



DETROIT RIVER
A CANADIAN HERITAGE RIVER

Management Strategy



2001

Canadian
Heritage
Rivers
System



Le Réseau
des rivières
du patrimoine
canadien



Published by:

Essex Region Conservation Authority
360 Fairview Avenue West
Essex, Ontario, Canada N8M 1Y6
Telephone: (519)776-5209
Fax: (519)776-8688
Email: admin@erca.org
Website: www.erca.org

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Front Cover Pictures

HMS Detroit
Detroit River Wetlands
Assumption Park

FINAL EDITION



A MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR THE DETROIT RIVER AS A CANADIAN HERITAGE RIVER

tabled with
the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board
February 2001

coordinated by
the Detroit River Management Strategy Committee
and the Essex Region Conservation Authority
on behalf of the Province of Ontario

Update Version
June 2001



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The preparation of the Management Strategy for the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River was made possible through the outstanding support of the Detroit River watershed community. The Management Strategy Committee extends their sincere appreciation to all participants who have been involved in the Detroit River Canadian Heritage River designation initiative since its inception, through the development of the Background Report, the Nomination Document, and the Management Strategy. (see Sub-committee list in Appendix 2)

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY COMMITTEE

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Ken Schmidt, Committee Chair | ERCA |
| Chris Allsop | ERCA |
| Marcel Beneteau | University of Windsor |
| Sherry Bondy | Amherstburg Chamber of Commerce |
| Danielle Breault | ERCA |
| Lloyd Burrige | City of Windsor |
| Paul Chauvin | Le Comite des Fetes du Tricentenaire de la region |
| Matthew Child | ERCA |
| Janet Cobban | ERCA |
| Bob Coleman | General Chemical Canada Ltd. |
| David Cree | Windsor Port Authority |
| Bruce Crozier | M.P.P. (Essex South) |
| Lee Anne Doyle | County of Essex |
| Jim Drummond | Chair, Detroit River Canadian Clean-up Committee |
| Dwight Duncan | M.P.P. (Windsor-St.Clair) |
| Roman Dzus | Windsor Essex County Development Commission |
| Kim Ferguson | Ontario Ministry of the Environment |
| Terry Fink | Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation |
| Gord Freeman | Seagram Company Ltd. |
| Felix Galicia | ADM Agri-Industries |
| Bob Garcia | Fort Malden National Historic Site |
| Charles Grech | Ford Motor Company of Canada Ltd. |
| Brian Gregg | County of Essex |
| Rhonda Green | Detroit 300, U.S. |
| Jo Ann Grondin | Essex County Field Naturalists |
| Elizabeth Hamel | Windsor, Essex County and Pelee Island Visitors and Convention Bureau |
| Elise Harding-Davis | North American Black Historical Museum |
| Mary Hebert | Rivertown Business Association, U.S. |
| Tom Henderson | Little River Enhancement Group |
| Robert K. Hunt | Wayne County, U.S. |
| Wayne Hurst | Mayor, Town of Amherstburg |
| Carl Johannsen | ERCA |
| Roger Kopperser | Little River Enhancement Group |
| Faye Langmaid | City of Windsor, Parks and Recreation Department |
| Simon Llewellyn | Environment Canada |
| Maud Lyon | Detroit 300, U.S. |
| Brian Masse | City of Windsor |
| Bill Messenger | CanAm Indian Friendship Centre of Windsor |
| Nancy Morand | City of Windsor, Planning Dept |
| Mike O'Brien | General Motors of Canada Ltd. |
| Michael O'Meara | Ford Motor Company of Canada Ltd. |
| Dennis Pare | Town of LaSalle |
| Terry Patterson | Essex Region Conservation Foundation |
| Tracey Pillon-Abbs | ERCA |
| Trevor Price | Essex County Historical Society |
| Joanne Ranger | Parks Canada |
| Jennifer Read | Great Lakes Institute of Environmental Research |
| | University of Windsor |
| Brian Reynolds | Primerica Financial Services |



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY COMMITTEE...continued

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| David Sanders | Metropolitan Affairs Coalition, U.S. |
| Pat Schincariol | Windsor Environmental Advisory Committee |
| Larry Silani | Town of LaSalle |
| Bob Sutherland | Fort Malden Historical Society |
| Stan Taylor | ERCA |
| Peter Thomas | CAW Local 200 |
| Susan Whelan | M. P. (Essex) |

Although not actively participating on the Management Strategy Committee, the following individuals were forwarded draft documents and other information for their review and input during the preparation of the Management Strategy:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Ken Antaya | Town of LaSalle |
| Charles Bake | CAW Windsor Regional Environment Council |
| Terry Beaucage | Radisson Riverfront Hotel |
| Albert Bogdan | Wayne County, U.S. |
| W. Curt Boller | Greater Detroit American Heritage River Executive Committee |
| | Brownstown Township |
| Ken Bondy | CAW Windsor Regional Environment Council |
| Paul Cassano | University of Windsor |
| Allan Donaldson | Ontario Marina Operators Association |
| John Fisher | Ontario Parks |
| Tom Fuerth | Town of Tecumseh |
| Herb Gray | M.P. (Windsor-West) Deputy Prime Minister |
| Brian Grimsey | Parks Canada-CHRS |
| John Hartig | Greater Detroit American Heritage River Initiative |
| Richard Hautau | City of Detroit Recreation |
| Pat Hoy | M.P.P. (Essex-Kent) |
| Saad Jasim | Windsor Public Utilities Commission |
| Bill King | Town of Amherstburg |
| Remo Mancini | Canadian Transit Company |
| Natalie Nagy | Art Gallery of Windsor |
| Pat O'Neil | County of Essex |
| John Oram | Bob Lo Island |
| William Parkus | South East Michigan Council of Governments |
| Sandra Papatello | M.P.P (Windsor-Sandwich) |
| Jim Scorgie | Greater Windsor Community Foundation, City of Windsor |
| Cynthia Silveri | City of Detroit, Recreation, U.S. |
| Kara Sparks | BASF Canada Inc. |
| Peter W. Stroh | Honorary Chairman, Greater Detroit American Heritage River Executive Committee; Chairman and CEO Stroh Companies, Inc. |
| | Canadian Salt Company |
| Jim Vincent | Hiram Walker and Sons Ltd. |
| Martin Williams | City of Windsor, Administration |
| Chuck Wills | Chair, ERCA |
| Tom Wilson | Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources |
| Ken Yaraskavitch | Duffy's Tavern |
| Grace Zec | |



DECLARATION OF SUPPORT

A MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR THE DETROIT RIVER AS A CANADIAN HERITAGE RIVER

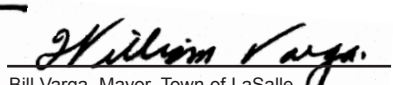
We, the undersigned, support the designation of the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River.

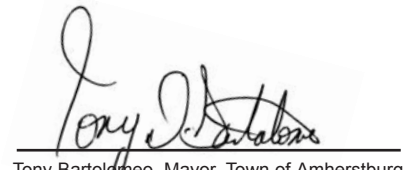
In doing so, we support:

- sharing the responsibilities to achieve the goals of the Management Strategy for the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River
- promoting the importance of the Detroit River’s human heritage, recreational and natural heritage values
- recognizing and supporting community based actions aimed at conserving, enhancing, interpreting and appreciating the outstanding values of the Detroit River watershed
- recognizing the Values and Principles stated within this Management Strategy to ensure management actions are undertaken in a progressive, equitable and sustainable manner

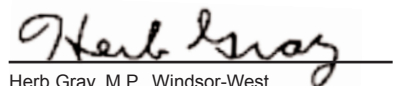
Municipalities Along Detroit River:

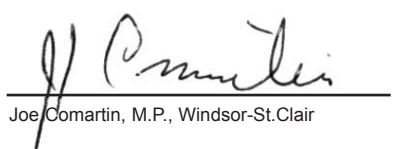

 Michael D. Hurst, Mayor, City of Windsor

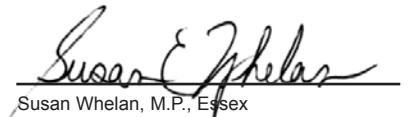

 Bill Varga, Mayor, Town of LaSalle


 Tony Bartolomeo, Mayor, Town of Amherstburg

Canada:

