BLACK CHERRIES in the BEAVER POND FOREST

Throughout the consultation process on the planned subdivision north of the Beaverpond, the preservation of the Black Cherry component of the current forest cover has been of concern to the community. The "Kanata Official Plan consolidated 2000" made specific reference to the preservation of the Black Cherry component under Section 6.4 Natural Environment Areas, and 6.4.2. Permitted Uses - Policies.

Amendment 28 has caused the old Official Plans of Kanata and the Region to have no legal status. Amendment 28 makes no mention of Urban Natural Features.Amendment 28 states in Section 2.5.1 (Compatibility and Community Design) under design objectives and principles the following: in objective N0. 6;

"To understand and respect natural processes and features, and promote environmental sustainability in development". Principle 1 under that objective reads :
" Protect, integrate and enhance the urban forest, vegetative cover, green spaces and corridors, environmental features and landscapes, and existing topography, where possible and appropriate"

The future preservation of the Black Cherry component of the tree cover north of the Beaverpond remains a valid concern. Black Cherry are scarce in Canada and those in the Ottawa Valley are at the northern fringes of its habitat. In my affidavit I report on the results of a survey of the distribution of the Black cherries (Prunus Serotina Ehrh) in the Beaver Pond Forest . This survey was carried out by three residents, including myself, of the former city of Kanarta, The survey set out to give factual, non-biased, answers to the following questions

- how many live Black Cherry trees among the hardwoods north of the Beaverpond?
- where can the cherries be found among the hardwoods - scattered or in groups?
- what are the sixes of the cherries - do they rang from the small-sized juvenile tree to the large -sized mature commercially valuable tree?
- how significant a component are the Black Cherries of the deciduous Beaverpond forest ?

The easiest and quickest way to understand the results of the survey and the impact the planned sub-division on the Black Cherry growing stock is from a look at four maps.

Map 1 Distribution Pattern of the Black Cherry

Map 2 Distinct Populations of Black Cherry

Map 3 Point Samples in Associated Tree Cover

Map 4 Impact of the Planned Sub-Division on the Black Cherry Population