

## Experts?????

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The city called a news conference for Monday afternoon Nov. 8 to have their EXPERTS explain just what is involved with the Molson Swamp cover-up. Yes it is a cover-up instead of a cleanup and information forthcoming was mediocre to say the least. Along with Shaheen and Peaker expert Cynthia Robins who took the lead there were five representatives from the Ministry of the Environment. I will try to recap what went on and share with you items that the Packet failed to report on that is at the heart of this sham.

First as you all know I have a personal interest in that the site must be cleaned not covered up before we send children to play. According to the city and it's experts?? they feel that if risks are at an acceptable level then that is OK??? Why do we need any risk at all and what is an acceptable level? Clean the site and there is no problem. I am also against the disposal of 40,000 tons of Toxic soil at the landfill. If this soil is non hazardous as claimed then leave it where it is and use it or sell it. It seems these people want it both ways. It is non hazardous but because it is toxic it can't be left on site?? So yes I have a keen interest in making sure that everyone is protected from harm.

It was obvious that these experts assembled were singing from the same page in the hymn book. The MOE people went out of their way to let us know that Shaheen and Peaker were in charge and as professionals their work was basically unchallenged. The very people who we think are there to protect us blindly support the private contractor. So it was interesting and disturbing to hear the answers to some very simple questions I and others posed. Here is a recap and hope you find it interesting.

Q: Have you done a historical study of the site as to what types of business had used the site and had you spoken to former employees in regards to what was buried on the site over the years?

A: No we did not talk to any former employees but we did look at some history. Now how can a historical study of any kind be done without speaking to the people involved as many are still alive. It seems "if we don't ask it can't be there" attitude prevails.

Q: Have you tested for asbestos in light of the claim that over 600,000 lb. of asbestos contaminated material has been widely disposed on the site?

A: We don't test for asbestos because we can't: it is a rock???

Now I don't want to seem critical but that is the biggest line of "Bullshit" I have ever heard. What kind of professionals are these people? Why did none of these experts??? challenge this statement made by Cynthia Robins the cities EXPERT? Not one person from the city, Shaheen and Peaker nor the five MOE puppets spoke up to correct this blatant lie. Or maybe it wasn't a lie and the cities lead EXPERT doesn't know that you can test for asbestos and that processed asbestos is not rock but fibres??? Some EXPERT???

Q: What guarantee can you give that the site will be safe covering it up?

A: A professional will sign off on the project.

The question was asked again and the same answer was given. You see there is no guarantee if you or your child is harmed.

Q: You say that the fill being removed is Non Hazardous but is it Toxic?

A: None

Q: Is it Toxic?

A: No answer

And this from the five MOE puppets

Q: What testing will take place on the soil as it is removed?

A: We will be watching for signs of change in the soil and will be smelling the air for signs that we have hit contamination.

Now isn't that scientific. Some guy on a bulldozer is expected to see a change in the look of the soil and smell toxins. He is then required to stop digging. Yea right. What about when they hit vinyl chloride a colourless odourless gas that is really toxic in concentrations of .5 parts per billion?

Unbelievable, tragic and this is endorsed by the five puppets from the MOE .

Q: How will you protect the people from exposure?

A: We have a health and safety plan for the workers and will be implemented.

If you go down to the site you will see no protection for the workers other than some are wearing a simple mask that will protect them from nothing. Yesterday workers were observed jumping into holes with no protective gear. When warned that the site is contaminated and they should have protection we were told by these people that they had not been informed that Toxic and harmful material was present on the site contrary to law.

So much for health and safety issues. Don't believe me?? Just go down to the site and witness it for yourself. But do wear a mask for your protection??