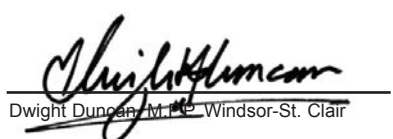

 Herb Gray, M.P., Windsor-West

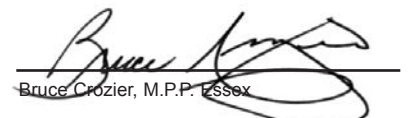

 Joe Comartin, M.P., Windsor-St. Clair


 Susan Whelan, M.P., Essex

Province of Ontario:


 Sandra Pupatello, M.P.P. Windsor-West


 Dwight Duncan, M.P.P. Windsor-St. Clair


 Bruce Crozier, M.P.P. Essex

First Nations:


 Chief Joseph B. Gilbert
 Bkejwanong Territory, The Council of Three Fires

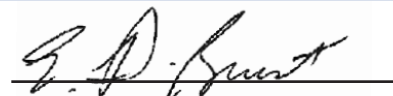
Canadian Auto Workers:

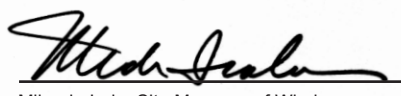

 Buzz Hargrove, President CAW

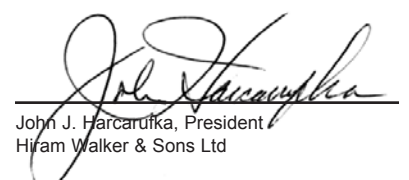
Windsor Port Authority:


 Herbert Brudner, Chairman

Industry:


 Ed Brust
 President, DaimlerChrysler Canada


 Mike de Irala, Site Manager of Windsor
 Operations, Ford Motor Company


 John J. Harcarufka, President
 Hiram Walker & Sons Ltd

Other:


 Tom Wilson, Chair
 Essex Region Conservation Authority


 Ken Schmidt, Chair
 Detroit River CHRS Management Strategy Committee



INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT



Greater Detroit American Heritage River Initiative

Our tie to history. Our tie to prosperity. Our tie to each other.

January 16, 2001

Executive Committee

Peter W. Stroh, Chairperson
Director
The Stroh Companies, Inc.

Dennis W. Archer
Mayor
City of Detroit

Edward H. McNamara
County Executive
Wayne County

W. Curt Boller
Supervisor
Brownstown Township

John H. Hartig, Ph.D.
River Navigator
U.S. Coast Guard
Marine Safety Office
110 Mt. Elliott Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48207-4380

(313) 568-9594
Fax: (313) 568-9581
jhartig@msodetroit.uscg.mil

Administrative Offices:
Metropolitan Affairs Coalition
B. David Sanders
660 Plaza Drive, Suite 1901
Detroit, Michigan 48226

(313) 961-2270
Fax: (313) 961-4869
sanders@semcog.org

The Hon. Sheila Copps
Minister of Canadian Heritage
Government of Canada

The Hon. John C. Snobelen
Minister of Natural Resources
Province of Ontario

c/o Essex Region Conservation Authority
360 Fairview Avenue West
Essex, Ontario
N8M 1Y6

Dear Ministers Copps and Snobelen:

We, the Greater Detroit American Heritage River Initiative Executive Committee, support the designation of the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River.

In doing so, we support:

- integrating the goals and resulting actions of the Management Strategy for the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River and the Greater Detroit American Heritage River Initiative (Nomination Document) to further a coordinated, international vision for the sustainable management of the Detroit River watershed.

Sincerely,

Peter W. Stroh
Honorary Chair
AHRI Executive Committee



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Detroit River is very much a part of our lives and our heritage. This unique international waterway flows through a metropolitan region of over 5 million people, binding the communities along its banks together, both culturally and economically. These communities are also mutually dependent upon the ecologically rich yet fragile Detroit River watershed, one that is not defined by political boundaries.

The Detroit River was nominated to the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS) in 1999 because of its outstanding human heritage and recreational values. Thousands of years of First Nations use and 300 years of European settlement have endowed the Detroit River with exceptional historical character, and the recreational opportunities offered by the River are second to none in North America. Complementing these values is a growing dedication by Detroit River communities to work towards restoring the natural beauty of the Detroit River watershed.

The Detroit River will join an elite group of the most historical and beautiful rivers in Canada, and will play a very unique role in the CHRS where river managers will need to address unique and difficult challenges presented by a highly urbanized and industrialized watershed. The Detroit River will also contribute to the system as the first river on the continent to receive both Canadian and American heritage river status, as the Detroit River has already been designated as an American Heritage River (1998).

The purpose of designation is simple - get people interested in the River and enable them to experience its values - then they are more likely to do something for the good of the River. The designation of the Detroit River and its Canadian watershed as a Canadian Heritage River will act as a catalyst for motivating governments, community organizations, businesses and individuals alike to work together in developing strategic and sustainable directions and actions for conserving, interpreting and appreciating the River's exceptional heritage values.

As part of the process of designating the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River, a Management Strategy has been completed. This strategy is a 'living document' which will evolve over time to respond to management opportunities, and will serve as an inspiring guide for the community to voluntarily develop and undertake actions for the good of the watershed. The strategy will also serve to encourage and foster a growing relationship between Canadian and American Heritage River initiatives, as we join our American neighbours in furthering cooperative efforts for the betterment of our great river on a watershed wide basis.

Mission Statement

The following mission statement identifies the overall direction of the Management Strategy:

**As an international community, we will work together
to conserve, enhance, interpret
and appreciate the outstanding human heritage,
natural heritage and recreational values
of the Detroit River and its watershed.**



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY...continued

Strategic Directions

A series of strategic directions for the management of the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River follow this goal, and are as follows:

- I. Promote the continued importance of the Detroit River's values, and stimulate further community interest in these values by providing increased opportunities for participation in Detroit River related actions.
- II. Recognize and support present and future actions undertaken by the local and international community to conserve, interpret, enhance and appreciate the human heritage, natural heritage and recreational values of the Detroit River and its watershed.
- III. Support and stimulate further local and international environmental clean-up and enhancement efforts for the Detroit River and its watershed.
- IV. Develop partnerships for planning and undertaking integrated local and international river-related actions.
- V. Encourage and support policies and legislation which respect and protect the human heritage, recreational and natural heritage values of the Detroit River and its watershed.

River management actions have been developed which directly respond to the Strategic Directions, and provide a framework for the community to carry out efforts to conserve, enhance, interpret and appreciate the heritage values of the Detroit River watershed.

Over-arching Actions

Over-arching Actions – applying to Human Heritage, Recreational and Natural Heritage Values

- Establish a Detroit River Council.
- Hold community workshops to develop local and international partnerships.
- Establish a Detroit River newsletter and maintain a website.
- Install signage recognizing Canadian and American Heritage River designations.
- Establish a Detroit River Day.
- Develop a Registry of Actions.
- Develop Detroit River heritage value-based educational programs.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY...continued

Human Heritage Actions

- Identify historical resources as a first step in developing a human heritage conservation strategy.
- Ensure human heritage values are reflected in municipal policies, Official Plans and zoning by-laws.
- Ensure human heritage values are integrated into recreation, transportation and other plans.
- Develop local and international tours and other activities such as websites.

Recreation Actions

- Plan and develop a Riverfront ‘parkway’.
- Develop and implement the Essex Region Eco-tourism Strategy with a Detroit River component.
- Develop joint international recreational activities and events.

Natural Heritage/Environmental Clean-up Actions

- Expand implementation of water quality remediation work plans.
- Continue habitat restoration projects.
- Coordinate and expand watershed – wide water quality monitoring.
- Recognize and support environmental clean-up efforts undertaken by industrial interests.
- Protect natural features through municipal planning documents and other policies.
- Encourage greater public involvement in environmental clean-up activities.
- Coordinate and expand watershed-wide air quality monitoring and remediation programs.

This Management Strategy reflects a consensus of a broad cross section of community stakeholders from both sides of the River, and is a testament to the community’s willingness to get involved with the Detroit River. The strategy will be an advisory document only, and will not affect any treaties and/or rights accruing to First Nations peoples.

Since the Management Strategy is a ‘living document’, it will continue to evolve and respond to the changing needs of the watershed community. This will enable the community to maintain an ongoing role in building a sustainable future for the Detroit River watershed, a future that is environmentally sound, culturally vibrant and economically prosperous.



