



CANADIAN HERITAGE RIVERS SYSTEM

*Nomination Document*  
*for the*  
*Ottawa River*  
*Ontario*  
2006



Ottawa River Heritage Designation Committee

**Submitted to the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board  
by the Government of Ontario, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario Parks**

Produced by



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John Edward Gardiner Curran Collection/Library and Archives Canada/C-055206.

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# River Nomination

- Whereas, the Ottawa River played a key role throughout the history of Canada, both before and after European settlement, as a major trade route, and as such is known as the original “trans-Canada highway.”
- Whereas, the Ottawa River and surrounding region is of outstanding cultural heritage value as the heartland of the Algonquin people and their culture.
- Whereas, the Ottawa River is of outstanding cultural heritage value as the definitive route of Canadian exploration, providing Canada’s most famous European explorers such as Samuel de Champlain, Nicollet, Radisson, De Troyes, La Vérendrye, Mackenzie and Franklin with a passage into central and western North America. The Ottawa River provided a critical link to other Canadian Heritage Rivers, including the Mattawa and LaVase Portages, the French, the Boundary Waters – Voyageur Water Route, and the Rideau Waterway.
- Whereas, the Ottawa River corridor was critical to the development of commercial enterprise, mapping and the settlement of Canada.
- Whereas, the Ottawa River is of outstanding cultural heritage value as the gateway to Canada’s most famous fur trade routes used during the *coureurs de bois* and *voyageur* era in Canada. The Ottawa River served as the earliest route of commerce for the Northwest Company and later for the Hudson’s Bay Company. Forts and trading posts were established along the shoreline of the Ottawa River from Lake Timiskaming to Chute a Blondeau.
- Whereas, the city of Ottawa, bordering the Ottawa River, is the National Capital of Canada. Ottawa is the seat of the federal government, and showcases Canada’s most significant culture and history.
- Whereas, the significant contributions of the French in North America spanning almost four hundred years include a legacy of exploration, mapping, commerce and settlement along the Ottawa River, beginning with Étienne Brûlé’s explorations in 1608. The French seigneuries along the Ottawa River included L’Orignal, the earliest seigneury in Ontario, and one of very few in the province.
- Whereas, at the head of Lake Timiskaming at the river’s northern-most reaches, the Little Claybelt, created by glacial lakes, spawned settlement resulting in today’s great northern agricultural belt of Ontario.
- Whereas, the Ottawa River provided access to rich forests along its tributaries and served as a route to transport large rafts of squared timber and sawn logs to Quebec City en route to Great Britain for the Royal Navy. Large-scale sale of lumber to New England was used to build the cities of Boston, New York and Chicago. This expansion of trade acted as an economic engine that drove Canada’s early commercial development.
- Whereas, the Ottawa River’s significant water power has been harnessed over the centuries, driving the region’s grist mills and saw mills, and currently producing a significant portion of Ontario’s hydroelectricity.
- Whereas, the Ottawa River is the largest tributary of the St. Lawrence River and Seaway, playing a major role in the St. Lawrence basin ecosystem.

- Whereas, the average flow of the Ottawa River is one of the greatest of Canada's rivers, with a total length of 1271 kilometres and a watershed covering 146,300 square kilometres, twice the size of New Brunswick.
- Whereas, the Ottawa River traverses easily accessible, visible segments of the lithosphere that represent the past 3 billion years of the Earth's history, and is the only Canadian river that crosses four major geological subdivisions.
- Whereas, the Ottawa River provides habitat for over 300 species of birds, and is one of the continent's most important flyways.
- Whereas, the rich ecosystems of the Ottawa River sustain more than 80 species at risk, including the Loggerhead Shrike, Eastern Cougar, Bald Eagle, and American Ginseng.
- Whereas, the Ottawa River contains a section of whitewater that is renowned as a world-class paddling and rafting destination.
- Whereas, the Ottawa River watershed provides access to Ontario's most popular canoe/camping parks; Algonquin, Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater and Mattawa River Provincial Parks.
- Therefore, it is recommended by the Province of Ontario that the entire section of 618 kilometres of the Ottawa River bordering the Province of Ontario, from the head of Lake Timiskaming to its junction with the St. Lawrence at the Lake of Two Mountains, be nominated to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System for the purpose of recognizing, celebrating and conserving the River's outstanding cultural heritage values..

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Honourable David Ramsey  
Minister of Natural Resources, Minister Responsible for Aboriginal Affairs  
Province of Ontario

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Date

# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### 1.1 The Ottawa River Heritage Designation Initiative

Citizen interest in honouring the Ottawa River as a Canadian Heritage River has been building over several years. In 2003, the Ottawa River Heritage Designation Committee (ORHDC) was formed in order to spearhead the process. This citizens' group represents the general public, organizations, agencies and municipalities along the Ottawa River.

ORHDC completed a substantial background study of the heritage values of the Ottawa River in fall 2005. Local experts in the fields of archaeology, geology, Aboriginal history, regional river history and river-based artwork contributed written chapters to the study. Several regional sub-committees were formed to coordinate public involvement and the gathering of research describing key heritage values in each region.

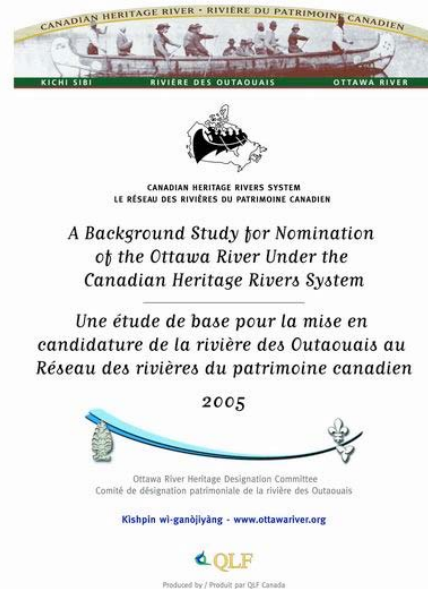
The Quebec-Labrador Foundation (QLF) is a non-profit organization that was contracted to write the background study and coordinate aspects of the sub-committee contributions. QLF has also been contracted to coordinate and write this nomination document.

In addition to overseeing the creation of a background study and nomination document, ORHDC coordinates a public involvement strategy that includes their website, <http://www.ottawariver.org>, as well as a series of public consultations along the river.

The Ottawa River Heritage Designation Committee notes with regret, the Quebec Government's decision not to pursue nomination of the Quebec portion of the river at this time.

Nomination and designation of the Ontario portion of the Ottawa River as a Canadian Heritage River would significantly increase awareness of the river's unique cultural, natural and recreational values as well as enhancing the profile of the river and encouraging its conservation and sustainable management.

Figure 1.1 Ottawa River Background Study



### 1.1.1 Ottawa River Heritage Designation Committee Structure

Elder William Commanda, Honorary Chair, Kitigan Zibi, Maniwaki, Quebec

#### Executive Committee

Len Hopkins, Co-Chair representing the Province of Ontario, Petawawa, Ontario

Chief Kirby Whiteduck, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan, Golden Lake, Ontario

Chief Harry St. Denis, Wolf Lake First Nation, Témiscaming, Quebec

#### Administrative Support

Brian Grimsey, Canadian Heritage Rivers System, Parks Canada, Gatineau, Quebec

Nicole Desroches, Conseil régional de l'environnement et du développement durable de l'Outaouais, Gatineau, Quebec

Jim Fraser, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario Parks, Pembroke, Ontario

Adrienne Blattel and Simone Hanchet, Quebec-Labrador Foundation, Montreal, Quebec

#### Ontario Steering Committee

Lake Timiskaming Region:

- Norm Hawirko, Keenabeek, Ontario
- Chris Oslund, Haileybury, Ontario

Mattawa Region:

- Garry Thibert, Mattawa, Ontario

North Renfrew County Region:

- Lyall Smith, Deep River, Ontario
- Doug Champ, Deep River, Ontario

South Renfrew County Region:

- Fred Blackstein, Laurentian Valley, Ontario
- Larry Graham, Pembroke, Ontario

National Capital Region:

- Cam McNeil, Ottawa, Ontario

Prescott-Russell Region

- Dr. Paule Doucet, L'Orignal, Ontario
- Louise Bissonnette, L'Orignal, Ontario

Information Support:

- Charles Langlais, Interpreter (short documents), Deep River, Ontario
- Ray Metcalfe, Technical Writing Review, Deep River, Ontario

### 1.1.2 Community Support and Involvement

Support for nominating the Ontario portion of the Ottawa River as a Canadian Heritage River is widespread. While not presently a Quebec government priority, many individuals representing organizations in both Ontario and Quebec have contributed to this initiative. Extensive onsite meetings have taken place in communities along the Ontario portion of the river between the spring of 2003 and the winter of 2005. These meetings represent a major strength of the Ottawa River nomination process, and have enabled the engagement of a diverse group of citizens and organizations. Please refer to Appendix A: Community Meetings along the Ottawa River, for a list of meetings to date.

Figure 1.2 Ontario Chair Len Hopkins Launching the Ottawa River Heritage Designation Project



*La participation des gens de divers milieux aux séances d'information publiques a été étonnante. Un groupe de travail a été formé et parmi les membres on y retrouve un représentant des Comtés unis de Prescott et Russell, des résidents de partout en région ainsi que d'autres qui ont signifié leur intérêt d'agir à titre de personnes-ressources. Tous souhaitent voir le projet avancer et progresser jusqu'à la désignation de la rivière des Outaouais comme rivière patrimoniale du Canada.*

- Prescott-Russell Region Working Group

### **1.1.3 Methodology**

The Ottawa River Nomination Document identifies significant cultural, natural and recreational values found along the Ontario side of the Ottawa River and justifies the Ontario government's pursuit of Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) status for its portion of the river. The nomination is based on the river's outstanding cultural heritage values in fulfillment of the submission requirements of the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board.

## **1.2 The Canadian Heritage Rivers System**

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) was created by the Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments to recognize outstanding and exemplary rivers of Canada and to ensure the sustainable management of their heritage values for generations to come. To qualify for inclusion in the Canadian Heritage Rivers System, a river or section of a river must demonstrate outstanding cultural heritage and/or natural heritage values, and offer quality recreational opportunities.

The Canadian Heritage Rivers Board is comprised of representatives named by the federal government, and all provinces and territories. Participation in the CHRS is voluntary, and participants retain their traditional legislative authority, including land ownership and management.

In order to gain Canadian Heritage River status, a citizen-led group and/or government jurisdiction must come forward to propose a river to the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board, proving that it meets one or more of the natural or cultural selection guidelines, as well as a set of integrity guidelines, as defined by CHRS (2001).

This typically involves compiling a background study of the heritage values and recreational potential of the river, from which a succinct nomination report is written and then presented formally before the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board. Once a river's nomination is accepted, work commences involving stakeholders and members of the public along the river to generate a heritage strategy, proposing general guidelines of sound practices which promote the sustainable use and conservation of the river's heritage resources. The heritage strategy is not prescriptive, and does not involve any legislation or restrictions. Once the heritage strategy is completed, the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board considers the river for designation.

Gaining status as a Canadian Heritage River brings with it numerous advantages, including increased coordination between organizations along the river, better conservation of natural and cultural heritage, and a strengthened regional tourism sector.

## 1.3 Location and Description of the Ottawa River

The Ottawa River is known by the Algonquin community as the Kichi Sibi, or Big River, and as the Rivière des Outaouais in French. The section of the Ottawa River to be nominated as a Canadian Heritage River is the section bordering the Province of Ontario, including all of Lake Timiskaming to the junction of the Ottawa River with the St. Lawrence in the Lake of Two Mountains, a stretch of 618 kilometres. The section to be nominated is located in eastern Ontario and western Quebec.

The Ottawa River flows 1271 kilometres from its source deep in the wilderness of Abitibi-Témiscamingue until it joins the St. Lawrence River west of Montreal, making it the second-longest Canadian river flowing to the Atlantic Ocean. The river flows west through a series of major lakes including Quinze, Simard and Grand Lac Victoria, and continues south through Lake Timiskaming. After a sharp turn east, the river follows the best-known part of its course over 500 kilometres to Montreal.

The Ottawa Waterway, as the section from Hawkesbury to Mattawa is known, gave early explorer's access to the Northern Sea, the Pacific Ocean and the Mississippi. The waterway flows through regions named for the river: the Upper and Lower Ottawa Valleys in Ontario. Along its path the river encounters rural areas, towns, and the nation's more urbanised capital region of Ottawa.

The Ottawa River flows along the border between the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. The watershed, draining an area of 146,300 square kilometres, is divided by the river. The Ottawa River is the greatest tributary of the St. Lawrence, and is Canada's 8<sup>th</sup> largest river in terms of mean discharge volume.

Notable upper tributaries include the Montreal River, flowing into the lower end of Lake Timiskaming, the Mattawa River, a Canadian Heritage River, and the Petawawa River. In mid-river, the Bonnechere, Madawaska and Mississippi Rivers enter the Ottawa River at Arnprior. Down stream, the Rideau Waterway, also a Canadian Heritage River, flows into the river at the City of Ottawa, while the South Nation River empties into the river near Wendover.

Originally, the Ottawa River consisted of mighty rapids alternating with lakes. The main rapids of the historic Ottawa River have been tamed by hydroelectric dams, making use of the Ottawa's total vertical drop of around 400 metres. Today, the major untamed rapids remaining along the Ottawa River are located in the Rocher Fendu section near La Passe.

## 1.4 Role of the Ottawa River in the Canadian Heritage Rivers System

The Ottawa River possesses a number of cultural heritage themes that are significant and possibly unique from a Canadian perspective. The Ottawa River would add to or enhance current CHRS cultural heritage theme representation by recognizing the following cultural heritage values:

- A major historic trade and travel route to the heart of North America, earning its status as the original "trans-Canada highway". It is interesting to note that much of the major exploration and trade in the continent began and ended with a trip on the Ottawa River, including travel along other Canadian Heritage Rivers.
- The legacy of First Nations/Algonquin cultures to the Ottawa River region as evidenced in the numerous riverside archaeological and spiritual sites.

- The role of the river in Canada’s fur trade as *the* major corridor to central and western Canada. The numerous forts and posts located strategically along the river from Lake Timiskaming to Chute a Blondeau serve as an example of the commercial competition of the era.
- The designation of Ottawa as the capital of Canada, along the Ottawa River.
- The influence of the river as a 590 - kilometre-long transportation corridor facilitating a wide range of commercial activities. Servicing the fur trade and lumber industries necessitated quantities of supplies previously unseen in Canada. Both industry and settlement relied on innovation in transportation, including the rafting of squared timber, the development of an early canal system, and the use of a variety of steamboats.
- The role of the river in establishing the timber and lumber industries, leading to the settlement of the Ottawa River Valley, providing timber for masts for Britain’s warships and lumber to build the cities of Boston, Chicago and New York.
- The presence of numerous buildings representing significant events and themes of Canadian Heritage, many of which relate directly to the river itself.
- In addition, the Ottawa River would be the first river in the system with two Canadian Heritage River tributaries: the Mattawa along the upper section, and the Rideau entering at Ottawa.

**Figure 1.3 Opening of the Parliament Buildings, June 8, 1866**



Source: Library and Archives Canada/PA-120596

The unique cultural heritage associated with the Ottawa River will complement existing CHRS themes. For example, some of Canada’s earliest trading posts were built on the Ottawa River. Ontario’s first seigneurie was built along the river at L’Orignal. The founding and development of the nation’s capital took place on its shores, and was intertwined with Ottawa River resources and transportation.

\* \* \* \* \*



Although it is not being nominated for its natural and recreational values, the Ottawa River provides significant representation for the following:

- The largest tributary of the St. Lawrence River and Seaway.
- The only river traversing four major geological subdivisions in Canada.
- Significant plant and animal communities including one of the continent's most important stopovers and major flyways for migratory birds.
- Confirmed populations of at least 80 provincially or federally recognized species at risk.
- World class whitewater paddling and rafting opportunities.
- Boating opportunities for a wide range of watercraft.
- A wide range of recreational activities and experiences within wilderness, rural or urban settings.
- Extraordinary opportunities for natural and cultural heritage appreciation.

