February 2009

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TO ALL TEMAGAMI TAXPAYERS

During the past couple of years there has been a planned effort to disparage and discredit our Company, Temagami Barge, my partner Biff Lowery and myself. This effort, led by Carol Reeder (Boatline Bay Marine), Cathy Dwyer-Smith (Kirk Smith Construction), Barry Graham (Municipal Councilor & Real Estate Agent), George Leger (Contractor) and others, is unprecedented and has gone unchallenged.

What puzzles me is why are these people actively seeking to bring harm to us?

I have remained quiet, hoping our competitors and their friends would grow tired or feel embarrassed about the unprofessional personal attacks they are vigorously promoting. So much has been insinuated, recently escalating, including many unsavory efforts to discredit Biff as a Councilor, and, our tenancy at the Temagami Barge Landing.

The callous approach of our detractors, with no regard to the emotional impact of their actions on our families, requires a response.

To our customers and friends who have remained loyal and to our customers who have returned and to our new customers we thank you for your support and encouragement.

In the book “Dispensation of Death” the author suggests a way to persuade people to turn against someone or something:

“By the judicious use of near-truths, untruths and wholesome lies. Men are always prepared to believe lies, so long as they reinforce their own prejudices . . . All you need do is lie in the way they wish to hear.” (Michael Jecks, 2007)

Sincerely,

Ray Delarosbel

TEMAGAMI BARGE CHARGED
20 MONTHS AFTER 3 TO 5 LITRE DIESEL FUEL SPILL ON NOVEMBER 30, 2006

Spilling fuel, no matter what the quantity, is a very disturbing experience. On November 30, 2006 we had a spill which resulted in approximately 3 to 5 litres (1 gallon) spilling into the water at the Temagami Barge Landing. Bear Island Band Office phoned Temagami Barge to notify us they had reported the spill to MOE. We continued using our excavator to build a berm to contain the fuel on land. The next day the contaminated soil was removed by a waste hauler and placed in a municipal approved area – then the hauler returned with a load of clean fill to replace the contaminated soil.

FACT: “...3 TO 5 Litres (1 gallon Ed.) had entered the water. I indicated that this amount appeared to be a reasonable estimation based on my earlier observations.” (Afew hours after the spill. Ed.)

Brent Trach, MOE Environmental Officer, June 29, 2007

FACT: “Thus while the discharge (3 to 5 litres Ed.) had the potential to impair water quality in several waters, only aesthetic pollution was reported.”

Pakwing Mak, MOE, Enforcement/Technical Specialist, May 29, 2008

FACT: “On April 18, 2007, at 1245 hrs, I arrived at Boatline Bay Marine and walked the shoreline. No fuel sheen was observed.”

Brent Trach, MOE Environmental Officer, June 29, 2007

FACT: “On April 30, 2007, I arrived at Boatline Bay and met with Mr. and Mrs. Reeder and updated them on the status. I indicated to them that I did not anticipate any continued adverse effect but asked that they call if they identified any concerns. I walked the marina and did not see any continued...
Fuel Spill continued...
signs of diesel fuel. At 1330 hrs, I inspected the Temagami Barge spill site. No sign of diesel fuel was observed in the water or on land.”

Brent Trach, MOE Environmental Officer, June 29, 2007

FACT: “We have ourselves (Boatline Bay Marine) a spill kit which we could have helped them out with if they asked.”

Ken Reeder, Owner, Boatline Bay Marine, May 17, 2007

(With a strong north-east wind blowing into the Bay how could one gallon of fuel flow out of the Bay into the Hub of the Lake? Ed.)

FICTION: “Last year Temagami Barge had a diesel spill which polluted a large section of the Hub of Lake Temagami.”

Temagami Fish – Friends of Temagami web site, Jan. 25, 2008

(GAS SPILL RESIDUE OBSERVED AT BOATLINE BAY MARINE

The above mentioned gas spill residue is reported to have extended outwards several hundred feet. If you were at Boatline Bay Marine on Sunday August 17, 2007 and observed the strong odour of gas and/or gas sheen on the water you should contact: Ministry of the Environment 1-800-268-6060.

NOTE: Callers’ identity is confidential when they report spills to MOE and therefore you do not have to worry about retribution.

TEMPAGAMI BARGE ACCUSED OF RE-ZONING ATTEMPT

FICTION: “Did you know . . . ? What is even more of a blatant misuse of their questionable occupied land is the recent attempt to obtain re-zoning of Milne’s Landing to an industrial zone within the skyline reserve! This was an absurd notion and yet our final straw so to speak.”