Enjoying the sights of the Detroit River front at Coventry Gardens



Re-enactment at Fort Malden



Friends of Turkey Creek - Clean-up 2000



FUNDING SUPPORT

The Detroit River Management Strategy Committee and its subcommittees would like to extend a sincere thank you to the organizations which have financially supported the designation initiative since its inception in 1996 to the present. Their contributions allowed the designation initiative to move forward, through the hiring of staff, the production and distribution of information packages, the publishing of the Background Report, Nomination Document, and the Management Strategy, and public consultations.

FUNDING SUPPORT

A fundraising campaign has been initiated to ensure project goals can be met. Funding received so far has assisted in expenses for promotions, displays, photos, editing, printing and staffing. Generous financial and in-kind contributions to date include the following:

Financial Contributions:

Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Foundation
 Canadian Heritage Rivers Board (Parks Canada/MNR Ontario Parks)
 Canadian Transit Company
 Casino Windsor
 Coco Group of Companies
 DaimlerChrysler Canada
 Ford Motor Company of Canada
 Hiram Walker & Sons Limited
 Human Resources Development Canada
 South Essex Economic Development Corporation
 Windsor Port Authority
 Essex Region Conservation Authority
 Essex Region Conservation Foundation



Others Pending...

In-Kind:

Hargreaves, Charbonneau and Associates (Logo Design)
 Members of Sub-Committees Teams (Refer to Appendix 2)
 Members of the Management Strategy Committee (See page i)
 Carl Morgan (Editing and Human Heritage Photos)
 Dr. Trevor Price, Department of Political Science -
 Retired, University of Windsor (Human Heritage Author)
 Essex Region Conservation Authority



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Part One INTRODUCTION

I.I An Internationally Significant River

The Detroit River is unique in Canada, the United States and indeed the world. Lying in the heart of the Great Lakes Basin, this international waterway flows through a metropolitan region of over 5 million people – one of the largest on any international border. Rather than separating the communities along its banks, the Detroit River binds them together economically and culturally. More importantly, there is a growing awareness in these communities of their mutual dependence on the River's ecologically rich yet fragile watershed, one that is not defined by political boundaries.

Thousands of years of First Nations use and 300 years of European settlement have endowed the Detroit River watershed with many exceptional and unique human heritage values. The Detroit River represents a microcosm of the entire history of North America in a way that is not duplicated anywhere else, and the passage of time has not diminished the River's exceptional role as the cultural focal point of the region.

The Detroit River also offers diverse and exciting recreational opportunities, including boating, angling and sightseeing, and is regarded by many as a 51 kilometer long water park. Containing the highest number of recreational boats per capita in North America, numerous human heritage attractions such as Fort Malden National Historic Site, and waterfront parks offering views of lush wetlands and striking urban skylines, the Detroit River is an unparalleled recreational resource.

Years of urban and rural development have taken their toll on the Detroit River watershed, resulting in the degradation of water quality and loss of unique and ecologically sensitive habitats. Because of this the River has a historical stigma – for many it is perceived as a polluted waterway with a legacy of contamination. The commitment needed to address this problem has never been more necessary, and in recent years there has been an inspiring call to action by watershed communities to work towards restoring the natural beauty of the Detroit River watershed, which French explorer Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac once described as the earthly paradise of North America.

The pivotal role the Detroit River has played in North American history, its continued value as an outstanding recreational resource, as well as the commitment of Canadian, American and First Nations communities to restore the environmental health of the River, make it an excellent candidate for designation as a Canadian Heritage River. The designation as a Canadian Heritage River will act as a catalyst for motivating governments, community organizations, businesses and individuals alike to work together in developing strategic and sustainable directions and actions for conserving, interpreting and appreciating the River's exceptional heritage values. The purpose of designation is simple – get people interested, bring them to the River and enable them to experience it. Only then will they be more likely to do their part in restoring and appreciating its values. The Detroit River's rich heritage values, and environmental improvement efforts to the River, already foster a growing sense of awareness and civic pride in the River, and adding the Detroit River to the prestigious Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) will further stimulate the community's enthusiasm and involvement in transforming the Detroit River into North America's premier urban waterway.



Tall Ships from the past visit the Detroit River



The urban waterfront from above



Assumption Park



1.2 The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS)

Established in 1984, the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) is a cooperative program run by federal, provincial and territorial governments. In order to be designated a Canadian Heritage River, a river must demonstrate outstanding significance in the areas of human and natural heritage, and recreational value. The objectives of the CHRS are to give national recognition to Canada's important rivers and ensure their future management such that:

- the natural and human heritage values which they represent are conserved and interpreted; and
- the opportunities they possess for recreation and heritage appreciation are realized by residents and visitors to Canada.

The Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River

The process for designating the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River began in 1996, led by a team of Canadian and American community partners, businesses, citizens groups and individuals. In 1998 a Background Report was prepared to document the heritage values of the Detroit River watershed and assess its suitability for nomination to the CHRS. A Nomination Document followed soon after, recommending that the Detroit River be nominated as Canadian Heritage River based on its outstanding human heritage and recreational values.

In February of 1999 the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board (CHRB) recommended nomination of the Detroit River and its watershed as a Canadian Heritage River. Following the prescribed approvals of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the federal department of Canadian Heritage, the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray announced final approval for nomination at the River Walk Event in Windsor on October 2, 1999.

Before the Detroit River and its watershed can be designated a Canadian Heritage River, a Management Strategy must be completed. This Strategy identifies goals, strategic directions and actions for the effective management of the Detroit River and its watershed as a Canadian Heritage River. Management of the Detroit River will be shared by stakeholders from both sides of the River, including federal, provincial/state, municipal and First Nation governments, agencies, community interest groups, private businesses, educational institutions and individual residents.

1.3 The Detroit River Watershed: Values Supporting its Nomination to the CHRS

The Detroit River and its Canadian watershed will be designated as a Canadian Heritage River, including its Canadian tributaries: Little River, Turkey Creek and the Canard River. The River and its watershed convey more than 90 percent of the water that flows into Lake Erie, discharging an average of 458 billion litres of water per day. The Detroit River also contains 21 islands, five of which are Canadian.

The Detroit River and its watershed was nominated to the CHRS based on its outstanding human heritage and recreational values. Although CHRS integrity guidelines precluded nomination of the Detroit River based on natural heritage values, it is imperative to note that the human heritage and recreational values exist because of the significant natural heritage features and the geographic location of the Detroit River watershed. A summary of key human heritage, recreation and natural heritage values follows.





Human Heritage

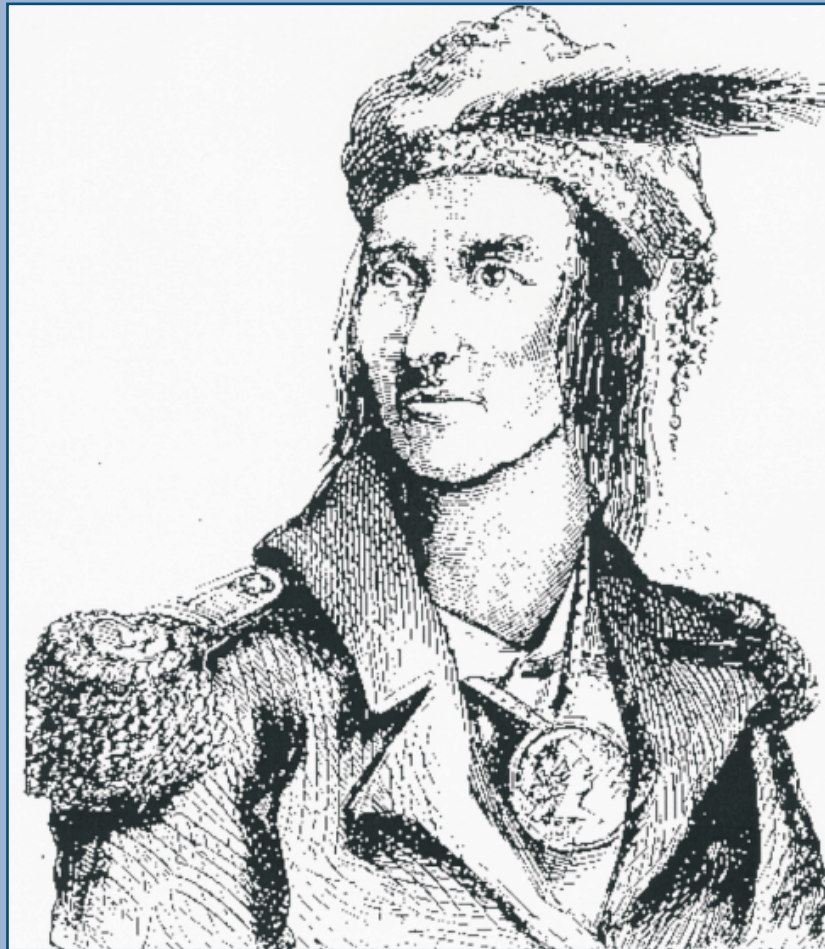
The Detroit River watershed possesses outstanding human heritage values reflecting over 6,000 years of human settlement, key political conflicts, and urban and industrial development. Significant values and facts include:

