

Old wharf forms hazard — Kitz

A Northwest Arm wharf has reached so serious a state of disrepair — despite promises by the city that it will be fixed — it constitutes a threat to local children, says former Halifax mayor Leonard A. Kitz.

The Oakland Road Wharf has continued to decay to the point where it now represents a serious hazard to all area residents, Mr. Kitz said.

"This unsatisfactory situation has been permitted to go on for an inordinately long period of time, and action is long overdue," he says in a letter to the city.

He says the wharf is a "serious danger" to his grandchildren and other youngsters who play along the shore of the Arm.

"The present exposed, broken wharf is, in legal jargon, a trap."

According to the former mayor, the wharf is now in even worse condition than one year ago when city council promised repairs.

"In these days of escalating insurance premiums, I suggest your underwriters would blanch at the sight."

Mr. Kitz has been campaigning for improvements to the wharf for a number of years, and has stepped up his efforts in the wake of a move last year by council to remove the project from the city's capital project list for 1986.

During capital budget deliberations by council near the end of 1985 the project was declared "low priority" and pushed to the back burner.

Mr. Kitz says he has difficulties understanding the city's treatment of the problem.