# Canadian Heritage Rivers System



Location of the Ottawa River Watershed  
Localisation du bassin versant de la rivière des Outaouais




## Ottawa River Boundary Map

Map One: Temiskaming Shore to Mattawa Section

 Nominated Section of River



 Ontario Kilometers

●  
Temiskaming  
Shores

Montreal River

●  
Mattawa

Mattawa River

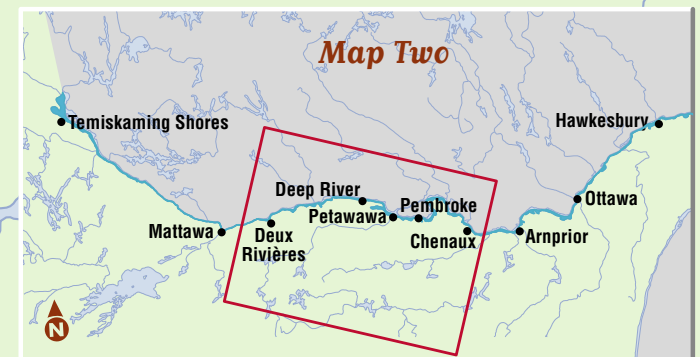
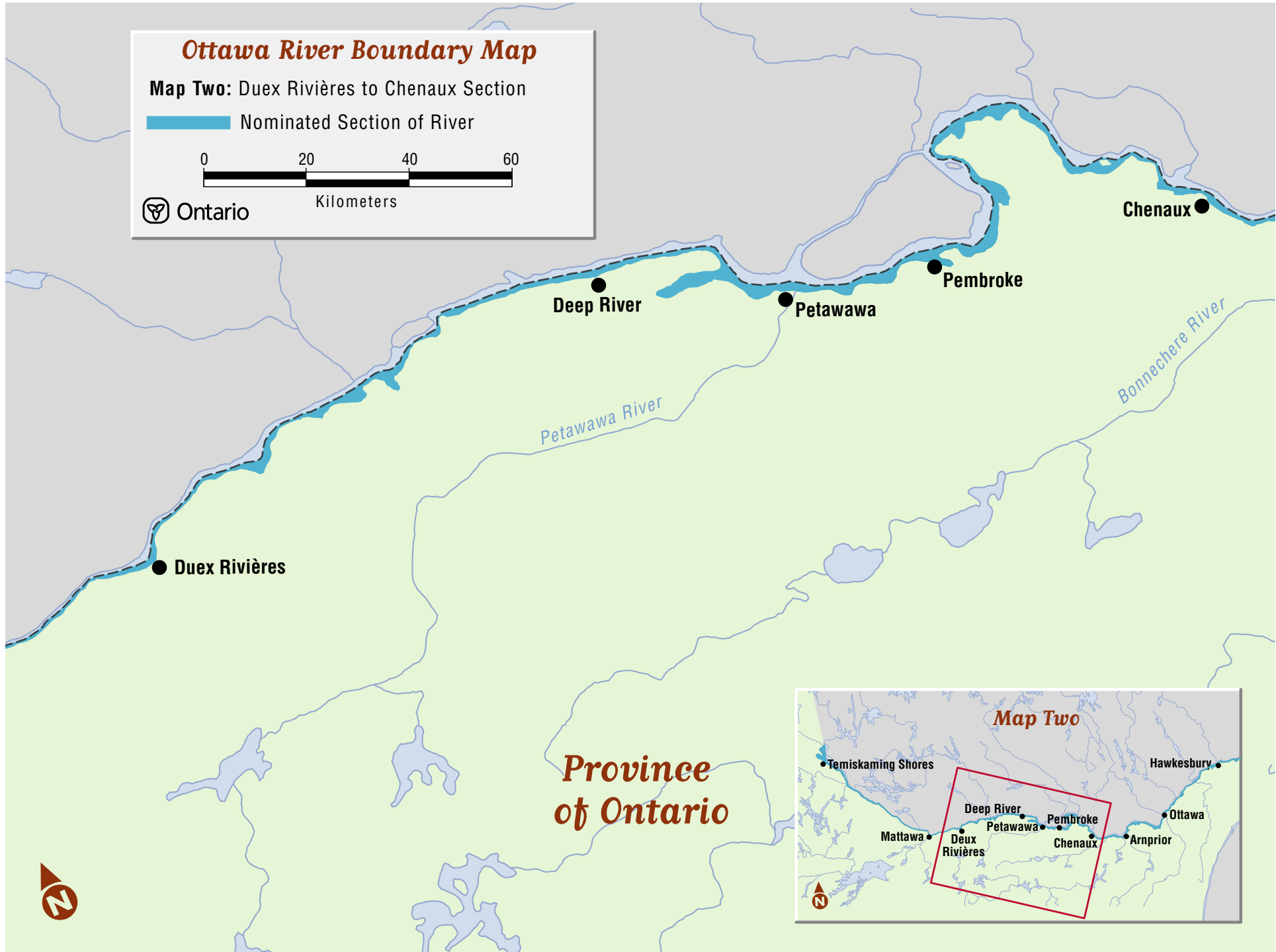
Province  
of Ontario



# Ottawa River Boundary Map

Map Two: Deux Rivières to Chenaux Section

 Nominated Section of River

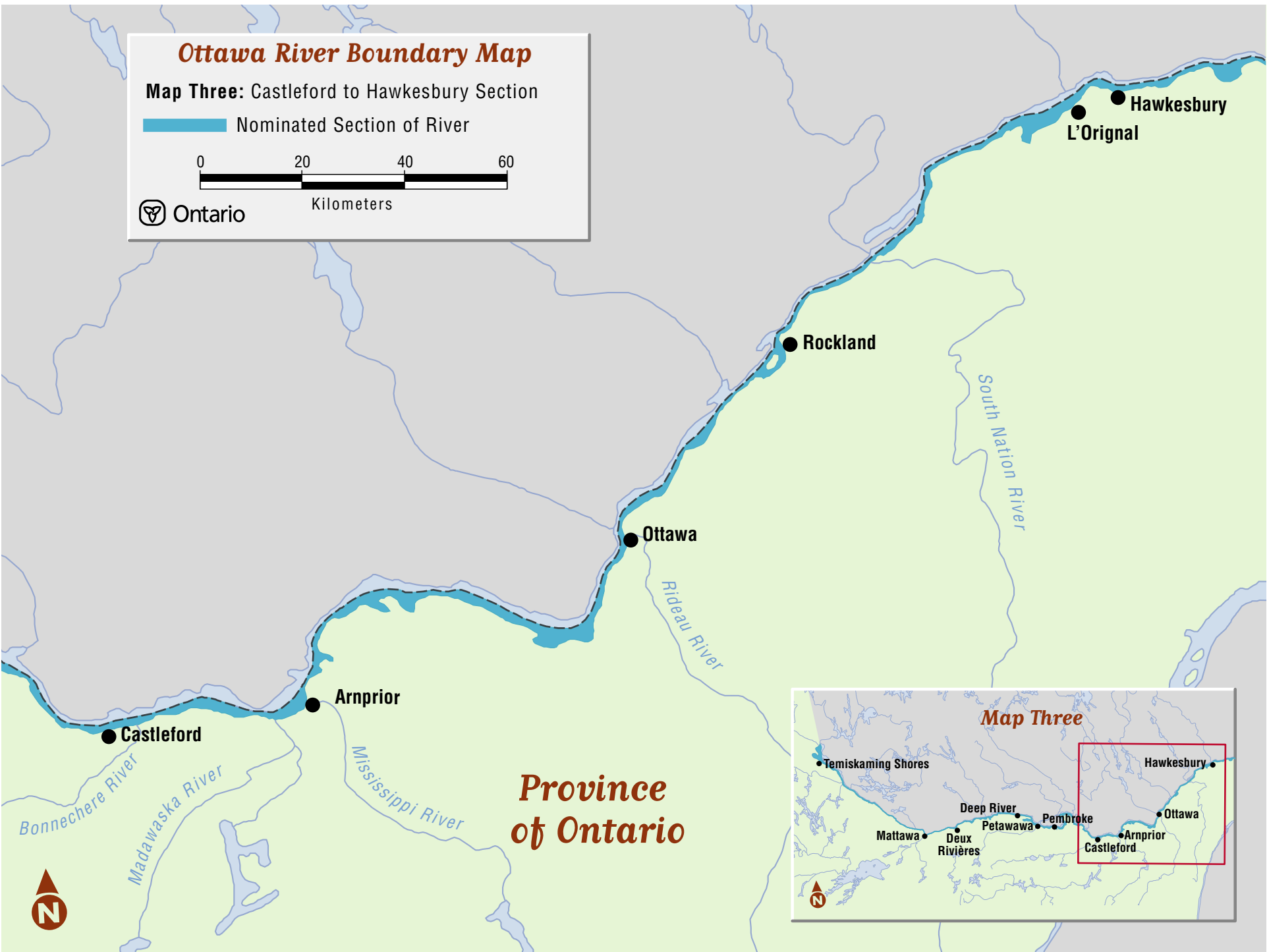
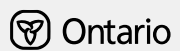




# Ottawa River Boundary Map

Map Three: Castleford to Hawkesbury Section

 Nominated Section of River



# Chapter 2

## Cultural Heritage Values

This section describes the outstanding cultural heritage features of the Ontario portion of the Ottawa River upon which this nomination is based. The description is organized according to the five heritage themes of the *Cultural Framework for Canadian Heritage Rivers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2000*.

### 2.1 Description of Cultural Heritage Values

#### 2.1.1 Resource Harvesting

The Ottawa River corridor provides evidence of thousands of years of prehistoric Aboriginal occupation and land use, and 400 years of Aboriginal and European history related to exploration, the fur trade and settlement.

##### Fishing

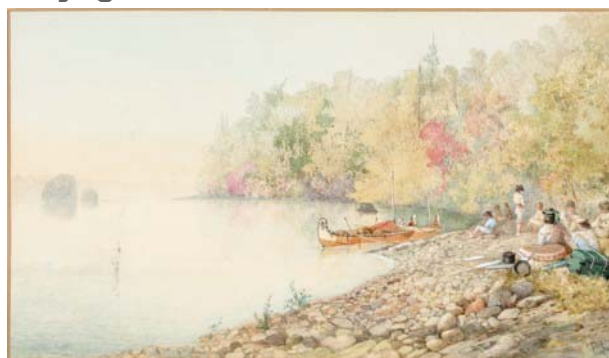
The earliest evidence of peoples living in the Upper Ottawa Valley was about 6000 years ago with the Shield Archaic Peoples, who fished and hunted small mammals. Evidence of “*Aboriginal pre-historic fishing*” includes archaeological sites associated with the Shield Archaic as well as later camp remains along the river at strategic fishing places.

“*Historic domestic fishing*” is recorded by Champlain and other early explorers, who relied on the abundance of fish and game along the Ottawa River in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries to fuel their journeys upriver, as did the settlers during the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

##### Shoreline Resource Harvesting

Shoreline resource harvesting related to the “*trapping of fur bearing animals*” is particularly significant in terms of the cultural heritage of the Ottawa River. Aboriginal Peoples along the Ottawa River were already engaged in the trapping of beaver and other fur-bearing animals when Europeans arrived in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century and set in motion a large-scale network of fur trapping and trading fuelled by the European fashion craze for beaver hats. First Nations Peoples trapped beaver and brought pelts downriver to trade with the French.

**Figure 2.1 Encampment of Voyageurs, Ontario, 1870**



Source: Anne Frances Hopkins Library and Archives  
Canada Acc. No. R3266-277 Peter Winkworth Collection  
of Canadians

The *voyageur* era began when the French started travelling up the Ottawa River to the country's interior to meet the First Nations Peoples and obtain furs, which were brought back to Montreal.

In the 1670s, the British began competing with the French for furs with the founding of the Hudson's Bay Company. The fur trade continued full force until the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when overharvesting of beaver and changes in fashion forced fur trading posts to close. Today, trapping is still a traditional activity along the Ottawa River. The impact of the fur trade on the culture, settlement, economy and ecology of the Ottawa River valley cannot be overstated.

The earliest instance of "*hunting of birds and land animals*" along the Ottawa River may have been the Plano peoples who came to the region in pursuit of caribou.

Resources in the form of "*mines and quarries in bed or banks of river*" were also harvested by late Pre-Contact Aboriginal Peoples who mined flint/chert for stone tools and ochre for red paint. The Ottawa Valley is rich in ceramic-bearing archaeological sites, attesting to a long-established Ottawa Valley ceramic tradition. During the historic period, local stone quarries enabled the construction of landmark buildings along the river, such as the sandstone used to face the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa.

### Extraction of Water

The waters of the Ottawa River have been an important resource over time, sustaining settlement and land use along the valley. "*Direct drive power generation*" in the form of early mills along the Ottawa enabled hydraulic power generation and the sawing of lumber at key sites; remains of these mills still exist along the river. Philemon Wright's early gristmill and sawmill at Chaudière Falls was at the centre of a blossoming agricultural settlement that eventually became the National Capital Region. Water powered electricity enabled Pembroke to light its streets before any other city in Canada.

Many of the pulp and paper plants along the river that replaced these mills have become Ottawa River icons representing "*industrial water extraction*", including the ubiquitous E.B. Eddy Manufacturing Company, whose industrial complex still exists. Hydroelectric power generation first developed to meet the energy needs of these pulp and paper plants in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and today can be considered as a part of the Ottawa's significant cultural heritage because of its role in the early development of hydroelectricity on a national scale. Settlement and economic development of waterway communities is intertwined with hydroelectricity generation on the Ottawa River.

Water is extracted from the Ottawa River for municipal drinking water systems. Water is also extracted for industrial purposes including nuclear reactor cooling at Chalk River Laboratories.

### 2.1.2 Water Transport

The Ottawa River has acted as a major trade and transportation route for thousands of years. The confluence of the Rideau Waterway with the Ottawa River makes the area around the City of Ottawa particularly well situated for gaining water access to a vast region. The Ottawa River was once one of North America's most important trade routes, providing a route from the St. Lawrence River to the Great Lakes via the Rideau River, access to central and western North America via the Mattawa and French Rivers, and access to James Bay from the St. Lawrence via the Montreal River.

Figure 2.2 Steamer "Anne Sisson"



Source: Ottawa River Heritage Designation Committee

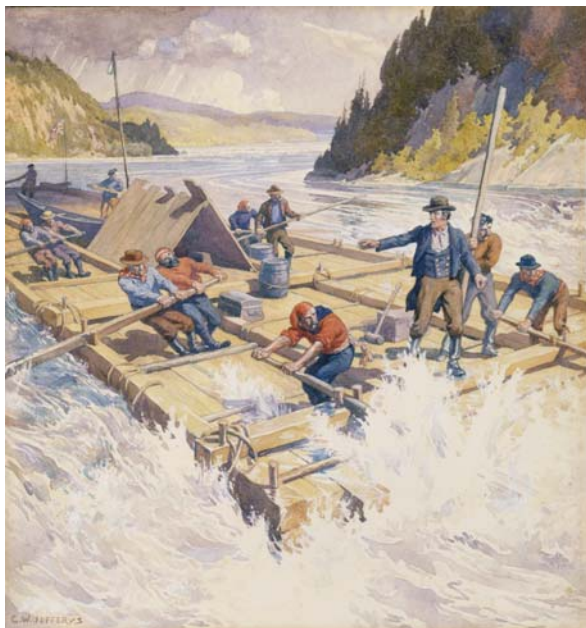


## Commercial Transportation

“Pre-historic trade” was vigorous and extensive along the Ottawa River. Archaeological sites throughout the area, such as those near Pembroke, attest to wide trade networks, including tools made from native copper from western Lake Superior. Sites at the mouth of the South Nation and Petawawa Rivers show continued contacts with far regions with the presence of exotic raw materials from as far away as the tip of Labrador. Late Pre-Contact Peoples living in the river valley, ancestors of today’s Northern Algonquin Peoples, were known for their use of emblematic birch bark canoes for transportation and trade.

French explorers and fur-trading voyageurs relied almost exclusively on the birchbark canoe. Voyageurs developed a larger canoe adapted to fit their needs, the 11 metre-long *canots de maître* used on the Ottawa River. Settlement along the river necessitated even larger craft, paving the way for the appearance of flat-bottomed batteaux, followed by Durham boats. Pembroke’s famous Pointer Boat facilitated the lumbering industry on the Ottawa for years. The routes, portages, descriptions, images and remaining examples of these craft show the presence of “historic human-powered freight.”

**Figure 2.3 The First Lumber Raft Down the Ottawa River**



Source: Charles William Jeffreys/Library and Archives Canada/C-073702

major tributaries; the Ottawa River system included the greatest amount of infrastructure to facilitate the passage of logs (CHRS 2000). The logs were used for construction of warships by Britain in its war against France. Sawn lumber floated in rafts went on to build the cities of Boston, New York and Chicago. The Ottawa River lumber transportation industry therefore contributed to the development of Canada as an emerging nation.

### *The Log Driver's Song*

*There's a valley I know  
Where the tall timbers grow  
Where the Ottawa River flows swiftly along  
In the Spring if you go  
Where the headwaters flow  
You will hear this old log drivers' song*

*Yo-hip hip-ho  
Keep the logs on the go  
Keep them rolling and twisting  
And send the spray high  
Yo-hip hip-ho  
Through the rapids below  
Where the Ottawa River flows by*

- Mac Beattie, Ottawa Valley musician

A thriving steamship transportation industry that appeared on the Ottawa River during the 19<sup>th</sup> century exemplifies “powered commercial freight.” Steamboats provided passenger service in the Lake Timiskaming, Pembroke, Ottawa and Hawkesbury sections of the river; they also provided mail service, towed lumber barges, and transported dignitaries. Steamboat travel provided the only link with the remote communities of the Upper Ottawa River, and the steam-driven paddleboat was a common sight on the Ottawa River from the 1820s until the 1920s. Shipwrecks of sidewheelers that succumbed to fire, line the bottom of the river.

“Surface bulk transportation” in the form of floating logs was exemplary along the Ottawa River and its tributaries. The Wright family built the first timber slide in Canada at Chaudière Falls in 1829. By the 1880s, there were 83 separate works on the Ottawa and its

## Transportation Services

During the mid to late 1700s, “*fur trading posts*” were developed as “*transportation services*” by the French and later the British along the Ottawa River, often near the confluence of the many tributaries. While not in the nominated portion of the river, Fort Témiscamingue, constructed between 1679 and 1685, became the largest trading post on the Ottawa River. It was operated by French traders for almost 200 years, after which the Hudson’s Bay Company took over the site. It is preserved today as a National Historic site.

Further down river, the Mattawa House served as the central stopping place for Ottawa and Mattawa River travellers. Many of the Ottawa River trading forts served as command posts for smaller trading posts located up tributaries such as the Petawawa and Bonnechere Rivers. These smaller posts were situated by the Hudson Bay Company to limit competition by meeting the fur traders in their own trapping grounds.

Further facilitating the fur trade and subsequent commerce were “*navigational improvements*,” beginning with Aboriginal portages to circumvent rapids, enlarged and enhanced by the French. The Ottawa River’s first proper canals were built for military purposes between 1819 and 1834 in case of an American blockade of the St. Lawrence, although they were never used as such. These included canals at Grenville, Carillon and Saint-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec. In the 1830s and 1840s, the Ottawa-Rideau military canals system dominated the import trade of the Canadian interior, and in the 1870s the Ottawa River canals were enlarged to accommodate commercial steamships. Prior to the completion of the canal system on the St. Lawrence River, transport goods destined for the Great Lakes were shipped via the Ottawa River and Rideau Canal. The lower lock on the original Carillon canal is visible and restored at Carillon Canal National Historic Site. Although some of these original canals have been submerged by a large dam and reservoir at Carillon, others are still visible.

During the steamboating era on the Ottawa River, “*shipyards*” and “*facilities for loading and provisioning passengers*” were integral to industry, and exemplified by the some 41 wharves of Prescott and Russell that also served as ferry landings. Some of these landings have become marinas and park areas as in Hawkesbury while others are submerged ruins as in Chute a Blondeau.

