Simcoe has been opened in Collingwood.

The purpose of the office is to help apple growers and other farmers. The office will be open until Nov. 2.

For more information, telephone Mary Harvey (455-9459).

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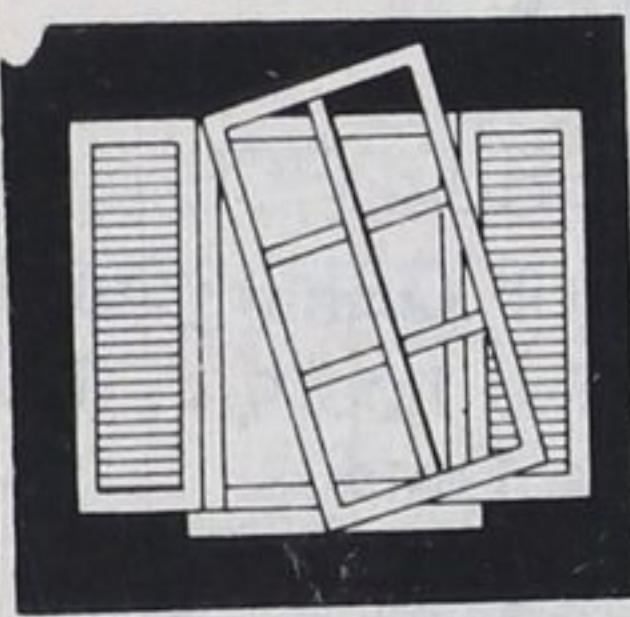
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