- over 6,000 years of First Nations settlement and stewardship;
- a multitude of heritage buildings and sites, museums, documents, artwork and songs chronicling over 300 years of European settlement;
- the five Canadian islands in the Detroit River (Peche Island, Grassy Island, Fighting Island, Turkey Island and Bois Blanc Island) possess significant human heritage values common to First Nations peoples and settlers;
- site of the first permanent agricultural community in Ontario, whose French origins and culture remain today;
- site of major battles during the War of 1812 and the Rebellion of 1837;
- a terminus of the Underground Railway, which offered freedom in Canada for slaves from the United States;
- vivid historical accounts of smuggling operations during the Prohibition era;
- site of internationally known twentieth century engineering achievements including the Ambassador Bridge, the Windsor-Detroit tunnel, the Railroad Tunnel and the Livingston Channel; and
- the River's role as a major transportation route influenced the development of vibrant communities, extensive port infrastructure, and globally significant industries on both sides of the River, including DaimlerChrysler, Ford Motor Company and General Motors.

Recreation

The Detroit River watershed offers an excellent diversity of river-related recreational opportunities accessible to a metropolitan region of over 5 million people. Significant opportunities and facts include:

- the premier boating area in North America, with over 12,000 marina slips;
- extensive park systems along the Detroit River and throughout the watershed;
- outstanding recreational opportunities such as historical sites, bird watching, sight-seeing, canoeing, kayaking and river-based heritage events and festivals;
- excellent hunting opportunities, including deer, waterfowl and pheasant;
- one of the finest urban fisheries in North America, due to an excellent diversity of species, quantity of fish and a long season.



A lithograph of the young Shawnee Chief Tecumseh (*courtesy of Benson J. Lossing adapted from a drawing said to be made from life by Pierre LeDru*)



Canoeing in the Canard River where it enters the Detroit River



Natural Heritage

Although the Detroit River's CHRS nomination is not for Natural Heritage considerations, the watershed's rich soils, a moderate climate and a generally flat topography, which have provided ideal conditions for the development of lush forests, highly productive wetlands and globally significant biological diversity. Significant facts and values include:

- the watershed possesses remnant tracts of Carolinian Forest, containing a greater number of both flora and fauna species than any other place in Canada, including 2,200 species of plants, 64 species of ferns, 110 species of grasses, 130 species of sedges and 70 species of trees;
- the watershed contains remnant tracts of tall grass prairie, oak savanna and globally/provincially significant wetlands characteristic of the Carolinian life zone;
- migration route and home to hundreds of rare and endangered fauna including 65 of the 117 species of fish found in the Great Lakes System (including northern pike, rock bass, black crappie, yellow perch, and rare species such as striped shiner, pugnose minnow, spotted sucker and green sunfish) and 27 species of water fowl, over 17 species of raptors (including eagles, hawks and falcons), 48 bird species (including warblers, neo-tropical songbirds, herons, egrets, and nationally rare pied-billed grebes, great egrets and black-crowned night herons) and numerous species of butterflies that migrate annually from Canada to the southern United States and Central/South America;
- coastal wetlands along the Detroit River provide habitats for rare species of reptiles including the Eastern fox snake, Eastern massasauga rattlesnake, queen snake and the Eastern spiny soft-shell turtle;
- the Detroit River links the largest wetland complex in the Great Lakes, the St. Clair Flats, with Lake Erie, the most biologically productive Great Lake; and
- the Detroit River is an important source of drinking water for a large metropolitan region.



Sharp-shinned Hawk



The beauty of the Swamp Rose Mallows can be found along the Detroit River wetlands



View the graceful flight of the Egret



Wetlands and Islands along the Detroit River's middle reaches



1.4 A Management Strategy for the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River

Formal designation of the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River requires the completion of a Management Strategy, which is tabled with the CHRB and approved by Ontario and Canada. First Nations were also invited to indicate their support and identify how they wished to participate in the implementation of the Strategy.

The Management Strategy will inspire and guide voluntary actions for conserving, interpreting and appreciating the human heritage and recreational values of the entire Detroit River watershed, and stimulate the continued restoration of the watershed's vitally important natural features and improvement of water quality. The Strategy is a 'living document' which will be reviewed and updated every ten years to effectively respond to future management opportunities, and celebrate past and present community efforts for our great River.

Designation of the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River and the preparation of a Management Strategy will act as an essential catalyst for motivating governments, community organizations, businesses and individuals to work together for the good of the River. Designation will also highlight the Detroit River's unique role as River managers seek to address many difficult challenges presented by a highly urbanized and industrialized Detroit River watershed.

In 1998 the Detroit River was designated an American Heritage River, and a number of exciting projects are currently underway. Since it is imperative that actions aimed at conserving, interpreting and appreciating the Detroit River's heritage values are done on a watershed-wide basis, we must follow this excellent example of commitment to the betterment of the River. Thus a primary focus of this Management Strategy will be to encourage the integration of Canadian and American river management actions. As the tricentennial of European Settlement nears, a growing relationship of international cooperation will ensure the communities within the Detroit River watershed enjoy a sustainable future - one that is environmentally sound, culturally vibrant and economically prosperous.

Preparing the Detroit River Management Strategy

The preparation of the Management Strategy has been guided by the Detroit River Management Strategy Committee and its associated subcommittees, made up of a broad cross-section of stakeholders, including governments, First Nations governments, agencies, municipalities, non profit organizations, private businesses and concerned residents from both sides of the Detroit River. The necessary input for the creation of this Strategy was gained through Management Strategy Committee meetings and extensive consultations with stakeholders and the public.

The goals, directions, and actions in this Management Strategy reflect a consensus reached between a wide range of stakeholders, and do not represent the views of one or more special interest groups. This Strategy will respect the existing and future rights of all stakeholders, and will not override any existing legislation nor propose new legislation.

The Management Strategy also recognizes the importance of ensuring that a diverse mix of land uses is encouraged and maintained along both sides of the Detroit River, including commercial, industrial, ports, recreational, natural and residential land uses.



Although the Detroit River's nomination was not for Natural Heritage considerations, the River's role in the CHRS will be to represent a river:

Natural Heritage

- that provides a leading example of international cooperation in the management and restoration of the natural features of the River and its watershed;
- which is undergoing a significant and positive environmental transformation; and
- that is a major Canadian River that lies completely within the Carolinian Life Zone, with a diversity of ecosystems, vegetation and wildlife not found anywhere else in the country.

Building on Success

The Detroit River will also be an excellent addition to the CHRS as a model of a long-standing commitment by the community to restoring the River's environmental state and actively conserving, appreciating and promoting its outstanding human heritage and recreational values. The community's growing awareness and action for the Detroit River will help stimulate further actions for managing it as a Canadian Heritage River, while also inspiring future generations to sustain and build on this dedication. **(Please refer to "Registry of Actions" document for more information.)** Current community involvement in the River includes:

- a strong commitment by governments, agencies and interest groups to preserve and appreciate human heritage buildings and sites, including Fort Malden National Historic Site, the North American Black Historical Museum, Dieppe Memorial Gardens, HMS Detroit, Duff-Baby House and many other examples, and to promote exciting historical interpretive events such as Detroit 300, Les Grandes Fetes du Tricentenaire, the annual Olde Sandwich Towne Festival and the Amherstburg Heritage Festival;
- dedicated initiatives by municipalities and agencies for improving public access to the Detroit River, by developing river front greenways connecting to inland trails, and enhancing river front parks. Examples include the recent major expansion of Windsor river front parks, the ongoing development of the Chrysler Canada Greenway as a part of the Trans-Canada Trail, the LaSalle greenway and trail plan, the acquisition of Peche Island by the City of Windsor, the addition of the new Crystal Bay and White Sands Conservation Areas, and the construction of a river front promenade and winter garden at the Renaissance Centre;
- several successful partnership initiatives resulting in substantial progress in River clean-up efforts and the improvement of water quality and natural habitats. These initiatives include the Detroit River Canadian Clean-up Committee (DRCCC), the development of the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for the Detroit River Watershed, Friends of Watersheds groups, Subwatershed Plans, the Rural Non-Point Source (NPS) program, Ford of Canada's waste water treatment program, and shoreline habitat enhancements at Windsor waterfront parks and at the Canard River Marshes. The International Joint Commission, with its offices overlooking the Detroit River, continues to encourage cleanup actions in a larger context through its evaluations and reporting.



