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Our opportunity: Creating The Bay Beach Experience

Resources

Town of Fort Erie 2016 Bay Beach Master Plan (see pp. 74-76 for fee information)

https://www.forterie.ca/res ource/files/7EF5EFAB27E8 E40885257F3A0070D632/\$ File/Bay%20Beach%20Fina I%20Report%20Jan%2014 %2015%20reduced.pdf

City of Toronto Fee Schedule for BBQ Pits, Picnic Shelters

https://www.toronto.ca/se rvices-payments/venuesfacilitiesbookings/booking-parkrecreationfacilities/simple-permitbooking/booking-fees-forsocial-gatherings/

Trash-Free Beach Initiative

http://www.kgib.org/projec t/trash-free-beachinitiative-frequently-askedquestions/

Waste-Free Picnic Guide

https://www.greenup.on.c a/your-guide-to-a-wastefree-picnic-season/

What Residents Have Shared

While canvassing in Ward 5, some residents have shared concerns with me about Bay Beach. This Town-owned property has become:

- 1. an aggravation for some, and
- 2. a missed opportunity for local businesses.
- Each season, thousands of visitors need emergency and security services, washrooms, changerooms, drinking water, waste management services as well as food and tourism services.
- There are currently insufficient washroom facilities. This will be improved when redevelopment is completed, but parking will remain a challenge.
- Reliable enforcement of rules at beach entry and consistent monitoring on the beach are needed to support responsible beach use.

Leah's Viewpoint

- Other beach communities have learned that better oversight creates a clean, enjoyable beach experience for everyone.
- Better management of the *Bay Beach Experience* is important to Fort Erie. We must anticipate, plan, and manage our asset to meet the needs of visitors, residents, and local businesses alike.
- Residents have varied ideas about *how* to recover costs but most agree that taxpayers alone should not bear the burden of hosting visitors.
- Most residents support cost recovery to fund safety initiatives, visitor facilities, and monitoring of behaviour on the Beach.
- A system to manage the beach needs to include sustainable cost recovery (for example, parking, rental, or entry fees).

To seize this opportunity and create *The Bay Beach Experience*, I believe a system needs to be developed by all stakeholder groups - particularly businesses in our commercial core.



