

Golf course needs protection

Letter to the Editor The Gazette Published: Friday, February 29, 2008

Re: "Airport must justify night flights" (Editorial, Feb. 26).

Lost in all this night-flight fracas is the fact that Meadowbrook Public Golf Course must be protected. It seems as if mechanical birds are more sexy and newsworthy than the real thing. Many bird species use this rare open greenspace as a stopover and resting place, as it lies directly under the main migratory flyway.

It is imperative that this golf course be re-naturalized and re-dedicated as an eco-territory.

No doubt the ADM's plan is an ill wind that blows no good. But the proposed flight path reinforces Meadowbrook's vocation as a buffer zone between heavy industrial activity and railways and sensitive residential neighbourhoods.

Moreover, the aviation industry is one of the most subsidized, energy-inefficient, unaccountable, environmentally-unsustainable activities. If governments focused on alternatives like high-speed trains, the airport would not have to break the curfew, disturb the peace, and degrade the quality of life of residents.

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