Carol Reeder’s address to Temagami Lake Association AGM – July 2007 and to Municipality of Temagami Municipal Council – August 23, 2007

(With a strong north-east wind . . . pushed a noticeably sizeable slick, an estimated 1,000’ X 400’ into Boatline Bay.”

Carol Reeder’s address to Temagami Lake Association AGM – July 2007

And to Municipality of Temagami Municipal Council – August 23, 2007

(With a strong north-east wind . . . pushed a noticeably sizeable slick, an estimated 1,000’ X 400’ into Boatline Bay.”

Carol Reeder’s address to Temagami Lake Association AGM – July 2007

(FACT: Temagami Barge Site was zoned industrial in 1981, By-law 81-22 Twp of Temagami. We objected to the removal of the industrial zoning designation held for 25 years.

Background:
Over the past couple of years Barry Graham has insinuated often, that as member of the Planning Advisory Committee, Ray Delarosbel and Biff Lowery have done something improper, unethical, perhaps illegal etc. etc. etc. while attending planning meetings and/or public meetings. George Leger, his collaborator, has gone so far as to mention the word “fraud”.

Challenge:
I challenge Barry Graham and George Leger to prove their allegations by providing the public with clear details regarding anything Biff or I have done as members of the Planning Advisory Committee that was:

• Illegal
• Unethical
• Not permitted
• Not asked for or required of us
• Not our right
• In conflict of interest

BOATLINE BAY MARINE CO INDUSTRIAL SITE

“Regarding Milne’s Landing, we would like to express our concern and dissatisfaction with the manner in which the MNR allocated a land use permit to Mr. Biff Lowery/Temagami Barge . . .

Nevertheless, our position at present is as follows . . . We wish to lease (or other suitable
AHAM (MUNICIPAL E LEGER (CONTRACTOR))

- An attempt to influence a decision of the Planning Advisory Committee or Council as members of the Planning Advisory Committee or Council with regards to Temagami Barge or our personal property.

Now the above gives Barry and George as wide a field as possible to find anything improper. I only ask that they not place actions out of context and use real and supportable facts. State clearly the offence and be specific as to how, when, where and why.

It is my opinion that Biff and I, and our families, have lived with the innuendo and smoke and mirrors promulgated by Barry Graham and George Leger long enough. It is time for them to clearly let the public know exactly what we did that was unethical or act honourably and take the steps necessary to rescind their allegations publicly.

VETS TEMAGAMI BARGE

arrangement), Milne’s Landing. Given that we own adjacent land and lease adjacent water, we at Boatline Bay Marine should be given first option on any considered long term use of this land.”

Boatline Bay Marine letter to Ministry of Natural Resources – April 22, 1991

TEMAGAMI BARGE ACCUSED OF NOT PAYING TAXES AT 1658 LAKE TEMAGAMI ACCESS ROAD (TEMAGAMI BARGE INDUSTRIAL SITE/COTTAGE DEPOT)

FICTION: “Really think about this, how can other smaller contractors compete with another that doesn’t have the responsibility and overhead of commercial property tax?”

Carol Reeder’s address to Temagami Lake Association AGM – July 2007 and to Municipality of Temagami Municipal Council – August 23, 2007

FACT: Contractors including Kirk Smith Construction (owners Kathy Dwyer-Smith and Kirk Smith), and Berube Repairs who receive/store materials, park equipment, store barges at the public Mine Access Landing (sometimes for long periods of time) plus contractors who transport bulk gas from the landing, park equipment at the landing etc., certainly can compete since they do not pay commercial taxes, or rent for their use of the public landing.

FACT: MNR, in 1988, ordered Temagami Barge not to store material and equipment at the public Mine Access Road landing and said we should find another place to run our business from. The only place available, and where we were welcomed, was at the old Milne’s Industrial Site, (zoned M1 industrial) where we moved our business and built a Propane Dispensary Plant.

FACT: Temagami Barge pays taxes, insurance, repairs and renewals and other property related costs. We also have a commercial tax roll number and 911 address.

FACT: Boatline Bay Marine has cleared hundreds of feet of shoreline within the skyline reserve, made no attempt to screen its large operational activities with the effect that “mainland, treasured on Lake Temagami” is replaced by a view

• during the day, of a 200 car parking lot, multi-storey open boat storage shed and a huge residence

• during the night, light pollution (blinding floodlights)

FACT: Boatline Bay Marine’s removal of vegetative buffers not only removes any natural vegetative screening but also speeds up the movements of contaminants into the Lake. E.g. oil, gas, grease from the cleared, nearly 200 vehicles, parking area draining directly into Lake Temagami (mainly after a rain storm). Boatline Bay Marine had a good buffer shielding its parking lot from the Access Road but that also has almost disappeared.

