



## METRO

Date: Sept. 18, 1996

To: Dennis O'Neil, Senior Solid Waste Planner

From: Charles Ciecko, Director RPAG Department C'160

RE: St. John's Landfill Vegetation Planning, Establishment and Maintenance

cc: Emily Roth  
Dan Kromer  
Jim Morgan  
Jim Watkins  
Heather Nelson

With the imminent closure of the St. John's landfill, I feel it is an appropriate time to discuss Regional Parks and Greenspaces interests in the cover vegetation plan. The primary end use designation for the landfill is described in the *Natural Resources Management Plan for Smith and Bybee Lakes* (Policy 14). The landfill area will be "open meadow, which is complimentary to the wetland habitat in the balance of the Smith-Bybee area." This end use should dictate in part how the landfill cover should be established and maintained.

As our department ultimately will be responsible for maintaining the site in the long-term, I want to ensure that an adaptive management plan is developed that meets both erosion control and wildlife habitat goals. In order to do this, the plan needs to address:

- establishment of a native-dominant vegetative cover to encourage wildlife use
- adaptive management techniques and controlled experiments
- phasing of vegetation establishment
- soil and site preparation
- exotic weed control using integrated pest management methods (including the use of herbicides where appropriate)
- long-term maintenance and monitoring needs and costs.

Development of this plan requires expertise and experience in the creation or recreation of open meadow habitats on disturbed sites while controlling exotic vegetation. Contracting plan development with a landscape architect, restoration ecologist or other professional familiar with site rehabilitation may be the best method to obtain the product we need in a timely, cost efficient manner.

I suggest that Regional Environmental Management and Regional Parks and Greenspaces coordinate on the development of the plan to assure achievement of our respective objectives. The RPAG Department looks forward to cooperating and collaborating with REM as you move forward with this important project. Emily Roth, Wildlife Refuge Manager for Smith and Bybee Lakes, will be our primary contact. Emily can be reached at extension 1515.

c:\roth\word\ss&b\veg2memo.doc

**METRO**

Date: October 21, 1996

To: Dennis O'Neil, Sr. Solid Waste Planner, REM

From: Charles Ciecko, Director, Regional Parks and Greenspaces C/c

RE: St. Johns Landfill Vegetation Management

c: Heather Nelson, Jim Watkins

My understanding from your October 10, 1996 memo is that REM will contract the development of the major components of the vegetation management plan to a qualified environmental consultant. As stated in my September 18 memo, this would include:

- establishment of a native-dominant vegetative cover to encourage wildlife use
- adaptive management techniques and controlled experiments
- phasing of vegetation establishment over the next 30 years, including interim plantings
- soil and site preparation
- exotic weed control using integrated pest control methods
- long-term maintenance and monitoring needs and costs.

I also understood from your memo that you would work cooperatively with Emily Roth on developing the scope of work, selecting the consultant, reviewing work as it progresses and final review of the plan. Basically a cooperative effort between the two departments.

If my interpretation of your memo is correct there is no need to respond, just contact Emily to start the process. If I misunderstood, please let Emily know immediately so we can come to an agreement on the best procedure to develop this plan to meet both of our departmental needs.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.