



10 August 2025

Dear Members of the Consultation Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed transfer of provincial parkland at Wasaga Beach to the Town of Wasaga Beach.

I am a property owner (59-61 49<sup>th</sup> Street North) including our family cottage and the adjacent woodlot (100 feet frontage total on 49th). My cottage and lot are located North of Moseley and South of Wasaga Beach Area 6 Provincial Park.

As a cottager for more than 60 years, I remember when a 2-lane road was a blight on the beachfront. We've since learned that ecological protection of Wasaga Beach parkland ensures its accessibility and value to the public experience, contributing joy and heritage value. It is a beautiful refuge for the-more-than-human world and provides rich experiences for a diverse mix of day-visitors, cottagers and increasingly year-around inhabitants. Wasaga Beach Provincial Park is enduringly popular and a huge asset for the public good; it must be protected and augmented for the public interest and legacy of all Ontarians.

Wasaga Beach Provincial Park is not only an iconic public space but also an ecologically significant habitat. It is home to species at risk, including the piping plover, and its dunes, wetlands, and shoreline ecosystems require the highest level of protection. Transferring parkland out of Ontario Parks' stewardship opens the door to development that would irreversibly harm wildlife, undermine conservation goals, and erode the principle that provincial parks exist for the benefit of all Ontarians.

This proposal sets a dangerous precedent. If sections of Wasaga Beach can be ceded for municipal development today, what prevents the erosion of protections for other provincial parks tomorrow? Such a course risks diminishing one of Ontario's greatest legacies: land held in trust for future generations. As an artist and art professor, I want to make note of its beauty and potential for creative expression.

I urge you to maintain Wasaga Beach Provincial Park fully within provincial stewardship and to strengthen protections for its natural and cultural heritage. Development interests can and should be met outside protected park boundaries.

Thank you for considering my submission to the consultation. I trust you will make the decision that best safeguards Ontario's biodiversity, heritage, and public interest.

Sincerely,

  
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SIGNATURE

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