

A CALL TO ACTION – PROTECT OUR LAGOON PARK

Last week, fishermen and boat owners in the Lagoon area received a memorandum from the Fisheries Department captioned:

“THE REMOVAL OF YOUR BOAT FROM PORT LOUIS COMPOUND”

The memorandum advised that from Monday 22nd, June 2009, Camper and Nicholson developers would be officially occupying the coastal land space which is located on the Lagoon Road. The memo advised that the space where the boats are docked will be used for the storage of heavy duty equipment and that Camper & Nicholson proposed to relocate the boats lower down.

Fishermen were rather shocked when persons from Camper & Nicholson approached them to remove their boats and advised that the area would be FENCED right up to the sidewalk since Camper & Nicholson OWNED the land. This was repeated by the Manager of Camper & Nicholson, Grenada in a news interview.

How can Camper & Nicholson own the coastal land and propose to fence right up to the side walk? The LAW provides for a 50 metres (150 feet) set back area from the high water mark which is Crown land.

WHO sold Crown lands to Port Louis/Peter De Savary and HOW MUCH did Port Louis/Peter De Savary pay for these lands that has been purportedly sold to Camper and Nicholson? WHERE is the sale of these lands recorded? What are the findings of the REVIEW of contracts by the government? Why has the government not made these findings public?

Port Louis marina has already destroyed the playing field in the Ballast Ground area? Where are our children supposed to play?

How can fishermen be dislocated/relocated without any consultation/discussions with them?

An area on the Islander Hotel, opposite MTV studio, is being excavated. This soil is being used as the fill for the backfilling that Camper & Nicholson has ALREADY started doing. The C&N Manager advised that this area is going to be the location of a SEWAGE plant and utilities for the marina.

A sewage system and utility area – to be located on HISTORIC Islander Hill, in the middle of a RESIDENTIAL area, on the MAIN road??!! Where are our planners and regulators?? Is this a plot to devalue the property and force the remaining freeholders off their property? Is the next step to CLOSE OFF the Lagoon Road?

Our people - the people who occupied Mt. Pandy and the Islander Hill - have been relocated to conditions of SQUALOUR in Beausejour and La Sagesse to make room for a SEWAGE system!!

The Citizens in Defence of Grenada's Lands & Heritage has noted that a FAMILY member of the Minister of Tourism is carrying out the backfilling operations that have already started. This therefore begs the question as to whether there is a CONFLICT of interests and to whether or not the interests of the people of Grenada have been compromised. The time has also come to ask the Prime Minister the hard question – Did his party receive any campaign finance from the Peter De Savary and/or Camper & Nicholson? And if campaign finance was received, what were these “developers” promised in return?

The Citizens in Defence of Grenada's Lands and Heritage call on Grenadians everywhere to take action. Show your indignation. Call your parliamentary representatives and express your disgust and opposition to the backfilling of the Lagoon and the fencing of the Lagoon Park. Demand that the backfilling of the Lagoon CEASE NOW!

People of Grenada – Get up! Stand up for our rights and the rights of our children to enjoy the Lagoon Park!!

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