

# Rideau Canal Connections

The Newsletter of the Rideau Heritage Network

No. 02, September 2007

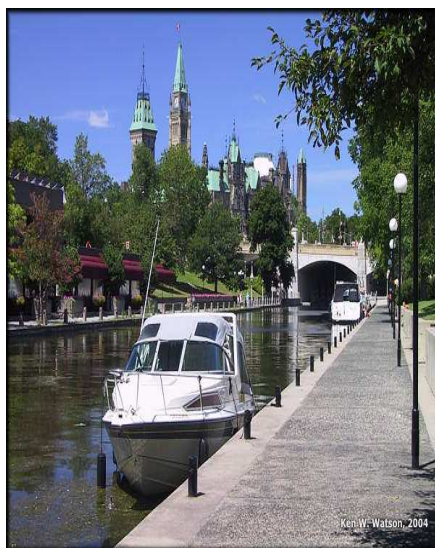
Enjoy the beautiful Autumn weather along the Rideau Canal!

## The Rideau Heritage Network

The Rideau Heritage Network welcomes you to the Autumn issue of our newsletter, *Rideau Canal Connections*. With this newsletter, we wish to foster an understanding and appreciation for heritage conservation and to encourage others to join in the conservation of the Rideau Canal Corridor. The Steering Committee would like to thank everyone for their feedback on the first issue of our newsletter, launched in November 2006, and look forward to your ongoing support, encouragement and ideas!

### WHO WE ARE:

The Rideau Heritage Network is a network of heritage professionals and volunteers working at various levels of government and in non-governmental organizations, led by a steering committee which coordinates the activities of the Network.



*Docking at the Ottawa Locks, Ken Watson, www.rideau-info.com, 2004*

### OUR MISSION:

To nurture, celebrate and promote the conservation of the Rideau Canal Corridor's diverse and distinctive cultural heritage.

### IN THIS ISSUE:

<b>Who We Are</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Mission Statement</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>RHN Takes Over IPM</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Rideau Canal Joins UNESCO Family!</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>CHO and RHN Working Together: Training</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>The RHN Welcomes Westport and Smiths Falls MHCs</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Events Events Events</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>RHN Steering Committee</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Rideau Waterway Map</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Organizations Involved</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Submissions</b>	<b>4</b>

[www.rideau-info.com/heritagenetwork/index.html](http://www.rideau-info.com/heritagenetwork/index.html)

## RIDEAU CANAL JOINS UNESCO FAMILY!



On June 27<sup>th</sup>, the Rideau Canal was inscribed on the World Heritage List by UNESCO's World Heritage Committee. This designation, which includes Fort Henry and the Kingston Fortifications, increases the number of World Heritage Sites in Canada to 14, and is Ontario's first site to receive such a distinction.

"Built between 1826 and 1832, the Rideau Canal was originally designated as a Canadian national historic site in 1924. It has a high degree of authenticity and integrity, as it is the only canal dating from the great North American canal-building era of the early 19th century that remains operational along its original line and with most of its original structures intact. It is also one of the first canals designed specifically for steam-powered vessels. It is an outstanding technological achievement in terms of its ingenious design and its high-quality construction."

*Excerpt from Parks Canada News Release*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- A thank you to all the Rideau Canal corridor Municipal Heritage Committees and Councils who have welcomed the RHN to their meetings for a slideshow presentation on the importance of conserving our heritage along the Rideau Canal corridor. The RHN Steering Committee looks forward to meeting with other MHCs and Councils in the coming months.
- A thank you to Claude Charbonneau for a very interesting and information presentation on the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Properties* at our conference in March. We would also like to thank the participants for their feedback, the Rideau Canal Museum in Smiths Falls for providing their facilities, and Lester's Restaurant for catering a delicious lunch.

## RHN TAKES OVER IPM

This year, the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville will host the 2007 International Plowing Match and Country Festival, located on the Chantland & neighbouring farms in Crosby. From September 18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>, visitors can experience the ultimate country festival, featuring musical entertainment, a rural exposition of over 500 vendors, plowing competitions, antiques, and much much more!

Stop by the Heritage Tent and visit the RHN booth. Watch demonstrations of a miniature working lock and let us know what the Rideau Canal Corridor means to you.



*Bob Saunders, Chairman of Education, CHO*

## CHO AND RHN WORKING TOGETHER: TRAINING

### South Elmsley -

On June 20<sup>th</sup>, members of the RHN attended A *Workshop for Councillors and Heritage Committees on Heritage Designation, Conservation and Conflict*, jointly presented by the RHN and Community Heritage Ontario (CHO). Bob Saunders, Chairman of the Education Committee for CHO, discussed the legal tools and research requirements of preservation, designation and heritage property inventories under the OHA, while Neil Patterson, VP of CHO and a member of the RHN, explained the importance of a

strong relationship between municipal heritage committees, their council and community.

The morning session also featured an interesting presentation on research undertaken by Parks Canada heritage planners and RHN members, Manuel Stevens and Susan Millar, on the Rideau Canal lockstations and adjacent land use.

Following a delicious lunch provided by Lester's Restaurant, the group was educated and entertained by a mock Conservation Review Board hearing, lead by CRB Chairman, Peter Zakarow.

