

41 Bellwood Avenue,  
Ottawa, ON K1S 1S6,  
May 13th, 2019.

The Queen's Privy Council for ~~Ottawa~~, Canada  
Privy Council Office,  
85 Sparks Street,  
Room 1000,  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A3.

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

The Privy Council approved an Order-in-Council on December 15th, 2017, PC Number: 2017-1684, to transfer Public Purpose Crown Lands on Chaudière and Albert Islands in the Ottawa River for the private Zibi condominium & commercial development. This was done without legislative authority and is contrary to existing legislation. I will be grateful if you could please rescind it as being unconstitutional and in breach of Public Trust.

I made an Access to Information Act request to your institution for copies of the authorizing Acts of Parliament, Your File A-2018-00505. I have enclosed a copy, with the reply from David Neilson, Director, Access to Information and Privacy, dated March 29th, 2019. He confirms that you do not have the necessary legislation.

Mr. Neilson refers me to the National Capital Act, which created the National Capital Commission in 1958 to administer Federal lands and interests in the Capital Region on behalf of Parliament. I have read the original Act and the current version. They do not give the NCC independent authority to ignore or override Parliamentary legislation. The Commission is not above the law. Nobody is.

As a note, Jacques Gréber's Plan for the National Capital was published in 1950 as the Federal Government's Master Plan for the long-term growth and development of our Capital. The NCC was established to implement his recommendations, which have shaped the region the way we know it today. Gréber specifies that "The most effective improvement will be the central park at the Chaudière Falls" (his emphasis) once the "heavy and obnoxious industries" are gone. He explains that it:

is properly a restitution scheme, the merits of which can be judged from a great many old prints, which show how impressive was the original setting of the Chaudière Falls, the Ottawa River banks and the whole of Parliament Hill. Such proposal aims to give a more dignified environment the representative buildings of the nation, and is more particularly a matter of national pride.....

The restoration of the Chaudière Islands to their primitive beauty and wildness, is perhaps the theme of greatest importance, from the aesthetic point of view --- the theme that will appeal, not only to local citizens, but to all Canadians who take pride



in their country and its institutions.

I have enclosed copies of his full description.

In 1988, the NCC and the Treasury Board of Canada designated the Chaudière Islands as National Interest Land Mass (NILM). I had to file an ATIP request in order to obtain documentation. It is quite clear: NILM lands "have high symbolic value for Canadians." They are "essential to the achievement of the NCC mandate to have the Capital communicate Canada to Canadians, serve as a meeting place for Canadians, and to safeguard and preserve the Capital for future generations." They are "to be retained by the NCC on behalf of the government in perpetuity." It is acknowledged that some NILM lands are in private hands, but "the long-term intent of the NCC is to acquire these lands." The specific plan for the E.B. Eddy (Domtar) industrial site is that "it is to remain in existing ownership until it becomes available or a land-use change is suggested." This is a pre-approved imperative.


I don't believe that there is any Freehold or Fee Simple private ownership here. I have done the research. The legislation precludes this. The industrial lots were issued under limited Licenses of Occupancy and Leases. They are all Crown Land.

Reclaiming Chaudière and Albert Islands as parkland is in keeping with the Public Purposes designation and established long-term plans. This makes far more sense than handing them over to a private developer. A central park benefits everyone, and will be safer in the event of future Ottawa River flooding.

Please rescind the Order-in-Council.

Thank you. I am looking forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Lindsay Lambert". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

M. Lindsay Lambert.