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August 26, 2008

The Directors
The Deer Park Residents' Group
PO Box 185, Stn, Q
Toronto, ON, M4T 2M1

Dear Directors

I wish to advise you that I will not be renewing my DPRG membership for 2009.

Based on my observations, as a member of the DPRG, and as a member of the 30 Alvin project Working Group, I have come to the conclusion that the DPRG has ill-served the residents in this area, and that it has been dominated improperly by the personal agenda of its president.

During the Working Group process it became evident that the DPRG president would not be developing an official position on this project, that she would be making no effort to develop a membership consensus, and that the DPRG would not be keeping local residents informed. In response to this lack of leadership, and in response to requests for information from our own neighbours, you are no doubt aware that my neighbour and I set up a blog, <http://30alvin.blogspot.com/> in an effort to provide this information and to try to develop such a consensus. Indeed, on the blog, on May 10th, after the Working Group process was complete, we urged the DPRG executive to call a joint meeting with the Working Group to develop a consensus.

At the May 21st Public Consultation meeting, without having consulted the membership, the DPRG President, in her official capacity, spoke generally in favor of the project, and did not acknowledge that there were strong concerns from residents and Working Group members. The following evening, I attended the DPRG annual meeting. After routine business and overly long talks from too many invited speakers, during which most of the audience departed, it became evident that there was insufficient time left for any kind of forum to receive membership input about 30 Alvin.

Finally, on June 4th, I was a guest at a DPRG executive meeting, supposedly called to develop a consensus on 30 Alvin, at which the President equivocally made no attempt to develop any official position on the project. Then, on June 10th, at the Community Council meeting, the DPRG President was the first deputant, and spoke in her official capacity in favour of the project, again ignoring concerns from the DPRG membership. Her "pseudo-official", personal stance served to undermine the positions of subsequent

deputants who were not in favour of the project, and who were not able to “represent” the DPRG..

Based on these observations, I can only conclude that the DPRG, through its president, has served the residents of this community poorly. I will not be renewing my membership.

Yours truly,

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