

Committee pushing ahead with tourism development

by Rob Cotton
The News

This the first of a two-part article looking at tourism development in Terrace Bay

Terrace Bay Council has hired the consulting firm Moore/George Associates Inc. to conduct the Aguasabon Beach and George Study Phase II on the recommendation of the Tourism Committee.

The hiring of the consulting firm is conditional upon confirmation of funding from the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines.

The cost of the study is \$60,000 and Moore/George Associates Inc. has been authorized to proceed to a maximum of \$15,000 until grant approval is received.

Mike Moore, chairman of

the Tourism Committee, said the engineering and structural study will create detailed working plans for what has been proposed for both gorge beach areas.

"We'll be looking at boat launch facilities, additional boat slips, improvements to the beach, outdoor washroom facilities, improved parking facilities and a picnic area," he explained.

Work at the gorge will include observation decks and generally making the area safer for people to go there and enjoy it, he said.

There will be two public meetings over the course of the summer to allow for public input into the proposals.

"We should be able to tender for actual construction by the beginning of August," Moore

said.

Future changes to Highway 17, between Schreiber and the west end of Jackfish Lake, proposed by the Ontario Ministry of Transport prompted Council to suggest a highway corridor study to provide community input into the proposed highway improvements.

It is anticipated at this time the consulting firm doing the beach and gorge work, Moore/George Associates Inc., will do the corridor study as well, Moore said.

"It will allow them to use this summer's public meetings to collect public input for both the beach and gorge study and the corridor study," he said.

Some ideas that might be looked at are a cycling path between Schreiber and Terrace Bay, some architectural landscaping at the entrances to town that would tie in with the townships beautification program and a third lane on the section of the highway through Terrace Bay to allow for turning.

A third lane would ease some of the traffic congestion, Moore said, particularly now with the Tourist Information Centre.



New Tourism Information Centre can also act as a focal point for community events such as the recent Earth Day.

"We'll be asking the consultant to give us an idea of the types of improvements we should be looking at both physical, in terms of the highway itself, and architecturally, in terms of aesthetics," he said.

The Tourism Committee is also putting together an information brochure highlighting the areas and activities of interest to tourists.

Moore said the beach and the gorge areas will be included as well as the golf course, hiking trails, fishing and other outdoor recreational pursuits.

The brochure, once created, will be continuously updated and improved.

The Tourism Committee, formed by council about a month and half ago, was a recommendation of the Tourism Strategy developed two years ago by council.

It is made up of nine citizens

appointed from the community and five advisory people including representatives from the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, Ministry of Tourism, and the Municipality of Terrace Bay.

"We've got an active committee," Moore said, "and we've taken our direction from the Tourism Strategy."

He pointed out that the public has shown a real interest in tourism and in working on sub-committees. He invited anyone with an interest to come forward.

"The committee will make every effort to fit them in."

Next week the article will discuss future tourism opportunities for the Aguasabon River system between Longlac and Terrace Bay and the advantages of having the road between Longlac and Terrace Bay upgraded to a secondary highway status.

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Stream rehabilitation project

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Park, is also a result of the interest sparked in students and teacher Dave Tamblyn by National Wildlife Week presentations made by Conservation Officers for the Canadian Wildlife Federation's Habitat 2000 program.

The CWF launched Habitat 2000 two years ago during National Wildlife Week's 25 anniversary.

Under teachers' supervision and the help of other agencies the program helps young Canadians complete wildlife habitat improvement projects.

Younger students, kindergarten to Grade 3, from Schreiber Public were also involved with wildlife habitat projects.

They went to Rainbow Falls Provincial Park, Wednesday, April 24, to assemble bird feeders and birdhouses, take nature walks, study wildlife paths and take a look at the trees students planted last year.

They also looked at the brushpile hideouts constructed last year.

Many of these brushpiles were made in sandy areas and the young students were able to clearly see, and attempt to identify, the tracks of small animals that used them for shelter.

The children took the birdfeeders and birdhouse they had constructed home with them.

The carpenter at the MNR pre-fabricated 35 birdhouse, designed for tree swallows, using wood donated by Northern Wood Preservers of Thunder Bay.

The Canadian Wildlife Federation is an important organization that is still growing, Kennedy said.

"We are lucky, in Terrace Bay, to have the founding president of the Canadian Wildlife Federation, Stan Hodgkiss," he continued,

"He put a lot of blood, sweat and tears into it and is well respected at the MNR as a very knowledgeable individual."

SUPERIOR NORTH BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE INC.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY MAY 29, 1991

Conference room, Terrace Bay Recreation Centre.

7:00 P.M.

AGENDA WILL INCLUDE:

President's Annual Report

Financial Report

Appointment of Auditor for the Coming Year

Appointment of New Directors

This meeting is open to all residents of the area between the Steel River on the east, the Dublin River on the west and 30 miles north and south of Highway 17. Refreshments available.