The Macdonell-Williamson House, built in 1817, is one of the most significant historic sites still standing on the Ottawa River, along the premier fur trade route in Canada. This early Georgian mansion was built by retired North West Company partner, John Macdonell, as part of his extensive working estate and forwarding business. Saved from demolition by the Ontario Heritage Trust in 1978, the Friends of Macdonell/Williamson House are working to have this site restored.

## Exploration and Surveying

The Ottawa River was the pathway for much of the early European exploration of North America and was truly a gateway to the continent. The Ottawa River has made a remarkable contribution to Canadian heritage by enabling this exploration and as such, by witnessing key, distinct periods of national history. Exploration occurred within the context of European colonization and a search for faster trading routes with the Orient.

Documented routes of illustrious figures in Canadian and North American history serve as examples of “*exploration and surveying*” along the Ottawa River. The first Europeans to travel up the Ottawa River were the “*French explorers*” as part of an effort to benefit from the riches of the New World. Champlain, Brûlé and Vignau mapped and named many of the features of the Ottawa River in the early 1600s, and what probably was Champlain’s astrolabe was found near Cobden.<sup>1</sup> Champlain was originally commissioned by the King of France to establish a colony in North America and continue the search for a passage to the Orient. Nicollet, Radisson, La Vérendrye, Dulhut and De Troyes travelled west along the Ottawa River to further explore and lay the groundwork for the fur trade. Jolliet began his mapping and exploration of the Mississippi with a trip up the Ottawa River. “*British explorers*” travelled up the Ottawa, including Franklin and Mackenzie in search of the fabled Northwest Passage. Surveying of the river and its banks continued in order to plan settlements, such as Wright’s survey of the land around Chaudière Falls.

Navigational improvements encouraged and facilitated “*migration and settlement*” of the Ottawa Valley. Steamboat companies vied for the “*immigrant*” trade to Upper Canada via the Ottawa River, carrying up to 400 immigrants per trip. New settlers needed goods, supplies and equipment.

### 2.1.3 Riparian Settlement

#### Siting of Dwellings

Archaeological evidence of Aboriginal campsites evokes “*shoreline seasonal dwellings*” along the Ottawa River, including sites at the mouths of all the rivers flowing into the Ottawa; examples include the South Nation, Rideau, Madawaska, Petawawa, Mattawa and the Montreal Rivers. The dropping water level of the Ottawa River over the centuries has allowed enhanced access to some archaeological sites.

European settlement related to agriculture resulted in “*riverside homesteads and farms*” that appeared in the early 1800s and are exemplified by the land grants that resulted in Scottish homestead farms being built on the Ottawa in today’s Renfrew County. “*Permanent riverside dwellings*” were established by distinguished and wealthier settlers, such as Pinhey’s homestead at Horaceville or John Macdonell’s forwarding business at East Hawkesbury. Communities with stone quarries in the area, such as Arnprior, resulted in lasting, imposing architecture. Ontario’s first courthouse is a stone building in L’Orignal dating from 1825.

<sup>1</sup> The anniversaries of Champlain’s historic voyages up the Ottawa and elsewhere in eastern Canada will be commemorated in upcoming years, including 2008 and 2013.

Figure 2.4 Champlain in a Canoe



Source: John Henry de Rinzy/Library and Archives Canada/C-013320

Settlement patterns in the Ottawa Valley reflect French, British and American influences, resulting in “*dispersed dwellings in settlement patterns.*” Seigneuries granted to noblemen of New France were subdivided into lots for farming, each with equal access to the Ottawa River, resulting in characteristic long, narrow lots. The British awarded land grants for farming, resulting in a British pattern of farms laid out in grids. Scottish Highland Chief Archibald McNabb in 1825 established a settlement at the confluence of the Madawaska and Ottawa Rivers. Here his clansmen established log homes in small isolated clearings in a region without roads, steamboats or railways.

### River-based Communities

“*Permanent shoreline Aboriginal settlements*” were present along the Ottawa River. A 17<sup>th</sup> century village on Morrison Island near Pembroke was permanent, although probably not occupied in the coldest winter months when families retreated inland for hunting and trapping. Early fur trading posts reflect the first European buildings along the Ottawa River, often simple log constructions. These later developed into “*fortification-based communities*”. While not in the nominated portion of the river, Ville-Marie, originally Fort Témiscamingue, in operation by 1720, is such a community and is today a National Historic Site

Forestry drew European immigrants to the Ottawa River in droves, resulting in “*river industry-based communities*” that cropped up around sawmills, shanties or log driving sites, including Deux-Rivieres and Des Joachims. French Canadian woodsmen and farmers dominated the labour force until intense Irish immigration in the 1820s. Descendants of Irish, French Canadian, Scottish, German and Polish immigrants produced a unique Ottawa Valley culture that is expressed in language, music and dance. Construction of the Rideau Canal attracted specialized workers and resulted in Bytown, which then became Ottawa, the Nation’s Capital.

#### *Les Raftsmen*

*Où sont allés tous les raftmanns?  
Dedans Bytown sont arrêtés  
Bing sur le ring  
Laissez passer les raftmanns  
Bing sur le ring, bing bang  
Dedans Bytown sont arrêtés  
Dans les chantiers ils sont montés  
Des provisions ont apporté  
Sur l’Outaouais s’ont dirigés...*

- Traditional Ottawa Valley loggers’ song, from *Alouette* by Mariou Barbeau (1946).

“*River crossing-based communities*” have developed along the Ottawa River at ferry and bridge crossings, although in most cases, the ferry or bridge was created to serve existing communities on either side of the river. Examples include the Union Bridge, built in 1828 once a community began in Wrightsville (today Ottawa) developed with the construction of the Rideau Canal. The ferry linking Carillon, Quebec with the adjacent shore was developed because of the trading/forwarding establishment of John Macdonell

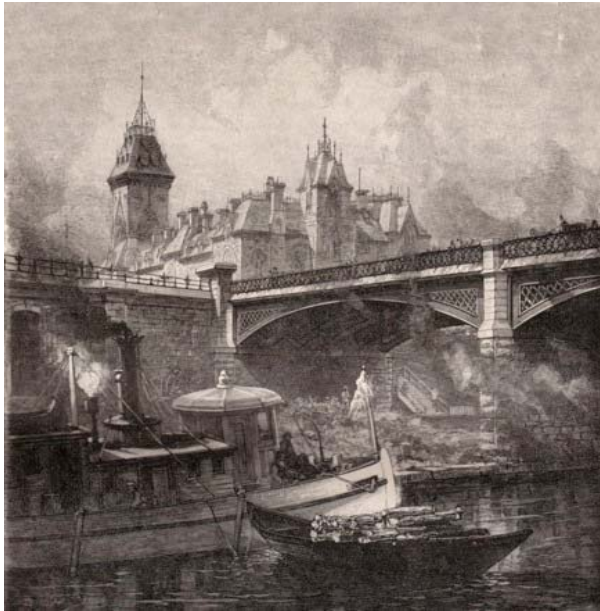
### River-influenced Transportation

Before bridges were constructed over the river, “*ferries*” were used to cross the river, such as between Ottawa and Hull in the late 1800s; many of these cross-river ferry services still exist.

Notable “*road bridges*” and “*rail bridges*” exist across the Ottawa River, including the Royal Alexandra Interprovincial Bridge, a steel truss cantilever bridge that was the longest in Canada (and fourth longest in the world) when it was built in 1898-1900. Also of note is the currently unused Prince of Wales Bridge that formerly connected with the CPR line; built in 1880, it is a multi-span truss bridge. The Portage Bridge in Ottawa offers views of historic Chaudière Falls, and the Champlain Bridge, the Ottawa River’s longest bridge, is named in honour of Champlain’s portages on this stretch of the river.



**Figure 2.5 Under Dufferin Bridge**



Source: Picturesque Canada

Ottawa, considered to be both a sacred and historic Algonquin site. Point-au-Baptême across from Oiseau Rock owes its name to the voyageur initiation ritual practiced there. Churches built along and facing the river to serve riverside settler populations represent “ritual and ceremonial structures and sites.” Significant “Aboriginal burial places” exist along the river, including a 5000-year-old burial site sprinkled with red ochre at Morrison Island. The most significant “European burial place” along the Ottawa is Beechwood cemetery, also a National Historic Site. Among the graves of famous politicians such as Sir Robert Borden are the final resting places of John Rudolphus Booth and others whose lives are intertwined with the history of the Ottawa River.

### Cultural Expression

Numerous “riverside museums” tell the layered story of the Ottawa River, including the Champlain Trail Museum, Haileybury Heritage Museum and the Voyageur Heritage Centre. In addition, numerous National Historic Plaques, Ontario Heritage Foundation Plaques and Ontario Living Legacy Kiosks commemorate events and people associated with the Ottawa River.<sup>2</sup>

“Culturally associated sites” include Morrison Island, strategic stronghold of the Kichessipirini during the fur trade, and the Mattawa Forks, where voyageurs turned west along the Mattawa River from the Ottawa on their way to the Great Lakes. The built

“River influenced roads and railways” include Highway 17, which initially was built to link wharves and steamboating stopover communities. A no-longer existing railway linking Montreal with Ottawa on the Ontario side, the Montreal and Atlantic Railway, bought up by Canadian Pacific, followed the river by passing through Hawkesbury.

### 2.1.4 Culture and Recreation

#### Spiritual Associations

The Ottawa River plays an integral role in Algonquin spirituality. A historic Algonquin creation story features a Beaver who creates a series of dams that became the Ottawa’s rapids and portages, ending with the Calumet rapids. Aboriginal “sacred spiritual sites” associated with the Ottawa River include the Oiseau Rock site in Quebec with its canoe-themed pictographs as well as Victoria Island in

**Figure 2.6 Historic Plaque on the Ottawa River**



Source: Courtesy of Nancy Hisecock, Rolphton Museum

<sup>2</sup> Please refer to Appendices B and C for a list of plaques. There are 12 Ontario Living Legacy kiosks along the Ottawa River: Voyageur, Hawkesbury, Alfred / Lefavre, Westboro, Fitzroy, Arnprior, Pembroke, Petawawa, Deep River, Mattawa, Haileybury and New Liskeard.

heritage of the Ottawa River reflects the well-known characters on a national scale who lived here. Former homes of lumber barons have today become embassies in Ottawa. Pembroke also counts among its built heritage several former homes of lumber barons. Booth's house, built in 1909, still stands in Ottawa.

*"River-based cultural landscapes"* along the Ottawa River include the cultural differences between New France seigneurial-based land plots, the British grid system and the New England village model found on different stretches of the river.

*"Architectural responses to river locations"* is exemplified by the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Quebec, built on the river with a wave-like architecture reflecting the Ottawa River shoreline, terraces and rapids. The Parliament buildings on Parliament Hill were located to overlook the river. The new Canadian War Museum was designed to rise from the Ottawa River and point to the peace Tower at Parliament Hill. Laird McNabb chose to build his manor, Kinell Lodge, on a rise looking out over the Ottawa River for the wonderful view, but also so it would be seen by travellers along the river. The Macdonnell-Williamson House in Pointe-Fortune was built at the top of a cliff along the river for the peaceful setting, exceptional view and convenient transportation.

### **Early Recreation**

Residents have used the Ottawa River as a source of recreation since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, particularly through *"recreational boating."* Nearby Algonquin Park has provided inspirational canoe-based recreation to Canadians since 1893, including artist and Group of Seven colleague Tom Thompson.

By the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, a growing number of tourists experienced the Ottawa River by steamboat. Scenic steamboat excursions from Pembroke up the Ottawa featured the dramatic Oiseau Rock, and the full 3-day trip from Montreal to Mattawa was considered to be one of the most exciting and picturesque in North America at the time. Steamboats were often luxurious, carrying the social elite, dignitaries and politicians; the christening of these steamers was a social event attracting the "beauty and fashion of the town."

During the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, dignitaries visiting Ottawa ran the timber chutes at Chaudière Falls. *"Angling"* and *"land-based touring"* were also popular along the Ottawa. *"Organized recreation facilities and clubs"* include Caledonia Springs, once Canada's largest hot springs with its nearby Grand Hotel. Pembroke is still known as "Hockey Town Canada", a sport made popular on the frozen tributaries of the Ottawa River. The Ottawa Rowing Club, founded in 1867, is Canada's oldest. Grand Fairs and racing at New Liskeard's beach became famous throughout northern Ontario.

## 2.1.5 Jurisdictional Use

### Conflict and Military Associations

While defending themselves, seeking control over trade or establishing settlements, people along the Ottawa River were occasionally involved in conflict or warfare. “*Aboriginal internecine conflict*” is exemplified by ongoing warfare between Iroquois and the Algonquin and Hurons in the 17<sup>th</sup> century as they sought control over the trading of beaver pelts. “*Aboriginal/European conflict*” occurred along the Ottawa when the Iroquois ambushed Dollard des Ormeaux’s men near Carillon in 1660.

Figure 2.7 Camping in the Old Days



Source: W.J. Bolton/Canada, Department of Manpower and Immigration/Library and Archives

Conflict within Europeans occurred with the attack by New France of British Hudson’s Bay trading posts during the late 17<sup>th</sup> century. This is exemplified by Chevalier de Troyes’ extraordinary expedition up the Ottawa River in 1686, featuring a dangerous early spring voyage and a successful campaign to seize the English-held Forts Monsipi, Rupert and Albany. Although no further “*military expeditions*” were undertaken on the Ottawa River, British colonial authorities designed a series of military canals along the river in case of an American blockade of the St. Lawrence, as threatened during the War of 1812.

### Boundaries

The Ottawa River has served as the “*interprovincial boundary*” between Ontario and Quebec since the Constitutional Act of 1867. An earlier Act in 1791 dividing Upper and Lower Canada followed the Ottawa River’s course. Jurisdiction over the river has been complex as a result. Shared hydroelectric rights are one such example; since the first hydroelectric dam in 1907, numerous agencies, utilities and companies have had regulatory rights to the river. A rare boundary marker still exists at Pointe-Fortune at the historic border between Upper and Lower Canada, dating from 1791.

Looking at any map, part of the Ottawa River is shown as a boundary between the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec. It is not looked upon as a boundary to the people who have lived, worked, travelled, and played along its waters and shores.

- Jackie Ryan Patterson, Ottawa River resident

Historic “*land use boundaries*” include the century-old military base Petawawa, and the First Nations reserves along the river established in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The Ottawa River also serves as an example of “*trans-boundary rivers*”: during the era of steamboat travel, the Ottawa provided a pathway between Quebec and Ontario in its lower stretches.

### Environmental Regulation

The Ottawa River has had a long history of both “*flood control*” and “*improvements to water management*” in the form of canals and dams to facilitate transport, generate hydroelectricity and regulate flow, with the earliest dams built in the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## 2.2 Assessment of Cultural Heritage Values

The following assessment applies *Selection Guidelines for Cultural Values* and *Cultural Value Integrity Guidelines* as required for the *Nomination of Canadian Heritage Rivers* (CHRS, 2001). The assessment demonstrates that the Ontario portion of the Ottawa River satisfies all of the required Selection and Integrity Guidelines for cultural values.

### 2.2.1 Selection Guidelines: Cultural Values

Therefore, outstanding Canadian cultural value will be recognized when a river and its immediate environment:

***Guideline: is of outstanding importance owing to its influence, over a period of time, on the historical development of Canada through a major impact upon the region in which it is located or beyond; or***

The Ottawa River is of outstanding importance to the historical development of Canada as a major historic trade and travel route to the heart of North America, earning its status as the original “trans-Canada highway.” Major exploration and trade in the continent began and ended with a trip on the Ottawa River for both Aboriginal and European communities, with extensive Aboriginal trade networks that date back thousands of years. The river’s extensive role in enabling the fur trade and the timber and lumber industries makes its history intertwined with the founding stories of Canada. The river itself enabled the development of trade, industry and settlement of the entire Ottawa Valley. The establishment of the Nation’s Capital on the shores of the river is of ultimate importance to Canada.

***Guideline: is strongly associated with persons, events, or beliefs of Canadian significance; or***

The Ottawa River is associated with Canada’s most famous European explorers and fur traders, including Champlain, Nicollet, Radisson, De Troyes, La Vérendrye, Mackenzie and Franklin (in search of the Northwest Passage). Philemon Wright and Colonel By are famous as founders of the Ottawa region, as are lumber barons such as John R. Booth and E.B. Eddy. As the historical and current heartland of the Algonquin culture and nation, the Ottawa River is strongly associated with significant Aboriginal beliefs.

***Guideline: contains historical or archaeological structures, works or sites which are unique, rare or of great antiquity; or***

The Ottawa River contains many outstanding examples of historical and archaeological structures, works or sites that are unique, rare or of great antiquity, including archaeological sites at Haileybury, Morrison Island and sites along the Petawawa and Bonnechere Rivers, attesting to thousands of years of prehistoric Aboriginal river-oriented presence. Samuel de Champlain’s routes through Renfrew County as well as the location of the discovery of Champlain’s astrolabe near Cobden are unique sites relating to early 17<sup>th</sup> century European exploration.



***Guideline:*** contains concentrations of historical or archaeological structures, works or sites which are representative of major themes in Canadian history.

Concentrations of riverside archaeological and spiritual sites attest to the legacy of First Nation cultures to the Ottawa River region. Portage sites along the river attest to Aboriginal and European travel and exploration along the river. Settlements and engineering works represent the major Canadian themes of the fur trade, canals, steamboating, and European settlement. Timber chutes and sawmills attesting to the theme of the lumber industries exist at the E.B. Eddy Complex and Gillies Mill at Braeside. The Nation's Capital, located along the river, stands testimony to the development of Canada as a country.

