



South Nation Conservation Watershed Update

— September 2011 —



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News From The SNC Board of Directors

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Standing Timber Sales Contracts



The Board of Directors approved awarding timber harvesting contracts, totalling nearly \$85,000. Three companies will harvest standing timber on properties in: North Glengarry; Nation; Edwardsburgh-Cardinal; and South Dundas. Bid submissions were received from 6 out of 30 contractors notified of the tender. Contractors have until March of 2013 to complete harvest. Revenue from standing timber sales is re-invested into forestry programs; and SNC's Forest Management Plan ensures that best practises are used during operations.

SNC Will Offer Septic System Program to Municipalities



The Eastern Ontario Health Unit informed municipalities in SD&G and P-R that it no longer wishes to deliver septic system programs. At their August meeting, SNC's Board of Directors approved SNC offering our services to municipalities to deliver septic programs, should this option be of interest to the Municipality. SNC has been delivering the inspection portion of the local septic program under contract with the EOHU for the past 12 years.

Grant for Improved Accessibility at SNC Facilities



The Board approved seeking funding from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRDC) to improve accessibility at SNC's Finch office. If approved, funds will be used to construct an exterior ramp and overhang, install wider doors with automated door openers, and improve exterior lighting. SNC facilities also include three meeting rooms that are available to the public, and are frequently used by local business and community groups.

Safety Assessments at Dams



Water control structures require inspection every few years to ensure the structures are functioning safely. With a grant from the Ministry of Natural Resources, SNC will hire consultants to update Safety Assessments for the Chesterville Dam, Crysler Dam, and the Plantagenet Weir. These reports will help prioritize maintenance and repairs of the water control structures.

Level 1, Low Water Condition Declared in August Continues into September



SNC's Water Response Team declared a Level 1, Low Water Condition across the watershed. The Level 1 condition means a potential low water supply has been identified, and aims to reduce water consumption by 10% through voluntary water conservation. The Team includes: provincial and municipal governments, agriculture, business, and special interest groups. The group meets as needed to ensure everyone is aware of low water conditions.

