

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

QUESTIONABLE REGINA BYPASS LAND DEALS PUT ENTIRE PROJECT INTO QUESTION

February 3, 2016

Regina, Saskatchewan – With the release of the news of some questionable land deals that occurred to the West of Regina, many are beginning to question the validity of the entire Regina Bypass project. The CBC Regina iTeam unveiled today two specific land transactions which enabled the Global Transportation Hub and West Regina Bypass to go ahead without delay. While these transactions may seem to be a ‘one-off’ anomaly, the Saskatchewan Taxpayers Advocacy Group, along with the Why Tower Road Committee, have found that this unusual situation has been mirrored on the East side of Regina, along Tower Road. Because of this discovery, many are left wondering, just how far does this deception go and what can they do about it?

Long Lake Investment Inc. acquired over 500 Acres along Tower Road, beginning in 2011, at a cost of \$12,500/Acre, Harvard Developments acquired over 140 Acres from Shell Flying J at Tower Road and Victoria Avenue in 2012, at a cost of \$28,000/Acre, and DREAM Developments acquired over 160 Acres in 2007, at a cost of \$2,500/Acre. All three of these entities were then heavily involved in the determination of the final location of the East Regina Bypass 400M to the East of Tower Road in a four day – invite only – brainstorming session that occurred in May 2013. Over 300 Acres of these lands have now been sold to the Provincial Government for the Bypass and Pacer Ball Park Relocation, for anywhere between \$64,000/Acre and \$287,000/Acre. Meanwhile, “mom and pop” landowners are being forced to accept \$1,250 to \$5,000/Acre with the threat of expropriation. For the same gross purchase price that the Provincial Government paid for the 300 acres of land along Tower Road, it could have purchased nearly 5,000 acres at the \$5,000/Acre price only 3 kilometres East at Gravel Pit Road.

With consideration of the gross misgivings occurring right before our very eyes with these land transactions, the Why Tower Road committee feels strongly that **any and all work along Tower Road must cease immediately**, and all attention focused on providing safe roadways for travellers and commuters East and West of the city. *Most notably, the overpasses for Pilot Butte, White City and Grand Coulee.* Reconsideration of the lands along Tower Road would cost taxpayers nothing, and provide more confidence to the taxpayers as the Provincial Election looms around the corner.

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A Joint Press Release by

The Committee for An Alternative Bypass: Why Tower Road? and the Saskatchewan Taxpayers Advocacy Group