**Description** of what happened three years ago in the new Nature Park.

Monday, March 29, 2021, the West Headland area is made into a Nature Park.

Wednesday morning, March 31, 2021, Public Works begins chain-sawing the treed area without informing Council or PRAC. Git er done before questions are asked.

I hope I am right that the cutting has indeed ceased and the rest of the area will be left alone at least until all concerned parties have been consulted and have agreed upon the best strategy for this sensitive area. No more needs to be cut to make a safe passageway for the clubs.

**The way this has all happened is disturbing**.

Since the GRCA gave approval for the extensive cutting (odd, since last year it was deemed a sensitive wetland and the Canoe and Kayak Club were forbidden even to touch it to expand their compound), it must have been planned for quite a while, and the Town arborist apparently had been consulted and gave it his blessing. So, the people that planned this had it up their sleeves for some time.

Are we to believe that they did not know that the area has repeatedly been the centre of many heated discussions and detailed reports over the last decades and that the public cares deeply about the area?

I am being asked repeatedly, “Who did this and why?” People want to know this.

All I can tell them is that neither the Parks and Recreation Committee nor the Council knew about the extent of the planned clearing and nothing was said of the cutting plans at the Monday night Council of the Whole meeting when the area was made a Nature Park.

Everyone was agreed that it was necessary to make a safe entry to the beach for the various clubs, which would have entailed nibbling at the east end of the sand willows. But cutting the whole area back to the ribbon, as was planned, was incendiary. I have not seen people so angry for a long while and I was sure all this was behind us.

But I was wrong. There are still forces in the town who feel they can do what they want regardless of other people’s wishes. On page 43 of the Parks Master Plan, it says that “the residents of Cobourg are the stewards of their waterfront.” What a joke!

The role of the public in Cobourg seems to be to fighting rear-guard actions to prevent the Town from chipping away at its little remaining nature. Profoundly discouraging.