I.7 The Detroit River as an American Heritage River

In 1998 the Detroit River was proclaimed an American Heritage River by President Bill Clinton. This designation has provided our American neighbours both the inspiration and the tools to undertake actions aimed at the betterment of the Detroit River and its watershed. Following designation, six economic development, environmental and historic/cultural actions were identified as initial priorities. These actions include:

- the improvement of Belle Isle, the City of Detroit's 397 hectare island park. This action involves the stabilization of shorelines around the island, and the rehabilitation of roads, trails, wildlife habitats and existing buildings;
- the restoration of historic Fort Wayne, involving the opening of 1.6 kilometers of river front adjacent to the Fort for public access;
- the redevelopment of a river front 'brownfield' site in the cities of Riverview and Trenton, using mixed-use design and development principles and involving the restoration of 2 kilometers of River front;
- increasing public access to the Detroit River and its tributaries through the further development of linked River front greenways;
- restoring the ecological integrity of Black Lagoon, through a \$9 million sediment remediation program and the preparation of a shoreline restoration plan; and
- promoting the soft engineering of shorelines throughout the watershed (where appropriate), involving the use of ecologically-based principles to achieve stabilization of shorelines and safety, while also enhancing habitat and improving shoreline aesthetics.

Currently there are three 'keystone' projects occurring which follow the goals of the six identified priority actions, including the Downriver Linked Greenways project, the restoration of shelter-comfort stations at Bus Stop/Conservatory and Woodside on Belle Isle, and the restoration of the Flynn Pavilion and re-opening of a canoe/bicycle rental facility on Belle Isle. The Downriver Linked Greenways project involves the construction of 4.5 miles of recreational walking/bicycling paths in the City of Flat Rock to link with existing and planned paths and ultimately create a continuous greenway through six river front communities and connect with over 4,800 acres of parkland. The restoration and reopening of key facilities on Belle Isle will help to preserve and promote unique aspects of Detroit's history, particularly as Detroit approaches its 300th anniversary.

The designation of the Detroit River as an American Heritage River presents a great opportunity. Successful CHRS designation of the Detroit River will make it the first river on the continent to achieve both Canadian and American Heritage River status – giving our River the recognition it truly deserves.

Both the American and Canadian Heritage River designation initiatives are excellent examples of truly international efforts to have our great River recognized across North America. Canadian organizations, municipalities and residents assisted in the American designation effort by providing resources, information and letters of support, and our American partners have provided equally enthusiastic commitment and support for both the CHRS nomination and designation efforts for the Detroit River.

The designation of the Detroit River as both a Canadian and American Heritage River will not only serve to conserve and enhance the River's values, but it will also stimulate a spirit of international cooperation which will continue to grow, resulting in the development and implementation of key management actions which will encompass the entire Detroit River watershed.



1.6 The Role of the Detroit River in the CHRS

The Detroit River will greatly contribute to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System as the first river in North America to receive both Canadian and American Heritage River designation, and also as a leading example of a new breed of Canadian Heritage Rivers. Furthermore, the River's role in the CHRS will be to represent a river:

Human Heritage

- used for thousands of years by First Nations as a key settlement site, a primary transportation route for facilitating trade and obtaining valuable resources, and a site for spiritual ceremonies;
- which was an important link to settlements in the mid-west and Great Lakes during the 1700-1800's and a key link in the Underground Railroad in the mid-1800s. Today, its role in moving cargo through the Great Lakes and via the ports of Windsor and Detroit is vital to the Canadian and American economies and economies world wide;
- where more than three hundred years of European settlement history has been preserved in heritage buildings, waterfront parks, period museums, legends, folk songs, literature, artwork and historical accounts;
- whose strategic significance led to the establishment of Fort Pontchartrain in 1701 and the first permanent European settlement in Ontario in 1748. The military importance of the River is demonstrated by construction of Fort Malden and the King's Navy Yard in 1796, and major battles during the War of 1812 and the Rebellion of 1837-38;
- where settlement and agriculture were influenced by the River and were dependent on its resources, as demonstrated by the fur trade, pioneer water extraction and irrigation, and a major nineteenth century fishing industry;
- which showcases engineering marvels such as the Ambassador Bridge, the Windsor-Detroit Tunnel and Livingston Channel;
- which influenced the development of North America, and the location and development of industries that today play a primary role in the Canadian, American and global economy;



Fort Malden re-enactment (courtesy of Carl Morgan)



1.6 The Role of the Detroit River in the CHRS...continued

Furthermore, the River's role in the CHRS will be to represent a river:

Recreation

- where current and upcoming international events such as the International Freedom Festival, Detroit 300 and Les Grandes Fetes du Tricentenaire (in 2001) provide unique riverfront entertainment and cultural appreciation opportunities;
- which has the largest number of recreational water craft per capita in North America, with more than 93 public and private marinas along both sides of the River;
- which provides outstanding recreational opportunities for both residents and visitors, including boat tours, sightseeing, bird watching, angling and hunting;
- which has an extensive river front park system on both sides of the River offering public access for unparalleled fishing opportunities, boating, views of lush natural features, passing ships and urban skylines, and simple relaxation;
- where numerous human heritage, natural heritage and recreational appreciation opportunities can be fully enjoyed by millions of people living within one hour distance of travel;



Many forms of boating are very popular along the Detroit River



Documents leading to Detroit River CHRS designation include: 1998 Background Report, 1999 Nomination Document, Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow Video, Logo Design, CHRS Fact Sheet, CHRS Calendar, and Passport to Our Heritage Event



Representatives of Detroit River Management Strategy Committee 2000, taken November 2, 2000, and others present including Hon. Herb Gray, Deputy Prime Minister



1.5 The Benefits of Designation

Designation of the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River and the implementation of the Management Strategy will bring major benefits to both Canadian and American communities along the River. One primary benefit of designation will be national and international recognition of the Detroit River as an example of community commitment to environmental restoration, a major centre of North American history, and an outstanding recreational experience. This recognition will raise community awareness of the River's heritage values and enhance an already strong sense of community pride in the River, both of which are necessary steps in stimulating community actions for the River's benefit. Recognition will also provide opportunities to increase tourism and showcase the River's heritage values to the world, which will be instrumental in strengthening local businesses and attracting new business ventures to the watershed.