## **2.2.2 Integrity Guidelines: Cultural Integrity Values**

In addition to meeting one or more of the above cultural value guidelines, for a river to be judged to have outstanding Canadian cultural value it *must* meet all of the following cultural integrity guidelines:

***Guideline:*** The nominated section is of sufficient size to include significant representations of all of the features, activities or other phenomena which give the river its outstanding cultural value;

The nominated area includes the entire length of the Ottawa River that borders Ontario, stretching 590 kilometres from the head of Lake Timiskaming to and including the Township of East Hawkesbury. This section contains the historic exploration and fur trading route that opened up the continent. Steamboating and logging were most prevalent on this section. This section contains significant Aboriginal history, as well as a long and important hydroelectric history, and of course, the National Capital Region. Therefore, the nominated section is of sufficient size to include representations of all the features that give the river its outstanding cultural value.

***Guideline:*** The visual character of the nominated section enables uninterrupted appreciation of at least one of the periods of the river's historical importance;

The many periods of historical importance demonstrated by the Ottawa River are uninterrupted for the purposes of appreciation and interpretation of these themes and landscapes. The visual appearance of the river enables the appreciation of the routes and some of the portages used by Aboriginal and European explorers and traders. The logging era has left many visible remains including infrastructure, the E.B. Eddy Complex, and today's pulp and paper mills. The steamboating and canal era may be appreciated through remains of wharves, canals and locks. The more recent period of hydroelectric development is completely uninterrupted. Many of these periods, which have had an impact on each other, may be observed at a single site.

***Guideline:*** The key artefacts and sites comprising the cultural values for which the river is nominated are unimpaired by impoundments and human land uses; and

Despite impoundments that exist along the Ottawa, there remain long, unimpeded sections through which the historical and cultural essence of the river may be experienced. Some impoundments have created new recreational opportunities through upstream reservoirs, and some of the older impoundments are of cultural heritage value themselves.

***Guideline: The water quality of the nominated section does not detract from the visual character or the cultural experience provided by its cultural values.***

Water quality in the Ottawa River is considered good overall as a result of the high velocity of the water and the numerous wastewater treatment plants that have been established along the river. The water quality of the Ottawa River is considered to be much better than it was thirty years ago, primarily due to regulations on industrial effluents and the decline of the log drives along the river. Despite some localized problem areas (for example, around densely urbanized areas), the majority of the Ottawa River is suitable for recreational uses such as swimming and fishing. The water quality of the nominated section does not detract from the aesthetic experience nor the cultural experience provided by the cultural values of the river.

\* \* \* \* \*

# Ottawa River – Cultural Heritage Values



Title: Voyageurs and Raftsmen  
Credit: C.W. Jeffreys, Library and Archives of Canada



Title: Steamboats at Bryson  
Credit: Library and Archives of Canada



Title: Shoreline Settlement  
Credit: J.D.Duncan, Library and Archives of Canada



Title: Paddling Traditions  
Credit: Library and Archives of Canada



Title: Ontario and Quebec – linked by the Ottawa River  
Credit: OMNR, D. Coulson

## Resource Harvesting

- Fishing
- ★ Shoreline Harvesting  
Photo Credit: A.W. Holdstock, Library and Archives of Canada
- Extraction of Water

## Water Transport

- ★ Commercial Transportation  
Photo Credit: Library and Archives of Canada
- Transportation Services
- ★ Exploration and Surveying  
Photo Credit: C.W. Jeffreys, Library and Archives of Canada

## Riparian Settlement

- Site of Dwellings
- ★ River-based Communities  
Photo Credit: ORLLN
- River-influenced Transportation

## Culture and Recreation

- Spiritual Associations
- ★ Cultural Expression  
Photo Credit: Library and Archives of Canada
- Early Recreation

## Jurisdictional Uses

- Conflict and Military Associations
- Boundaries
- Environmental Regulation

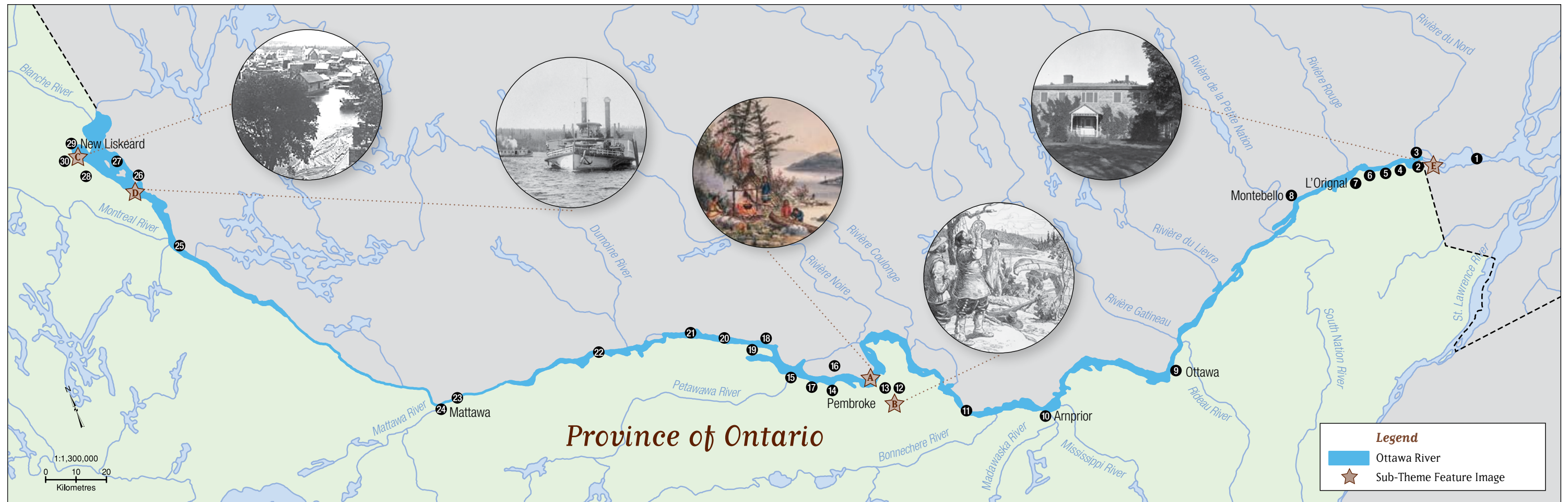
1. Brûlé explores Ottawa River; 1608
2. Macdonell House; 1817
3. Carillon Barracks; 1836
4. Fight at Long Sault; 1660
5. Sir Alexander Mackenzie heading West; 1793
6. Hawkesbury Mills; 1822
7. L'Original – Seigneury; 1674

8. La Petite Nation Seigneury; 1674 – Papineau Manoir; 1803
9. Canada's Capital Region – see attached map
10. McNabb Settlement; 1825
11. Cadillac's trip up the Ottawa on route to Detroit; 1701
12. Samuel de Champlain; 1613
13. Algonquin farming community – Chief Nibachis
14. Cockburn Pointer Boats; 1866

15. Campsite – Chevalier de Troyes; 1686
16. Allumette Island – Algonquin trading community – Chief Tessouat
17. Col. Peter White settling at Pembroke; 1828
18. Oiseau Rock
19. Pere Le Moynes records large rock formation; 1638
20. HBC – Governor in Chief Simpson uses Ottawa River route 60 times in 40 years; 1820-1860

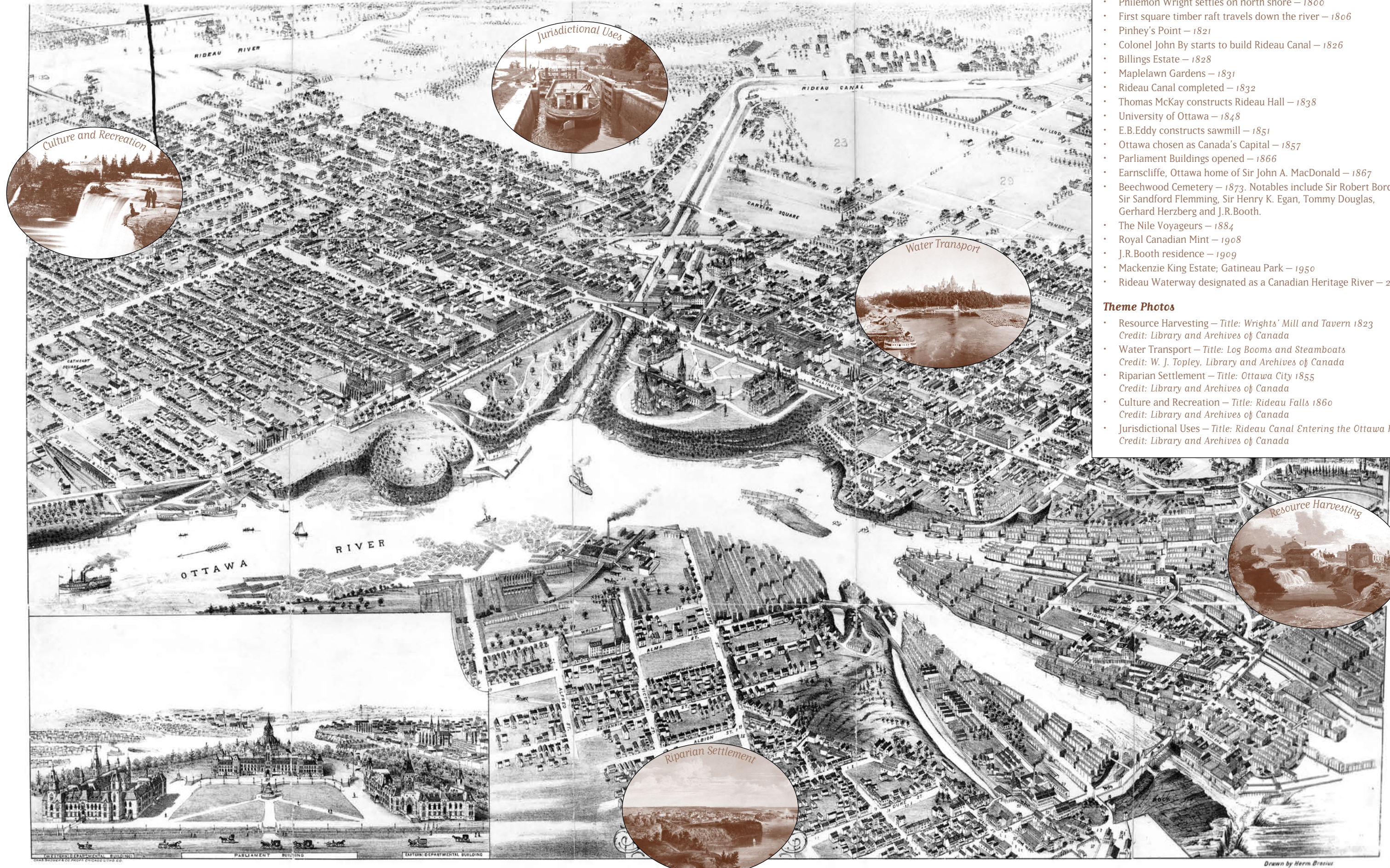
21. La Vérendrye travels to western plains; 1731
22. "Les coureurs de bois" appear on the Ottawa River; 1652
23. Radisson and Groseilliers travel via Mattawa River to Lake Superior; 1660
24. Mattawa River canoe route to the West; 1615  
Mattawa House; 1837
25. Sir John Franklin headed to Arctic Coast; 1825

26. Fort Temiscamingue; 1685
  27. First steamboat, the "Mattawan", appears on lake; 1882
  28. Discovery of Silver – Cobalt; 1903
  29. Northern claybelt farming – New Liskeard; 1893
  30. Fire destroys 90% of Town of Haileybury; 1922
- Note: Entire length of river considered heartland of Algonquin First Nations.





# Ottawa River — Heritage of Canada's Capital Region



## Heritage Legacy

- Chaudiere Portages — since time immemorial.
- Philemon Wright settles on north shore — 1800
- First square timber raft travels down the river — 1806
- Pinhey's Point — 1821
- Colonel John By starts to build Rideau Canal — 1826
- Billings Estate — 1828
- Maplelawn Gardens — 1831
- Rideau Canal completed — 1832
- Thomas McKay constructs Rideau Hall — 1838
- University of Ottawa — 1848
- E.B. Eddy constructs sawmill — 1851
- Ottawa chosen as Canada's Capital — 1857
- Parliament Buildings opened — 1866
- Earncliffe, Ottawa home of Sir John A. MacDonald — 1867
- Beechwood Cemetery — 1873. Notables include Sir Robert Borden, Sir Sandford Flemming, Sir Henry K. Egan, Tommy Douglas, Gerhard Herzberg and J.R. Booth.
- The Nile Voyageurs — 1884
- Royal Canadian Mint — 1908
- J.R. Booth residence — 1909
- Mackenzie King Estate; Gatineau Park — 1950
- Rideau Waterway designated as a Canadian Heritage River — 2000

## Theme Photos

- Resource Harvesting — Title: Wrights' Mill and Tavern 1823  
Credit: Library and Archives of Canada
- Water Transport — Title: Log Booms and Steamboats  
Credit: W. J. Topley, Library and Archives of Canada
- Riparian Settlement — Title: Ottawa City 1855  
Credit: Library and Archives of Canada
- Culture and Recreation — Title: Rideau Falls 1860  
Credit: Library and Archives of Canada
- Jurisdictional Uses — Title: Rideau Canal Entering the Ottawa River  
Credit: Library and Archives of Canada



# Chapter 3

## Natural Heritage Values

The following describes the outstanding natural heritage features that the Ottawa River would contribute to the CHRS. This description is organized according to the six themes of the *Framework for the Natural Values of Canadian Heritage Rivers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2001*.

### 3.1 Description of Natural Heritage Values

#### 3.1.1 Hydrology

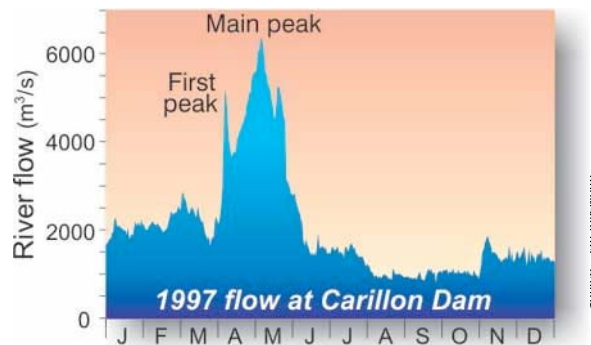
##### Drainage Basins

Stream numbers distinguish between rivers flowing directly into the ocean and those flowing into other rivers. The Ottawa River is a stream number 2 because it flows directly into the St. Lawrence River (a stream number 1), which in turn flows into the Atlantic Ocean. The Ottawa is the largest tributary to the St. Lawrence, making it an important component of North America's Atlantic "drainage basin." The Atlantic Ocean basin drains 15% of Canada's land surface. The Ottawa River's drainage basin occupies 146,300 km<sup>2</sup> of territory, making it the 12<sup>th</sup> largest drainage basin located in Canada. The Ottawa River's drainage basin accounts for approximately 11.2% of the total drainage area of the St. Lawrence.

##### Seasonal Variation

"Seasonal variation" of the Ottawa River is characterized by the river's "high flow" regime from March to June (inclusive), and "low flow" regime between July and February, with peak flows occurring in April and again in May and low flows occurring in February. The Lower Ottawa River experiences two peak flow periods in springtime. Spring arrives earlier along the southern unregulated tributaries, causing the Ottawa River to rise to its first peak. The second, usually higher flow peak occurs about three weeks later as a result of snowmelt in the northern regions of the basin. The average maximum monthly flow over the past 40 years has been 5374 m<sup>3</sup>/s, while the average minimum monthly flow has been 736 m<sup>3</sup>/s. The degree of seasonal variation of the Ottawa River's flow has been reduced by the reservoirs and dams along the river. In 1870, the ratio of maximum to minimum flow was about 10:1, while by 1930 it was reduced to 5:1 (Legget 16).

Figure 3.1 Peak Flow of the Ottawa River



## Water Content

In terms of the Ottawa's "physical properties", some stretches of the river possess "high turbidity" due in particular to suspended clay material. In terms of the Ottawa's "chemical properties," its pH is low (slightly acidic) around Lake Timiskaming. The pH increases along the course of the river, and gradually becomes slightly alkaline. According to the Quebec Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks, the total suspended solids along most of the Ottawa River, including calcium, magnesium, bicarbonates, sodium, sulphates and chlorides, is less than 6 mg/L. This is considered to be a small amount. The water of the Ottawa River is somewhat coloured due to relatively high concentrations of organic substances, such as the humic acids produced by decomposing plants. According to Environment Canada's Saint Lawrence Centre, suspended particulate matter in Ottawa River water, measured between 1985 and 1990 at Carillon, was found to be 6.0 mg/L. Turbidity at the same location was found to be 4.2 NTU. Causes of suspended particulate matter include spring runoff, erosion, shoreline wind action, cattle trampling, etc., which play a role in reducing spawning grounds and fish habitat along the Ottawa.

## River Size

In terms of "flow volume," the Ottawa is a "large river." The Ottawa River ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in terms of discharge volume among Canadian rivers, and is Canada's 12<sup>th</sup> longest river.

### 3.1.2 Physiography

#### Physiographic Region

The Ottawa River is a major waterway within the Laurentian "physiographic region" of Canada.

#### Figure 3.2 Dykes of Pegmatite and Aplitite



*Dykes of pegmatite and aplitite that were injected in a molten state along fractures in mafic metamorphic host rocks. Roadcut on the east side of Highway 17, 15 kilometres north-west of Deep River.*

#### Geological Processes

The present physical characteristics of the Ottawa River Valley represent more than 3 billion years of geological processes, including significant modification within glacial and post glacial environments, including the Champlain Sea.

The source of the Ottawa River lies within the Superior Structural Province of the Canadian Shield, one of two large blocks of Achaean igneous and metamorphic rocks containing the oldest rocks in North America. Gneisses in this region are evidence of "bedrock formation: metamorphism" and of "bedrock formation: folding." Granite and other igneous rocks provide evidence of "bedrock formation: intrusions." At a point approximately due east of Temagami, Ontario, Achaean rocks of the Superior Province are truncated by a block of younger metamorphic Precambrian rocks of the Grenville Province uplifted more than 1 billion years ago.

