



CITY OF WELLAND

Corporate Services
145 Lincoln Street
Welland, ON L3B 6E1
Phone: 905-735-1700 Fax: 905 732-6187

Go-Quiet Meeting Minutes (03-2017)

Location: Welland Community Wellness Complex - Theater
145 Lincoln Street
Welland, ON L3B 6E1

Date: March 11, 2017

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Staff Present: CAO Gary Long
Richard Dalton
Linda Chappelle
Sarah Ane
Cassandra Magazzeni

Councillors: Michael Petrachenko, John Mastroianni, Paul Grenier

Presentations by:
Daniel Smith
Charles & Pamela Voth
Jimmy Lochart
Peter & Lindsay Bryan

Minutes: Pierrette Pigeon (Staff)

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
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Opening Remarks:

-Richard Dalton (Acting Recreation & Culture Manager) new position. Additionally, second role is currently Interim Manager of WRCC. They are looking for feedback from the community to maximize the value and usage of the Welland Waterway.

-Richard requests that people sign attendance sheet with email address or phone number. This information will be used to submit minutes, updates and final reports from Council. Thanking staff and CAO Gary Long, along with the councillors present. Councillors brought this motion forward in 2016 re: extended usage of the waterway along with the Go Quiet By-Law restricting motorized boats on the waterway.

-Appreciate any ideas, include motor boats and any other usage or opinions on whether to maximize the value of the canal waterway in the future. Collection of data to come from emails and on-line survey, along with scheduled meetings. Hard copy of survey is available at Civic Square, WCWC and WRCC.

-We will be having 4 presentations today of 8-minute duration each. After the presentations, the audience will be permitted to make comments for duration of two minutes each. We value everyone's comments. A second and third meeting are scheduled for March 16 and March 28, with another to follow in April. Time and date will be published; April's meeting date to be announced soon.

-City Council and Richard recognizes the use of waterway to be a passionate subject for many, comments from audience to be courteous and keep comments as positive as possible. Some interested parties or citizens will not be getting what they want with the process, we would like to be open and transparent.

David Smith (Canoe & Kayak Club):

As a resident and executive member to the Peninsula Paddlers Club, a group of 80 paddlers mostly local residents and retirees. The group meets two to three times a week and Welland Canal is their favorite location, it's a real gem. Would like the current Go Quiet band be kept on the waterway. The canal launch pad area near Lincoln Street is a central location, clean, shallow, calm and popular area. The canal with it's sheltered area from the wind, is ideal for canoes and kayaks. The launch area is shared with swimmers and scuba divers and pet owners alike. Would like to develop more interest in paddle and kayak along with other similar groups. If motor boats are allowed on the waterway this will no longer be a positive and safe enviroment. There are always reckless boaters being noisy and the smell of gas on the waterway is not pleasant. Primary objective is to have public safety. While cycling along the waterway witnessed many close calls with negative experiences and also witnessed a water skiing accident. The recreational canal is one of the city's greatest assets adjacent to park land. Restriction of certain areas for water crafts would be difficult to regulate enforcement, ATV's are not allowed in city parks, why would we allow motor crafts in an aquatic park. Money from the Federal government gave us "Participaction", designed for fitness involvement a great way for people to get active. Motor boats have other options in the area, Welland River, Niagara River, Lake Ontario and Lake Erie to fish and water ski.

Charles & Pamela Voth:

We live by the canal and have watched the controvercy over the waterway. We have attended many meetings regarding the waterway, its clear it's an emotional issue. We have groups against each other, who has the most power and who's the most popular and who can sway the people, it's a stuggle. You hear that Welland is stuck. We need to improve our economy and jobs. Youth are looking outside our City for employment. The development of the waterway to date with some pride, has not moved forward. To his knowledge the plan to move forward is due to internal fighting. NRP can not police the waterways, who will. Will our tax dollars pay to regulate the waterway. Don't be naive that it won't be needing policing.

Boating accident research 2004-2011

- operator inattention
- operator look out
- lack of experience
- excessive speed
- alcohol

Lacking the understanding of the vision. We need to keep moving forward with waterway plans. Stay with the vision of world class waterway. Safety of the users is very important. Implement youth programs with preservation of the canal. The canal is

an international recognized treasure. We have a chance to make it big. We need a vision and purpose to push forward. Pamela would be willing to be part of a focus group to study if feasibility for all groups to work together. We have amazing people in Welland that have organized concerts on the canal, Food Festival and many other events. Let's push forward work together and be put on the map. Develop your vision, present vision and bring us along. Don't divide us. Ottawa has figured it out how to make waterway work for them.