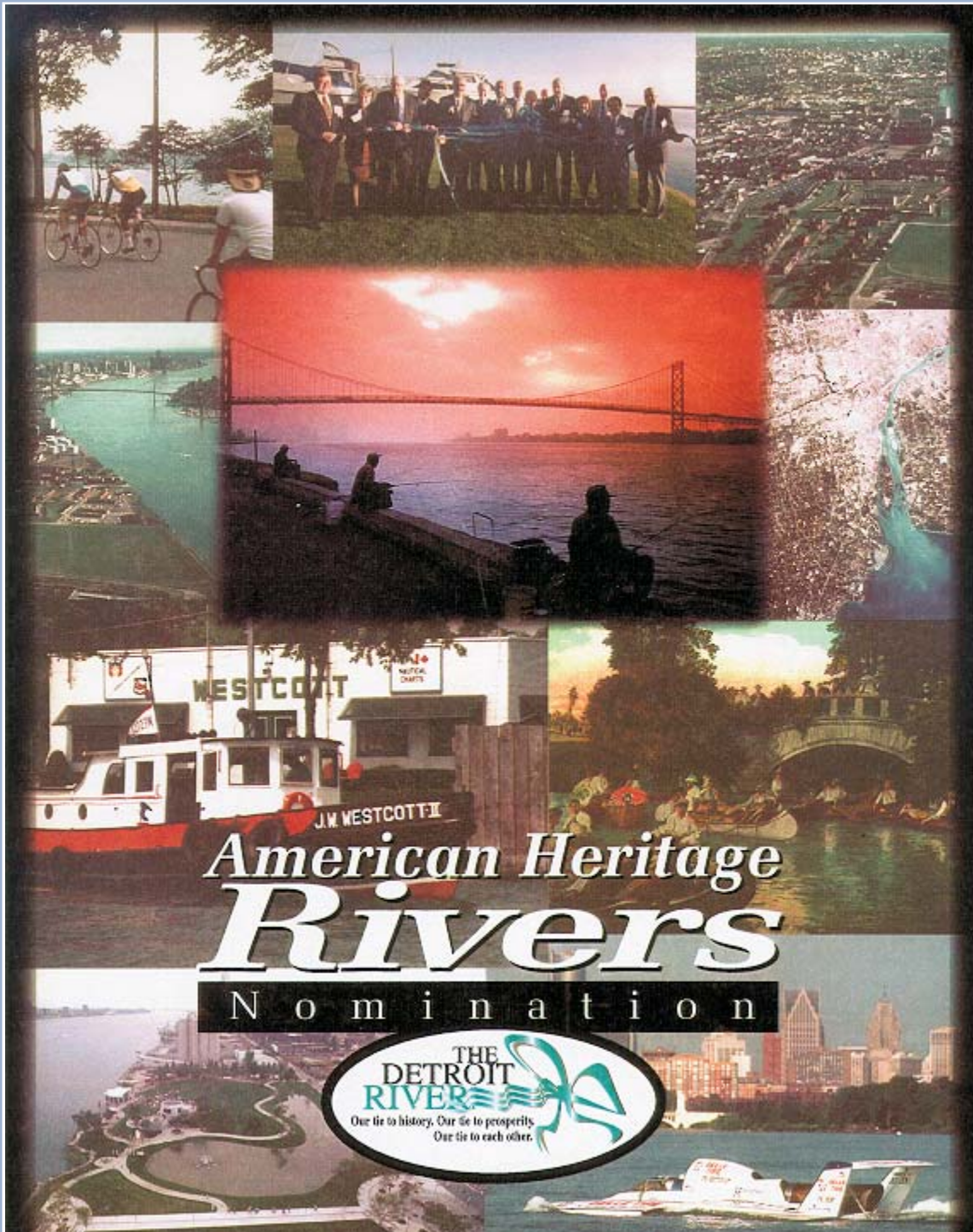
Another major benefit of designation involves increased opportunities for governments, community organizations and businesses on both sides of the River to enter into partnerships to provide coordinated management of the Detroit River and its Canadian and American watersheds. The 'spin-off' benefits of these partnerships involve the development and implementation actions to conserve and appreciate the River's human heritage and recreational values, restore and enhance its natural heritage features, and undertake further environmental clean-up efforts.

Designation will also provide a welcome opportunity to stimulate continued and increased communication and cooperation between First Nations, Canadian and American stakeholders regarding the future management of the Detroit River. Furthermore, the designation of the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River will not affect any First Nations treaties, existing, pending and/or future land claim rulings or any other rights, now and into the future.

The most important benefit of designation is the opportunity for the Detroit River community to become more involved in determining the future of the River. There is no better time than now to ensure that our River's beauty is restored and its values appreciated, not only to improve the quality of our lives, but to pass a legacy of community responsibility and dedication to this valuable resource on to future generations.



The Charlie Brooks Peace Fountain at Coventry Gardens



American Heritage Rivers successful Nomination Document



Part Two

A VISION FOR THE DETROIT RIVER

The Management Strategy will serve as a guide for Detroit River managers and other stakeholders to develop and implement actions which will collectively work towards conserving, interpreting and appreciating the Detroit River's unique and outstanding values, while also building a more environmentally, economically and socially sustainable future for the entire watershed.

This Strategy recommends a series of actions which River managers and stakeholders can undertake on a voluntary basis, and these actions are directly based upon a Detroit River Mission Statement, a set of Values and Principles, and a series of Strategic Directions.

2.1 Detroit River Mission Statement

A Mission Statement for the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River has been developed as a common guide for the future management of the Detroit River by the watershed community.

It identifies the overall direction of the Management Strategy, which will guide voluntary actions by stakeholders, promote shared community objectives, stimulate further community interest, celebrate successes, and elevate the local, regional and international profile of the Detroit River.

Mission Statement:

As an international community, we will work together
to conserve, enhance, interpret
and appreciate the outstanding human heritage,
natural heritage and recreational values
of the Detroit River and its watershed.



2.2 Values and Principles

The following set of Values and Principles will assist stakeholders in developing and undertaking effective actions for the good of the Detroit River in a progressive, equitable and sustainable manner.

The concept of sustainability is central to these Values and Principles. The behaviour and actions of stakeholders in conserving, interpreting, enhancing and appreciating the River's values need to reflect an understanding that the environmental, economic and social aspects of the Detroit River watershed (and the Great Lakes Basin) are deeply interconnected and interdependent. Stakeholder actions must collectively work towards achieving a balance between the environmental, economic and social needs of watershed residents, in order to facilitate an environmentally sound, culturally vibrant, and economically prosperous future.

Sustainability Management actions within the Detroit River watershed must strive towards ensuring the needs of present watershed residents are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, in order to provide a healthy, restored natural environment and maintain an excellent quality of life.

Coordinated and Cooperative Efforts Coordinated and cooperative management efforts are needed among all government, non-government and corporate interests.

Accountability Watershed organizations and residents are responsible for the environmental, economic and social consequences of their decisions and are accountable for their actions.

Equity All communities must have equal opportunities to provide for the environmental, economic and social needs of the Detroit River watershed and its residents.

Action Management priorities must be established and results-based initiatives undertaken.

Recognition of Rights There must be a recognition of existing, pending and future rights and freedoms, agreements and obligations in all decision making regarding Detroit River watershed management efforts.

Open and Informed Decision Making Effective management decisions depend on active communication and the sharing of ideas among stakeholders, and obtaining the best available information from the Detroit River watershed community.

Responsive Approaches Management objectives and efforts must be responsive to the current and future needs of the Detroit River watershed community.

Clarity Using appropriate communication techniques to bring about common understanding of the Detroit River watershed and its management needs.

Respect Management decisions must respect the diverse views and interests of individuals and organizations within the Detroit River watershed community.



2.3 Strategic Directions

To stimulate the development of community based actions which reflect the goals of the mission statement, the following strategic directions for managing the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River have been identified through public and stakeholder input and also guided by the ‘Values and Principles’ on the previous page:

- I. Promote the continued importance of the Detroit River’s values, and stimulate further community interest in these values by providing increased opportunities for participation in Detroit River related actions.
- II. Recognize and support present and future actions undertaken by the local and international community to conserve, interpret, enhance and appreciate the human heritage, natural heritage and recreational values of the Detroit River and its watershed.
- III. Support and stimulate further local and international environmental clean-up and enhancement efforts for the Detroit River and its watershed.
- IV. Develop partnerships for planning and undertaking integrated local and international river-related actions.
- V. Encourage and support policies and legislation which respect and protect the human heritage, recreational and natural heritage values of the Detroit River and its watershed.



A view of the Ambassador Bridge from the Windsor Sculpture Garden



Part Three IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 Introduction

The following actions address the most pressing challenges and priorities facing the Detroit River. Many great ideas were forwarded during the planning process, but this section emphasizes actions which are most necessary to moving the Strategic Directions of this Management Strategy forward. These actions directly respond to the Strategic Directions, and provide a framework for the community to carry out voluntary efforts to conserve, enhance, interpret and appreciate the human heritage, natural heritage and recreational values of the Detroit River and its watershed. These actions also build on the success of current community involvement as described on page 16.

A series of ‘Over-arching’ actions which apply to all Detroit River values are listed first, and outline the steps necessary for the provision of leadership, promotion, education, and recognition of actions undertaken by the community. The over-arching actions will also assist in implementing specific actions which are listed under the individual heritage value areas in the next section.

The successful development and implementation of actions will largely depend on strong community-based partnerships among federal, provincial/state, municipal and First Nation governments, heritage organizations, tourist organizations, private businesses, environmental interest groups and industry and others. The creation of new partnerships and the strengthening of existing ones will encourage more community organizations to get involved, while also enhancing opportunities to obtain funding for new and existing initiatives.

CHRS designation of the Detroit River watershed will actively complement current, independent actions undertaken by the community for the betterment of the watershed. Designation and the implementation of the goals and actions of this Management Strategy will facilitate further recognition and support of these actions, help in identifying management opportunities, and also assist in implementing a coordinated and sustainable vision for the Detroit River watershed.

