

Joint Statement by: Voices for the Trent-Severn Waterway & Coalition for Equitable Water Flow

September 1, 2010

The 'Voices' and the Coalition endorse the following statements contained in the Report of The Panel on the Future of the Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW) – *'It's All About The Water'*:

"The Trent-Severn Waterway is one of Canada's jewels with the extraordinary potential to serve Canadians and the people of Ontario in many ways".

".. the waterway is really a vast water management system with a navigation channel running through it. To consider the lakes and rivers of the navigation channel as separate from the rest of the system is neither ecologically tenable nor advisable in planning for the future of the waterway".

Furthermore, we agree that an integrated approach to water management throughout the watershed is required in order to address the following key priorities for the watershed and the Trent-Severn Waterway system*:

- Flood management;
- Adequate water flows to sustain water quality;
- Water conservation throughout the watershed;
- Safe navigation and access to waterfront property on all navigable watercourses, by maintaining the historic** navigation water levels on the reservoir, flow-through and canal lakes; and
- Sufficient sustained funding to restore, upgrade and maintain the TSW system infrastructure, and to bring the operations up to modern standards.

Our two organizations also agree upon the need to educate and inform our respective members and key stakeholders as to the merits of the TSW system and to provide advice to Parks Canada through its Water Management Advisory Council for the TSW.

* The term "TSW system" is understood to include all physical infrastructure related to the operation of the Trent-Severn Waterway within the Trent and Severn watersheds. This includes the canal locks and control devices (dams), as well as all control structures throughout the reservoir and flow-through lakes.

** Historic is understood to reflect the established norms of the past 20 years (1990-2010).