Jimmy Lochart (St. Catharines):

Most of the things he was going to talk about was covered by the previous people. Canal has become unique. He has worked in the canal in the past. He has noticed that the environment has been rejuvenated, fish and marine life. Since no motorized boats allowed the shore line has improved. Lots of swimmers and paddle boards in canal, young and old. People with disabilities want to dive with safety being a major issue. They have lots of divers in training. Many groups that train in the waterway example swimmers, canoes and kayak just want a relax environment. Wake from motorized crafts could be a challenge along with motor oil in the water. Pertaining to the economy the divers use restaurant, purchase gas and wives go shopping. Goal of the Welland Canal mandate was to protect water and land of the recreation canal. Would like the canal to be a memorable place where people will want to be and return to. Had a slide show of marine life and fish in the canal. We have jelly fish, sponge and some new fish to our environment. Police use the waterway to practice search and rescue all year long.

Peter & Lindsay Brian:

They are residents of Welland for 42 years. They are opposed to motorized crafts on the waterway. They walk and bike the trail by the canal and paddle the waterways. The city made a commitment to support recreational canal human powered world class training competitions providing a safe environment to train. Motorized vehicles on water would damage reputation as a safe and peaceful recreational waterway. Motorized vehicles would hinder human power and cause deterioration of the banks and increase cost of stabilization. Are people aware of how many nesting site of waterfowl we have along the canal. Are we aware of other groups interested in the waterway and surrounding land like birders? We have many great waterways for motorized vehicle to use. We are the only body of water for human power waterway in the area that is peaceful and calm. Who and how would we regulate boaters and at what cost, sometime users are not the most responsible users or respectful of others. Suggesting picnic areas with water access along the canal, small dock for picnics or for children fishing.

Audience Comments:

Dave Papp- Share canal like golf, time slots human and motor powered.

Douglas Todd- Since Go Quiet band implemented massive impact on the river. Northern reach near Walmart, why can't boats use that area of the canal.

Barry Fitzgerald-Share waterway, schedule water with skier and wake boards to return to the canal.

Roman Olszewski-Likes the tranquility of the trails along canal. He is a naturalist, lots of waterfowl at the canal.

Terry Hughes- Two concerns shoreline erosions & risk. Police are the best source of information, what has happened on the canal in the past. He will be making a presentation on the next meeting.

Ruth Levkoe- From Burlington-part of a dragon boat team, Welland is the best site in Canada. Has rowed in Hamilton Bayfront Park, you get swamped by motorized boats with no courtesy for others. She car pools with a group to come to row at the Welland canal.

Barry Barton- Has purchased a home along the canal for the quiet area. Have been on many lakes and rivers but has been swamped by many boaters but never by a fisherman, allow fisherman with smaller motors to fish in canal.

Charlie Owens- He is with the Water-ski and Wake Board of Canada. Would like permission to have a special event permit in 2018 for a worldwide Water-skiing tournament.

Rick Patrino-Sad that boaters are getting a bad rap. Ottawa canal is shared. Would like use the canal early spring for a safety run before going out on the larger lakes and a restricted area for boaters.

Kim Barton-Erosion is noticeable on the canal on the 250m-500m markers for the rowers. Safety boats are the only ones on the water at the moment; imagine if more boaters the erosion would even be greater. OPP reports have many hit or near misses by the hundreds to divers, the diver flag is ignored by boaters. Education program was implemented what no improvement in the situation.

Murray Hawryn-Love boating and fishing. If opened to boaters, realtors will build condos along canal. Think about the future, what will that do to the environment.

Brant McLeavey-Thinking of than/now, in 1990 would swim and dive in the canal. Boaters where not friendly to them would cause large wake. As a swimmer you could see the damage the boats caused to the vegetation. Now he has a row boat and enjoys the serene and picturesque environment of the canal. (No motorized boats).

Richardson-People don't realize that the canal is a real treasure. The characteristics of the canal are a rare situation. If motorized boats on the canal, the treasure will be gone.

Elaine Daniels- Lives by the canal and enjoys the quiet walks. She had company from Europe they were amazed by the beauty and calm water of the canal. She feels the policing of motorized crafts would be difficult to police. She often sees motorcycles on side of pathways along canal; they can't police that very well. She would call police, and nothing could be done motorcycles already gone.