3.2 Over-arching Actions

Leadership

- **Establish a Detroit River Council consisting of community leaders to stimulate coordinated international efforts to better the Detroit River watershed.**

The creation of a Detroit River Council will be an important forum for community leaders to further a long term, cooperative vision for the future of the Detroit River as both a Canadian and American Heritage River. The Council will be guided by the Values and Principles to ensure that the actions of the Council are progressive, equitable and sustainable. *The role and functions of the Council could include:*

- exchange of ideas and information;
- setting a strategic directions on an international basis;
- elevating the regional and international profile of the Detroit River;
- acting as a catalyst for the development of new cooperative and international actions;
- assisting in obtaining the necessary funding support for the implementation of these actions;
- recognizing the success and progress of management actions within the Detroit River watershed.

The Detroit River Council will initially include senior political representatives of local/municipal governments. Secretariat duties for the council could be undertaken by the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) as an extension of the responsibilities to date; and are currently being undertaken by the Metropolitan Affairs Coalition (MAC) on the U.S. side of the River.



3.2 Over-arching Actions...continued

Monitoring and Reporting

- **Develop a Detroit River checklist and implementation schedule for monitoring the progress of River management actions, the implementation of the Management Strategy and the state of the River's human heritage, recreational and natural heritage values. Review of this checklist on an annual basis will be one of the primary responsibilities of the Detroit River Council.**
- **Monitor the progress of the Management Strategy every 10 years and present the results to the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board.**

Community Involvement

- **Coordinate meetings with key Detroit River stakeholders and hold workshops to stimulate the development of local and international partnerships among governments including First Nations, agencies, private businesses and interest groups to develop and implement action plans and specific actions for the good of the Detroit River.**

Promotion and Celebration

- **Establish a newsletter and maintain a Detroit River website to communicate information regarding local and international activities, events and programs which promote CHRS values, and facts about the Detroit River's natural environment, history and recreational opportunities.**
- **Install signage along the Detroit River and at key locations within both Canadian and American watersheds promoting CHRS and AHRI designation of the River and identifying significant heritage values.**
- **Explore the establishment of a Detroit River Day, possibly a part of the International Freedom Festival, and other events to celebrate and promote the human heritage, natural heritage and recreational values of the Detroit River and its watershed, river-related achievements, and environmental clean-up activities.**
- **Encourage the development of Detroit River heritage value based educational programs and materials for elementary, secondary, community college and university curricula.**

Recognition

- **Develop a Registry of Actions to recognize, document and monitor new and existing river-related actions undertaken by stakeholders on both sides of the Detroit River. This Registry will be updated regularly and made available to the public in print form and on the Detroit River website.**



All ages getting involved in the future of the Detroit River during the Annual River Walk



Youth getting involved in the cleanup of the Detroit River



3.3 Human Heritage Actions

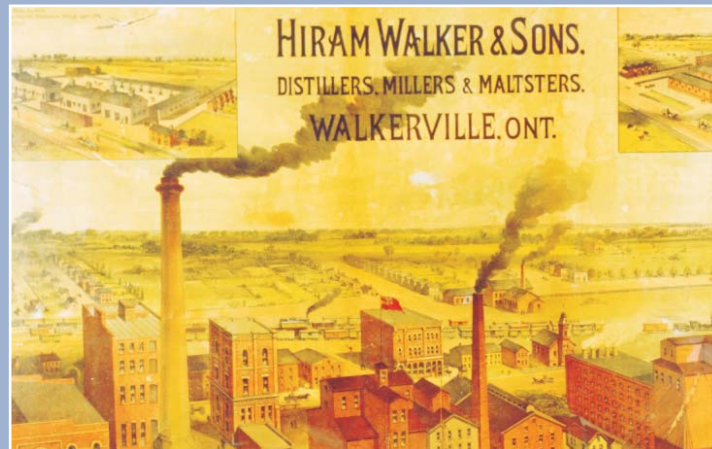
Community priorities for conserving and interpreting the human heritage values of the Detroit River include:

- **Identify historical resources, including buildings, sites, artifacts and documents in a coordinated fashion as a first step in developing a human heritage conservation strategy. Consideration should be given to a centralized ‘GIS’ database.**
- **Ensure Detroit River human heritage values are reflected in municipal policies, Official Plans and zoning bylaws, through initiatives such as the Windsor Archeological Master Plan, involving consultation with the human heritage community when policies are developed or revised.**
- **Ensure Detroit River human heritage values are integrated into transportation, recreation and other plans such as the Detroit River parkway plan, through consultation with the human heritage community.**
- **Develop joint interpretation of human heritage values through initiatives such as local and international human heritage tours and web-accessible human heritage data bases. Workshops should be held among stakeholders such as the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB), all levels of government and heritage organizations (such as Windsor’s Community Museum and Amherstburg Museums and Galleries) to develop these initiatives.**

3.4 Recreation Actions

Community priorities for appreciating the recreational values of the Detroit River and watershed include:

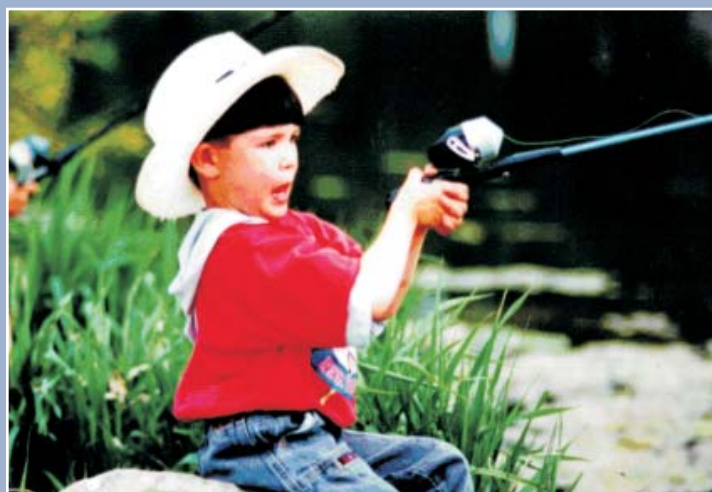
- **Establish a working group consisting of various levels of government and other organizations, to plan and develop a riverfront parkway and the extension of the Trans Canada Trail to the Detroit River.**
- **Develop and implement the Eco-tourism Strategy for the Essex Region through a partnership including municipalities, the Convention and Visitors Bureau, ERCA, the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, and Point Pelee National Park.**
- **Pursue the development and implementation of joint recreational activities and events, such as international recreational tours, angling and boating festivals, and the installation of international signage. Hold workshops involving the CVB, tourist organizations, and all levels of government to move these initiatives forward.**



The Hiram Walker & Sons Distillery, 1891



The North American Black Historical Museum and Cultural Centre opened its doors in 1981, Amherstburg
(courtesy of Carl Morgan)



Fishing is very popular along the Detroit River



3.5 Natural Heritage and Environmental Cleanup Actions

Community priorities for protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural features of the Detroit River and its watershed include:

- **Expand the implementation of water quality remediation based on work plans developed by the Detroit River Canadian Cleanup Committee (DRCCC). These plans will include the development of environmental restoration targets (delisting criteria) for water and sediment quality and habitat. Water and sediment quality targets will be developed based on the Canadian Water Quality Guidelines (Canadian Council of Resource and Environment Ministers, 1997) and other relevant guidelines.**
- **Continue to implement habitat restoration projects which are consistent with the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, and fish habitat management plans and subwatershed plans for the Detroit River and its watershed, through continued partnerships such as the Bio-Diversity Strategy Technical Committee and the DRCCC.**
- **Continue and expand watershed-wide water quality monitoring programs to identify problems and track progress, through the DRCCC. These programs should build on current initiatives such as the Detroit River Management and Modeling Framework, the City of Windsor's Pollution Control Plan, and the Rural Non-Point Source Pollution Remediation Program.**
- **Recognize and support new and ongoing environmental clean-up efforts undertaken by industrial interests within the Detroit River watershed.**
- **Encourage and require, as appropriate, the protection of significant natural features through municipal planning documents and other policies. An important step in moving this forward includes the completion of natural heritage inventory studies undertaken by municipalities, in partnership with ERCA.**
- **Continue to encourage greater public involvement in the enhancement and appreciation of the Detroit River watershed, through support of initiatives such as the Friends of Watersheds program and community based clean-up events.**
- **Coordinate and expand watershed-wide air quality monitoring, remediation and other programs, building on the recent progress of the Windsor-Essex County Air Quality (WECAQ) committee and the implementation of their Air Quality Action Plan.**



Friends of Canard River - Tree Planting, March 2000



Goose Bay Park Habitat Enhancement



Public involvement in the enhancement of the Detroit River watershed - Friends of Turkey Creek, June 2000



Conclusion

A LIVING DOCUMENT FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Designation of the Detroit River as a Canadian Heritage River will provide a definite step forward in ensuring an irreplaceable part of our natural and cultural heritage will continue to play a major role in the lives of future watershed residents. The implementation of the Management Strategy will provide the means for assisting with the sustainable management of the Detroit River's values on an ongoing and evolving basis, since the Strategy has been developed as a 'living document'.

