

XXII—Wakefield, R.R. No. 1, March 7, 1956.

Mr. J. Handy, Sec.,
Federal District Commission,
291 Carling Ave.,
Ottawa, Ontario.
Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Board of Trade of Ste. Cecile de Masham, I am happy to thank you for the kind welcome and comprehensive interview which the Federal District Commission granted the Committee of the Board of Trade in your offices on Friday, February last.

This Committee comprised Rev. A. Benoit, parish priest, Hilaire Gauvreau, president of the Board of Trade and the undersigned, secretary of the said board.

The members of the F.D.C. asked the Committee to write you the reasons why the Committee wishes a piece of land at the north of Lac Philippe belonging to the F.D.C. The object of this land chosen in the municipality of Ste. Cecile de Masham would be to attract a commercial firm to build a modern tourist hotel worth more than a million dollars.

The mains reasons are as follows:

(1) There is no licensed hotel in Masham nor any other hostelry capable of accommodating visitors and tourists.

(2) There is no first-class tourist accommodation in the Gatineau, nor in the national park adjoining the capital of the country.

(3) The municipality of Masham is anxious to promote its own development in relation with that of the Gatineau Park.

(4) Lac Philippe is already acquiring an international reputation and it needs a place where it can properly receive its visitors.

(5) All the authorities of Ste. Cecile de Masham and the Municipality in particular, as well as the Metropolitan Council of Western Quebec and *l'Union des Chambres de Commerce de l'ouest du Québec* support this movement for promoting tourism in the locality.

(6) The construction of a swimming pool right on the site of the hotel would obviate for the hotel visitors the inconvenience of the public on the beach, that is, it would not upset the arrangement of a huge public beach which is already in progress.

(7) The Lac Philippe site is the ideal spot because it offers a magnificent natural landscape of the utmost beauty; the panoramic view of that lake nestling in the mountains.

(8) The site offers many advantages such as a natural beach, land that is easy to grate, easy to fix up for summer sports (tennis, ball games, etc. . . .); the lake offers the advantages of swimming, boating and fishing. Its mountains are a natural asset which can easily provide access for winter sports.

(9) This luxurious holiday spot will soon be very easy to reach by road. On the one hand the road from Masham to Wakefield is under construction; it is very picturesque and will be still more so when the F.D.C. has erected a covered bridge over the La Pêche River, which it will soon do. On the other hand, according to the plans drawn up by the F.D.C., another no less imposing road will soon connect that place to the capital. It will run a shorter distance, some 18 miles from Hull.

(10) A hotel erected there would become an ideal spot for the visitors of our country and from our Federal Government. It might become a place for picnics or again for national or international conventions.