

From: Heather Chambers <hchambers@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 3:44 PM

To: Common Clerk <commonclerk@saintjohn.ca>; City of Saint John Mayor's Office <mayor@saintjohn.ca>; MacKenzie, John <john.mackenzie@saintjohn.ca>; Harris, Brent <brent.harris@saintjohn.ca>; Sullivan, Gary <gary.sullivan@saintjohn.ca>; Killen, Joanna <joanna.killen@saintjohn.ca>; Norton, Greg <greg.norton@saintjohn.ca>; Ogden, Barry <barry.ogden@saintjohn.ca>; Hickey, David <david.hickey@saintjohn.ca>; Lowe, Gerry <gerry.lowe@saintjohn.ca>; Radwan, Paula <paula.radwan@saintjohn.ca>; Stewart, Greg <greg.stewart@saintjohn.ca>

Cc: saverockwoodpark@gmail.com

Subject: Rescind motion to designate 1671 Sandy Point Road property as surplus

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On February 20, 2024, the Saint John Common Council passed a motion to declare #1671 Sandy Point Road, a part of Rockwood Park, as surplus land without any public consultation. I am a specialist physician, and three years ago I left an excellent position at the Moncton Hospital to practice in Saint John. I made this decision in large part because I prefer to live in a place that has immediate access to natural spaces integrated into the city. For me, Rockwood Park is the pinnacle of what makes Saint John special. I am a trail runner, hiker, snowshoer, cross country skier, and birdwatcher, and I use the park in all weather and all seasons. I traverse the trails from one end to the other, and no part of this treasured gem in our city is surplus.

Please do not set the precedent of "picking off" bits and pieces of Rockwood for short term financial gain and short sighted reasons. Much of what makes Saint John an attractive place to live and work is the vital green space we have at hand for recreation and relaxation. The Saint John Common Council should strive to preserve and protect the treasure that is Rockwood in its entirety. I wholly oppose any part of the park being designated as surplus, being sold, or being developed. We, the citizens of Saint John, are key stakeholders in this decision, and I cannot fathom that such a plan would be set into motion without any input from or consideration of the many users of Rockwood Park.

Please rescind the motion to surplus this property as soon as possible, and instead put in place secure conservation arrangements to protect all parts of Rockwood Park going forward.

Sincerely,

Heather Chambers
General Internist, Saint John Regional Hospital

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