

Summary of Notes made during a General Meeting of the Harmony Residents Group Inc. (HRG) on November 9, 2011 in the Virgil Arena Mary Snider Room on a rainy night.

This meeting began at 7:12 PM EST with 13 people present, including the speaker and 6 members of the HRG Board of Directors, R.Busbridge, D.Hennessey, C.James, F.Madsen, K.Morrison, R.Payne.

R.Busbridge introduced Roslyn Baird, Executive Director of the Southern Ontario Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative (SOADI).

Ms.Baird spoke until 7:56 PM with the aid of visuals projected on a screen. November had been designated as Diabetes month and Monday, November 14, as Diabetes Day. SOADI has existed since 1997 and she has been a member for 10 years, serving in various capacities including work with the public. The organization is funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, and its mandate is to restore the health enjoyed by Aboriginals during a long period of their early contacts with Europeans. It has a Board of Directors with members from 6 territorial organizations, 4 program coordinators and 6 people who work with their public. Its offices are at 8 Clairmont Street, Unit 2, in Thorold.

Diabetes is an increasing health problem amongst people, including young people and aboriginals especially. SOADI practices preventive measures by advocating and teaching healthy life style including diet and exercise, annually sponsoring 25 to 30 community clinics and 8 permanent clinics. It sponsors annual conferences, the 10th of which is scheduled to be held in the City of Niagara Falls in the autumn of 2012. Typically there are 250 to 300 attendees. They want a natural area in which to practice and teach their recommended life style, whence their interest in the Parks Canada (PC) Lakeshore Road property. Meredith Cowling, a former HRG Director, suggested that they contact the Harmony Group to explore any compatibility between the HRG and SOADI visions for the use of the PC lands.

A period of questions and comments followed until 8:10 PM.

One question was whether SOADI facilities are available to non aboriginals and the answer was that they are, but are limited by the available funding.

Another question was whether SOADI has any significant reservations about the HRG proposal for use of the PC property and the answer was that a SOADI goal is to leave the smallest possible imprint on the land.

Another question was whether any facility which SOADI might create would be for its exclusive use and the answer was that it needs administrative space but that any building that would house that facility would accommodate HRG facilities also.

Another question was whether SOADI has medical doctors on its staff who specialize in the treatment of diabetes and the answer was that it does not because its methods of treatment do not depend on drugs.

Attendees applauded Ms.Baird for her presentation and R.Busbridge thanked her on behalf of HRG which she, in turn, thanked for the opportunity to make it.

R.Busbridge reviewed the activities of the HRG Board of Directors since the last General Meeting and his printed report is attached. In response to a question he said that HRG may have to obtain Charitable status to raise funds. Also that HRG members should be provided with more information

prior to their desired participation in any PC sponsored public information session with respect to the PC current Management Plan now being prepared.

This meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM and the next General Meeting of HRG members is planned for Wednesday, February 8, 2012, at 7:00 PM in the Virgil Arena Mary Snider Room.

Cliff James, Secretary