

July 30,2007

The Panel on the Future of the Trent-Severn Waterway,
185 King Street., Ste. 100,
Peterborough, Ontario.
K9J 2R8

Dear Sir or Madam.

I am writing to you about the article in the Promoter "Missing Buoys May Be Costly". As long time boaters we were appalled this spring to read the list of marker buoys that had been removed from the Trent Waterways. We were even more surprised that this had been done as a cost saving measure! !! It does not seem to be logical to remove aids to navigation that make the charts work to know one's location. We know of one boater who lost a propeller and drive shaft because he met an underwater piling. Interestingly enough that marker buoy was replaced the next day. The boater, however, had to delay his holiday awaiting costly repairs. We have traveled the Trent-Severn waterway extensively over the years and have enjoyed our travels.

We have just returned from a trip up the Rideau Canal. All the marker buoys are in place and there is a volunteer organization that marks rocks that are hiding just under the water waiting for boaters. It seems to me that if you wish to attract boaters to the waterways, safety is a major concern. We could not recommend to boaters that we met, that the Trent Severn is as well marked as the Rideau. Word travels very quickly in boating circles and the Trent Severn people may have done some serious damage to the safety of the system. Hopefully, all the marker buoys will be replaced soon.

Jenny Crawford