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SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF TERRACE BAY - SCHREIBER - ROSSPORT AND JACKFISH LAKE

Possible solution for Terrace Bay deadlock

by Darren MacDonald
The News

A new design for the \$340,000 Gorge Development in Terrace Bay may end an impasse in Terrace Bay Town Council.

In session Sept. 23, two Councillors voted for one proposal, two voted for another, and the fifth, Councillor Chris Joubert, was excluded from the debate after declaring a conflict of interest.

Council has been unable to agree whether or not the gorge development, which is located next to Joubert's Aguasabon Trailer Park, should be accessible to the disabled.

But a new proposal by Moore/George Associates, the consulting firm designing the development, may be able to bridge the gap between the councillors.

A decision must be made soon if work is to begin this year, as concrete for the development must be poured before the snow comes.

During the Sept. 23 session, councillors were presented with two development options.

The first, in which the Gorge development would not be accessible to disabled persons, would cost \$183,000.

Two observation decks and a parking lot would be built, and money would be available to build washrooms, erect road signs to attract tourists, and possibly to build a footbridge.

The second option presented to Council would be accessible to the disabled. For \$380,000, a parking lot and one smaller observation deck with a wheelchair ramp would be built.

However, no money would be left over for road signs or washrooms, and an additional \$40,000 would have to be raised.

The Ministry of Mines and Northern Development is providing 75 per cent of the funding, or \$255,000. The remaining \$85,000 has been set aside for the project by the town.



Councillors must decide if more people will get to see less gorge, or if less people will get to see more.

Councillor Mike King argued in favour of going ahead with the first option.

"I would like to make it handicapped accessible because it would be nice," King said.

"But it's not really part of the rugged image we're trying

to portray in Terrace Bay."

King said it would be senseless to develop the gorge, and then have no money left to attract tourists.

"I think it might be difficult to go back to the people and say 'we're spending twice as much and only doing half the job'" he said.

But Reeve Jim Ziegler said he could not support a development that was not accessible to the disabled.

"I won't go along with eliminating handicapped accessibility," Ziegler said.

"I think council is making one big mistake."

Ziegler tried to get all the councillors to support the idea of going to Transportation Minister Gilles Pouliot for the extra \$40,000.

If he couldn't get the extra money, Ziegler said would agree to eliminating disabled accessibility. He was supported by Councillor Bill Houston.

"I'd rather go to the ministry and ask for money for the

whole thing," Houston said. "I see money being wasted if we go the short way."

But King refused to go along with the idea.

"We're going to have a \$380,000 gorge development and we're not going to have any signs to stop people," he said.

King was backed up by Councillor John St. Amand, who argued that the gorge could be made accessible to the disabled when there was money available.

Eventually, it was agreed to let Ziegler go to Gilles Pouliot and see how much money, if any, was available.

But on Wednesday, Moore/George Associates came up with a new design. It would cost less than \$340,000 and would be accessible to the disabled.

Although the observation deck would be much smaller, money would be left over to

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Cocaine bust in Schreiber

by Darren MacDonald
The News

Eight grams of cocaine and 24 cartons of American cigarettes were seized on Sept. 24 as a result of a joint investigation by the Schreiber O.P.P. and the Marathon R.C.M.P.

The R.C.M.P. have charged John and Deborah Lynn Vanderwerf of Talbotville, Ont., with possession of a narcotic for the purpose of trafficking, and with possession of a narcotic.

Sgt. Templar of the Schreiber O.P.P. said his detachment received an anonymous tip on Monday about a

car carrying American cigarettes.

"Our original information was about cigarettes," Templar said. "That's why we contacted

"The tip we got named names..."

Sgt. Templar of the Schreiber O.P.P., on the tip that led to the seizure of 8 grams of cocaine.

the R.C.M.P., because it was a customs thing."

Police stopped the vehicle at 2 p.m. Tuesday, as it travelled east on Highway 17.

"The tip we got named names of people who were allegedly selling cigarettes in the area," Templar said, adding the O.P.P. received the tip around 11 a.m. Tuesday.

After a search of the car, R.C.M.P. laid drug-related charges.

The couple were arraigned in Schreiber Wednesday morning. The woman was released after promising to appear in court, and the man was released on \$1,500 cash bail.

More charges may still be laid under the Custom and Excise Act, with regard to the American cigarettes.

Remember Summer?



This should have run some time ago, but it somehow got lost in the shuffle. The Stray Cats (above) took home tops honours in the 9th annual Schreiber Slo-pitch Tournament Aug. 19-25. Sorry it took so long.





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