



Regan calls on HRM to expand Blue Mountain-Birch Cove park

(December 9, 2009) HALIFAX, NS – Halifax West MP Geoff Regan is calling on Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) to protect valuable natural resources in the community by finding a way to ensure wilderness lands near the Blue Mountain-Birch Cove Lakes area become part of the wilderness park.

“As a strong supporter of Blue Mountain-Birch Cove, I know the land between Bayers Lake and Hammonds Plains would make a logical addition to this wilderness area,” Mr. Regan said Tuesday.

“Hopefully, HRM council and Mayor Peter Kelly will be able to find a solution that will allow this wilderness area to be preserved for future generations.”

Mr. Regan said council deserves credit for their commitment to the regional park when the 2006 regional municipal planning strategy was developed. However, he said allowing the development of private land in that area does not seem to fall within that planning strategy.

“While I understand the city may not be in a position to buy this land, there are other alternatives like a land swap which should be explored.”

The Halifax West MP applauded the work of community organizations, individual volunteers and MLA Diana Whalen for making their dream of this wilderness area a reality.

“I believe we need to build on that dream by including the lands between Bayers Lake and Hammonds Plains in the preserve,” Mr. Regan added. “We have a chance to make sure this area isn’t lost to development and we need to make sure we act.”

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For more information, contact:
Office of Geoff Regan (902-426-2217)

Geoff Regan, M.P. Halifax West
Suite 222, 1496 Bedford Highway, Bedford, NS B4A 1E5

902.426.2217 | www.GeoffRegan.ca