

OPEN LETTER TO FORT FRANCES TOWN COUNCIL - & - THE FORT FRANCES SENIOR
CENTER BOARD

COPIES SENT TO;

FORT FRANCES CFOB - NEWS DEPARTMENT
FORT FRANCES TIMES LIMITED - LETTER TO THE EDITOR
WEST END WEEKLY - LETTER TO THE EDITOR
KENORA MINOR NEWS - LETTER TO THE EDITOR - KENORA LOCAL RADIO STATION
DRYDEN OBSERVER - LETTER TO THE EDITOR - DRYDEN LOCAL RADIO STATION
ATIKOKAN PROGRESS - LETTER TO THE EDITOR
THUNDER BAY CBC - RADIO NEWS
THUNDER BAY CHRONICLE JOURNAL - NEWS DEPARTMENT - LETTER TO EDITOR
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EMO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL- INFORMATION
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CHAPPLE Twp
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PROVINCIAL FUNDING AGENT
PROVINCIAL MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT - GREG. RICKFORD
FEDERAL MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT - MARCUS POWLOWSKI
CATHOLIC CHURCH THUNDERBAY ONTARIO - HOLDER OF RECORDS
CATHOLIC CHURCH FORT FRANCES ONTARIO - INFORMATION



THIS LETTER IS SIGNED BY ME - ALLAN T BEDARD (SRAPEA) AND 31 SENIORS WHO ATTEND THE FORT FRANCES SENIOR CENTER . THESE SIGNATURES WERE GATHERED IN 20 MINUTES BY 32 OF THE 38 MEMBERS IN THE ROOM . THE GREAT MAJORITY OF SENIORS - WELL OVER 90 PLUS PERCENT OPPOSE THE MOVE TO THE DAYCARE BUILDING . THE SENIORS PUT TOGETHER A PETITION OF OVER 350 NAMES OPPOSED TO THE MOVE FROM THE SENIOR CENTER TO THE DAYCARE BUILDING - ALTHOUGH DRAFTED IN VERY CLEAR TERMS - SERVED ON THE FORT FRANCES SENIORS BOARD - & - COPIED TO TOWN COUNCIL - WAS DISMISSED AND THROWN OUT . WE WERE SERVED NOTICE OF THIS - BY LETTER - FROM THE TOWN OF FORT FRANCES - CLERK MS LISA SLOMKE - STATING THEY WOULD NOT ACCEPT A PETITION FROM THE SENIORS - UNLESS IT MEETS THE PROVINCIAL OR FEDERAL GUIDELINES

cover (1)

OPEN LETTER TO FORT FRANCES TOWN COUNCIL - COPY TO THE FORT FRANCES
SENIOR CENTER BOARD

WE THE UNDERSIGNED MEMBERS OF THE FORT FRANCES SENIOR CENTRE REQUEST
THAT THE FORT FRANCES TOWN COUNCIL DISSOLVE THE PRESENT BOARD OF
DIRECTORS AT THE SENIOR CENTER IMMEDIATELY .

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IT IS OUR OPINION THAT THIS BOARD IS FAILING TO REPRESENT OUR INTERESTS -
HERE AT THE SENIOR CENTER - & - REFUSE TO FOLLOW THE SENIORS WISHES -
WHILE AT THE SAME TIME THIS BOARD CONTINUES TO EXCLUDE THE SENIORS FROM
SPEAKING OR ENTERING THE DEBATES DURING THE BOARD MEETING - RELATIVE TO
THE PERSONAL CONCERNS OF MANY SENIORS - WHO WANT TO REMAIN AT OUR
BEAUTIFUL SENIOR CENTER - BETTER KNOWN AS THE SISTER KENNEDY CENTER -
RATHER THAN BEING FORCED TO MOVE OUT TO A DAYCARE BUILDING ..IT FEELS
LIKE WE HAVE NO SAY - NO VOICE - OR -RIGHTS AT ALL..

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WE REPEAT - THIS BOARD IS NOT REPRESENTING THE FULL INTERESTS OF THE
SENIORS AT OUR PRESENT SENIOR CENTER ON PORTAGE / NELSON AVENUES - NOR
PROTECTING OUR RIGHT TO VOICE OUR PERSONAL OPINIONS AT A BOARD MEETING
- NOR DOES IT FEEL LIKE THEY ARE WILLING TO STAND UP AND SUPPORT US - BY
ALLOWING US THE RIGHT TO REMAIN HERE AT OUR PRESENT LOCATION .

