

# Saving the High Head

## THE CRISIS

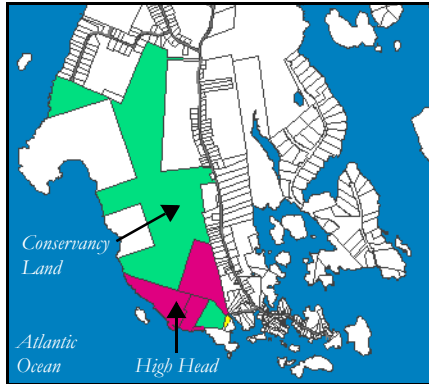
*Development threatens 15 years of work to preserve national treasure*

After fifteen years of volunteer work, with the goal in sight of preserving these 85 acres of magnificent shoreline for Canadians as well as hikers and nature lovers from all over the world, the Prospect High Head is in imminent danger of being lost to real estate development.

The High Head was purchased in early May by local developer Ed Weaver, even as the Nature Conservancy of Canada was negotiating to buy it to prevent development, which would threaten the area's distinctive and fragile ecology, compromise public access, and destroy one of the most breathtaking vistas in all of Nova Scotia.

The Nature Conservancy has managed to put under its protection 240 acres of wilderness oceanfront adjacent to the High Head, but was unable to match the developer's purchase price for the High Head itself.

*BELOW: The High Head near Prospect, one of two granite barrens in Nova Scotia, sacred to native people for centuries, a spiritual sanctuary for all who walk it — will we let it be buried under a subdivision?*



## THE SOLUTION

*WE buy the land from the developer. Your donation is crucial. Time is running out.*

Public protest against any development of the High Head has been widespread. Local HRM Councillor Gary Meade has received more than 700 phone calls, letters and emails. Television, radio and newspaper coverage of the crisis is ongoing. MLA Bill Estabrooks reports support in the provincial legislature for the High Head's preservation.

On May 19, a group of approximately sixty concerned citizens encountered developer Weaver at a preservation strategy workshop held in Prospect, the village bordering the High Head.

The upshot was this: Mr. Weaver is willing to delay development of the High Head while money is raised to buy it from him, or while a trade of similar property is arranged. Since a trade of similar property would involve loss of scenic beauty somewhere else, the conclusion at the workshop (sponsored by the Friends of the High Head and the Prospect Peninsula Residents Association) was to buy the land, starting by raising a minimum of \$50,000. Workshop organizer and Prospect resident Judy Durling said, "We expect this amount to encourage the municipal and provincial governments, as well as the Nature Conservancy, to contribute the remainder of the necessary funds, which we estimate to be in the neighborhood of \$150,000."

## HOW TO GIVE

*Make a \$1,000 pledge. We've already raised \$28,000. Actual cash won't be required for a year.*

Contact Judy Durling at 902-852-3098 or Gilberte Léger at saltichien@hotmail.com — pledge \$1,000 for yourself or a group of friends, family or colleagues. Your donation is tax deductible. Actual cash won't be required till such time as the land is actually purchased, which is expected to take approximately a year. **BUT THE TIME TO SHOW WE MEAN BUSINESS IS NOW!**

