

FORT FRANCES FISHING BRIDGE

A PROPOSAL

That money be allocated for a fishing bridge to be installed between the Seven Oaks park 'mainland' and a small island that sits at about thirty yards offshore, and nearly due south (SSE) of it.

BACKGROUNDER

- fishing is a cornerstone of Fort Frances tourism, and the river holds an abundance of good fishing.
- senior citizenry is a growing demographic
- many senior citizens do not feel safe getting into a boat, but would welcome an opportunity to stand (or sit) on a bridge and fish from it
- a bridge built seven feet wide would accommodate wheelchairs from which seniors could fish, yet still allow room for others to move past them, if required

FURTHER INFORMATION

- FISHING bridges are a popular phenomenon in the US and in other parts of the world
- such a bridge should not cost more than a small fraction of the recently received 'special purposes' funding - or possible a Trillium Fund award - certainly less than \$100,000.
- in subsequent years, a wheelchair compatible path might be laid down for additional freedom of movement of wheelchair travellers
- while all eligible fisher people should be allowed to use the bridge, it is recommended that seniors/elders be permitted priority, as other options for their pleasure are limited
- it is suggested that only drift fishing be allowed, as casting from the bridge might present somewhat more risk/complication
- this fixture would represent yet a further tourist attraction to be discovered in our town and area
- it is also suggested that rules of usage be printed and posted in four languages: English, French, Spanish, and Ojibwa.

Thank you for considering this proposal. Sincerely, Tim Woods 274-7523