



Coalition for
Equitable
Water Flow

June 8th, 2009

The Hon. John Gerretsen
Ontario Minister of Environment
135 St. Clair Ave., W., 12th Floor
Toronto, ON M4V 1P5

Dear Minister Gerretsen:

The Coalition for Equitable Water Flow represents over 40,000 waterfront property owners on the reservoir and flow-through (RAFT) lakes in Haliburton County, the northern parts of the City of Kawartha Lakes and Peterborough County. When you consider visitors to the cottages/homes the number of Ontario residents who experience the lifestyle offered in our area easily exceeds 250,000 every summer.

The Coalition was disappointed when the province of Ontario did not participate in the process initiated by the federal government to evaluate the future of the Trent-Severn Waterway. We expected to see something from your Ministry in light of its responsibility for the issuance of water taking permits within the watersheds of the TSW. The expert Panel appointed by MOE Canada as a result of the unanimous passing of Private Members Motion 161 produced a comprehensive report entitled, 'It's All About the Water'. I believe our MPP, Rick Johnson has provided you with a copy of that report. If not, it is available both on our website www.cewf.ca and at www.tswpanel.ca. Many background discussion papers provided the Panel with detailed information that assisted them in their deliberations. In addition, we and hundreds of other groups/individuals made personal and sometimes passionate presentations at several public meetings conducted by the Panel.

The Coalition strongly supports the Panel's recommendation for the creation of an independent water management agency and adequate long term funding.

Does your Ministry intend to respond to the Panel's Report, specifically Recommendation No. 4 (Page 20) of that report? If so, when? If not, why not?

Sincerely,

Bonnie Fleischaker, Chair
Coalition for Equitable Water Flow-Haliburton Sector, TSW

Copy: Trent-Severn Caucus:

R. Johnson, MPP Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Brock
J. Leal, MPP Peterborough
L. Rinaldi, MPP Northumberland
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