

Do you want to help your family, the environment and the well -being of Windsor? If so, you're invited to a public meeting to discuss the creation of a National Urban Park.

What: Discussion on National Urban Parks—the Long-Term Vitality of Ojibway Shores

When: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 6:00—8:00 p.m. Formal presentation 6:30 p.m., Q&A 7:30 p.m.

South Windsor Arena—Capri Pizzeria Complex, 2555 Pulford Rd.

All are welcome. Please RSVP to 519.255.1631 or brian.masse.c1@parl.gc.ca.

Over the last year you have heard me advocate for the long-term protection of Ojibway Shores. This land is home to hundreds of endangered species who rely on the surrounding parks including Black Oak Heritage Park, Ojibway Park, Tallgrass Prairie Park, Ojibway Prairie Provincial Nature Reserve and the Spring Garden Natural Area. These parks combined encompass a vast swath of land in Windsor and should be grouped together for their vitality and preservation.

Come learn about the creation of Rouge National Urban Park, located within Canada's most populated and culturally diverse metropolitan area- Toronto, was the culmination of teamwork and efforts by community leaders and organizations to protect this land in perpetuity, while securing federal funding

The Rouge National Urban Park, Canada's first ever national urban park, positions the country as an international urban conservation leader by creating the world's strongest dedicated legislation for an urban protected area. Now is the time to turn Ojibway Shores and the connecting greenspaces into an Urban National Park.

Come and hear guest speakers about Rouge National Urban Park and other national and local environmental organizations who will discuss the importance of keeping the Ojibway Shores preserved for the long-term by working to combine our parks as a National Urban Park. I hope to see you there.





Increasing health & wellness



Reducing flooding



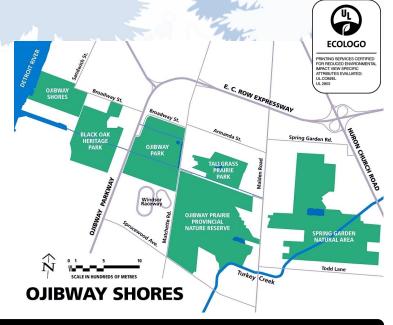
Promoting eco-tourism



Improving quality of life



Protecting endangered species



Ojibway Shores & You



Windsor West MP Brian Masse wants the Windsor Port Authority to transfer control of Ojibway Shores to Environment Canada or to the city. Photo: (Jason Viau/CBC)

Cost to protect Ojibway Shores should not fall on taxpayers, Masse says

DAVE BATTAGELLO, WINDSOR STAR

Updated: October 25, 2017

"We should not be spending \$10 million to pay for land we already own as taxpayers," Masse said.

The Windsor Port Authority has asked for \$10 million in exchange for preserving a 36-acre pristine property under its control known as Ojibway Shores located on the city's far west end.

Masse (NDP — Windsor-West) spoke on Ojibway Shores in Ottawa during a debate Monday on Bill C-344 — legislation that would force it to be mandatory to include community benefits on any major infrastructure project in Canada.

The planned Gordie Howe International Bridge project includes community benefits with a committee already formed to discuss options that would largely benefit the community of Sandwich — close to where the new border crossing will be located.

The port authority recently approached Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority to see if Ojibway Shores could be included in the Howe bridge project in exchange for funds to cover "lost business" it would receive as a marine terminal.

The new bridge's private-sector operator will lease the lands under the plan and make it available as public park.

But Masse believes any Howe bridge community benefit funds spent on Ojibway Shores will take away from other needs that could benefit seniors, youth or the environment within Sandwich or the city.

He noted the port authority is simply a "steward" for ports in Canada and any land it owns is legally in control of the federal government. In turn, it also belongs to taxpayers.

"Why should people pay for something already owned," Masse said. "(The port authority) could say it's valued for \$100 million, but still the public owns it."

The local MP believes the deed for the property can legally be turned over by Transport Canada — which oversees ports — to the federal environment ministry and a showpiece park could be created next to the Howe bridge.

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