Tom Dillon- An analogy he likes to travel on Riverside Drive from Pupos to Lincoln Street, one time a transport truck was on that road which has a restriction for that size of trucks. On highways bicycle are not allow. We need restrictions, he is a rower. He feels the canal is the same it's just the nature of things, would like canal to stay as it is.

Alex Riddle- Has taken part in many fishing derbies. For the past 10 years not able to test boats on canal, river is not safe. If they say it is, they have not been on it. Ontario Hydro pumps water when it wants too, he has seen the water run uphill. Sea-doo also makes his life and other difficult. He would like to have a small craft on the canal. Put our differences aside and allow boats at large events, example world class water ski event for a weekend.

Steve Levkoe- Member of South Niagara Canoe Club with the dragon boat program trains in the canal 3 times a week during peak season. Many of the crew members have represented Canada in many championships; with their experience with other countries we have the best. Expand the use with the youth. Support the people to develop and run the programs for the youth, they are our future.

Doug Jones- Retired here from Oakville because of the tranquility. Fitness is a part of his life style. He swims the canal, not worried to get clocked by boats. As canoes everyone has been swamped at least once in a life time, it's not fun. Most people who like to canoe it's because of the tranquility of the sport on the water. The minute someone is faster than you (boat) the relaxation is gone you become fearful. Boaters don't mix, it won't work.

Closing comment from Richard Dalton if you are fearful of getting up to speak you or need to express yourself better or elaborate, you are welcomed to send an email to info@canalcorp.ca . Your views and opinions are important.



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Go-Quiet Meeting Minutes (03-2017)

Location: Welland Community Wellness Complex - Theater
145 Lincoln Street
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Date: March 16, 2017

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Staff Present: Richard Dalton
Krista Bowie

Councillors: Tony DiMarco, John Chiochio, Michael Petrachenko

Presentations by:

Brian Roy
Francois Lauzon
Ken Cassavoy
Dan Dakin
Joe Harris
Dan Mandziuk
Terry Hughes

Minutes: Pierrette Pigeon (Staff)

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Opening Remarks:

-Richard Dalton (Acting Recreation & Culture Manager) new position. Additionally, second role is currently Interim Manager of WRCC. They are looking for feedback from the community to maximize the value and usage of the Welland Waterway. Richard request that people sign attendance sheet with email address or phone number. This information would be used to submit minutes and updates and final decision to Council. Thanking staff and acknowledge the councillors present. Councillors brought this forward in 2016 re: extended usage of the waterway along with the Go Quiet By-Law restricting motorized boats on the waterway. Appreciate any ideas including motor boats and any other usage ideas to maximize the value of the canal waterway in the future. Collection of data to come from emails and on-line survey, along with scheduled meetings. Hard copy of survey is available at Civic Square, WCWC and WRCC. We will be having 7 presentations this evening, duration of presentations not to exceed 8 minutes. After the presentations, the audience will be permitted to make comments for duration of two minute each. We value

everyone's comments. A third meeting is scheduled for March 28, with another to follow in April 6, 2017 at 7pm at the Wellness Complex in the theater. The council recognizes the use of waterway to be a passionate subject for many, comments from audience to be courteous and keep comments as positive as possible. Some interested parties or citizens will not be getting what they want with the process, we would like to be open and transparent.

Brian Roy (South Niagara Canoe Club)

Club is in its 9th year since inception. Their mission is to be a safe and inclusive activity in paddle sports. They are a not for profit organization and have received funding from RBC, Trillium Foundation and Mountain Equipment Co-op. The club draws members as far as Mississauga, Fort Erie, Port Colborne, Horseshoe Area and the Niagara region. The activities that they promote are kayaks, competitive and recreational dragon boat and canoe. They support kids programs with the help of Jump Start program. Canal usage is anywhere from 6:30am-8pm with different programs. They provide employment for a club manager, dragon boat coaches and 1 to 5 ratio children instructors. They provide career experience for students to work at the club. They are happy with the present Go-Quiet by law being respectful of other users on the water and being in a safe environment. A new program implemented for this year, people with physical disability along with Para Olympic training at the club. They have partnered with Brock University with children programs.

Francois Lauzon (Freedom at Depth)

Scuba Park is very important to him it gives disabled people the opportunity to have the freedom to see marine fauna in a safe environment without motorized vehicles. He assists other disabled people to set up and enter the water for a dive. He is an amputee himself and enjoys the freedom that the water gives him and others. He feels motorized vehicles cause erosion and disturbs the ecosystem. Important to protect the fish and take care of the environment. The canal has always been part of our economy and history.

