

Tracadie Cross Front Yard. Tracadie Cross chemical nightmare. Tracadie Cross 'dump'!

Cry, Protest, the Beloved Bay and River and Ocean.

What is this noise we are hearing about Tracadie Cross and environmental catastrophe? Environmental holocaust. It's like that and that's the way it is. Strong words.

Check this out. Incinerator ash ~ hostile, nasty matter; stored in a containment structure ~ lightning; leaks into soil ~ heterogenous, mixed; sitting on top of fracture rock ~ and water, flowing; into underground streams, into Tracadie Bay; aquaculture - next door, my neighbor?

Is this nonsense to you? To the people of Tracadie Cross it all makes frightening sense. That's why there was a protest at Province House on November the 17th by the community of Tracadie Cross.

At the demonstration, Roger Townsend, a mussel fisherman, spoke first, on the importance of the aquaculture industry to PEI and the future. Aquaculture works; upwards of a thousand jobs are currently generated by this industry on PEI. Real numbers, real food. Roger's strong message: keep your dump away from the food basket, keep your dump out of our front yard.

Buck Watts spoke next - about survival. How do we survive the future? How can we possibly survive with a dump next door? Somehow, indirectly, Buck must have been talking about everyone: the mussels, the lobsters, the birds, everything.

Next to speak was Keptin John Joe Sark. Sark talked of the Treaty of 1763 and how the Supreme Court of Canada has ruled that aboriginal rights have not been extinguished. Sark then spoke: "Now I'd like to say a memorial to my ancestors and to your ancestors:

"Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep,
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glint on snow,
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn rains,
And when you awaken in the morning, ...hush,
I am the swift rush of quiet birds in flight,
I am the warm stars that shine at night,
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there, I did not die,
My ancestors are in the trees and the air,
And in the water at Tracadie Cross."

And that was the zenith of the afternoon; funny thing, John Joe never mentioned incinerator ash. The politicians spoke last.

In the end, the biggest decision before us is whether the 'dump' is a 'biological structure' and not an 'engineering structure' - and whether biologists are qualified to perform engineering; - social engineering. Would you ride on a rocket built by biologist? If your answer is no, then don't

count on the 'dump' either.

To find more out about what Tracadie Cross is protesting, check out <www.tarrp.org>.



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