

City should speak up about agreement

Editor:

The local media has been abuzz with the release of the new fishing agreement negotiated by the Ontario MNR with the Saugeen Ojibway Nation. The agreement is a slap in the face to the folks that spend thousands of hours volunteering to enhance the local sport fishery. Gill netting in Owen Sound and Colpoys bay will decimate a thriving sport fishery.

MP Larry Miller and MPP Bill

Walker have spoken out strongly against this agreement. My question is: Where are the voices of the leadership of the stakeholder with the most to lose — the city of Owen Sound.

It is common knowledge that the Salmon Spectacular has poured millions of dollars into the local economy over the years, but what doesn't stand out is the fact that recreational angling is a year round activity in this area. It is a rare day when fishing our waters that you don't

run into anglers from out of town. Recreational angling is by far and away our city's biggest tourist draw.

Our city's gloomy fiscal state is no secret and we can ill afford to lose the revenues associated with recreational angling. If our mayor and council do not wish to stand firmly against this agreement, they best have a good explanation for the taxpayers of Owen Sound.

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