Ken Cassavoy

Proposal for a public swimming area on the canal shore, located between Lincoln Street and Ontario Road, next to the scuba park. Parking is already in place, potential for more parking. Not a formal proposal just a suggestion. The sandy beach site to be created along the canal shores, using similar concept to the man made beach at the Binbrook Conservation Park. Using a clay base with a safe drop off area, topping off sand may be necessary every year. Many question need to be answered due to the type of construction. Signage is important due to liability. Lifeguard to be employed keeping with the by-laws and the Lifesaving Society regulations. We must keep in mind jurisdiction and liability of location chosen for the beach.

Dan Dakin/ Maddi Leblanc

Dan trains in the canal and has won his provincial series on the paddle board for 2016. The City of Welland has lost two special people to cancer. In 2014 Maddi founded the "On Board" a vision to have an annual fund raiser for cancer. She wanted to give back to the community. Being a paddle boarder herself, she saw the canal as an opportunity to utilize it. Dan feels that the canal is an oasis, flat and quiet for 8km stretch. Canal is ideal for paddle board yoga, calm waters and many other types of human powered activities. Maddi finds it would be difficult to share with motorized vehicles, would like to use the canal at its full potential.

Joe Harris (No Show)

Dan Mandziuk (Dan's Dive Shop)

Motorized boat is not a good mix with divers. Divers can be as young as 10years old. A dive could be from 30min to 4hours long. Training can take place from April to November. They would like to sink a small plane for more viewing under water. Club is waiting for decision on the canal usage before moving forward with sinking anything. Divers are not visible from the top, not all divers have air bubbles going to the surface. New divers come up unexpectedly making it unsafe for them with boaters. Training requires concentrating on task, not watching out for boaters. Allowing motorized boaters to have access to water past Hwy 406 could be a possibility.

Terry Hughes

He has been involved in canal issues since 1983. In 1994 was Canal Board Chair with federal government before the city began negotiation to take over canal lands. If motorized craft come back on the canal, the city will be putting themselves at risk, liability and erosion issues. Moving forward police need to be involved in the regular council meetings. They have many stories of issue that have happened on the canal during the time that motorized craft where on the water. In 1995 study on canal and river, the action of wave from power craft and water skier has accelerated the bank erosion. Large ships during the shipping season than the small craft took over the water, erosion continued. Small boats do cause shore line erosion. Late Romeo Parent original canal board 1981-83 was not aware that a large portion of 3.5 million dollars for the development of the canal was spent on shore land erosion. In 1997 study the next 20 yrs. would need to spend 5 billion dollars per year to stabilize the banks, if power boats continue to be present in the canal. No money to fix failing banks. The money could be used in a more productive way to develop the canal land. It has been tried in the past to work with boaters with no positive outcome. He is hoping that he does not see power crafts on the canal. He feels nothing wrong with the canal being nice and quiet.

Audience Comments:

Douglas Todd: The 2005 decision Go-Quiet has impacted the Welland River immensely. Impact on River is huge. Watching every weekend, the horror shows of near collisions and erosions on the canal. He nearly got killed near to Prince Charles Street Bridge by jet boat 4 yrs. ago. Would like a study done on the Northern reach of canal, if feasible to allow motorized boats in that area. We are giving to the boaters hope by doing this process. Compromise of the waterway would be nice but process is very stressful.

Name? Had a cottage in Keswick for many years and would go full speed up the river. Went back after 10years it has changed, can't swim in the water anymore. Just like our brown fields, boating needs to change. Need to improve on our boats-no gas, change to electric boats with motor inside like sea doo. We do drink the water from canal. Welland should invest in the electric motor boat industry. Building condos along our shoreline example will impact wind turbulence. Developers are coming to the area to make their money and leave. We don't want a skyline like New York City. We must be aware of the negative impact this may bring to the canal. We have a gold mine here; need to include our youth into ecology and nature programs.

Dawn Cant Elliott: She lives in Dain City facing the water. She has a kayak herself. Upon visiting Port Charlotte how cool was it to have paddle board yoga, to her amazement we were offering the same thing in our canal. She works in Hamilton and has encouraged friends to come to Welland to try our paddle board rentals on the canal. Pleased to see what Maddi's has accomplished with the cancer fund raiser she has set up.