*“Bedrock formation: volcanism”* is illustrated by Achaean greenstone belts that represent volcanic edifices formed over 2.5 billion years ago. These solidified basaltic lavas are exposed along both shores of Lake Timiskaming. They contain abundant pillow structures formed when liquid rock material (magma) erupted under the sea and became enshrouded in a glassy outer rim on contact with the cold sea water.

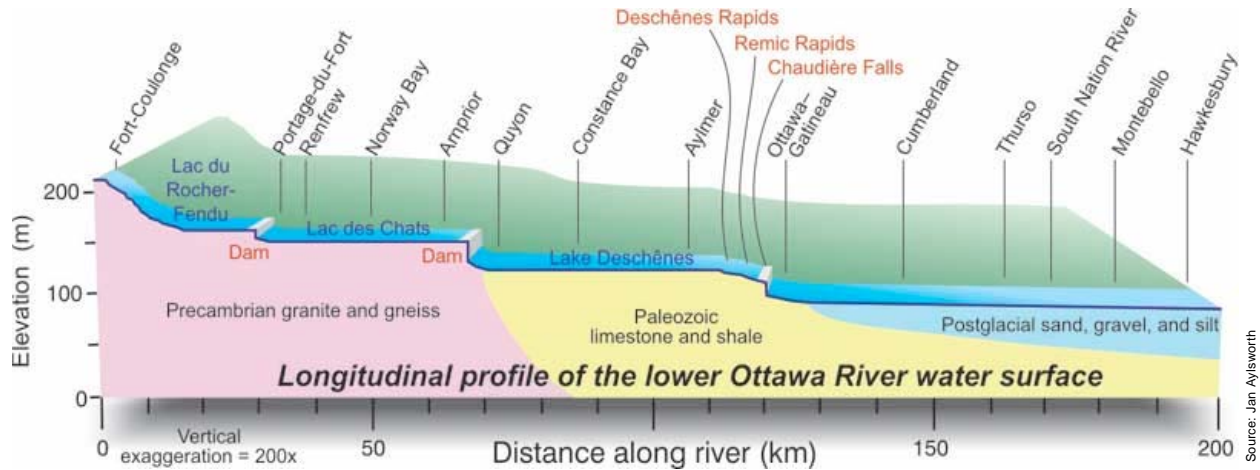
*“Bedrock formation: sedimentation”* is evidenced in the numerous sedimentary rocks, sandstones, limestones, and shales of the river valley. Lake Timiskaming is bordered by Huronian strata that belong to the Gowganda Formation, a classic example of one of at least four episodes of continental glaciation that took place more than 2.2 billion years ago, long before the last Ice Age with which we are familiar. The ancient Precambrian ice sheet was responsible for the deposition of the Gowganda sediments, and thus also represents *“surficial material formation: glacial transport;”* unlike glacial deposits of the recent Ice Age, these deposits are lithified. At the base of the Huronian sequence at Lake Timiskaming, an ancient soil profile known as a paleosol is locally preserved beneath a major unconformity (a gap in the rock record) representing over 300 million years.

The process of *“sedimentation”* is also evidenced by numerous fossils of invertebrates such as corals, stromatoporoids, bryozoa, brachiopods, palecypods, cephalopods and gastropods that are preserved in the Paleozoic rocks of the river valley. Stromatolites are exposed in several places on both shores of the River. These biosedimentary structures were formed by Earth’s oldest life forms, the cyanobacteria, that once thrived in tropical seas before the appearance of animal life. Stromatolites are still forming today, but in restricted environments free of more advanced organisms that dine on cyanobacteria.

The Nipissing Diabase is a hard, resistant rock responsible for much of the rugged topography north of the Grenville Front. A striking example of landscape created by the Nipissing Diabase is Spirit Rock, which displays a spectacular cliff rising more than 100 metres above the west shore of Lake Timiskaming.

Examples of *“surficial material formation: glacial melting and glacial transport”* reflect the advance and retreat of the Wisconsinan ice sheet that covered most of the region approximately 20,000 years ago. Elements present along the river include glacial till, drumlins, moraines, raised beaches, glacial outwash (such as sand and gravel in floodplains, deltas and eskers) as well as vast accumulations of silt and clay along the river valley. These were deposited during the waning stages of the last Ice Age within both freshwater lakes and the Champlain Sea, a marine estuary of the Atlantic Ocean that extended up the Ottawa River beyond Pembroke. Unconsolidated glacial deposits are responsible for the rich farmlands of the lower Ottawa River Valley.

**Figure 3.3 Longitudinal Profile of the Lower Ottawa River**



### Hydrogeology

The river bed and valley contain a wide range of geological materials, a testament to the rich geological heritage.

North of Pembroke, the bedrock is dominated by impervious metamorphic and igneous rocks of the Canadian Shield, and is characterized by abundant rock outcrops. From Pembroke southward, discontinuous plates of Paleozoic rocks such as sandstone, limestone, dolostone and shale begin to take over the bedrock landscape. The Ottawa-Gatineau region is underlain by three different geological materials. The resistant rocks of the Canadian Shield form highland areas. Flat-lying Paleozoic rocks underlie lowland plains and low hills, and outcrops are confined largely to low scarps and riverbanks. Much of the region is covered by a blanket of Quaternary sediments, which form landscapes that range from gently undulating plains and low hills of glacial deposits to the flat plains of the Champlain Sea. Downstream of the Rideau River, the landscape differs as the Ottawa's course takes it over Quaternary sediments.

The sand and gravel deposited in the river's floodplains, deltas and eskers are examples of "surficial unconsolidated materials" of medium porosity, while the river's vast accumulations of silt and clay, including deposits of Leda clay in the southern region of the river valley, are much less porous. Raised boulder beaches, including a beach 8 kilometres west of Haileybury, Ontario, mark the highest level of the post-glacial Lake Barlow-Ojibway.

### Topography

Over its 1,271 kilometre course, the river falls about 335 metres, giving it a "significant" average "gradient" of 0.264 m/km. The river's gradient changes considerably along its course. As the water flows over resistant bedrock outcrops, it creates "rapids" and "waterfalls." The river's 7 dams are built at these strategic locations for their hydroelectric potential. Most notable of these are the generating centres at Otto Holden, Des Joachims, Chenaux, Chats Falls, Chaudière Falls, and Carillon. In these areas, as well as at other rapids such as Rocher Fendu, the river possesses a "steep" gradient.

In terms of its "relief", the River begins at about 355 metres above sea level, and falls to about 20 metres above sea level at its confluence with the St. Lawrence.



### 3.1.3 River Morphology

#### Valley Types

Profiles of the “*valley walls*” vary remarkably, but are mainly subdued and convex. The “*valley floors*” range from nonexistent to low, moderately narrow flood plains. There are few “*interfluves*” along the river. These range from low but rugged in the upper reaches to low and flat in segments such as at Calumet and Morris Islands.

#### Channel Patterns

In terms of “*stream configurations*,” the Ottawa River exhibits channel patterns that are “*straight, meandering, and branching*.” This range reflects the varying nature of the river along its course.

In terms of “*lake systems*,” there are 19 significant lakes and reservoirs along the river. Lake Timiskaming is the most significant, and is a remarkably long, deep, and narrow “*elongated lake*” about 108 kilometres in length, 8 kilometres in width at its maximum, and with a mean depth of 122 metres. The depth of the river is significant, lending its name to the community of Deep River. The Ottawa River is 70 metres deep at Chalk River. From Petawawa downriver, widened areas of the river include Allumette Lake, Lac des Chats and Lac Deschenes.

#### Channel Profile

The Ottawa River’s channel profile is “*stepped*” at major rapids and “*regular*” over sections with continuous rapids. Many of the major drops have been used and modified for hydroelectric development. “*Level water*” along the Ottawa River occurs at flatwater and swift water sections throughout the river’s course.

Regular rapids, which are prolonged and with a relatively continuous gradient, occur at various places along the Rocher Fendu section. Significant “*cataracts*” occur on the Main Channel of this section, with several strong eddies and whirlpools. Whitewater on this section ranges from Class I to Class V at a “*cascade*” (Garvin’s Chute), although on average the section is rated Class III. Many of the rapids of the Ottawa River have been drowned out by impoundments. Among them, the prolonged rapids at the Long Sault are said to have been impressive, stretching over a distance of 14 kilometres. Further cascades exist or have existed at Chats Falls and Chute a Blondeau.

#### Fluvial Landforms

The River represents a range of “*fluvial landforms*,” both “*depositional*” and “*erosional*.”

##### *Depositional*

Because the Ottawa is a young and fast-flowing river, it lacks a “*delta*” at its mouth, and sweeps away attempts of tributaries to build more than ephemeral deltas at their confluence with the Ottawa. Because of its coarse bedload/low suspension load, extensive floodplains and “*levees*” are absent.

The Petrie Islands are alluvial deposits forming a wetland complex of elongated sedimentary ridges and backwaters characteristic of the Ottawa River below the confluence with the Rideau River. These constitute an example of “*fluvial landforms: depositional*,” where sand and clay sediments are the result of a glacial deposition and retreat.

Muskkrat (near Cobden) and Sturgeon Lakes (near Chalk River) are remnants of previous channels of the Ottawa River, and as such are examples of “*oxbows*.”

In the National Capital region, the banks of the river are generally flat terrain with associated “terraces.” Natural and artificial beaches are present in places along the wider, slower flowing reaches of the river. Downstream of the Rideau River, vegetated sandbars forming low islands and marshes are common.

#### *Erosional*

There are numerous raised “terraces,” relics of the ice age that mark former levels of the paleo-Ottawa River, at and downstream of Petawawa. Minor “undercuts” are developed in Precambrian rocks at Rocher Fendu, and sporadically in Paleozoic limestone strata downstream from Constance Bay. A network of “caves” in Grenville marble provide underground pathways for much of the river flow along a several-kilometre stretch downstream from Pembroke. Below Deep River, the river valley forms a wide but locally steep walled valley. There are some significant “deeps” in Lake Timiskaming. Muskrat Lake near Cobden occupies a major “cutoff channel.”

### 3.1.4 Biotic Environments

#### Aquatic Ecosystems

The section of the Ottawa River being nominated for CHR status displays characteristics of middle-order and lowland zone “riverine systems”.

The Ottawa River flows through a series of lakes, many of which have been formed by dams. The lakes and reservoirs formed upstream of dams along the Ottawa tend to be “eutrophic”. Downstream of each dam, water tends to be in constant motion.

Significant “wetlands,” including “bogs”, “fens”, “marshes” and “swamps,” are found along or near the Ottawa River. Stony Swamp Conservation Area, part of the National Capital Greenbelt, and Westmeath Provincial Park both contain significant “swamps”.

Examples of significant “bogs” include the Alfred and Mer Bleue bogs, boreal peat bogs situated southeast of Ottawa. The Alfred Bog is the largest of its kind in southern Ontario, and lies within an abandoned channel of the Ottawa River. Wetlands are the most productive and diversified ecosystems along the Ottawa River.

#### Terrestrial Ecosystems

The Ottawa River Valley lies in Canada’s “Boreal Shield” terrestrial ecozone.

### 3.1.5 Vegetation

Significant plant communities along the Ottawa River include “aquatic/riparian” plant species that are unique in terms of “location”: prairie and alvar vegetation supported by spring flooding grow in narrow bands along the shorelines of the Ottawa River. For instance, at Shirley’s Bay in Ottawa, there are shrubby alvars with plants such as Shrubby Cinquefoil, and prairie species such as Little Bluestem, Big Bluestem, Prairie Cord-Grass and Indian Grass.

Figure 3.4 Aerial View:  
Looking Upriver from Ottawa



Source: Mia & Klaus

Exceptional “trees” along the Ottawa include the pine and mixed forests of Renfrew County. Along the lower Ottawa River, trees such as Hackberry, Butternut and Bur Oak exist at the northern limit of their range. Ironwoods and Silver Maple are also notable species. White Pines at Gillies’ Grove, Amprior, are rare remnants of the famous logging forests of the Ottawa River, and are among the tallest trees in Ontario. Pockets of old growth White Pine also exist along several tributaries of the Ottawa.

“Rare plant species” along the Ottawa include those adapted to seasonal flooding at Petrie Island, such as Gattinger’s Panic Grass, Moss-Like Love Grass and Wild Madder. There are 9 endangered vascular plant species found within the Ottawa River watershed, either provincially or federally. These include American Ginseng, Butternut, and Blunt-Lobed Cliff Fern. An additional 15 vascular plants are considered to be threatened or of special concern.

### 3.1.6 Fauna

The Ottawa River is home to many different ecosystems, each playing an important role in sustaining Canada’s biodiversity. More than 85 species of “fish” can be observed in the river. Of these, the River Redhorse has been listed as a species of “special concern” by COSEWIC, as has Lake Sturgeon. The population of Lake Sturgeon in the Ottawa River is the most significant in southeastern Ontario. Large specimens of Yellow Sturgeon, Muskellunge and Northern Pike have been found in the Ottawa River. Sport fishing has a long history on the Ottawa River, with common catches of Bass, Perch, Walleye (Pickerel) and Pike.

The Ottawa River is home to a unique and diverse population of freshwater mussels, including at least 14 different species, and an unusually high density on the bottom of the river. The rare Olive Hickorynut mussel exists on only four rivers across Canada, with the most important population likely on the Ottawa River. The reproduction of the Olive Hickorynut mussel involves the Lake Sturgeon, and the abundance of freshwater mussels in the Ottawa River provides a number of unique ecosystem functions and services

Unique wetlands and floodplain habitats support more than 300 species of “birds” along the river, about half of which are migratory, making the Ottawa one of the continent’s most important migratory flyways. The Ottawa River is home to the threatened Least Bittern and the Bald Eagle.

In addition, some 53 species of “mammals” inhabit the river valley. Significant mammal populations include Black Bear, Wolf, Lynx, Moose and Marten along the boreal forest of the upper reaches of the Ottawa River. Common species of the mixed wood lowlands of the river watershed include White-Tailed Deer, Red Fox, and Snowshoe Hare. Southern Flying Squirrel is considered to be a species at risk and its greatest population is found in the Outaouais region.

Figure 3.5 Milksnake



Source: Petawawa Civic Centre

There are 33 species of “reptiles and amphibians” in the river valley, including the Eastern Spiny Softshell Turtle, one of the most rare turtles in Canada. The Spotted Turtle is endangered, and the Milksnake and Eastern Ribbon Snake are both “species of special concern.” Frogs and other amphibians are particularly diverse along the Ottawa River.

## 3.2 Assessment of Natural Heritage Values

The Ontario portion of the Ottawa River is not being nominated to the CHRS for its natural heritage values. Although the river meets CHRS's *Selection Guidelines for Natural Heritage Values*, as required for the Nomination of Canadian Heritage Rivers, the Ottawa is unable to satisfy certain *Natural Integrity Values* required for nomination. Given these limitations, this document, as well as the Ottawa River Background Study, confirm that the Ottawa River possesses significant natural heritage values that are not currently represented by the CHRS.

The following assessment applies *Selection Guidelines for Natural Heritage Values* and *Natural Value Integrity Guidelines* to the Ottawa River. It also clearly indicates which Natural Integrity Values the Ottawa River does not possess, illustrating why it cannot be nominated to the CHRS on the basis of its natural heritage values.

### 3.2.1 Selection Guidelines: Natural Heritage Values

Outstanding Canadian natural heritage value will be recognized when a river and its immediate environment:

***Guideline: is an outstanding example of river environments as they are affected by the major stages and processes in the Earth's evolutionary history that are represented in Canada; or***

The Ottawa River traverses easily accessible, visible segments of the lithosphere that represent the past 3 billion years of the Earth's history. In addition, the Ottawa River is the only Canadian river that crosses four major geological subdivisions. Stromatolites, the oldest known record of life on Earth, can be easily viewed along the Ottawa River between Pembroke and Ottawa. Evidence of the post-glacial Champlain Sea environment can be found along the river, including whale bones, fossils and landscape formation.

***Guideline: contains outstanding representations of significant ongoing fluvial, geomorphological or biological processes; or***

The Ottawa River continues to experience significant seasonal flooding, despite its highly regulated flow. Bank erosion occurs in parts of the river.

***Guideline: contains along its course unique, rare or outstanding examples of biotic and abiotic natural phenomena, formations or features; or***

The Ottawa River's underwater caves near Westmeath, stretching over a network of 4 kilometres of twisting passages, represent a unique abiotic formation.

White Pines at Gillies' Grove, Arnprior, are among Ontario's tallest. They are rare remnants of the famous logging forests of the Ottawa River.

***Guideline: contains along its course habitats of rare or endangered species of plants and animals, including outstanding concentrations of plants and animals of Canadian interest and significance.***

The rich ecosystems of the Ottawa River sustain more than 80 species at risk, including the River Redhorse, American Shad, Least Bittern, and Eastern Spiny Softshell Turtle. In addition, the Ottawa River provides habitat for over 300 species of birds, and is one of the continent's most important flyways for waterfowl. Rare prairie and alvar vegetation grows along Ottawa River shorelines, supported by the unique conditions of spring flooding.

### 3.2.2 Integrity Guidelines: Natural Integrity Values

In addition to meeting one or more of the above natural heritage value guidelines, a river must meet all of the following natural integrity guidelines to be judged to have outstanding Canadian natural heritage value:

***Guideline: The nominated section is of sufficient size to include significant representations of all of the natural processes, features, or other phenomena which give the river its outstanding natural value;***

The Ontario portion of the Ottawa River from the head of Lake Timiskaming to and including the Township of East Hawkesbury is included in this nomination and includes all of the significant representations of the natural processes, features or other phenomena that give the Ottawa River its outstanding natural value in the context of the CHRS.

***Guideline: The nominated section includes those ecosystem components that contribute significantly to the provision of habitat for species in need of protection;***

The nominated section includes all necessary ecosystem components that contribute significantly to the provision of habitat for species in need of protection, including wetlands, forests along the river and the river's waters. Indeed, this section includes the most biodiversity along the river.

