



Not everyone attending fundraiser got to meet Princess Sophie

Dear editor:
Last week's edition of The Lake Report carried a story and photos of the gala fundraiser reception and banquet at Queen's Landing for the Lincoln & Welland Regiment Foundation Senate, ("Princess Sophie tours Inniskillin, attends gala during visit to NOTL").



Princess Sophie and Ontario Lt.-Gov. Elizabeth Dowdeswell at the gala.
ALEX HEIDBUECHEL

Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa noted that "everyone" was greeted by Princess Sophie, the Duchess of Edinburgh, who is the regiment's honorary colonel.

Not so.
I bought a ticket for \$275 and was excluded from the reception.

On complaining, the reply was that I was "misinformed" and only donors of more than \$1,000 were allowed to "meet and greet" the duchess or our lieutenant-governor. That happened at a special reception in another area of Queen's

Landing.
To add insult, they refunded my ticket, as a store might on complaint of purchase of a bad piece of meat.

I will continue to send my money in future as I support their recruiting and education work, but I will not be silenced.

Elizabeth Oliver-Malone
NOTL

Don't accept hotel proposals in residential areas

Dear editor:
The reason the town's planning committee meetings are so long is clearly that the applications are in contravention of the laws of the town.

They don't comply with either the bylaws or the official plan and the applications probably shouldn't have been accepted and certainly not given the credibility of having

public meetings to discuss them.

The residents rely on the town's bylaws and official plan when investing in their homes and they naturally don't want large commercial developments in residential areas.

As to the developers' threats to take the town's rejection of their proposals to the Ontario Land Tribunal, the province has

said that it wants more housing.

The Marotta and Hummel hotel proposals in Old Town could mean the removal of hundreds of housing units from the town.

At a time when the provincial government is asking for more housing, I can't imagine why the Ontario Land Tribunal would agree to having hundreds of potential housing units

removed and replaced by hotel rooms, especially when the land is in residential areas.

I strongly urge town staff and council to reject these commercial developments that are proposed for residential areas, knowing that they are not in the community's or the province's best interests.

Wayne Murray
NOTL

We have to think more about aging in place

Dear editor:
I was delighted to read a report in your paper describing a group investigating the need for seniors housing ("Group plans independent survey on NOTL housing needs," Nov. 2).

As the report states, this area has one of the highest percentages of retirees in the country. Despite this fact, we seem intent upon moving out of the area without any thought of the aging process.

My husband and I are among the retirees who came when we were a youthful 60.

Now in our mid-80s, we are still reasonably active and healthy, but maintaining our small home with a fairly big garden is becoming a less attractive chore.

We have decided to stay in our home, though and "age in place" for as long as possible, so I was hoping that this survey would also encompass thoughts

about people, without unlimited income, to achieve that aim even when life throws in a health problem.

However, if life forces an alternative living accommodation it would be a severe wrench to move out of the area.

With property values being what they are, I'm not sure I see an answer to that, but it is most encouraging to see that a group of responsible people are actually exploring possible

future solutions.

The current, dismaying growth of mammoth houses and luxury hotels unfortunately seems to be bringing more and more folks into the area who have no need to worry about taking care of these problems.

They already have other homes. Does this increase the disinterest in the proposed project?

Ann Handels
NOTL

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