

Green paper tackles pollution, development near waterways

People who live along and enjoy using the Rideau and Trent-Severn waterways should pay special attention to a Greenpaper recently released jointly by the federal and provincial governments to the Canada-Ontario Rideau, Trent-Severn Advisory Committee.

The 22-page report, which is being presented by the CORTS Advisory Committee for reaction at its public meetings this summer, details 24 propositions that could be undertaken to help resolve such problems and issues as water pollution, environmentally sensitive, or hazard lands, and private tourism development within the system.

"The Greenpaper propositions are going to affect a lot of activity and development in the CORTS corridor," stated Mr. Peter Burchell, the

Advisory Committee Chairman. "We want to get a strong response to these propositions so that we can report the public's support." "This way the Ontario Natural Resources Minister, Frank Miller and the federal Indian and Northern Affairs Minister, Hugh Faulkner will know what is wanted," Mr. Burchell went on to say.

The Greenpaper's 24 "propositions for discussion" are divided among five major topics in the report: water management; commercial development; land use, development and heritage conservation; management of public lands; and pollution abatement.

Among the proposals are:

-identification of all environmentally sensitive, or hazard lands and

their incorporation into municipal Official Plans; -the need for boater education and testing; -the need to carry out "heritage surveys" by developers on land slated for development, and by Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) to identify historical structures and districts in their municipalities;

-listing of all sensitive, natural and historical areas unique to the Corridor for special status and management;

-dedication of shoreline as part of the required five per cent for parks in all new waterfront subdivision plans in the Corridor;

-to increase outdoor recreational use of public lands, publicizing all Crown land intended for future recreational use;

-clarification of long-range government plans and policies regarding

tourism and recreational development in the corridor, especially by the private sector;

-continued monitoring of streams, lakes and waste management plants in the CORTS system, and government encouragement of pollution abatement action by the private sector.

The CORTS Advisory Committee, which comprises 10 appointed members from throughout the corridor, will be holding five meetings this summer in Trenton, Port Severn, Westport, Fenelon Falls, and Orillia area, to publicly review these propositions. Meetings in this area will be announced as the locations are arranged. Written comments on the Greenpaper are welcome anytime and can be sent to CORTS, 340 George Street North, Peterborough, Ontario.



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