

May 12, 2016

To Members of Council,

citycouncillors@london.ca

RE: The Springbank Dam

I have lost so much respect for the Rowers Club and Downtown London that I now think twice about shopping and eating in the downtown area. They have pushed their agenda ahead of clean water and a healthy river and Council has supported them. I can't respect that.

Nor can I respect a council that has failed to do due diligence and continues to support an combined Environmental Assessment (EA) that deliberately limits the impacts of a dam ONLY to those areas above the dam and not below the dam.

Obviously, it will be challenged because the EA is not genuine. It is not designed to measure the environmental impacts but rather how it blends with the One River Project and for this reason it bias and not transparent.


It has been two generations since Londoners have had a chance to experience a dam-free river and now that people have had the opportunity to see how much better the river is without a barrier there is simply no going back. You can't put the toothpaste back in the tube.

And if you believe that somehow Downtown London and the Rowers Club will convince people that their rowing events will be so exciting that we will once again tolerate polluting stinking waters with dead fish – you're wrong.

It can't be more insulting to hear spokespeople for the Rowers Club state that this issue is about 'humans too' and 'family values'. Well, the vast majority of Londoners don't want a Springbank Dam. They, unlike council, have done their homework and due diligence and understand the issue even if council does not. And they are 'human' too and also have families.

You can't govern by stealth. The decision to combine a superfluous EA costing taxpayers almost a million dollars is a decision derived through arrogance rather than goodness.

Sincerely,


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