Howard Browner: He does a lot of volunteering on the canal; it's a second job since retirement. He has helped to install the cables on the race course. It would be a shame if a boat would snag the underwater cables. They have anywhere from 10-15 km of wires for the course. The boats used during the events create no wake and motors are high out of the water. If motor boats would be allowed in the canal who would enforce speed and who would pay for any of the damage to the wires. When motor boats were allowed on the canal, it was a zoo. If boats are allowed in canal who would pay to enforce and regulate speed, size of motors, liability would be on the city. Do you want your taxes to go up? Events do pay for usage of the canal; this is economic revenue. Do boaters think they will be able to use the canal for free?

Norm Cutridge: Everyone is competing for access to the waterway. He feels like he is the odd man out. He feels boats should be allowed in the canal. Meeting seems overwhelmingly against boaters. Small fishing boats example 50hp motor and Jet Ski very popular with upmost strict safety regulation should be allowed. Welland should create a boating association with city hall to subsidized funding. City funds a lot of other organizations why not them to receive funding. Was a survey done to know if interest in Jet Ski or fishing with small 10hp or 50ph motor boats? Lots of false statistics. People look interested in beach idea. Boat erosion is a joke it's natural, during the years of large commercial shipping boats over many years and frequency has cause erosion. The small craft do not cause erosion, its been happening since the beginning of time, wind, ice and waves. Pollution is not a factor new boats have clean motors and are quiet these days. Boaters have a bad rap. Jet Ski doesn't have a propeller.

Dan Mandziuk: As a member of the scuba club we do not allow anybody in the water if the motor is running. He had a vision 1000 scuba divers and 500 paddle boards in the canal would be able to co- exists, sea doo and motor boats would not so much. Sea doo can make large wake and cause erosion. He has seen people create the wake to jump it for fun. Scuba divers do bring in economic revenue by going to restaurants and shopping.

Phil Gladman: Why are we wasting time with this issue, trying to amend the Go-Quiet? It works for many organizations. Build the beach that would be great for the kids, we need to invest in our economy for the future.

Kostas Bieuunay: He has witnessed the changes in the canal, the northern reach would be an excellent area to allow fisherman in the am till noon. Kayak and rowers are not in the water till spring. Cannot fish along the shore line due to accessibility and the dog poop. Most of the people speaking tonight are not residents of Welland. Best thing he heard was a beach development. Expand the facility for Welland it's not really for Welland residence.

Mark Holmes: No decision made at the moment, likes the idea of opening the Northern reach to boaters. Why talk about it, if city has not decided what to do. A survey was done 30 years ago for a request for proposal for a swimming area; nothing was done with that proposal. Question back to city what are we going to do or not on the canal when city has not made a decision. Is the question being asked do to development on the canal example

restaurants wishing to have motor boats on the canal, he thinks council is putting the cart before the horse.

Scott Riesenbosch: Confused why the 8kms off limit all or nothing. A share use policy, more residents have access. Safety has been in conversation often, no hint of safety issues. We did use the canal packed with people like the beach image shown, no issues. The only place calm water to teach children how to water ski. Beach a fantastic idea with organized schedule to share with kayak, scuba diver and power boats. Perfect venue.

Pam Voth: Sad to see that city of going backyard. Would like to hold council responsible, not go backwards with this issue. Council should not drag this out, move forward for economic development. Some organizations have done great things in this city. Not optimistic on sharing the space.

Charles Voth: Need incentives to have hotel and restaurants stay open pass 9pm. Scholarships to encourage more wait staff. Would it be nice to have Dan's Dive shop franchise in Welland, to make use of the canal? Need to improve on the city as a whole, King St area is a big issue.

Larry Witmer: Great place to walk and have a coffee seat on a bench at Merritt Park. Nice to have the quiet and calm. Enjoy seeing the kids laughing on paddle boats. With the development going on in the city in the next 10 to 15 years we will appreciate having a calm and quiet area to enjoy.

Peter Edmund: Moved to Welland 30 years ago, amazed how many took canal for granted. Nice to see canal is being used with so many different events. Would like to have access to a map to be familiar with location of all events taking place on the canal. It was mentioned that the schedule water time is very full, not aware of scheduled events. Not sure where to look or if events are posted. He has heard great reviews on the facility.

Doan Lunsbury: What are the boundaries of the waterway in question? E.S Fox to Remi's Bend in Dain City.