## THE RHN WELCOMES WESTPORT AND SMITHS FALLS MUNICIPAL HERITAGE COMMITTEES

*With the recent formation of the Westport Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee and the Smiths Falls Municipal Heritage Committee, the RHN is one step closer to fulfilling its vision of an active MHC in each municipality along the Rideau Corridor*

The Westport Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee was officially formed in March, with Councillor Jackalyn Brady as Chair of the seven-person committee. Up until that time, Westport's Rideau District Museum looked after heritage issues in the village since its formation in 1961.

In just five months, the enthusiastic MHAC has accomplished a great deal. The committee has held an open public meeting to talk about their mandate, has made an inventory of significant buildings in the village, and has begun research in the newly formed Archives in the basement of the Westport Library. Neil Patterson, a member of Rideau Lakes MHC and RHN, has been most helpful in assisting the group to establish a road map for their future endeavours.

While this is an exciting beginning for the committee, the heritage resources of Westport has already been well recognized, as exemplified by a photograph of the community on the front cover of the Ministry of Culture's Ontario Heritage Toolkit.

### DON'T FORGET TO ATTEND!

**Doors Open  
Rideau Lakes –  
Westport, this  
September 15<sup>th</sup>**



The Smiths Falls Municipal Heritage Committee was recently revived after an active LACAC a number of years ago, which paved the way for the present committee.

The Committee is taking a new direction and trying to improve communications between themselves and owners of heritage properties. The new group would like to implement a two-tier system in which a property can be designated or recognized. Instead of provincial designation, historic property owners could choose to have their property recognized with a plaque detailing the historic importance of the site.

With the help of a Summer Experience Program grant from the Ministry of Culture, the MHC hired a student to digitize records and research with the aim of creating a Smiths Falls MHC website.

The Smiths Falls MHC recently revitalized a walking tour of historic properties that had been created by the original LACAC. This new brochure has been printed and is available at many of the attractions and businesses in Smiths Falls.

With fresh ideas and eager members, the Smiths Falls Municipal Heritage Committee is looking forward to preserving and promoting their local heritage.

## EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS

- New to the Village of Westport this year was the Westport on the Rideau Heritage Festival, held June 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>. Many events celebrated the village's past, present and future, including the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Antique Show at the Westport Community Centre, Rideau 175 celebrations at the Harbour and many more activities at various locations throughout the village. Neil Patterson was on hand to sign copies of his book *History of the Township of North Crosby and Westport*, and to represent the RHN at the festival.



*Napanee Pipe Band, Margaret Brand*

## EVENTS EVENTS EVENTS

- Each year, the Rideau Heritage Network holds an annual event for its members to socialize and enjoy a day learning about local history and heritage conservation. In 2006, participants toured Newboro, Crosby, Chaffey's Lock, and Westport as part of the *Rideau Lakes Doors Open* in September. Stay tuned for details on the RHN's 2007 Annual Event this fall!
- Based on participants' feedback, further training workshops on heritage conservation will be organized for this coming fall and winter. Watch the website for further information.

## RIDEAU HERITAGE NETWORK STEERING COMMITTEE

**Chair Manuel Stevens**, Parks Canada  
manuel.stevens@pc.gc.ca

**Vice-Chair Rowena Cooper**,  
Heritage North Grenville  
rowena.cooper@sympatico.ca

**Chris Andersen**, Ministry of Culture  
chris.andersen@ontario.ca

**Edward Bebee**, Friends of the Rideau  
edward.bebee@sympatico.ca

**Sally Coutts**, City of Ottawa  
sally.coutts@ottawa.ca

**Deborah Hossack**, Ministry of Culture  
deborah.hossack@ontario.ca

**Marcus Letourneau**, City of Kingston  
mletourneau@cityofkingston.ca

**Susan Millar**, Parks Canada  
susan.millar@pc.gc.ca

**Brian Osborne**, Ontario Historical Society  
osborneb@post.queensu.ca

**Neil Patterson**, Rideau Lakes M.H.A.C.  
neilpatt@sympatico.ca

## JOIN US!

To learn more about the Rideau Heritage Network and how you can get involved, please contact Susan Millar, the Program Co-ordinator, or any of the Steering Committee members.

## SUBMISSIONS PLEASE!

If you would like to submit an article, news piece, event listing, etc, please contact Susan Millar at [susan.millar@pc.gc.ca](mailto:susan.millar@pc.gc.ca).

We welcome your feedback and look forward to hearing what you have to say.



***Each member of the Network  
plays a key role in the  
conservation of the cultural  
heritage resources of the Rideau  
Canal Corridor***



## ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED TO DATE

Parks Canada  
Ontario Ministry of Culture  
National Capital Commission  
City of Ottawa  
City of Kingston  
Town of Smiths Falls  
Town of Perth  
Township of Drummond-North Elmsley  
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority  
Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority  
Rideau Waterway Land Trust  
Friends of the Rideau  
Rideau Heritage Route Tourism Association  
Heritage North Grenville  
Kingston Municipal Heritage Committee  
Township of Rideau Lakes Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee  
Merrickville-Wolford Heritage Committee  
Town of Perth Heritage Committee  
Smiths Falls Municipal Heritage Committee  
Village of Westport Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee  
Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee  
Queen's University  
Carleton University