

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Chronicle, August 1st 2007

Save the 'green lungs'

Even the best newspapers sometimes get it wrong! Your editorial ('An idea whose time has come,' The Chronicle, July18) advocating a road through Bois de Liesse Nature Park proves that point.

A road through the park would destroy its ecological and territorial integrity. Your proposition for a bus only route is breathless in its naivety. It simply doesn't make sense to spend millions on a road and then prevent many who are paying for it from using it. Any move for a rezoning for the road would be followed by a demand for a rezoning on both sides of it to help with the costs. Light industry or high-rise condos would be proposed to help pay for the road. We would lose our nature park and in 10 years the traffic situation would be worse than ever. More roads mean more automobile use and more pollution, and less urgency to double the tracks on the Two Mountains railway line, use the Doney Spur or find an alternative to our dependency on cars and trucks. In addition, building a parallel route to the Trans Canada Highway might temporarily ease traffic woes in Dollard des Ormeaux, but worsen them in St. Laurent.

Parks are more than potential right of ways for highways. They are the green lungs which make living on the West Island so attractive. To destroy Bois de Liesse for yet another highway is an idea whose time should never come

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