



Bulletin #15 – 8 May 2017

## THE THIRD CROSSING - A CAUTIONARY LESSON FROM THE PAST



May 30, 2006. A special meeting of City Council was held to decide whether or not to move ahead with the Large Venue Sports and Entertainment Centre (LVEC). A critical vote. The project budget was then \$41.8 million.

Leading up to the vote, Mayor Rosen had appealed to both the provincial and federal governments for funding.

On May 29, 2006, the city received information from the Ontario Minister of Health Promotion and Sport, Jim Watson (now Mayor of Ottawa) that the city would receive \$4 million from the Building Healthy Communities Fund

The night of the vote, Mayor Rosen presented Council with a fax from the Honourable Lawrence Cannon, Federal Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Communities. It read, in part, "*I ... wish to inform council members that this important project will receive federal consideration if it passes the vote this evening and obtains provincial support.*" According to journalist Jordan Press, "*many believe the fax swung the vote*".

(<http://www.intelligencer.ca/2008/07/26/kingston-k-rock-centre-funding-snap-could-be-barometer-for-yardmen>)

Council voted 8 to 5 in favour of moving ahead with the LVEC project.

The LVEC – now named the Rogers K-Rock Centre – has not yet had a profitable year where revenues pay for operating and capital costs and interest and debt repayment, as promised.

The final bill for the project was \$46.5 million. The province contributed \$4 million. The federal government never provided any funding and the Kingston taxpayer continues to foot the bill.

A Third Crossing will be a commitment of \$180 million plus. Please be on the lookout for false promises.

We will be pleased to discuss any aspect in more detail. Members of our group encourage you to meet with them personally, at your convenience.

Thank you for your consideration.

'nothirdcrossing' Team Spokespersons:

Derek Complin  
Gerry Locklin

*"For a sustainable Kingston living within its means"*

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