***Guideline: There are no human-made impoundments within the nominated section;***

There are various impoundments within the nominated section, for both the generation of hydroelectricity and flood control.

***Guideline: All key elements and ecosystem components are unaffected by impoundments located outside the nominated section;***

The Ottawa River catchment is highly regulated by impoundments, even outside the nominated section, resulting in fluctuating water levels that may impact on its natural habitats. However, many wetlands along the river still maintain a high level of natural ecological integrity.

***Guideline: The water in the nominated section is uncontaminated to the extent that its natural aquatic ecosystem is intact; and***

Water quality of the Ottawa River has been affected by urban, industrial and agricultural land uses adjacent to the river and within the watershed. However, in recent decades, significant improvements to the water quality of the Ottawa River have been made, allowing the Ottawa River to retain a relatively natural aquatic ecosystem.

***Guideline: The natural aesthetic character of the nominated section is free of, or not adversely affected by, human developments.***

The natural aesthetic character of the nominated section of the Ottawa includes sections that have not been influenced or modified by human land use and development, including wetlands, parklands, and whitewater environments. Other sections, however, have been affected by shoreline vegetation clearing and urban development.



# Ottawa River — Natural Heritage Values



Title: Source Waters  
Credit: Library and Archives of Canada



Title: Spirit Rock  
Credit: ORLLN



Title: Deep Waters  
Credit: Christian Voilemont



Title: Alfred Bog  
Credit: ORLLN



Title: Gillies Grove  
Credit: Adrienne Blattel



Title: Spotted Turtle  
Credit: Petawawa Civic Centre

## Hydrology

- Drainage Basin
- ★ Seasonal Variation  
Photo Credit: Library and Archives Canada
- Water Content
- River Size

## Physiography

- Physiographic Region
- Geological Process
- ★ Hydrogeology  
Photo Credit: Dr. Allan Donaldson
- Topography

## Morphology

- Valley Types
- ★ Channel Patterns  
Photo Credit: Alexandre Baker
- Channel Profile
- Fluvial Landforms

## Biotic Environments

- Aquatic Ecosystems
- ★ Terrestrial Ecosystems  
Photo Credit: ORLLN

## Vegetation

- ★ Significant Plant Communities  
Photo Credit: OMNR/Lauren Trute
- Rare Plant Species

## Fauna

- Significant Animal Populations
- ★ Rare Animal Species  
Photo Credit: ORLLN



# Chapter 4

## Recreational Values

The following section describes the outstanding recreational values that the Ontario portion of the Ottawa River will contribute to the CHRS. The section will be organized according to the following categories: boating, swimming, fishing, water related activities, winter activities, and natural and cultural heritage appreciation.

### 4.1 Description of Recreational Values

#### 4.1.1 Boating

The Ottawa River offers excellent opportunities for a wide range of boating activities, enabling travel, nature appreciation and sport. The river boasts world-class white water kayaking and rafting on its

**Figure 4.1 Rafting in Big Waters**



Source: Benoit Chailleur

Rocher Fendu section near Beachburg, Ontario. Its combination of warm water and high-volume, safe rapids attracts paddlers from around the world. Canoeing and recreational kayaking are also possible on the river's calm upper stretches and long lakes. The Ottawa River continues to serve as a gateway to the backcountry of Ontario. Canoe trips from the river up the Montreal, Mattawa and Petawawa Rivers retrace routes followed from time immemorial. Pleasure craft, including power boats and sail boats, offer another way to experience the Ottawa River. The Ottawa River Waterway, a recreational boating route, stretches from Arnprior to New Liskeard. Its unique system of hydraulic trailers that move

powerboats of all sizes around obstacles permits a linked waterway for scenic cruising. The boating sector on the Ottawa River is considered to be a major contributor to the regional tourism economy.

#### 4.1.2 Swimming

The water quality of the Ottawa River has improved significantly over the past few decades, and swimming is increasing in popularity along the waterway. Numerous beaches along the river's upper and lower sections are regularly monitored to ensure suitable water quality. Beaches near urban areas along the river are suitable for swimming.



### 4.1.3 Fishing

The Ottawa River has earned its reputation of being an excellent fishing destination, offering a great diversity of fish species, surroundings, and types of fishing. The variety and quantity of fish attract some 50,000 fishers each year to the Upper Ottawa River - particularly to Lake Timiskaming due to its accessibility. The Lower Ottawa River is also a popular fishing destination, centering around Lac des Chats, Lake Deschênes and Petrie Island. Trophy-sized fish such as Largemouth Bass are present in the river.

### 4.1.4 Water Related Activities

The Ottawa River supports land-based recreational trails and access points that allow residents and visitors to enjoy the river.

Riverside trails and corridors provide opportunities to appreciate the Ottawa River valley environment. Numerous converted railways, cycling paths, and trails within parks are exemplified by the Emerald Necklace Trail System in Petawawa, the Gillies Trail in Arnprior and sections of the Trans Canada and Rideau Trails in Ottawa.

Parks such as Voyageur, Fitzroy Harbour and Driftwood Provincial Parks offer opportunities for hiking. Parks along the Ottawa River aim to conserve, educate and provide sustainable recreational opportunities. Some of the most popular recreation parks in Ontario are found within the Ottawa River watershed. Both municipal and provincial parks provide riverside camping. Please refer to the map of Ottawa River Natural Heritage Values and the map of Ottawa River Communities and Recreational Values for recreational opportunities and protected areas along the river.

In the past decade, communities have experienced a dramatic change in approach toward waterfront development, which has taken on much more importance and is undertaken with the river in mind. Examples of riverside and river access improvement are numerous. Hawkesbury has reclaimed a former shoreline, cluttered with saw and pulp mills, as parkland and housing with scenic views. The National Capital Commission conserves and develops waterfront land, with an explicit goal to promote river access and renaturalization. Shorelines have been renaturalized at former mill sites in Arnprior. Pembroke has reclaimed former industrial lands, and has developed a seniors' complex facing the river. Haileybury has major new developments along the waterfront, featuring a new marina, revitalizing the downtown area and replacing run-down buildings. New Liskeard's waterfront complex provides complete facilities for the community recreation and tourism.

Hunting for game by rifle and bow is popular in the Ottawa River Valley. A regulated annual harvest is open for small game, black bear, moose and white-tailed deer. Trapping of fur-bearing species such as beaver and muskrat is also significant in some areas.

**Figure 4.2 Snowmobile Excursion**



Source : Benoît Chailfour

### 4.1.5 Winter Activities

During the winter, the Ottawa River provides significant opportunities for outdoor recreation. Ice fishing, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, downhill skiing and skating are popular along the river. Cross-country skiing in Deep River overlooking the frozen river is highly popular. Winter festivals and carnivals occur in communities along the river, the largest of which is Winterlude on the frozen Rideau Canal.

### 4.1.6 Natural Heritage Appreciation

The many natural environments along the Ottawa River provide excellent opportunities for nature appreciation, including viewing and interpreting the natural characteristics of the river. Provincially-classified wetlands at Petrie Island and conservation areas such as Stony Swamp are just a few examples. Bird-watching is popular along the river, and migratory birds are a highlight.

### 4.1.7 Cultural Heritage Appreciation

The extraordinary history and cultural heritage of the Ottawa River is reflected in numerous events, festivals, museums, plaques and heritage corridors along the river. Communities along the river are actively highlighting and interpreting Ottawa River heritage. Ottawa River Living Legacy Kiosks in particular provide interpretation of both natural and cultural features. Please refer to the map of Ottawa River Natural Heritage Values to see the locations of the kiosks. National Historic Sites line the river interpreting stories of Canada-wide significance. Along the Ottawa, several regional museums, heritage houses and pioneer villages further celebrate the cultural heritage of the river valley, including the Macdonell-Williamson House in East Hawkesbury, the Champlain Trail Museum and Pioneer Village in Pembroke, the Voyageur Heritage Centre in Mattawa and the Little Claybelt Museum in New Liskeard. Significant festivals along the river include the Hot-Air Balloon Festival in the National Capital Region, the Canadian Tulip Festival and Winterlude in Ottawa, L'Écho d'un peuple in Casselman, Voyageur Days in Mattawa, and the Fiddling and Step-Dancing Championships in Pembroke.

**Figure 4.3 Pembroke Heritage Murals: The Timber Raft**



## 4.2 Assessment of Recreational Values

The Ontario portion of the Ottawa River provides excellent opportunities for recreation and meets all of the recreational selection and integrity guidelines as outlined by CHRS. Recreational values strengthen the ability of visitors and residents to enjoy both the cultural and natural heritage values of the river.

### 4.2.1 Selection Guidelines: Recreational Values

Outstanding Canadian recreational value will be recognized when a river and its immediate environment possess a combination of river-related recreational opportunities and related natural and/or cultural values, which together provide an opportunity for outstanding recreational experiences.

***Guideline:** Recreational opportunities include water-based activities such as canoeing and other forms of boating, swimming and angling, and other activities such as camping, hiking, wildlife viewing and natural and cultural appreciation, which may be part of a river-touring experience.*

The entire Ottawa River provides excellent opportunities for boating, swimming, fishing, trail use, natural and cultural heritage appreciation and camping, many elements of which are part of a river-touring experience.

***Guideline:** Natural values include natural visual aesthetics, and physical assets such as sufficient flow, navigability, rapids, accessibility and suitable shoreline.*

The Ottawa River provides scenic vistas, sufficient flow at all times for boating and fishing, and a variety between high volume rapids and calm lakes. The Ottawa is highly accessible, and possesses a shoreline that makes it both scenic and suitable for watersports and water-based recreation.

### 4.2.2 Integrity Guidelines: Recreational Integrity Values

In addition to meeting both of the recreational value guidelines, for a river to be judged to have outstanding Canadian recreational value, it must meet all of the following recreational integrity guidelines:

***Guideline:** The river possesses water of a quality suitable for contact recreational activities, including those recreational opportunities for which it is nominated;*

The water quality along the Ottawa River permits water contact recreational activities including world-class white water paddling and swimming, and as such is suitable for the recreational opportunities it presents.

***Guideline:** The river's visual appearance is capable of providing river travellers with a continuous natural and cultural experience, or a combined natural and cultural experience, without significant interruptions by modern human intrusions; and*

The visual appearance of the Ottawa River provides river travellers with a rich and varied mix of natural and cultural experiences along the entire corridor. Certain sections such as the Rocher Fendu can give travellers a sense of what the river's earliest travellers must have encountered. The modern intrusions on the river, including agriculture, towns, cities, shoreline residences, and hydroelectric

dams, do not occur along the entire river, and therefore do not compromise the experience of river travellers in terms of the Ottawa's natural and cultural heritage. The sheer scale of some of the dams along the river has become a visual draw in itself.

***Guideline: The river is capable of supporting recreational uses without significant loss of, or impact on, its natural or cultural values or its visual character.***

The Ottawa River corridor is capable of supporting recreational uses without the loss of or impact to its natural or cultural values or visual character. Indeed, it already does so, and continued development of recreation and tourism along the river could be a strong component of the sustainable economic development of riverside communities.

\* \* \* \* \*



# Ottawa River — Communities and Recreational Values



Title: Grand Chute; Credit: Mr. Cheng



Title: Tulip Festival; Credit: Ryan Pfeiffer



Title: Route Verte; Credit: Benoît Chalifour



Title: Waterfront; Credit: Temiskaming Shores



Title: Loppet; Credit: Keskinada Loppet



Title: First Nations; Credit: Algonquins of Pikwakanagan

## Natural Heritage Appreciation

- Scenic Views
- Wildlife Viewing  
Photo Credit: OMNR, Daryl Coulson
- Bird Watching
- Tributaries and Forests

## Human Heritage Appreciation

- Festivals  
Photo Credit: Parks Canada
- Museums
- Historic Sites and Heritage Plaques  
Photo Credit: Parks Canada
- Heritage Corridors

## Outdoor Recreation

- Hiking & Walking  
Photo Credit: Ontario Ministry of Tourism
- Camping
- Biking
- Hunting

## Water Related Activities

- Boating  
Photo Credit: Ottawa River Waterway
- Sailing  
Photo Credit: Ottawa River Waterway
- Paddling  
Photo Credit: Owl Rafting
- Rafting  
Photo Credit: Ontario Ministry of Tourism
- Canoeing  
Photo Credit: Ontario Ministry of Tourism
- Swimming
- Fishing

## Winter Activities

- Skiing
- Snowshoeing  
Photo Credit: Morning Mist Resort, OVTA
- Ice Fishing
- Skating
- Dog Sledding
- Snowmobiling

## Algonquin First Nations Communities

- Abitibiwinni (Picogan) — Amos QC
- Timiskaming — Notre-Dame-du-Nord QC
- Eagle Village (Kebaouek), Kipawa Lake QC
- Wolf Lake, Hunters Point QC
- Long Point (Winneway), Winneway River QC
- Kitcisakik (Grand Lac), Grand Lake Victoria QC
- Lac Simon, Abitibi QC
- Mitcikinabik Inik (Algonquins of Barriere Lake), Rapid Lake QC
- Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg (River Desert), Maniwaki QC
- Pikwakanagan, Golden Lake ON  
Photo Credit: Algonquins of Pikwakanagan

1. Scenic Views — Oiseau Rock
2. Wildlife Viewing — Voyageur Provincial Park
3. Bird Watching — Atocas Bay/Lefavre
4. Forests — Gillies Grove, Arnprior
5. Festivals — Winterlude, National Capital

6. Museum of Civilization, Gatineau
7. Historic Sites; Carillon Canal and Barracks
8. Heritage Corridors — Legacy Landmark Sites
9. Hiking — Fitzroy Provincial Park
10. Camping — Driftwood Provincial Park

11. Biking — City of Ottawa
12. Hunting — Renfrew County
13. Boating — Waterway
14. Sailing — Lake Timiskaming
15. Whitewater paddling/rafting — Renfrew County

16. Canoeing — Mattawa/Mattawa River
17. Swimming — Petawawa Point, Petawawa
18. Fishing — Waterway
19. Skiing — Deep River
20. Snowshoeing — Algonquin Provincial Park

21. Ice Fishing — New Liskeard
22. Skating — Rideau Canal, Ottawa
23. Dog sledding — Algonquin Provincial Park
24. Snowmobiling — Renfrew County



# Chapter 5

## Conclusion

The Nomination Document includes only the Ontario portion of the Ottawa River. As the Quebec portion of the river is of parallel significance from a cultural heritage standpoint and possesses key natural and recreational values, it too would be worthy of nomination should the Quebec Government decide to pursue this direction in the future.

The Ontario portion of the Ottawa River is worthy of nomination to the CHRS based on its outstanding cultural heritage values, satisfying all required CHRS Cultural Heritage Value Selection and Integrity Guidelines.

The Ontario portion of the Ottawa River will play an important role in the CHRS, providing representation of several exemplary cultural heritage themes of a significance not presently represented in the System. The outstanding historical and political significance of the river, as a gateway to the continent, witness to exploration and the fur trade, and home to the Nation's Capital, make the river deserving of CHR status.

The Nomination Document also illustrates that the Ontario portion of the Ottawa River possesses outstanding representations of natural heritage and recreational values. However, because CHRS Natural Integrity Value Guidelines cannot be met, on account of the man-made impoundments, the river is not eligible to be nominated on the basis of its natural values.

Future designation of the Ottawa River (Ontario) will further protect, enhance and publicize the cultural and natural heritage of the river. The significant participation of residents and stakeholders in meetings along the river demonstrates a strong interest and motivation to protect the river through its designation. Local working groups have been formed to create the background study and nomination document, and are poised to begin creating a heritage strategy for the river.

*Heritage designation should help us to preserve the river and its watershed. We would like to see the water quality improved by better methods of pollution control. We hope that the management plan for our heritage river will find that successful balance between industrial and recreational needs on the one hand and the preservation and improvement of our environment on the other...*

- Mattawa chapter of the Ottawa River Heritage Designation Committee, 2005

Many individuals and organizations have great hopes for the Ottawa River, and believe that their visions could be achieved through CHR designation. Building the movement toward stewardship of the cultural, natural and recreational values of the river will help respond to the many conservation challenges inherent in the management of the Ontario portion of the Ottawa River. In addition, CHRS designation could strengthen and build bridges between communities along the river, leading to greater inclusiveness and community health.



# The Ottawa River by Night

*Poem donated by Margaret Atwood in support of Ottawa River Heritage Designation Project.*

In the full moon you dream more.  
I know where I am: the Ottawa River  
far up, where the dam goes across.  
Once, midstorm, in the wide cold water  
upstream, two long canoes full  
of children tipped, and they all held hands  
and sang till the chill reached their hearts.  
I suppose in our waking lives that's the best  
we can hope for, if you think of that moment  
stretched out for years.

Once, my father  
and I paddled seven miles  
along a lake near here  
at night, with the trees like a pelt of dark  
hackles, and the waves hardly moving.  
In the moonlight the way ahead was clear  
and obscure both. I was twenty  
and impatient to get there, thinking  
such a thing existed.

None of this  
is in the dream, of course. Just the thick square-  
edged shape of the dam, and eastward  
the hills of sawdust from the mill, gleaming as white  
as dunes. To the left, stillness; to the right,  
the swirling foam of rapids  
over sharp rocks and snags; and below that, my father,  
moving away downstream  
in his boat, so skilfully  
although dead, I remember now; but no longer as old.  
He wears his grey hat, and evidently  
he can see again. There now,  
he's around the corner. He's heading eventually  
to the sea. Not the real one, with its sick whales  
and oil slicks, but the other sea,  
where there can still be  
safe arrivals.

Only a dream, I think, waking  
to the sound of nothing.  
Not nothing. I heard: it was a beach, or shore,  
and someone far off, walking.  
Nowhere familiar. Somewhere I've been before.  
It always takes a long time  
to decipher where you are.

