

## News Releases and Backgrounders

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### News Releases

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## ***Minister Prentice Announces Creation of the Water Management Advisory Council for the Trent-Severn Waterway***

**Peterborough, Ontario, March 9, 2010**--The Honourable Jim Prentice, Canada's Environment Minister and Minister responsible for Parks Canada, today announced the creation and membership of the Trent-Severn Water Management Advisory Council. The establishment of the Council is part of the Government's Action Plan for the Future of the Trent-Severn Waterway announced on September 25, 2009.

"I am pleased to announce the creation of a Water Management Advisory Council for the Trent Severn Waterway," said Minister Prentice. "It is a pleasure to welcome these dedicated individuals representing a range of organizations with an interest in water management to participate in the important work of developing a shared vision for a balanced approach for water management."

In response to a motion that received unanimous consent in the House of Commons, an independent review Panel on the Future of the Trent-Severn Waterway was asked to undertake a comprehensive evaluation of the Waterway's potential reflecting the value of this economic generator in the heartland of Ontario. In April 2008, the Panel on the Future of the Trent-Severn Waterway submitted a report to the Minister of the Environment entitled "It's All About the Water", outlining recommendations for the future of the Waterway. In reply to this report the Government of Canada created a Water Management Advisory Council as one part of its Action Plan.

The Water Management Advisory Council will provide expert and stakeholder advice to Parks Canada on how to best carry out its responsibilities for water management throughout the Trent and Severn River watersheds. Members of the council will review water management policies, provide advice on issues and develop a shared vision for the balanced approach for the management of the two river watersheds. This Advisory Council will also contribute to a more transparent decision-making process regarding water allocation decisions.

The Water Management Advisory Council will include the following community members:

Ken Pipher, Interim Chair  
Bill Lawrence  
Chris Riddle  
Robert R. Allen  
John R. A. Gullick  
Alan G. Appleby  
Allan J. Heritage  
Keith Hodgson

The council will also include representatives from government-based organizations, including the Kawartha Conservation Authority, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment Canada and Parks Canada's Trent-Severn Waterway. In addition, First Nations representation from within the Watershed will soon be confirmed.

"The creation of the Water Management Advisory Council serves as another tangible expression of the Government's Action Plan for the Trent-Severn Waterway," said Mr. Barry Devolin, Member of Parliament for Haliburton Kawartha Lakes Brock. "I would like to express my appreciation to the members for contributing their time and perspectives as volunteers in the important work of the Council."

Originally built for commerce and transportation, the Trent-Severn Waterway National Historic Site of Canada is a 386 kilometre- long heritage corridor that offers opportunities for both natural and cultural experiences.

For additional information, please see the accompanying backgrounder at [www.parkscanada.gc.ca](http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca) under Media Room.

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**Backgrounder associated with this News Release.**

[Parks Canada Initiates Water Management Advisory Council](#)

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### Backgrounder

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## ***Parks Canada Initiates Water Management Advisory Council***

The Government of Canada's action plan for the renewal of the Trent Severn Waterway announced in September 2009, in response to the Panel Report on the Future of the Trent Severn Waterway, provided for the creation of a council to advise Parks Canada on water management in the context of a wide range of community needs and interests.

As a follow up to this commitment, Parks Canada is establishing a Water Management Advisory Council (WMAC) that will engage its members in a review of water management policies, provide advice on issues, and develop a shared vision for a balanced approach to the management of the two watersheds. This Advisory Council will contribute to a more transparent decision-making process regarding water allocation decisions.

#### Mandate of the Council

Reporting to the Field Unit Superintendent, the mandate of the Trent-Severn Waterway Water Management Advisory Council is to provide expert and stakeholder advice on how Parks Canada can best carry out its responsibilities for water management throughout the Trent and Severn River watersheds, and achieve an appropriate balance among its water management goals.

The role of the Council will be to:

- Review and propose amendments, from time to time, to the goals for water management;
- Assist in the development and monitoring of water management performance measures;
- Provide advice on technical matters related to water management;
- Foster working relationships and communications between Parks Canada, stakeholders and other government agencies in matters relevant to water management in the two watersheds;
- Facilitate knowledge and information sharing between all interested parties;
- Identify needs for public information related to the management of water in the two watersheds;
- Facilitate communication between water managers and stakeholder organizations and citizens; and
- Ensure that water management planning and operation occurs with a sound awareness of stakeholder issues and concerns throughout the two watersheds.

Stakeholders, including organizations that represent the interests of waterfront property owners, will participate as members of the Council. In addition, First Nation representation from within the Watershed will soon be confirmed. Members will be appointed for a two-year term to a maximum of four years, on a volunteer basis.

Membership is as follows:

Interim Chair - Ken Pipher  
Whatever Solutions & Media Inc, President

Bill Lawrence  
Severn River Association of Property Owners

Chris Riddle  
Coalition for Equitable Water Flow

Robert Allen  
Ontario Waterpower Association

John Gullick  
Canadian Power and Sail Squadron

Allan Appleby  
Community representative for the lower Trent River area

To be determined  
First Nations

Allan J. Heritage  
Voices of the Trent

Keith Hodgson  
Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association

To be determined  
Environment Canada

Monique Rolf von den Baumen-Clark  
Regional Planning Manager Southern Region

Rob Messervey  
Kawartha Conservation Authority, CAO

Dave Ness  
TSW Water Management Engineer

Jack Alexander  
Ex-officio, TSW Director of Canal Operations

The council will work collaboratively and in the public interest to develop recommendations based on consensus. Meetings are expected to be held semi-annually.

Parks Canada will provide administrative support to the Council, and the Director of Canal Operations (Trent Severn Waterway) will serve in an ex officio capacity to provide technical expertise.

An initial orientation meeting was held on January 28th, 2010.

**News Release associated with this Backgrounder.**

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