

www.tonyolearymusic.ca

email: tonyoleary1@yahoo.ca
P.O Box # 224
Western Bay
Conception Bay, N.L
A0A 4J0

May 31/2010

Ms Charlene Johnson
Minister of Environment and Conservation
P.O Box 8709
St John's N.L
AIB 4J6

Dear Ms Johnson:

I must give the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador Kudos for the brilliant tourism advert of L'Anse aux Meadows, Gros Morne and Labrador area. It was tastefully done with great emphasis on the character of the land and its rugged natural beauty. If every eco system were maintained at this standard I doubt I would be here typing these bloody letters. However here it goes! The issue here is due diligence at the community, individual and government level. Due diligence is about the environmental health and safety of our remote wilderness areas, our communities and the long term health of all involved. It is not about legislating morality as some would like us to believe. When it comes to the long term water safety of places like Clifty pond we have to practice due diligence for future generations or they will have nothing. The in-discriminative dumping, car wreck problems that plagued our rural communities to date are a perfect example of people turning a deaf ear and blind eye to safety. We are responsible for our own and everyone else's safety, like it or not! Doesn't matter if you are in the woods or at work, there is no excuse for negligence. That's the best way to describe the Clifty pond

area and the local communities issue. Given the lack of due diligence at the community level I am surprised government would allow one remote cabin in Cliffty pond. Let alone risk more remote wilderness areas to wreck less people. Where is the due diligence here?

If it takes years to clean up our communities how can we put places like Cliffty pond at risk again, knowing environment health and safety have been compromised many times in the past. You stated in your May 2008 letter a six cottage restriction on Cliffty pond, knowing we haven't taken care of the mess in our communities. That's a disaster waiting to happen. If people were more aware of due diligence and their responsibilities, many of the man made disasters to date would possibly be prevented. The writing is on the wall Ms Johnson lets treat our great natural heritage as a safety first issue before places like Cliffty pond become a disaster zone. I have seen enough man made disasters! Haven't you? Can we keep places like Cliffty pond free of this development and 21st century garbage. Can we advertise Cliffty pond like Gros Morne? Please!

Yours in Conservation Tony O'Leary

CC: Premier Danny Williams
Mr. Shane Mahoney
The Compass
The Evening Telegram
The Newfoundland Sportsman