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# Nomination Document

## Appendices

## Appendix A

### Community Meetings Along the Ottawa River

<i>May 5, 2003</i>	Information Session with Chief Whiteduck and Council Members, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan, Golden Lake, Ontario
<i>June 14, 2003</i>	Launch of Ottawa River Heritage Designation Project, formed to seek designation of the Ottawa River as a Canadian Heritage River, Petawawa, Ontario
<i>September 30, 2003</i>	Executive Committee Meeting, Petawawa, Ontario
<i>January 23, 2004</i>	Executive Committee Meeting, Petawawa, Ontario
<i>March 10, 2004</i>	Algonquin Community Meeting with Elder William Commanda, Maniwaki, Quebec
<i>May 5, 2004</i>	Pembroke Community Meeting, Pembroke, Ontario
<i>May 28, 2004</i>	Lake Timiskaming Region Information Meeting, Temiskaming Shores, Ontario
<i>July 15, 2004</i>	Ottawa Region Information Meeting, Kanata, Ontario
<i>September 2, 2004</i>	Algonquin First Nations Communities Information Meeting, Témiscaming, Quebec
<i>September 30, 2004</i>	Prescott-Russell Region Information Meeting, Plantagenet, Ontario
<i>November 24, 2004</i>	Executive and Steering Committee Meeting, Petawawa, Ontario
<i>Sept. 21-22, 2005</i>	Steering Committee Meeting, Mattawa, Ontario
<i>October 18, 2005</i>	Community Information Session, Deep River, Ontario
<i>October 25, 2005</i>	Community Information Session, Temiskaming Shores, Ontario
<i>October 26, 2005</i>	Community Information Session, Mattawa, Ontario
<i>November 9, 2005</i>	Community Information Session, L'Orignal, Ontario
<i>November 16, 2005</i>	Community Information Session, Wendover, Ontario
<i>December 13, 2005</i>	Community Information Session, Pembroke, Ontario
<i>December 14, 2005</i>	Ontario Steering Committee Meeting (Conference call).



## Appendix B

### Selected National Historic Plaques along the Ottawa River

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Inscription</b>
Battle of the Lake of Two Mountains. <i>Site of defeat of Iroquois by French 1689</i>	Montreal, Quebec 1298 Highway 37 / 1972 North of Senneville Rd.	Following the Lachine massacre in 1689, the Iroquois continued to terrorize the Montreal area. In October, Governor Denonville sent out a scouting party of 28 under the Sieurs Dulhut and d'Ailleboust de Manthet which came upon a party of 22 Iroquois in the Lac des Deux Montagnes. In the Melée that followed this surprise encounter, 18 Iroquois were killed, three taken prisoner, while one swam to safety. This victory did much to restore the shaken confidence of the inhabitants.
Canada's Capital Chosen by Queen Victoria in 1857; became capital in 1867	Ottawa, Ontario Main entrance to Parliament Hill, Wellington Street	After the union of the two Canadas in 1841, Kingston, Montreal, Toronto, and Quebec were in succession the seat of government. During the 1850's these cities contended for designation as the permanent capital of Canada. When called upon in 1857, Queen Victoria resolved the issue by choosing Ottawa. In 1867, the Fathers of Confederation reaffirmed the choice and Ottawa became the capital of the new Dominion of Canada.
Carillon Barracks <i>Early 19<sup>th</sup>-century stone military building</i>	Carillon, Quebec 50 Principale Street	Construction of this building was begun about 1836 for former Deputy Commissary General C. J. Forbes, who had retired, here, in Carillon. It was still unfinished when leased by the Army to house troops during the civil disorders of 1837. As perhaps originally intended, the building served as a hotel for a number of years, following the withdrawal of the soldiers in 1840. Since 1938 the "Carillon Barracks," as it has continued to be known, has housed the Carillon Museum.
Carillon Canal <i>Operational canal; site of two earlier canals, 1826-33</i>	Carillon, Quebec 210 du Barrage Street	Designed and constructed by the Royal Engineers. Commenced in 1926, completed in 1833, enlarged from 1871 to 1882. One of the canals which, by way of the St. Lawrence and the Ottawa, Rideau, and Cataract rivers, connect Montreal with Ottawa and Kingston.
Champlain, Samuel de (1567-1635) <i>Noted explorer, founded Quebec, considered father of New France</i>	Ottawa, Ontario Nepean Point, on the statue of Champlain.	Born in Brouage, France, Champlain first visited North America in 1603 and in 1605-07 was involved in an attempt to establish a settlement in Acadia at Port Royal. In 1608 he founded Quebec and thereafter, as virtual political leader in New France, promoted it as the centre of a new colony. He was a great explorer, mapping much of New France and venturing as far west as the Great Lakes and South to Lake Champlain. His many exploits earned him a reputation as "founder of Canada" and his "Voyages de la Nouvelle-France" is a classic of Canadian travel literature.
Chaudière Portages <i>Part of the main canoe route to western Canada</i>	Hull, Quebec Eddy park / Voyageurs Park.	(Plaque removed)

Eddy, Ezra Butler (1827-1906) <i>Manufacturer of matches, wood products and pulp and paper.</i>	Hull, Quebec Exterior of EB Eddy Building Taché and Montcalm Streets	Born in Vermont, E.B. Eddy came to the Chaudière Falls in 1851 and began a small hand-operated match factory. From this modest beginning, he diversified his activities within the next two decades to become a lumber magnate and manufacturer of wooden products. By the 1880s he had become the largest producer of matches in Canada and was also making wood pulp. In 1890 he started a paper mill incorporating the latest technological innovations. By the end of the 19 <sup>th</sup> century the Chaudière Falls area was a major industrial centre.
Fight at the Long-Sault <i>Last stand of Dollard des Ormeaux against the Iroquois 1660</i>	Carillon, Ontario	Near here, in an improvised fort at the Long Sault of the Ottawa River, on 2 May 1660, Adam Dollard des Ormeaux, with 16 Frenchmen and about 40 Hurons, waylaid 200 Onondaga hunters. In the ensuing fight, which lasted a week, the Onondaga were joined by about 500 Mohawks and Oneidas who had been gathering on the St. Lawrence. Dollard's party was wiped out, while the Iroquois lost 19 men. That spring, the Iroquois did not harass the St. Lawrence settlements, and in June the first furs in several years reached Montreal from the Pays d'en Haut. Dollard's contemporaries regarded him as the saviour of the colony.
Forest Industry in the Ottawa River Valley <i>White pine for British Navy in Napoleonic Wars, square timber, pulp.</i>	No plaque in place; recommended Ottawa, Ontario	
Fort Témiscamingue Remains of French fur trading post	Ville-Marie, Quebec 824 Old Fort Road	The first fort on this lake was built by the government of New France about 1685 to compete with the English on Hudson Bay. Closed in the 1690s, Fort Témiscamingue was re-established in 1720 and leased to merchants until the fall of New France. After the Conquest various free traders settled on the lake, but the North West Company had a virtual monopoly by the 1790s, thanks to the astute management of Aeneas Cameron. Control of the fort remained with the Cameron family for many years after the union of the Hudson's Bay and North West Companies in 1821.
Fur Trade <i>Important industry during most of Canada's History</i>	Lachine, Quebec	
Gillies Grove and House <i>Old-growth white pine forest and country house</i>	Arnprior, Ontario	
Grenville Canal <i>Constructed 1819-33, enlarged 1871-82, to connect Montreal and Ottawa</i>	Grenville, Quebec Canal North Road	Designed and constructed by the Royal Engineers. Commenced in 1819, completed in 1833, enlarged from 1871 to 1882. One of the canals which, by way of the St. Lawrence and the Ottawa, Rideau, and Catararqui rivers, connect Montreal with Ottawa and Kingston.
Hull Timber Slide <i>Major technological innovation</i>	Ottawa, Ontario Victoria island	

John R. Booth Residence. <i>Outstanding Queen Anne Revival style residence, 1909</i>	Ottawa, Ontario 252 Metcalfe Street	
Macdonell House Stone Palladian residence of prominent fur trader 1817-19	Pointe-Fortune, Quebec Highway 17	Constructed in 1817-19 by Montreal craftsmen for John Macdonell and his Métis wife, Magdeleine Poitras, this house was one of the finest of several built in the area by retired North West company fur trading partners. An elegant local adaptation of the Palladian style, it was situated in an extensive working estate with easy access to the river and Macdonell's forwarding business. The family called it Poplar Villa. Its impressive stone exterior and exquisitely detailed interior proclaimed Macdonell's position as a major business and political figure along the Ottawa River.
Manoir Papineau <i>19<sup>th</sup>-century manor, home of patriot leader Louis-Joseph Papineau</i>	Montebello, Quebec 500 Notre-Dame Street.	
Maplelawn & Gardens <i>Neoclassical residence with walled garden, Thomson-Cole-Rochester House 1831-34</i>	Ottawa, Ontario	This elegant residence and its walled garden are a rare and well-preserved example of a country estate in early 19 <sup>th</sup> -century Canada. Built from 1831-1834 for William Thomson, a prosperous farmer, its centrepiece is this finely crafted home in the British classical tradition. The oval entrance drive and the walled garden of nearly an acre reflect the original pattern of the grounds. The sheltered environment for growing household vegetables, tender fruit and flowers recalls the walled gardens common in Britain.
Mattawa Route <i>Key link in main voyageur canoe route to West of Canada</i>	Mattawa, Ontario Near Main Street in Memorial Park, Water Street	When west-bound voyageurs left the Ottawa here at Mattawa, "the forks," they faced 11 portages in the next 40 miles. The Mattawa, or Petite Rivière, was a key link in the historic canoe route between Montreal and the Upper Great Lakes and the Northwest, for its headwaters are separated from Lake Nipissing and the Lake Huron drainage only by the La Vase portages. This route had already been used for millennia by Indians before it was first seen by Europeans in the early 17 <sup>th</sup> century. For more than 200 years thereafter, it was one of Canada's main highways of exploration and commerce.
McGee, Thomas D'Arcy (1825-1868) <i>Journalist, poet, Irish patriot, Father of Confederation</i>	Ottawa, Ontario Beside Speaker's Corner Sparks Street Mall, between O'Connor and Metcalfe	
Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate <i>Arrived in Canada in 1841, missionaries in remote settlements.</i>	Ottawa Ontario St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church Corner of Wilbrod and Cumberland Streets	
Struggle for Hudson Bay. <i>Battle for fur trading forts and routes on Hudson Bay 1686-1713</i>	Ville-Marie, Quebec Intersection of Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes and Saint-Gabriel	In 1686, a French force under Chevalier de Troyes assisted by the Canadians under d'Iberville, journeying overland by way of Lake Témiscamingue, captured the three Hudson's Bay Company forts on James Bay. The French retained possession until the Treaty of Utrecht, 1713.

<p>Tessouat and le Borgne <i>Algonquin headmen of the Upper Ottawa (Kichesipirini) on Allumette Island; flourished 1600-1650</i></p>	<p>Ile-aux-Allumettes, Quebec</p>	
<p>The Fur Trade at Lachine <i>Stone warehouse used as a depot, 1803.</i></p>	<p>Lachine, Quebec Commerce-de-la-Fourrure-à-Lachine, père Marquette Drive 1225 Saint Joseph Boulevard and 12ième.</p>	<p>In 1803 Alexander Gordon, a former North West Company clerk had this stone warehouse built for the storage and trans-shipment of furs and trade goods. Taken over in 1833 by the Hudson's Bay Company, it continued as a fur trade depot until 1859. The Sisters of Sainte Anne then transformed it into a residence for their employees. Parks Canada acquired the building in 1977 to commemorate the history of the fur trade at Montreal and Lachine in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.</p>
<p>Wright, Philemon (1760-1839) <i>Early Lumber merchant; established the first farming settlement in the Ottawa Valley; 1880</i></p>	<p>Hull, Quebec 1 Promenade du Portage</p>	<p>In 1800, American entrepreneur and colonizer Philemon Wright founded an agricultural settlement which later became Hull. Soon compelled to turn to the region's rich forest resources as a source of income for his settlement, Wright pioneered the timber trade in the Ottawa Valley, floating his first raft of square timber downstream to Quebec in 1806. He later developed the first timber slides in Canada in order to bypass the Chaudière Falls. Wright's business and financial leadership ensured the dominance of the Ottawa Valley in Canadian timber exports during the second quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.</p>

Source: Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

## Appendix C

### Selected Ontario Provincial Historic Plaques along the Ottawa River

Name	Location	Inscription
Founding of New Liskeard	Temiskaming Shores, Ontario In Riverside Place, at the mouth of the Wabi River, in New Liskeard	The Algonquin First Nations originally inhabited the Little Clay Belt, the rich agricultural belt extending north from New Liskeard. The abundance of good, inexpensive farmland attracted people from southern to "new" Ontario and the town quickly grew.
The Great Fire of 1922	In a roadside park, Highway 11, about 3 km south of the Earleton Overpass, Thornloe	In early October 1922, scattered bush fires burning north of Haileybury were united by high winds into a mammoth forest fire that swept 18 townships. Several communities were destroyed leaving more than 5,000 people homeless. Snow and rain finally brought the blaze under control.
Cobalt Mining Camp	Cobalt, Ontario 26 Silver Street	The first discovery of silver deposits in this area was made in 1903 by lumbermen searching for timber for railroad ties, and led to one of the most intensive mining rushes in Ontario history. In the 1930s, the demand for cobalt assured the economic stability of the mining camp despite a sharp reduction in the price of silver
William Henry Drummond 1854-1907	In Drummond Park, Silver Street and Prospect Avenue, Cobalt	Characterized by humour and pathos, the habitant verses of Dr. William Drummond appealed to readers of many cultures and earned their author international recognition. In 1905, Drummond joined his brothers in a silver-mining venture at Kerr Lake on the outskirts of Cobalt where, two years later, he died.
The Timiskaming Mission	Cobalt, Ontario Mission Point, at the foot of Old Mission Road, east off Highway 567 about 20 kilometres south of North Cobalt	The Roman Catholic mission originally established at Fort Timiskaming on the eastern shore of Lake Timiskaming in present-day Quebec was relocated to the Ontario shore of the lake in 1863. Here the mission comprised a presbytery for the Oblate fathers, a small hospital operated by two Grey Sisters of the Cross, and eventually a frame church.
The Brent Crater	At a lookout tower on the eastern rim of the crater, Brent Road, approximately 6 km northeast of the village of Brent - near the northern edge of Algonquin Park, about 32 km south of Highway 17	First noted in aerial photographs in 1951, the Brent Crater is a circular depression approximately three kilometres in diameter that is thought to have been formed as the result of the high-speed impact of a giant meteorite some 450 million years ago.
Canoe Route to the West	Mattawa, Ontario Legion Memorial Park, Main and Mattawa Streets, Mattawa	The Mattawa River formed an important link in the historic canoe route from Montreal to the upper Great Lakes. For more than 200 years, explorers, fur traders, missionaries and coureurs de bois travelled the route including: Samuel de Champlain, Jean de Brébeuf, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Simon Fraser and David Thompson.
Grey Owl 1888-1938	At Finlayson Point Provincial Park, off Highway 11, about 1.5 km south of Temagami	Archibald Belaney came to Canada from England in 1906 and lived as a trapper and guide in the Temagami and Biscotasing areas. After joining an Ojibwa band he adopted the name Grey Owl. Alarmed at the rapid despoliation of the wilderness, the trapper turned conservationist and spent the last 10 years of his life writing and lecturing on wildlife preservation.



Jean Nicolet	North Bay, Ontario Lee Park, Memorial Drive, North Bay	Born in France, Nicolet (c.1598-1642) came to Canada in 1618. He lived for a number of years with the Nipissing First Nations, adopting their lifestyle and thereby helping to strengthen their alliance with the French. An intrepid explorer, Nicolet is generally credited with the discovery of Lake Michigan, which he partially explored in 1634.
La Vase Portages	On Highway 17, near the pond where the former portages began, about 4 km east of North Bay	The three La Vase (Mud) portages, connecting Trout Lake with the La Vase River and Lake Nipissing, formed part of the historic canoe route to the west described by one despondent traveller as "an abominable marsh ... knee-deep in mud and tree-roots."
Mattawa House 1837	Mattawa, Ontario Explorers' Point, Highway 533	Situated at the junction of major canoe routes, Mattawa House was established by the Hudson's Bay Company primarily to discourage lumbermen from encroaching on the company's fur-trading monopoly. The post profited more from the transshipment of supplies than from furs, however, and actually owed its continued existence to business with the lumber companies.
Reverend Charles Alfred Marie Paradis 1848-1926, The	West Nipissing, Ontario St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church, 38 Main Street, Verner	An Oblate missionary from Quebec, Paradis was posted to Lake Timiskaming in 1881. During his years in the region, he did much to encourage agricultural settlement, particularly in the area around Verner, and took up farming himself. Paradis was an enterprising man of many talents: he prospected for gold, wrote meditative works, and painted in watercolour.
Temagami Post 1834	Temagami, Ontario Bear Island, Lake Temagami	Established to safeguard the Hudson's Bay Company's fur-trading territory from competitors, the small post on Lake Timagami (now Temagami) was an outpost of the company's major depot on Lake Timiskaming.
Canada's First Polish Settlement	Madawaska Valley, Ontario. Shrine Hill Park, near Our Lady Queen of Poland Roman Catholic Church, Highway 60, Wilno	Leaving behind the adverse social and political conditions of their partitioned homeland, some 300 Polish immigrants came to Renfrew County in 1864 and rapidly established a thriving agricultural community. Wilno was augmented by a second wave of Polish immigration in the early 1900s and still retains much of its distinctive cultural heritage.
Champlain's Journey of 1613	Whitewater Region, Ontario. Municipal Park, Highway 17, Cobden	On his first journey up the Ottawa River in search of the northern sea (Hudson Bay), Champlain stayed briefly at an Algonkian village near present-day Cobden. After learning that he had been misled as to the proximity of the illusive sea, Champlain proceeded down the Ottawa River from Lower Allumette Lake and returned to Quebec.
Daniel McLachlin 1810-1872	Arnprior, Ontario Robert Simpson Park, at the foot of John Street	An astute lumberman, McLachlin recognized the timber potential of the Madawaska watershed and in 1851 purchased a large tract of land at the site of Arnprior. Shortly thereafter, he laid out a town plot and constructed large sawmills at the mouth of the river.
Founder of Pembroke	Pembroke, Ontario Champlain Trail Museum, 1032 Pembroke Street East	After serving in the naval forces during the War of 1812, Scottish-born Peter White settled permanently in Upper Canada and entered the lumber trade. He made his headquarters at the wilderness site of present-day Pembroke and soon became a prominent businessman and public figure in the community that grew around his enterprises.
Founding of Renfrew	Renfrew, Ontario Low's Square, Plant Street and Railway Avenue	Attracted by the lumber activity in the upper Ottawa valley, settlers began moving into the area of present-day Renfrew in the 1830s. The opening of the Opeongo Road in 1854 ensured Renfrew's continued growth.
Gillies Bros. Lumbering Firm	Arnprior, Ontario Gillies Brothers and Company Mill, River Road	By the mid 1880s the four Gillies brothers had established their firm as one of the major lumber producers in the Ottawa valley, a position the company sustained well into the