Name: Best fitness center for swimming and paddle boats. He has had a speed boat and canoe in the Port Credit area. Upon entering the Port Credit River signs were posted to slow down. He would see what was going on with boaters. He feels for the boaters, but the two do not mix. Not sure how we managed before 2005 Go Quiet By-law.

Closing comment from Richard Dalton if you are fearful of getting up to speak you or need to express yourself better or elaborate, you are welcomed to send an email to info@canalcorp.ca . Your views and opinions are important.



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Location: Welland Community Wellness Complex - Theater
145 Lincoln Street
Welland, ON L3B 6E1

Date: March 28, 2017

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Staff Present: Richard Dalton
Krista Bowie

Presentations by:

Marsha Adams
George Barkwell
Douglas Todd

Minutes: Pierrette Pigeon (Staff)

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
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Opening Remarks:

-Richard Dalton (Acting Recreation & Culture Manager) new position. Additionally, second role is currently Interim Manager of WRCC. They are looking from the community to maximize the value and usage of the Welland Waterway. No intension of misleading community, meeting is to consult with the public on future idea opportunities for the canal waterway. Richard requested that people sign attendance sheet with email address or phone number. This information would be used to submit minutes and updates and final decision to Council. Collection of data to come from emails and on-line survey, along with scheduled meetings. Hard copy of survey is available at Civic Square, WCWC and WRCC. We will be having 3 presentations this evening, duration of presentations not to exceed 8 minutes. After the presentations, the audience will be permitted to make comments for duration of two minute each. We value everyone's comments. A final meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2017 at 7pm at the Wellness Complex in the theater. The council recognizes the use of waterway to be a passionate subject for many, comments from audience to be courteous and keep comments as positive as possible. Some interested parties or citizens will not be getting what they want with the process, we would like to be open and transparent. No councillors present this evening due to another scheduled meeting. To date we have over 1000 people that have responded to the on-line survey.

Marsh Adams (Fearless Females)

She has a stand up Paddle Board Company that uses the canal for yoga. It's fun to see kids playing swimming, laughing, walking and biking along the canal. If boats are to return it would not be able to use the space in the same way. She is glad to see people having interest and showing up to the meetings. The canal is a gem, no waves and quiet. She has used the Port Colborne marina and it is not pleasant having boats go by you. Expand the use of the canal with bigger races, linking sponsors and races together.

George Barkwell (Notre Dame Rowing Club)

Notre Dame has a long history in rowing since 1954. The club is located at the end of Thorold Road turn left for the structure Pen Financial Center. Club has been a resident on the north waterway for the past 7 years. This is the same location where the public can rent canoes, kayaks, paddle board and paddle boats. George has many qualifications and many years of experience with rowing. The 8km waterway is a great way to train a rower to push to their max. They have trained with pride some juniors that have received silver medals in Canadian championship, only because of this facility. They do not have free access to the facility they do pay fees. Cost they are glad to pay to have this world class facility. This sport is for life; you can train year long from master's level to learning youth. Best way to see the city is from the water, it is a stress free calming feeling. They are on the water 6 days a week. The Club is a world-class facility which they share and co-exist with neighbours and general public. They have an agreement pertaining to the safety boats not to have engines larger than 9.9hp to 20hp. A maximum distance of 500 meters from an athlete must be kept during colder water seasons for the safety reasons. Often they clean debris from the canal during that time in the water to protect the athletes and beautify the canal. They welcomed other clubs and schools to join them from Cleveland to Toronto that enriches local economy. They are looking to move the national team to Welland before World Champions next year to train. Must maintain the water, boats are very flimsy. Invitation to all try out boats, come to the facility. No to power boaters, other waterways are available that they have access to. Hopeful and optimistic in the future of the waterway.

Douglas Todd

He is personally against having power boats on the canal waterway. The Go Quiet ban in 2005-2006 has been a knee jerk reaction. The river has had a negative impact with that decision. Amazing to see what people do on the water, they don't care. Two speeds on the river fast or slow nothing in between. The river is a gem which people have forgotten. The river is over 1200 years old was a shoreline of a lake. Since the ban on the canal, boats are now going to the river with that decision. It's destroying the river. He is a naturalist, angler and archeologist; he is on the water 200 days a year. We must have a solution to resolve these issues to help alleviate these issues on the Welland River. Erosion study or some form for the northern reach to be use for some type of motorized crafts with a limited usage. The river is taking a beating, would like to see the Welland River prosper.

