



September 29, 2007.

**Submission to the Panel on the Future of the Trent Severn Waterway**

Dear lady and gentlemen:

As an adjunct to the September 28<sup>th</sup> submission to the Panel by the Eastern Ontario CFDC (EOCFDC) Network, the Kawartha Lakes CFDC would like to expand upon a discussion point that it engaged the panel on in the two (Bobcaygeon, Lindsay) public consultations it attended.

This concept is not meant to usurp the work and the tremendous idea being put forward by the Trentval CFDC with regards to an "Eco Centre" in the Trenton area. In fact, it can build off of that centre as a "hub", which was also mentioned within the EOCFDC submission.

This idea provides an answer to the Panel's question that was asked in Lindsay, "How do you link this 'community of communities' that exists along the Trent Severn Waterway?" To our recollection, it was Mr. Peters who asked this question. In response, we provide the following:

**With regards to Trent Severn Waterway's Future:**

The Kawartha Lakes CFDC is extremely encouraged by the present efforts of the panel exploring opportunities that could avail themselves with regards to this essential part of central and eastern Ontario.

It is our intent to extend our support to the effort through whatever means we can as a true partner; and we would be elated if indeed, we could develop the components together that will serve to have this part of both our heritage and our future continue as the integral piece of our daily existence that it is.

*...extremely                      encouraged                      efforts                      exploring*  
*essential                      extend                      elated                      existence...*

It seems that the future of the Trent Severn Waterway System may, indeed, rest in the "e"s.



## **Environment**

We see any continuing or new activity involving the TSW as maintaining the natural environment as a top priority. It aligns itself with our own Community Vision and indeed is paramount to much of what the Trent Severn delivers.

## **Excellence**

We know that from both a standard of service as well as within any new objectives established that excellence must be inherent in what is proposed—be it to the boaters who use the TSW, or the communities where it is situated.

## **Education**

In terms of both maximizing the 'lessons learned' in developing new ideas, as well as in sharing the rich history and looking to the future, the TSW has such tremendous knowledge we can all benefit from, and still much more to learn that we can impart upon generations to come.

And finally...**Eco-minded**—both from the perspective of **Ecology** and the **Ecological** aspects that make the TSW such an integral part of what takes place in Eastern Ontario but also from the perspective of **Economic Development** and the critical role the TSW has on the **Economies** of so many of our communities; and the opportunities by which this can continue to *evolve* in the future.

To briefly expand on this, we see an opportunity to create a series of visitor centres along the route of the Trent Severn. These would be experiential, interpretive and educational centres that can communicate the many cultural, geological, historical and educational aspects of life along the Trent Severn. Each community (county/municipality) could house a different 'centre', if you will. These could focus on a different component: forestry, geology, arts and culture, ecology (Trenton Eco Centre), fish and wildlife.

These centres would provide an excellent tourism destination during the TSW season as well as an educational opportunity, which would be available all year of course but also be tied to the regional boards of education and potentially become a part of their curriculum during the school year. The centres could also create opportunities for some limited commercial development, increased docking—within being environmentally compliant—and generally speaking, an enhanced boating experience along the TSW.



Finally, and most significantly in our thinking, the centres would indeed link the communities along the Trent, creating a more cohesive and evident Trent Severn community of information, education, attraction and awareness of one of our greatest resources. An excellent opportunity to combine these activities with commerce—and what it can bring to the operation of the Waterway.

In closing, please know that we have discussed this idea in detail—first as a corporation dedicated to improving the business and economic prosperity of the community we serve; as well as a municipal partner and as a group of CFDCs. All our discussions have led to a favourable pre-disposition to the concept and an interest in participating.

As the Eastern Ontario CFDC submission stipulates, our role is to act as catalysts for the facilitation of economic development and renewal. All 15 CFDCs share this mandate and in preliminary discussions, those CFDCs aware of this idea see its potential to deliver on this objective. Bringing it back to the City of Kawartha Lakes, we are sure of the shared interest and enthusiasm and feel confident that as a partner, there would be a willingness to be involved—once the idea was formally presented. We further believe the same holds true of all the CFDCs in Eastern Ontario and the areas they represent. Based on the feedback/ recommendations from the Panel, we would look towards establishing further discussions and possibly a task team to begin greater development of the idea.

As we respectfully submit this suggestion for your consideration, the Kawartha Lakes CFDC salutes the efforts of the Panel on the Future of the Trent Severn Waterway. We recognize the complexities and diversity of the task you face in preparing your recommendations. We would look to answer any questions or provide more detail—as presently available, with regards to our submission.

We thank you for your time and look forward to your recommendations.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, I remain,  
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Wallen".

Andrew Wallen.  
General Manager.

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