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THIS BOARD IS NOT COMMITTED TO US - THE VERY SENIORS THEY ARE MEANT AND
APPOINTED TO REPRESENT - AS THEY ARE HELL BENT - ON FORCING US TO VACATE
OUR PRESENT BEAUTIFUL SENIORS BUILDING - & - FORCE US INTO THE - HIGH
TRAFFIC - NO SIDEWALK - DISTANT LOCATION - AT THE DAYCARE BUILDING ON
EIGHTH STREET WHICH DOES NOT MEET OUR NEEDS " - NOR IS IT OUR DESIRED
BUILDING OF CHOICE .

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THIS BEAUTIFUL FORT FRANCES SENIOR CENTER WAS BUILT FOR SENIORS - AND
THE PROPERTY WAS DONATED TO BUILD US A SENIOR CENTER BUILDING - & - THE
COMMUNITY AND DISTRICT FUNDS WERE DONATED BY MANY LOCAL BUSINESSES -
ORGANIZATIONS - & - INDIVIDUALS - TO BUILD THIS SENIOR CENTER WE HAVE TODAY .

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WINTARIO FUNDING - GOVERNMENT GRANTS ETC ... WERE APPLIED FOR AND THERE
- TO BUILD THIS BUILDING " THE FORT FRANCES SENIOR CENTER - WE HAVE TODAY....
(BETTER KNOWN AS THE SISTER KENNEDY CENTER) SO - WHY WOULD OUR SENIOR
CENTER BOARD MEMBERS - OR FOR THAT FACT - THE MAYOR - & - COUNCIL USE THE
LAME EXCUSE THAT THEY ARE ONLY LOOKING TO THE FUTURE FOR THE SENIORS -
AND - THE DAYCARE BUILDING WOULD BETTER MEET OUR NEEDS ... BALONY - TELL
US THE TRUTH - IS THE DECISION TO MOVE US OUT - SIMPLY A DECISION TO SECURE
A GRANT TO BUILD A FEW SENIOR APARTMENTS ONTO THE COLUMBUS PLACE ? IS IT
TO ALLOW THE BUILDING OF THESE SENIOR APARTMENTS - IF FUNDING GRANTS ARE

SECURED TO BUILD OUT OVER THE PARKING LOT AT THE SENIOR CENTER .TELL US THIS IS NOT TRUE IN WRITING - SO WE CAN SHARE IT WITH A BOARD MEMBER FROM COLUMBUS PLACE - WHO STATED OTHERWISE ??

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ALL WE NEED HERE IS A NEW BOARD - OPEN MINDS - DECISION SOLVING BOARD MEMBERS OF SENIORS - BETTER PROGRAM SCHEDULING - & -TO KEEP THE CENTER OPENED MORE - & - NOT HAVE TO SHUT DOWN ON HOLIDAYS - WEEKENDS - ETC...

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THE HOG WASH THAT THERE IS NO ROOM TO BUILD ONTO THIS SENIOR CENTER IS SIMPLY A MISTAKE . WE MEASURED THE BUILDING - AND- WE COULD EASILY BUILD ONTO OUR BEAUTIFUL FORT FRANCES SENIOR CENTER - ON THE SOUTH WALL - AN ADDITION - ONE AND ONE HALF TIMES THE LENGTH OF OUR PRESENT BUILDING AND NOT TOUCH OR BE ON THE PROPERTY LINE ... BETTER YET - WE COULD CONSIDER PURCHASING A PORTABLE - IF COUNCIL FEELS THE NEED TO EXPAND HERE ..

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THE TYPE OF PORTABLE USED FOR SCHOOLS - OFFICES - CONTRACTORS - EXERCISE ROOMS ETC COULD BE EASILY PURCHASED AND BROUGHT INTO FORT FRANCES ... THEIR SIZE IS MORE THAN ADEQUATE - EASILY WALLED ,TO MEET OUR NEEDS - AND UNDER \$ 100,000.00 .. ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS WILL BRING IT IN AND SET IT UP ...THE MONEY IN OUR SENIOR RESERVE FUND - REMOVED FROM US SENIORS BY TOWN COUNCIL - WOULD COVER THIS WITHOUT IT COSTING THE TAXPAYER ONE CENT ..