		20th century.
Lieutenant Christopher James Bell R.N. 1795-1936	On County Road 3 at the Bonnechère River in the vicinity of his former sawmill and timber slide, about 2 km southeast of Castleford	One of the first lumbermen in the Ottawa valley, Bell came to Upper Canada about 1817 after receiving a grant of some 800 acres of land. The sawmill and timber slide he built at the first chute on the Bonnechère River became the centre of a small milling community.
McNab Settlement	Arnprior, Ontario Robert Simpson Park, at the foot of John Street	In 1824, some 80 Scottish Highlanders under the patriarchal rule of Archibald McNab established the first organized settlement along the Ottawa River in what later became McNab Township.
Nuclear Power Demonstration Reactor	Laurentian Hills, Ontario Highway 17 at the pull-off overlooking the Des Joachims dam at Rolphton	In 1962, the NPD Reactor supplied the Ontario power grid with the first nuclear-generated electricity in Canada. The reactor was the proving ground for research and development that led to commercial application of the CANDU system.
Opeongo Road	On the grounds of the post office in the vicinity of the former colonization route, Highway 60, Barry's Bay	Part of a network of colonization roads constructed by the government to open the hinterland for settlement, the Opeongo Road was completed as a winter road from Farrells Landing (Castleford) to Opeongo Lake by 1854. The offer of free, 100-acre lots along the road attracted many settlers to Renfrew County.
The Pembroke Mattawan Road	At the tourist information booth in Riverside Park in the vicinity of the former route, Highway 17, Pembroke	Constructed as a supply route to lumber camps in the upper Ottawa valley, the Pembroke and Mattawan Road was begun in 1853 and completed to its full length over the next 20 years. Some sections have since been incorporated into Highway 17, but the original route can still be travelled between CFB Petawawa and Deep River.
The Rapids of the Upper Ottawa	At the lookout point on Highway 17, about 3 km west of Deux Rivières	For over two centuries, the canoe was the only means of transportation between the St. Lawrence settlements and the vast hinterland to the west and north. Four sets of dangerous rapids on the Ottawa River were the first of many obstacles faced by the intrepid explorers and adventurers in Canada's early years.
Steamboating on the Upper Ottawa	On the grounds of the School House Museum, Highway 17, 4 km north of Point Alexander, Meilleures Bay	Steam navigation began on the upper sections of the Ottawa River in 1833 and was instrumental in the early development of the region's lumber industry. Sightseeing excursions also became popular. By the 1880s, however, most water traffic had been replaced by faster, more efficient rail service.
Timber Rafting on the Ottawa	In Robert Simpson Park, at the foot of John Street, Arnprior	The rafting of large cribs of square timber down the Ottawa River and then on to Quebec City was a highly lucrative trade throughout most of the 19th century, and was a significant factor in the economic development of the Ottawa valley.
The Zeep Reactor	In front of the public information centre at Chalk River Nuclear Laboratories, off Highway 17, about 8 km northwest of Chalk River	The first nuclear chain reaction in Canada was initiated on September 5, 1945 when the ZEEP reactor went into operation at Chalk River. The small, experimental reactor was named Zero Energy Experimental Pile because it was developed to produce only one watt of heat.
Brigadier-General Ernest Alexander Cruikshank 1853-1939	On the grounds of the Canadian War Museum, 330 Sussex Drive, Ottawa	A noted authority on the history of Ontario, Cruikshank became the first director of the Historical Section of the Adjutant-General's Branch of the General Staff in 1918. From 1919 until his death, he served as the first chairman of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.
Commissariat Building 1827	Ottawa, Ontario In the lobby of the museum, beside the third lock of the headlocks of	Distinguished by skilful masonry and solid construction, the Commissariat building provides an excellent example of the workmanship of the Scottish stonemasons employed by Colonel By to work on the Rideau Canal. Used as a

	the canal, between Parliament Hill and the Chateau Laurier, off Elgin Street	storehouse during the canal's construction, the building now houses the collections of the Bytown Museum.
Honourable Hamnet Kirks Pinhey 1784-1857	Ottawa, Ontario Regional Road 21 north of Road 49, near South March	On land granted to him for service in the Napoleonic Wars, Pinhey built a substantial estate comprising several log and stone structures. Later, he became prominent in local affairs and held a number of public offices.
The Nile Voyageurs 1884-1885	At Kichissippi Lookout, Island Park Drive, just west of the Champlain Bridge, Ottawa	In 1884, the British government sent a military expedition up the Nile River to rescue Major-General Charles Gordon who was under siege at Khartoum. On the recommendation of Lord Wolseley a number of Canadian voyageurs, many from the Ottawa valley, were recruited to navigate the expedition through the river's long and treacherous cataracts.
Thomas McKay 1792-1855	In the park at the corner of Sussex Drive and John Street near the site of his former New Edinburgh industrial complex, Ottawa	Master mason, entrepreneur, and founder of the community of New Edinburgh, McKay was responsible for the construction of a number of locks along the Rideau Canal. The McKay family home, Rideau Hall, was purchased by the government in 1868 to serve as the official residence of Canada's governors-general.
The University of Ottawa	Beside Tabaret Hall, 550 Cumberland Street, University of Ottawa, Ottawa	Established in 1848 and placed under the direction of the Oblate fathers, this bilingual institution received university status in 1866 and in 1889 was decreed a pontifical university by Pope Leo XIII.
District Court House and Goal 1825	At the site of the former complex, Rye and Cottage Streets, Niagara-on-the-Lake	When the court house and jail complex for the Niagara District was erected at Newark in 1817 it was considered to be the finest public building in the province. The scene of Robert Gourlay's imprisonment in 1819 and a slave riot in 1837, the old structure ended its days as an orphanage.
Founding of L'Original	Champlain, Ontario St-Jean Baptiste School, 35 Longueuil Street	Named after the moose that were so plentiful in the area, L'Original was developed primarily by Nathaniel Treadwell, a land speculator from New York State who acquired the Pointe à l'Original seigneurie in 1796.
Hawkesbury Mills	Hawkesbury, Ontario Confederation Park, John Street	By 1850, the sawmilling operations begun early in the century by Thomas Mears and David Patee at present-day Hawkesbury had become, reportedly, the largest sawmilling establishment in Canada West and the most productive exporter of softwood planks to Britain.
Seigneurie of L'Original	Champlain, Ontario Centennial Park, 772 Front Street	A parcel of land along the Ottawa River granted to François Prévost in 1674 was the first seigneurie in what is now Ontario. Perhaps because of its remoteness, the area was not developed for settlement until the end of the 18th century. By 1825, however, a thriving village was in evidence on the Pointe à l'Original seigneurie.
St. Andrew's Church 1832	Champlain, Ontario 1008 King Street	The Presbyterian congregation at L'Original had been in existence since 1822 but did not begin construction of its church until 10 years later when Charles Treadwell, the current seigneur of Pointe à l'Original, donated land for the structure. In 1925, the congregation voted to join The United Church of Canada.
William Cameron Edwards 1844-1921	Rockland, Ontario Parc du Moulin, Edwards Street, North of Highway 17	A leading lumber producer in the Ottawa valley, Edwards owned many mills in Rockland and Ottawa. As the member of parliament for Russell from 1887 to 1903, he vigorously promoted the interests of lumberers in provincial forestry policies.

Source: Ontario Heritage Foundation. On-line Plaque Guide. <<http://www.heritagefdn.on.ca>>

# Appendix D

## Generic Checklist for Annual Report Submissions<sup>1</sup>

NAME OF RIVER: \_\_\_\_\_

YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

Listed below are values for which the \_\_\_\_\_ River was nominated to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System, and activities which might in future affect these values.

Check off those values which have experienced significant changes (natural or human induced), and potentially important activities which have occurred, in the past year (April 1, 20\_\_ to March 31, 20\_\_).

For each value checked, also complete an **ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION FORM**.

### 1. CHANGES IN CONDITION OF RIVER VALUES

#### Natural Theme Representations:

Hydrology \_\_\_\_\_  
Physiography \_\_\_\_\_  
River Morphology \_\_\_\_\_  
Biotic Environments \_\_\_\_\_  
Vegetation \_\_\_\_\_  
Fauna \_\_\_\_\_

#### Cultural Theme Representations:

Resource Harvesting \_\_\_\_\_  
Water Transport \_\_\_\_\_  
Riparian Settlement \_\_\_\_\_  
Culture and Recreation \_\_\_\_\_  
Governance \_\_\_\_\_

#### Recreational Values:

Water-based Activities \_\_\_\_\_  
River-touring-related Activities \_\_\_\_\_

#### Resource Integrity:

Natural Integrity \_\_\_\_\_  
Cultural Integrity \_\_\_\_\_  
Recreational Integrity \_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>1</sup> Individualized versions of this form designed for each river should be completed and submitted.

## Appendix E

### Letters of Support for Ottawa River Heritage Designation

Letters of support for Ottawa River Heritage Designation have been submitted by the following organisations:

City of Ottawa  
City of Pembroke  
City of Temiskaming Shores  
County of Renfrew  
Town of Deep River  
Town of Hawkesbury  
Town of Petawawa  
Township of McNab/Braeside  
Township of Horton  
United Counties of Prescott and Russell  
United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria

Ministry of Culture, Government of Ontario  
National Capital Commission

Bromley Historical Society  
Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons  
Heritage Old Time Country Music Association  
Heritage Renfrew  
Ontario Archaeological Society, Ottawa Chapter  
Ottawa Riverkeeper  
Rotary Club of North Renfrew (Deep River)  
Upper Ottawa Valley Genealogical Group

John Baird, Member of Provincial Parliament for Nepean-Carleton  
Honourable Ed Broadbent, Member of Parliament for Ottawa Centre  
Cheryl Gallant, Member of Parliament for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke  
Marc Godbout, Member of Parliament for Ottawa-Orléans  
Gordon O'Connor, Member of Parliament for Carleton-Mississippi Mills  
Anthony Rota, Member of Parliament for Nipissing-Timiskaming  
Norman W. Sterling, Member of Provincial Parliament, Lanark-Carleton  
John Yakabuski, Member of Provincial Parliament for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke

In addition, numerous individuals have contributed written letters of support for this initiative.





## Ottawa Chapter

ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. Box 4939, Station E  
Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5J1

Ottawa River Heritage Designation Committee  
c/o The Town of Petawawa,  
16 Civic Centre Drive,  
Petawawa, Ontario K8H 3H5

December 5, 2005

The Ottawa Chapter of the Ontario Archaeological Society strongly supports the application of the Ottawa River Heritage Designation Committee to have the Ottawa River designated a Canadian Heritage River.

It does not take a geographer to see the critical situation of this waterway into the heart of the continent. Geologists, particularly those concerned with the continental glaciation, confirm that the "river" was at one time linked integrally to the ocean and later formed part of the basin of a vast inland sea. Archaeologists are increasingly learning about the people who lived on those shores c. 9,000 years ago. From that time on succeeding waves of native hunters, gatherers, traders and eventually agriculturalists took advantage of the resources of the river itself and the richness of its watershed. Stretching as it does from the St. Lawrence River into the heartland of western Quebec, the river banks have been home to many different pre-historic people, and their traces have been researched by many individual archaeologists and institutions. A particularly significant collection of articles (with input from many Ottawa Chapter OAS members,) *La préhistoire de l'Outaouais/Ottawa Valley Prehistory*, was published in 1999 by la Société d'histoire de l'Outaouais. The material dealt with the pre-historic archaeology of the middle stretch of the river, from Deep River down-river to the mouth of the Gatineau tributary at Ottawa. Archaeologists have continued investigations in the area, and many presented their results at a recent symposium of the Ontario Archaeological Society held in Petawawa, Ontario, November 3-6 2005, *Partners to the Past: Making Connections in the Ottawa Valley*.

The topics discussed at the symposium also included research on the later historic occupations of the Ottawa Valley. Attendees were given glimpses of life in the logging camps, bush farms and mines where waves of French, Irish, Scots and other Europeans mingled with the continuing Algonquin inhabitants of the region, whose descendants took part in the symposium programme. The full proceedings of this symposium are in process of publication, thanks to a grant from Ontario Ministry of Culture, Cultural Strategic Initiatives Fund. We expect this to be a significant contribution to the literature about the Ottawa River.

The importance of the heritage of the Ottawa River is obvious to the Ottawa Chapter of the Ontario Archaeological Society and we strongly support all efforts to spread this knowledge as widely as possible to the people of Canada.

Glenna Roberts, Secretary,  
For the Ottawa Chapter, Ontario Archaeological Society



Ottawa Riverkeeper  
Sentinelles Outaouais

P.O. Box 87008  
421 Richmond Rd.  
Ottawa, Ontario K2A 4E4  
Tel: 613-854-7442

[www.ottawariverkeeper.ca](http://www.ottawariverkeeper.ca)

March 21, 2005

To Len Hopkins and Nicole Desroches,

Ottawa Riverkeeper would like to express our support to have the Ottawa River named a Canadian Heritage River. There is no arguing the historical and cultural significance of the Ottawa River – the primary transportation route into the heart of Canada for thousands of years. Ecologically speaking, the Ottawa River is not only one of Canada's most significant rivers, it is very important on a global scale.

The Ottawa Valley contains examples of globally rare ecological communities such as alvar habitat and rich wetland and forest habitats, which support an impressive diversity of flora and fauna. The Ottawa River Valley hosts the most biologically diverse ecosystems in Québec yet is also one of the most threatened landscapes in Canada.

Heritage designation of the Ottawa River will be an important stepping-stone to ensure that this incredible river is protected and respected by all. I believe that encouraging people to enjoy the river by swimming, fishing and boating will give rise to better stewards who will act to protect the ecological integrity of the river for future generations.

In my contact with citizens from all over the Ottawa River Watershed, I feel confident that most people are eager to be good stewards and demonstrate their respect for the river. What we need is a movement to get all users of the river together to decide on the future of the river. A Canadian Heritage River Designation could provide a pivotal role in helping to conserve the richness and beauty of the Ottawa River.

Thank you for your leading efforts and Ottawa Riverkeeper looks forward to participating in the designation process.

Yours truly,

Meredith Brown  
*Riverkeeper and Executive Director*  
Ottawa Riverkeeper / Les Sentinelles de la Rivière des Outaouais



# Acknowledgements

The Ottawa River Nomination Document is part of an ongoing community initiative to seek Canadian Heritage River designation for the Ottawa River. A team of individuals representing the general public, local organizations, municipalities and agencies along the river have contributed their time, enthusiasm and expertise to this initiative. We are thankful to all the volunteers who have assisted with writing, editing, organizing and fundraising. In particular, we would like to thank the following individuals who have assumed responsibilities essential to the coordination of this nomination document:

Elder William Commanda, Honorary Chair, Kitigan Zibi, Manawaki, Quebec

## **Executive Committee**

Len Hopkins, Co-Chair representing the Province of Ontario, Petawawa, Ontario  
Chief Kirby Whiteduck, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan, Golden Lake, Ontario  
Chief Harry St. Denis, Wolf Lake First Nation, Témiscaming, Quebec

## **Organizational and Administrative Support**

Brian Grimsey, Canadian Heritage Rivers System, Parks Canada, Gatineau  
Nicole Desroches, Conseil régional de l'environnement et du développement durable de l'Outaouais, Gatineau  
Jim Fraser, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario Parks, Pembroke  
Charles Langlais, Interpreter, Deep River

## **Writing Team**

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Louise Bissonnette, Ontario Steering Committee, Prescott-Russell  
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Adrienne Blattel, Quebec-Labrador Foundation  
Lyal Campbell, Historian, Prescott-Russell  
Douglas Champ, Ontario Steering Committee, Deep River  
Elder William Commanda, Circle of All Nations  
Gordon Cullingham, Historical Society of Ottawa  
Nicole Desroches, CREDDO, Gatineau  
Peter Di Gangi, Algonquin Nation Secretariat, Timiskaming Reserve  
Dr. Allan Donaldson, Carleton University, Ottawa  
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Simone Hanchet, Quebec-Labrador Foundation  
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 Bob Sherrif, Historian, Fitzroy Harbour  
 Lyall Smith, Ontario Steering Committee, Deep River  
 Chief Harry St. Denis, Wolf Lake First Nation, Témiscaming  
 Gary Thibert, Ontario Steering Committee, Mattawa  
 Chief Kirby Whiteduck, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan, Golden Lake

**Funding Organizations and Partners**

Archives of Ontario  
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 Canadian Power and Sail Squadron, Oiseau Rock Squadron  
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 Department of Indian and Northern Affairs  
 Environnement Québec  
 FedNor  
 Friends of Bonnechere Parks  
 Library and Archives Canada  
 Ontario Ministry of Culture  
 Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources  
 Ontario Parks  
 Ontario Trillium Foundation  
 Ottawa River – Legacy Landmark Partners  
 Ottawa Riverkeeper  
 Ottawa River Waterway  
 Ottawa Valley Tourism Association  
 Quebec-Labrador Foundation  
 Renfrew County Community Futures Development Corporation  
 South Temiskaming Shores Community Futures Development Corporation  
 TD Friends of the Environment Foundation  
 The Student Conservation Association  
 Town of Petawawa