Elaine Pando

What is the length of the Northern reach? Richard advised that it is just over 2km long. Will this give the boaters enough space? Richard could not comment on that. Not aware of how many high schools in the area, could we not have activities to involve local kids and high schools in some type of competitions to keep them busy on the waterway? She enjoys

watching the rowers on the canal, she watches them with her binocular. You could hear them way before you see them. Some were out there the other day in wet suits in paddle boards.

Tim Maleska

He has an image of three different rowing clubs using the waterway, to have a better understanding of the co-habitation with a map showing what clubs are using of the 8km water would be helpful. Before he offers any type of comments clarity would be helpful. He has a boat and has no intention of using the canal.

Leanne Rogers

Scuba diving is her passion below the water. She is a new comer to Welland, the canal was a draw to move to this area. As a new diver it's scary with boats and jet skis around. Canal is a safe area with platforms underwater it makes it very fun to look at the fish. She has a fear of boats overtop of her. Jet skis have no understanding of the diver flag system and only it uses it as a target. What is the time line before decision? Report to summarized information to give to council by the end of April.

Harvey Millejours

His daughter was part of the rowing club many years ago. He would fish in the canal at the same time of the rowers and it was not a problem. They didn't just ban boats they banned people from getting close to the canal to fish. There's an organization that they think they own the canal. In the past we would have picnics and swim in the canal. Can't get close to the water with his car, can't walk very well not accessible too far from the parking area. No place to drop his fishing line. No parking along canal for old people or disabled people to have access to the canal.

Tim Hayden

Mayor has said the canal is everybody's; this meeting is not for everybody. Go Quiet to stay that way. He does not see any deterioration of the canal. Who got this inquiry started? It's not the councils' decision to make it's the people. Put the vote on a ballot on the next election.

Brenda Herchmer

Volunteered on the Canal Board many years ago, the Go Quiet decision was not taken lightly, not a popular vote with everyone. Still believes it was the right decision. Welland Canal land was transferred to the City of Welland with some capital. They needed to be fiscally responsible and make it safe. The engineer report indicated if the boats continue to be in the canal the cost would be very high to repair the erosion. Insurance liability was another issue very costly also. The original mandate was to preserve and protect the canal. We need to continue to protect and be fiscally responsible.

Julio Batres-Gavidia

He has been a resident to Welland for over 15 years. Last few months have been trying to create an event for the city. Congratulations to the City of Welland for an amazing facility.

Hard to find something like this in the world. Expand the use of the canal with this special gem to attract more events with people around the world.

Dave Whyte

Recently moved to Welland, canal as it exists was a big seller. Motor bikes on the canal banks wow you can notice their presence. Not sure if they are allowed, but if we had boats it would change everything. The question to access to the waterway is it possible it's due to dollar or cents situation to generate revenue. If this is the issue, a study to explore ways to raise funds to keep the facility as it is.

Jerry

Canal is not used enough since the inception of the Rose Festival. The Coronation party to be floated down the canal one by one till the Queen is announced to the amphitheater at Merritt Park. Upon final presentation of Queens Court, the festivities to continue to the arena for the evening celebration.

Brant McLeavey

Accessibility access to the canal are far and few. He likes to do long distance swimming and row in his canoe. It is frustration getting in or out of the water with so few safe and family friendly ways to access the water. It would be nice to have more stairs like the Pen Financial location to access the water.

Jean McLeavey

She would like easy access to the water to ease your way into the water before swimming. No boats in the canal is her wish. If they allow boats in the northern reach who will monitor the canal to stop boaters from coming into the non motorized side?

Pamela Voth

Has been to every meeting, she encourages everyone to tell 10 people to call their councillors. Tell them how you feel about this situation and what you want for our city. Feels this process has been unorganized the way it was advertised and during March Break. Council is not being run properly.

Dawn Cant Elliott

She has called her councillor pertaining to the Go Quiet. Not advertised as asking our option on the waterway uses, Go Quiet by law. Is it about other business or Go Quiet, it's confusing what is being asked as per web site and advertising.

Terry Hughes

We need police to be present during council meetings to get feedback from them on previous issues that was happening on the canal when boats were allowed. Encourage councillors for Mayor to be present at the meeting.

Visit City of Welland Facebook view live taping of the meetings.

Closing comment from Richard Dalton if you are fearful of getting up to speak you or need to express yourself better or elaborate, you are welcomed to send an email to info@canalcorp.ca . Your views and opinions are important.

