

ITEM	12
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	51
COUNCIL MEETING	July 16/77

Re: SWIMMING AT BARNET MARINE PARK

Following is a report from the Parks and Recreation Administrator dated July 13, 1977 in response to an enquiry from Council at its meeting on July 4, 1977 regarding the question of water safety and the possibility of roping off a swimming area at Barnet Marine Park.

This is for the information of Council.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

DATE: JULY 13, 1977.

FROM: PARKS AND RECREATION ADMINISTRATOR

RE: SWIMMING AT BARNET MARINE PARK.

This is in response to an enquiry from Council at its meeting on the 4th of July, 1977. Since the opening of the park on the 7th of May, 1977, our Aquatic staff have monitored the area on weekends and holidays. They have collected data on water temperatures and air temperatures. They have made observations regarding tides and the pattern of the park use.

Low water temperatures, low air temperatures, changing currents, and the fact that at low tide the deep water drop-off is only approximately three meters from the waters edge, have led to the conclusion that the area is marginal for public swimming.

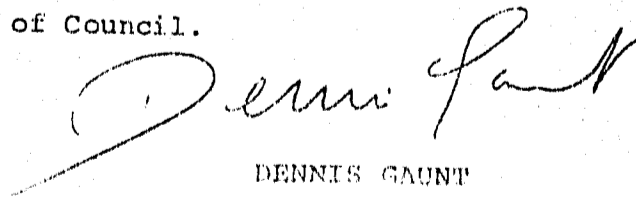
The pattern of water use is as follows:

1. Some hardy swimmers who have been visiting the area for some years swim off the foreshore.
2. During the hottest weather some people dip into the water, especially boat users.
3. Children wade in the shallow water closest to shore.

In the opinion of Staff this level of intermittent use does not warrant the costs of roping off a public swimming area and providing supervision during 1977. Signs have been posted advising that there is danger and swimming is not allowed.

Once the park has been further developed and more intensive public use is taking place, further consideration will be given to designating a controlled supervised public swimming area.

This is for the information of Council.



DENNIS GAUNT

DG/pl