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Brief Concerning The Technical Landfill Site in
Danford Lake, In The Municipality of Alleyn + Cawood

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Brief consists of 7 pages.

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Our names are Irma & Roy Leck and we live on Hwy 301, one km. from Danford & approximately 7km from the proposed landfill. Roy was born in Danford and has called it his hometown for 78 years. I moved here 46 years ago, and we have been involved in volunteering to make it a better place to live. I was secretary / treasurer for the Recreation Association for 20 yrs and the Jolly Club (a catering service) for 15 years. We have played sports, coached ball and hockey teams, cleaned, built & watered rinks, cut ball fields & worked for the Church, Bethany Hill & the cemetery. We consider Danford as our home town & the larger community & people as ours.

A township line divides us, but it was never visible — was never visible until the opportunity for a mega dump arose.

We attended meetings, read & researched as much as possible. The horrors of the Cantley dry dump and the inability of Environment officials to force its closure scared us. On checking Environment Canada's website which states that, "all liners inevitably leak" & when we

learned that this was not just serving & updating Sanford's trench dump - it was then that we fully grasped the magnitude of the landfill and it was then that we took our stand.

We visited Lafleche Landfill at Moose Creek. It was a cold wintry day - the seagulls were flying about, the smell of garbage was very evident. Someone asked the general manager what those little detectors on the building were? "Oh, they are to detect if any toxic, etc. materials are brought in". Do they ever go off? The reply from the gen. manager was, "Oh, yes, they were going off all the time, so we just turned them off. With these results, how could we ever trust entrepreneurs to put safety ahead of dollars.

Trucking garbage for over 100 Kms., to dump it in these beautiful, pristine hills - surely this is not environmentally proper. Furthermore to pipe the leachate into the Picanoc River is not safe. Technology breaks down, as we are all aware, resulting in the pollution of the Picanoc River & then into the Stineau River. Also, with just the slightest leak or puncture we could have toxic waste getting into our water-table. Once destroyed, these little streams, creeks & springs, that locals drank from when in the

forests - they cannot be restored. Our watershed is so fragile.

I also visited "The Region of Peel's High Heat Incinerator in Brampton, Ont, near Toronto. Supplying electricity to 4,500 homes through Algonquin Power certainly surpasses burying tons of garbage. What impressed me most was the fact that they treated the garbage at the source.

We live 150' or app. 50 meters off Hwy 301. Highway 301 expects at a minimum 122 trucks per day. Our family have sacrificed to live in this peaceful spot. The teenagers had to spend almost 4 hrs per day on a school bus to attend high school in Hull. My husband had to board in Ottawa 3 nights a week. Now, for the sake of a few jobs we are expected to be fully receptive to hundreds of trucks, noise, pollution, diesel fumes etc. passing our doorstep. We know that diesel trucks are left running for hours, this will happen in the lineup at the gate to the dump. Is this helping or destroying our clean air quality?

Furthermore, Hwy. 105 is much too dangerous, with jutting rock cuts, narrow roads beside the river, sharp curves, with heavy traffic. Many school buses travel Hwy 105 + 301. To put more garbage trucks on these highways is only asking for an accident. We value the lives of all travellers, therefore we

abhor the idea of extra traffic on these highways.

Yes, it has been said that logging trucks are on the roads anyway, so what is the difference with a few more trucks? The difference is logging was and is our heritage. During the winters many of our ancestors did not have an income from their summer jobs or their farm, so along with many other loggers, they headed to the bush to supplement their income, & raise their families.

Contemplating bringing in over 120 extra trucks a day will surely ruin our quiet way of life. Garbage by the tons is not our heritage - logging was & is.

Roy →

Seven years ago I became one of the founding members of the Mont O'Brien Association. In fact, my membership card is #1. When I go to my driveway & look west on Hwy 301, I can see O'Brien Mountain. My dream is to see this mountain, lake & forest preserved for everyone to enjoy in years to come.

The Mont O'Brien area is not just up in the bush in the middle of nowhere - it is our backyard. I have travelled on foot every part of it & I know it like the back of my hand. Building a mega dump so close to it, does not compliment its natural beauty. This quiet place with its old trees, rare plants, birds, butterflies & spectacular view is a jewel in our midst.

In years past when we organized a carnival or banquet or Logger's Day, I would ask for donations of food, etc. and I was never refused. Everyone was so willing to work together for the children and for a better community. We played sports, volunteered, worked, and cried together, now we are a fractured community, not playing together, not working together, volunteering is difficult & we are crying inside & some outwardly - all this is the result of this mega dump.

As the mayor and promoter said, "we will not go ahead with the dump if the community is not in favor". Still, we are hurting and dysfunctional - we are the little guys fighting big money. Surely this isn't honorable or democratic. At council meetings it was continually stated that all groups & organizations were functioning very well. Well I beg to differ.

I attend all four days at the 15th session of the BAFE and I listened as Louis-Marie Pouissant representing Sante stated, "Social Health is defined as having control of your environment". I can honestly say that our social health is not up to par, because till now, we were not allowed to discuss our environment, it was taken out of our hands.

During the past 2 years I have attended many social events along Hwy 301 & 105, and many times people

have asked me about the dump & they have emphatically stated their disapproval. This hurts as they know that Danford is my community.

There are hundreds of cottagers close to the village & hundreds of cottagers within Allam & Sawood. They are taxpayers & for years these cottagers have provided jobs for the women & men around the village. Also, many jobs are provided by the cottagers in Hazabagua Municipality. Tourism was always an asset and it still is today. It is truly sad that these cottagers are now being described as outsiders. They have bought tickets and attended Thanksgiving suppers at Bethany Hall. Surely we are all part of a bigger community.

As a solution to our garbage lets recycle, reuse and install a Plasma Gasification Plant close to the largest source of garbage. Thus, one truck of garbage out of Danford, per week, would cut down on gas emissions.

I have never done anything in the past, that I felt was harmful to Danford, so why would I not want what I feel is best - these are my people, my friends.

My final reason for being against this Mega Landfill is that our grandparents & great grandparents left the rivers, creeks and water

clean & pure for us. Let's keep it clean, pure and
unpolluted for our children, grandchildren & great-grandchildren.
I would like to be remembered like Jack Graham,
recently deceased, who as the mayor of Bristol,
fought for a decade - 10 years & is admired today
for keeping 100's of 1000's of tons of garbage
out of the Bristol mine. I'd like my grandchildren
and great grandchildren to be able to say, "Granny
and Poppa fought to protect the Picinoc & Letician
Rivers & our water table for us."
Thank you.