

NEWS

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Dean calls for repair of Big Brook bridge 🚗

Northern Pen

Questions linger over the existing gaps between a local cemetery and families who visit the gravesites regularly after the provincial government's announcement on Nov. 20 to remove bridges on the northern peninsula, Straits-White Bay North MHA Marshall Dean says.

Mr. Dean said for many years local families used the Big Brook bridge to access the remains of loved ones. S

everal people still wish to be buried in the cemetery and there are others who want to visit and maintain gravesites of relatives, he added.

"This is a very emotional issue for many people who live in this area of the Northern Peninsula," he said, adding that there is no plan to replace the bridges.

"While government looked strictly at the safety factor of removing these structures, they certainly didn't consider the emotional attachment that many residents had to the cemetery on the other side. For years, the bridges were maintained by the province and there was no indication that they would be removed."

Unfortunately, he said, government has not indicated that it has no plan to establish any replacement structures in the area, which has an impact on local residents who wish to access the cemetery.

"I appeal to the Minister of Transportation to look at the human factor involved in this issue and realize that there are strong emotional bonds attached with this cemetery. If there is any possible way to install another structure to allow access, I am requesting that government look at this option and what it could mean to the families involved."

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