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YES WE NEED MORE SENIOR APARTMENTS IN FORT FRANCES - & - WE NEED ASSISTED LIVING APARTMENTS - BUT NOT AT THE COST OF OUR PRESENT SENIORS OR THIS SENIOR CENTER - ESPECIALLY WHEN THE NEW APARTMENTS FOR SENIORS CAN BE BUILT TO THE EAST OF COLUMBUS PLACE - OR - ON THE MANY DIFFERENT AREAS OF VACANT PROPERTY ON FRONT STREET OVER BY THE RIVER - OR - THE BEAUTIFUL PROPERTY AROUND BANTA BOULEVARD - NEAR ROSE AND GREEN MANOR - OR - BY THE SIXTH STREET SCHOOL - OR - IN THE TOWNS NEW SUBDIVISION

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WE FURTHER OBJECT TO THIS BOARD - WHO'S MAJORITY OF MEMBERS DO NOT INVOLVE THEMSELF IN THIS CENTER - ARE RARELY SEEN - EXCEPT AT A BOARD MEETING - YET THEY ARE MAKING A TERRIBLE DECISION ON OUR BEHALF - WITHOUT OUR CONSENT OR SAY - BEGS THE QUESTION " WHO ARE THEY REPRESENTING HERE " - SO - LETS SHUT DOWN AND GET RID OF THIS BOARD - WHO MANY OF US FEEL - ARE FAILING TO REPRESENT US PROPERLY AND ARE MAKING DECISIONS OUTSIDE OF THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE SENIORS OF THIS SENIOR CENTER .. THIS BOARD WAS APPOINTED AND - WERE MEANT TO REPRESENT US AT THE SENIOR CENTER..

WE FEEL CONFIDENT THAT A NEW BOARD OF SENIORS - ELECTED FROM - & - BY THE SENIORS WOULD STRONGLY PROVIDE TOWN COUNCIL - & - THE PUBLIC - WITH THE REAL POSITION OF THOSE MEMBERS ATTENDING THIS BEAUTIFUL FORT FRANCES SENIOR CENTER ...

WE STROGLY OBJECT TO A TOWN COUNCILLOR CHAIRING THIS BOARD - WHEN IT HAS AND WAS ALWAYS MEANT TO BE CHAIRED BY AN ACTIVE SENIOR FROM THIS CENTER . WE WANT IT RETURNED TO THAT - AND - RETURNED NOW - SO WE CAN MAKE OUR OWN DECISIONS - POLICIES - ACTIVITIES - PROGRAMING ETC.. - & - NOT TO BE OBSTRUCTED - BEATEN DOWN - BY NON ACTIVE BOARD MEMBERS IN OUR CENTER - NOR - FORCED INTO DECISIONS - WE DID NOT AGREE TO - BY OUR TOWN MAYOR - OR TOWN COUNCIL'S NON TRANSPARENT - OUTSIDE DECISIONS - WHICH ARE BEING CARRIED OUT - BY THIS PRESENT SENIOR BOARD - AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE MAJORITY OF IT'S SENIORS ..

THIS LETTER IS ALSO BEING SENT OUT TO SEVERAL LOCAL NEWSPAPERS AND NEWS ORGANIZATIONS IN FORT FRANCES - RAINY RIVER - KENORA - DRYDEN - THUNDER BAY - TO OUR LOCAL MP - & - MPP AND OUR FUNDING AGENTS - & - SURROUNDING MUNICIPAL COUNCILS .

TO FORT FRANCES TOWN COUNCIL - TO OUR PRESENT SENIOR CENTER BOARD MEMBERS - WE DEMAND THAT YOU STOP THIS FOOLISH MOVE - THAT YOU ARE TRYING TO FORCE DOWN OUR THROAT . DISBAND OUR SENIOR BOARD IMMEDIATELY AND LET US SELECT OUR BOARD FROM THE VERY CAPABLE - QUALIFIED - COMPLEMENT OF SENIORS AT OUR BEAUTIFUL FORT FRANCES SENIOR CENTER - & - STOP THIS NONSENSE IMMEDIATELY OF TRYING TO MOVE US SENIORS TO THE DAYCARE BUILDING -PERIOD . WE DON'T WANT TO MOVE THERE ..YOUR PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM ISN'T FOOLING ANYONE .

YOURS TRULY .

Alan J Bedard - Laura Bedard.
Donna R Handker
Dolly Leroient Jayce Lopham
Louise Erb Audrey Rieptone Ed Larocque
Vic Albert Warren Mitchell Gordon Taylor
Donna McKeown Ralph Benjamin Dale Liska
Lydia Sharf Gerald Beadle Sue Cameron
Marge Benjamin P. Holmes Ray Cameron
Dawn Cooke Ron Grabowski Gary Jarosz
Ruth Albert Donna Law Matt Baitl
Judy Kowachko Mildred Bedard Eileen Rowch
John Hutuk Mary Betty Robinson