



MEMPHRÉMAGOG CONSERVATION INC.

Magog, Monday January 11th, 2010

Member of the
Board 2009-
2010:

Governor Jim Douglas
Office Of the Governor
109, State Street, Pavilion
Montpelier, VT 05609-0101

Subject: Donation of the Dunn Lake Memphremagog Property

Gisèle Lacasse
Benoit
President

Mr. Governor Douglas,

Pat Trudel
Vice-President
et treasurer

The generosity of a Lake Memphremagog citizen presents a unique opportunity to the Government of Québec and to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to preserve forever an 880-acre property straddling the Canadian-American border on Lake Memphremagog.

Claude Bernier
Vice-President

Following the wishes of Mr. Michael Dunn who died in 2007, the Québec portion of the property, covering an area of 400 acres, had already been offered to the Federal Government of Canada who refused the donation. Still following Mr. Dunn's wishes, the property was next offered to the Québec Provincial Government. The Ministry of Natural Resources and of Fauna which is currently analyzing this offer, must render its decision by November, 2010; that is, in less than a year.

Madeleine Saint-
Pierre
Secretary

Johanne Lavoie
General Manager

Administrators:

The issue is sizeable for Lake Memphremagog, taking into account the ecological value of the property and the rarity of properties of this size that remain around the Lake. This land boasts both wooded and wetland sectors along with over 2 miles of lakeshore. In the context of an integrated management plan by watershed that takes into account an ecosystem approach that is advocated by Memphrémagog Conservation Inc. (MCI), it is essential to preserve the maximum of natural milieus in order to protect the ecosystem of Lake Memphremagog, along with the quality of its drinking water.

Robert Benoit
Ann Boswall
Jean-Claude Duff
Liz Goodwin
Peter Lepine
Susan Watson

A refusal by the Government of Québec and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to accept this donation, could lead to the sale of the property, given that the market value would be around 10 million dollars for the Quebec parcel alone. This amount would be transferred to the New York Museum of Modern Art, which has already received a post-mortem bequest of 10 million dollars from Mr. Dunn's estate. In addition to losing the property for purposes of conservation, it's likely that the land will fall victim to development, bringing new pressures on the ecosystem of the Lake.

Beyond its ecological value, the Dunn property could become the symbol



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of the trans-border conservation of an ecosystem, crossing over both territorial and administrative jurisdictions of Vermont and Québec.

People of the community and several American and Québec organizations have made their concerns known in regards to the possible refusal to accept the donation by the Government of Québec and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. MCI will do all in its power to see that the property is protected.

Our organization is even willing to act as a partner in the creation of a dedicated fund to assist in the future management of the property. Moreover, certain individuals have already manifested an interest in contributing to such a fund.

It is imperative that the Government of Québec and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service rapidly honor the goodwill of Mr. Dunn who, by his exceptional gesture, wanted to assure himself that his property would be protected in perpetuity for the enjoyment of the present generation and for generations to come.

MCI hopes that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the State of Vermont will support the protection of this property. Such action will no doubt have a persuasive effect on the Quebec government to accept the Dunn property on the northern side of the border.

Yours very truly,

Gisèle Lacasse Benoit
Présidente bénévole

c.c. State Senator Vincent Illuzzi
State Senator Robert Starr
Vt. Rep Robert W. Lewis
Vt. Rep. Scott Wheeler
Vt Rep. Duncan F. Kilmartin
Vt, Rep Michael J. Marcotte
Vt. Rep. John Morley
Mr. Jonathan Wood, ANR
Québec Minister Nathalie Normandeau MRNF
Mr. Donald Hendrich, MWA
Mr Gil Livingston, VLT