From: John R. Kennedy

Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2013 8:03 PM

To: Mercier, Betty

Subject: IEPC - Boler Mountain delegation request

Betty Mercier:

I am the current President of Boler Mountain and write on its behalf to request delegation status at the next IEPC meeting in March.

The purpose of the request is to update the Committee on Boler's current plans and activities, both with respect to its own development and also with respect to future recreation arrangements with the City. This is <u>not</u> a request for funding.

Boler Mountain is a 123 acre site located in the south west corner of the City. There is currently significant residential development occurring to the west of the Boler site. The organization is a not for profit corporation and has been in business since 1946 as a ski centre. Boler annually employs over two hundred and eighty persons on a seasonal basis, and, despite the winter weather fluctuations, has always been a strong and self sustaining social enterprise. Boler has invested over nine million dollars into its development over the last ten years and attracts over one hundred thousand skier visits annually.

We have recently completed a fifteen year strategic master plan for Boler's further development as a community and regional recreational facility. This plan looks at growth of the current winter snow centre, as well as summer fitness and recreational developments. The first stage of this summer expansion is already underway, with the opening of the Boler Treetop Adventure Park slated for May 2013. The winter time development involves, among other things, new ski hills and lifts, enlarged tubing facilities and a two stage expansion of the chalet into a multi functional community facility.

Boler has operated a mountain bike park for the last decade, hosting recreational riding and youth camps as well as local, Ontario and Canada Cup races. Boler is currently working with the City Parks Planning Department to provide easements over Boler lands to enable a continuance of the Thames Valley Pathway and the active outdoor recreation it provides. We in turn are looking for access to City owned lands to our east, to expand our biking and fitness trails.

We envision Boler Mountain becoming a significant regional tourism draw both summer and winter, with expanded recreational facilities as well as further employment opportunities for Londoners. Our request to the Committee is to acknowledge our plans and endorse our continued cooperative approach with the City Parks Planning Department.

Regards

John Kennedy

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