Next meeting will be held April 6 2017 at the Complex in the Theater. 7pm



CITY OF WELLAND

Corporate Services
145 Lincoln Street
Welland, ON L3B 6E1
Phone: 905-735-1700 Fax: 905 732-6187

Go-Quiet Meeting Minutes (04-2017)

Location: Welland Community Wellness Complex - Theater
145 Lincoln Street
Welland, ON L3B 6E1

Date: April 6, 2017

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Staff Present: Richard Dalton
Krista Bowie

Presentations by:

Doug Thomas
Norman Wilde
Brenda Fox
Margaret Rose
Linda Thomas
Allen Benson
Terry Hughes
Remi Maurice
Sandra Guest
Thies Bogner
Sharon H
David Alexander
Murray
Dawn Elliott
Terry Hughes
Pam Voth
Norm
Brant McLavelly

Minutes: Shirley Good (Staff)

Doug Thomas

Mr. Thomas has been a lawyer in Welland since 1987, he presented a summary on Constitutional Law. The Welland Recreational Canal is a navigable waterway. He asked whether there were permits for the amphitheatre as well as the boat and bus that were sunk for the scuba divers. He is unhappy with the policy as it stands. When there is no docks people have no access to the Welland Canal. There are docks at the Welland International Flatwater Centre people can use. The youth need to be more involved, get them more active for a healthier lifestyle. We should stand behind Richard Dalton. In conclusion, there is enough room for boats and other water activities.

Norman Wilde

There has been a lot of good and lot of bad points brought forward. It has created a division of population. Boats with 5 HP motors should only be used in the canal. Have the canal divided in 2 sections, south of Ontario to be used for rowing and canoeing and the other have for boaters. The canal must be available to the public at all times. Move Notre Dame Rowing building to the Ontario Street side. There should be no seadoos.

Brenda Fox

Boaters can go to either lakes. The wave motions cause erosion to the banks. She asked who will monitor boat usage and proper laws.

Margaret Rose

She does not want boats in the canals. There is the smell of gas and oil, what about spills of oil and gas in the water? If you own a boat you can afford to go to a marina.

Linda Thomas

The canal was built for boats and water skiing. Everyone should have equal access to the water, water activity helps health and physical wellbeing. Erosion can occur without boats. There is no need to monopolize a canal that is paid for all and used by few people. It is empty 86% of the time. She has been yelled at to get out of the water. Made to feel not welcome. There is loss of revenue from waterskiing and wakeboarding.

Allen Benson

Fished and boated while growing up in Welland. This is a complicated issue. Canal should have boats only with a 5hp motor.

Terry Hughes

He has been involved in the study of the Welland Canal since 1983. If boats are allowed back the City is at risk due to erosion and liability if accidents occur. He presented historical pictures about the building of the Welland Canal. A study done in 1995 showed the level of erosion is higher when there are boats and water skiers on the water.

Remi Maurice

He is not for boats on the canal, there has been a death on the canal when a water skier was killed.

Unknown gentleman didn't give his name

Noise pollution is a problem. We should have respect for those who live on the canal. People like to use the canal trails for walking and enjoy the peace.

Sandra Guest

Enjoys the waterway as it is. Enjoys taking the pedal boats, kayaks out on the canal.

Theis Bognar

Avid supporter of the canal. Likes to go kayaking on the waterway and walking on Merritt Island and watching the rowers.

Sharon H

Water is a precious quality, keep it as it is. She likes the peace and tranquility.

David Alexander

He used to be a City Councillor. He agreed to the policy due to liability issues. The water is of good drink quality. There is an opportunity to develop a new initiative.

Murray

He stated there is a lot of work to be done here. He said we need to look to the future not the past. Maybe we should use electrified motors.

Doug Thomas

He said there is pollution caused by dumping from construction companies which runs off into the canal.

Dawn Elliott

She asked about the Urban Fishing Policy, the City is looking into it. Floatfest was a good idea.

Someone spoke and said we should protect the area for the greater good.

Terry Hughes

He mentioned that Welland used to have a Buffalo Day where the residents of Buffalo were invited to Welland, have booths set up, shuttle them to a baseball game at the stadium.

Pam Voth

Brought up the question, when will this issue be resolved. Richard wants to have the paperwork put together and then run by council.

Norm

Understands erosion, concerned about crumbling aqueduct. We need to take care of our assets.

Brant McLavelly?

Encourage more swimming in the canal. He acknowledges that there is a liability issue and the City can be sued for money.