

(11) The development of Gatineau Park has had an unfortunate effect on the development of Ste. Cecile de Masham. As a matter of fact about one-third of the municipality now belongs to the Federal District Commission. Its forest reserves no longer belong to it, and its two sawmills are on the point of closing down. A considerable part of its agricultural industry has been wiped out, its local trade has declined, several of its businessmen have had their businesses jeopardized by the exodus of the population from the land sold. The municipal and school institutions have had a decline in real estate value to date in the park grounds. Progress and development through the building of summer cottages have been halted.

(12) The erection of a hotel with a real estate value of more than one million dollars would be considered a fair compensation for the disruption caused by the development of Gatineau Park.

(13) In addition to the advantage it would entail of contributing to the development of tourism and of Gatineau Park, this hotel would at the same time be a source of income for the municipality in the School Commission which would enable them to develop in step with the National Capital region.

(14) This tourist hotel would also employ a certain proportion of local labour, which would further help the population and local trade.

(15) The construction of such a hotel would give a new direction to the economy of the place and would also enable it to cooperate more closely to the aims of the Federal District Commission.

Many other reasons could be added, but space does not permit. To achieve its aims, the Board of Trade needs the help of the F.D.C. in carrying out this projet which it cherishes for the harmonious development of Masham. We believe that this development will complement the F.D.C.'s work of embellishment in Gatineau Park, making it worthy of the National Capital; it will also enable the municipality to live decently and to make progress.

We solicit your kind attention to this letter and hope that you will help us achieve the goal we have set for the benefit of all parties concerned.

Yours sincerely,

J. Matte, D.M.V. Sec.-Treas.,
Wakefield, R.R. No. 1, P.Q.
for the
Board of Trade of
Ste. Cecile de Masham.

N.B. This letter is written pursuant to resolution No. 3 of the meeting of the Board of Trade of Ste. Cecile de Masham held February 10, 1956. Passed unanimously.

XXIII—Report of the Secretary of the Delegation of Ste. Cecile de Masham to the F.D.C. on January 25, 1954 re: the concern in Masham caused by the project of the Gatineau Park development and its consequences.

The following is a memorandum which the undersigned had drawn up immediately on his return from the delegation, this memorandum had been certified as correct the day following that event and as dealing with the answers to questions asked of the F.D.C.

"A delegation comprising Father Benoit, Mr. Godfroid Bélisle, Chairman of the School Commission, Mr. Arthur Sincennes, Mayor, Mr. Thomas Gosselin, President of the Board of Trade and Dr. J. Matte, Secretary Treasurer went on Monday, January 25, 1954 to the Federal District Commission offices in Ottawa.