FACT: Areas at the public access mine landing have been cleared of trees, by contractors, to store their material and machinery which affects the skyline reserve.

FACT: Temagami Barge has carried out numerous steps from colour selection, landscaping, docking improvement and limited lighting to make our site as unobtrusive and clean as possible.
ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGE
A challenge to those who seek to disparage our reputations and the record of Temagami Barge

We believe Temagami Barge has done more tangible work to improve the environmental quality of Lake Temagami, on a voluntary basis, than the sum total of the following:

- Ministry of Natural Resources
- Ministry of the Environment
- Municipality of Temagami
- Boatline Bay Marine – Carol and Ken Reeder
- Kirk Smith Construction – Cathy Dwyer Smith and Kirk Smith
- Berube Repairs
- George Leger
- Many other contractors

Just as Temagami Barge does, all of the above, and more, receive huge benefits from Lake Temagami. Lake Temagami provides for them – resources – recreation – clients – economy – water quality and aesthetics.

FACTS: For years Lake Temagami had a Province-wide reputation for dirty campsites. With exposed fecal matter and subsequent odour, the campsites posed a health, water quality and aesthetic problem.

- Temagami Barge has over the past several years installed box privies on approximately 75 Lake Temagami campsites.
- During the first summer Art Avard, Steve Battis and Dave Taylor helped build a number of the privies on our dock on Ogama Island.
- A larger enthusiastic group turned out the next year to help us build the rest of the privies at the Temagami Barge landing where the privies were stored until they could be put in place.
- Over the first years, of the seven year program, the TLA paid a percentage towards the cost of running the barge and loader but for most of the time period, Biff and I volunteered the time, manpower, equipment and materials it took to carry out the project at no cost to the Community.
- Biff and I spent many hours driving down the five arms of the Lake finding and assessing the 75 campsites that needed the privies the most.
- Our next step was to take the barge, loaded with privies and our loader and slowly move around the Lake cleaning up the campsites and digging deep holes, placing the privies over top of the holes and finally installing small discreet signs directing the users to the privies.

We stopped putting the effort into the Project in a major way when the MNR asked us not to use our low impact loader but to hand-dig the four foot privy holes. The program continues by others, mostly on neighbouring lakes, when money is available. Biff continues to volunteer his time and boats to ferry summer students, their gear and the privies to the areas of the Lake they are working in.

Temagami Barge receives huge benefits from a wonderful environment on Lake Temagami as do all the government agencies, contractors, and many more. To paraphrase (JFK), we should ask ourselves and our contractors not what Lake Temagami can do for us, but what we can do for Lake Temagami.

Background
By 1975 the need for a barge service capable of installing approved sewage systems and hauling and disposing of sewage waste had been identified.

"With regard to establishing a barge system and dump site or sites, I would suggest that you enquire on the lake itself... I would also like to point out that there is a lagoon on Temagami Island which might be capable of handling such a waste product; but several sites might be required due to hauling distances."

from Chief Public Health Inspector, Temiskaming Health Unit (1975) to District Office, Ministry of the Environment, North Bay

About Temagami Barge & Us

Despite the identified need, only Temagami Barge came forward at the time (1982), to build a barge, create lagoon sites, install sewage system and holding tanks as well as identify and create a barge storage and service site.

Temagami Barge is owned and operated by Biff Lowery (Biff - in charge of the customers) and Ray Delarosbel (Ray - in charge of operations & lands). We are greatly assisted by our wives Carol and Patty and our children Dash, Kelsey, Bob, Tom and Catherine. Our families have a long history on the Lake and contribute time, money, manpower and equipment on a volunteer basis in service to our community.

In 1973 the Milne Landing was established at Twelve Mile Point (entrance to Boatline Bay).

In 1981 the Milne’s site was zoned industrial (M1) as part of the creation of the Township of Temagami official plan and zoning by-law.

In 1988 following an agreement with Milne’s, Temagami Barge Limited moved our industrial operation from the public landing to our current location.

Licenses/certifications/training

Temagami Barge is fully licensed, certified, trained, qualified and equipped to carry out all of the work and services it provides.

N.B. Temagami Barge is the only company that can re-fill and re-test your propane cylinders at our landing. Pick up and delivery service also available.