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## News Releases and Backgrounders

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### News Releases

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## ***Parks Canada Making Record Investments to Trent-Severn Waterway***

### ***Committing to the future of our waterways and its communities***

March 14, 2014 Peterborough, ON Parks Canada

Parks Canada is supporting communities and businesses along the historic Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW) by investing \$58 million over the next two years in major capital projects and ongoing preventative maintenance. Dr. Colin Carrie – the Parliamentary Secretary to Environment Minister Leona Aglukkaq and Minister responsible for Parks Canada, joined by Daryl Kramp, Member of Parliament for Prince Edward Hastings – made the announcement today on the Minister’s behalf at the Peterborough Lift Lock visitor Centre on the TSW.

The major capital projects include:

Peterborough

- Thompson Bay Dam Reconstruction – \$1.5M
- Otonabee Dam Deck Rehabilitation - \$7.6M

Other TSW locations

- Bolsolver Dam Reconstruction - \$24.1M
- Kennesis Dam - \$3.5M
- Healy Falls Concrete Rehabilitation – \$0.7M
- Hastings Swing Bridge - \$4M
- Brighton Swing Bridge - \$4.6M

The funding announced today also includes \$11.5 million over the next two years across the TSW for dam safety and in preventative maintenance projects for bridges, dams, lock gates and retaining walls as well as the management of navigation markers, and visitor facilities.

### **Quick Facts**

- The funding announced today is in addition to the \$391.5 million announced in the 2014 Economic Action Plan for highways, bridges and dams in national parks and along historic canals. Details on this funding will come later.
- The Government of Canada continues to work with partners and communities to help canals be a premier tourism destination, generate revenue, foster recreation and economic development, and ultimately build strong communities and support Canadian families.
- Parks Canada is gearing up for a new summer season along its historic canals by offering boaters early bird special rates for their permits, which they can buy on-line until March 31, 2014 at

[www.parkscanada.gc.ca](http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca)

## **Quotes**

"Our government has made record investments to our world renowned canals in order for them to remain premiere tourist destinations. These waterways encourage outdoor recreation, foster economic development which supports Canadian families, and ultimately, build stronger communities. We will continue to work with our partners to preserve these national treasures."

Dr. Colin Carrie, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of the Environment

## **Additional Links**

- [Trent-Severn Waterway National Historic Site of Canada \(www.pc.gc.ca/eng/lhn-nhs/on/trentsevern/index.aspx\)](http://www.pc.gc.ca/eng/lhn-nhs/on/trentsevern/index.aspx)

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## **Backgrounder associated with this News Release.**

[The Government of Canada is investing record amounts in our historic canals](#)

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### Backgrounder

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## *The Government of Canada is investing record amounts in our historic canals*

Over the next two years Parks Canada is investing up to \$58 million towards bridges, dams and other infrastructure along the Rideau Canal and Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW).

The funding announced today also includes \$11.5 million over the next two years across the TSW for dam safety and in preventative maintenance projects for bridges, dams, lock gates and retaining walls as well as the management of navigation markers, and visitor facilities.

Below are some of the major projects highlights.

### **Trent-Severn Waterway**

#### **Thompson Bay Dam Reconstruction – total investment of \$1.5M**

Thompson's Bay Dam, built in 1925 and located on the Otonabee River in Peterborough, is an earthen embankment with a concrete spillway. It is a key asset for maintaining water levels on the Trent-Severn Waterway and its overflow spillway provides the water flow necessary for the ecology of the downstream creek. It also forms a part of the Peterborough trail system.

This investment will recapitalize the dam and ensure safe water management for years to come.

#### **Otonabee Dam Deck Rehabilitation - total investment of \$7.6 million**

The dam at Lock 23 is located on the Otonabee River in Peterborough adjacent to Canal Road. It's an essential piece of water management infrastructure and facilitates hydroelectric power generation in the city of Peterborough. The investment will see the dam's deck replaced and repairs made to its concrete piers. Rehabilitation of this significant piece of infrastructure is important for the waterway to function properly as one entity and also so that employees maintaining and operating the site remain safe.

#### **Kennisis Dam Rehabilitation – total investment of \$3.5M**

Parks Canada will invest in work at Kennisis Lake Dam as a part of our integrated asset management program. It was built in 1950 and serves to manage water levels between Kennisis and Red Pine Lakes in the Trent-Severn Waterway watershed. The dam will be rebuilt or see a major rehabilitation, pending the outcome of the options analysis. Parks Canada will be working with stakeholders like the municipality, neighbours, and Public Works & Government Services Canada to develop the specific project plan.

#### **Rehabilitation of Healey Falls Lock 15 – total investment of \$0.7 million**

Contractors for Parks Canada are in the final stages toward completion of major concrete work at Healey Falls Lock 15, near Campbellford in the southern area of the Trent-Severn Waterway. The work has been taking place over the winter months and has included the removal of 300mm of deteriorated concrete, the installation of reinforcing steel, and the casting of new concrete, inside and immediately outside the lock.

Parks Canada completes much of its work to infrastructure on canals over the winter months. Although this introduces many challenges, this is done to ensure the continuation of navigation during the tourism

season.

**Bolsover Dam at Lock 37 – total investment of \$24.1 million**

The Dam at Lock 37 is located in Bolsover on the Trent-Severn Waterway, in what is known as the historic Talbot section. The relatively unchanged appearance and operation of this section of man-made canal between Lake Simcoe and Balsam Lake is one of the main reasons that the Trent-Severn Waterway is designated a National Historic Site.

In the construction phase, Parks Canada will remove the existing dam, build a new dam in the same location, and do the necessary work to build and remove temporary cofferdams above and below the dam construction site. At the same time, a flow diversion system will be built and then removed so that water continues to flow during construction. Parks Canada will salvage and reuse the dam's historical operational features.

Parks Canada has considered many factors to determine the design of the new structure, including safety, operation, cost, policy, and the importance of this section of a national historic site that Parks Canada protects. Modern construction techniques will improve the structure and ensure its longevity for future generations, while also striving to maintain the look of this culturally significant landscape.

**Hastings Swing Bridge Replacement – total investment of \$4 million**

Parks Canada will replace the Hastings Swing Bridge in the Village of Hastings, southeast of Peterborough on the Otonabee River. The Agency's priorities during this project are to ensure that the bridge is safe, that disruption is minimal, and that the village and surrounding communities have a sound link well into the future.

**Brighton Swing Bridge – total investment of \$4.6 million**

The Brighton Road swing bridge spans the Murray Canal and is located in the municipality of Quinte West. The bridge is one of two routes across the Murray Canal and one of five routes into Prince Edward County. It provides an important link between the municipalities of Brighton and Quinte West on the north side of the Murray Canal and Prince Edward County on the south side.

Parks Canada will replace the current Brighton Swing Bridge with one that has a full highway load rating and no restrictions for emergency and service vehicles.

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