The Management Strategy represents a beginning, not an end – which will evolve along with the changing values of the watershed community, in order to effectively respond to future challenges, guide future actions, and celebrate past and present community efforts. The Strategy will be reviewed every ten years, in conjunction with the CHRS Ten Year Monitoring review period, to ensure its goals, strategic directions and action accurately reflect the needs of the watershed community.

The fact that the Management Strategy is a living document will allow the watershed community to maintain an ongoing role in building a sustainable future for the Detroit River watershed, a future that is economically prosperous, culturally vibrant, and environmentally sound.



The Ambassador Bridge at night from Dieppe Park



A rendering of the Detroit River Waterfront in early 1900's by Verner



A summer day along the Windsor Sculpture Garden at Ambassador Park



Appendix 1

SUPPORT FOR HERITAGE RIVER DESIGNATION

To date over 325 letters of support, resolutions and petitions have been received and filed with Parks Canada. The following are the names and organizations who have expressed their interest in the Detroit River Heritage River Designation:

Canadian Government:

- Shaughnessy Cohen, M.P., Windsor-St. Clair Beach
- Bruce Crozier, M.P.P., Essex
- Dwight Duncan, M.P.P., Windsor-Walkerville
- Hon. Herb Gray, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Windsor West
- Wayne Lessard, M.P.P., Windsor-Riverside
- Sandra Pupatello, M.P.P. Windsor-Sandwich
- Eugene F. Whelan, Senator
- Susan Whelan, M.P., Essex

Canadian Community Organizations and Associations:

- Windsor Rowing Club
- Essex Region Conservation Authority - Members
- Little River Enhancement Group
- Convention and Visitors Bureau of Windsor, Essex County and Pelee Island
- Point Pelee National Park
- Windsor-Essex County Development Commission
- South West Area Recreation Guild
- Amherstburg Chamber of Commerce
- International Joint Commission
- Windsor-Essex County Canoe Club
- Canada South Outdoors Inc.
- CAW Windsor Regional Environmental Council
- LaSalle Business Group
- Rotary Club of Windsor
- Canadian Coast Guard, Central & Arctic Region (2)
- Ducks Unlimited
- Great Adventure Tours
- Windsor's Community Museum (Francois Baby House)
- Ontario Parks
- H.M.S. Detroit
- Windsor Environmental Advisory Committee
- Comité des Fête du Tricentenaire de la Région Windsor-Détroit
- Windsor Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee
- International Great Lakes St Lawrence Mayor's Conference
- Fort Malden National Historic Site
- Windsor Utilities Commission
- Freedom Festival

Canadian Municipalities:

- Town of Amherstburg
- Township of Malden
- Township of Anderdon
- Town of LaSalle
- City of Windsor, Council
- Office of the Mayor, City of Windsor, Mayor Mike Hurst
- Department of Parks and Recreation, City of Windsor
- Office of the City Clerk, City of Windsor
- Town of Tecumseh
- County of Essex, County Warden, Patrick O'Neil
- County of Essex, Chief Administrative Officer

Canadian Business Community:

- Dean Construction Company Limited
- Windsor Casino Limited
- Coco Paving Inc.
- Kennedy Chev-Olds
- Wilson, Walker, Hochberg, Slopen, Barristers & Solicitors
- Seagrams Company Ltd.
- Canadian Consulate General
- JJR Incorporated
- Windsor Utilities Commission
- Water and Sewerage Department, City of Detroit
- Detroit & Canada Tunnel Corporation

Canadian Education:

- University of Windsor, Political Science Department
- University of Windsor, Department of Environmental Law Society
- University of Windsor, Kayak Club
- University of Windsor, Office of the President

Canadian Individuals:

- Robert Sutherland,
- Dr. G. Ron Frisch,
- B. Sheeham
- Wayne Bagley
- John Gaudette
- Gordon Freeman
- Kenneth Lapointer
- Helen Cote
- Jane LaLange
- Dolores Lauchner
- Joyce Derkson,
- Nancy and Roy Battagello
- Monica Reaume
- K. McKinney
- L. Ferreria
- D. Cocchetto
- P. Cordeiro
- M. Beruz
- M. Bremnar
- M. Zhigany
- J. Livingston
- S. Pollock
- P. Sweicki
- J. Myers
- J. Drago
- S. Browning
- S. Ferguson
- Zimmnicki
- U. Wolfhoz
- Belang
- J. Tlez
- S. Balakriham
- H. Dashwood
- T. Velez



Appendix 1

...continued

Canadian Individuals... continued

- S. Hick
- P. Bondy
- S. Tustin
- S. Lucieu
- K. LaRocca
- R. Maon
- Rodzik
- L. Wilson
- M. Daymen
- J. Topolski
- Carlone
- S. Rimmington
- T. Lin
- Foxem
- S. Desmarais
- T. Wilson
- K. Vansteelandt
- Hrcan
- Resor
- Beadon
- J. Johnstone
- Hellingsworth
- M. Ward
- Toumorally
- E. Hart
- M. Dolby
- Guo
- Donnelly
- Girgis
- N. MacDonald
- P. Bacchus
- F. Tsegah
- Zefhi
- Taylor
- Chatteyea
- Robu
- Shepard
- Rousseau
- P. Hummond
- R. Elliott
- Howard
- T. Ty
- Durante
- M. Hellingsworth
- Karsen
- Sambahivan
- Sehultz
- T. Bates
- McClean
- R. Molihare
- Y. Yakishito
- J. James
- S. Staha
- McKenna
- J. Hurst
- Lenard
- W. Shefler
- Vinni
- V. Cross
- T. Deo
- T. Darus
- Trottier
- Ferrandez
- D'Angelo
- Borden
- H. Shoufier
- J. Duff
- J. Hellingsworth
- Mazzome
- Clarke
- Helkca
- R. Matriz
- Robert Demers
- Corbett Family
- W. Peter
- R. Dennison
- Boycott
- Scott
- S. Clements
- Kitchen
- S. Ray
- L. Woodfield
- Mathis
- M. Pare
- Gaworsky
- J. Rochos
- M. Austin
- Desjardins
- Smoth
- Shuttleworth
- T. Shuttleworth
- J. Chism
- R. Caves
- Reaume
- L. Hirst
- L. Maifla
- Ross
- L. Mayen
- R. Wintard
- Hutchinson
- McClintock
- Hedrick
- Cadarette
- J. Enas
- T. Hoblely
- M.B. Caves
- David Haze
- Richard Ramey
- Shirley Crone
- Charles Guiderial
- J. Smith
- Anne Lessard
- L. McCarthy
- April Dufresne-Brook
- Sheeham
- Chuck Pike
- Margaret Berze
- Leo Kuschel
- Marna Fratarcengali
- Lindsay Thuy
- Rob Pearse
- Jessica Parsons-Reaume
- Deedee Kok
- Jesse Gagnon
- Jessie Ramsey
- Joanne Hyatt
- Wendy Pestowka
- Caleb Bergen
- Kevin Edwards
- Maxx Kovacs
- Andrea Thorne
- Mark Joye
- Nicole deJong
- Jennifer Brenda Moody
- Nelson MacDougall
- Sarah Manshande
- Stephanie Clark
- Dylan Langlois
- Peter Mamo
- Corey Kerr
- Ellcoth Goum
- Will Kerr
- Katie MacTavish
- Bryan Cincarak
- Vanessa Harnish
- Devon Sundin
- Chris Osborn
- Chelsea York
- Sydney Follitt
- Ben Greenwood
- Jessica Post
- Jason Arnew
- Catherine Reaume
- Jacklyn Reimer
- Mary Dunn
- Elizabeth M. Snyder
- Nick Eagle
- Graeme Johnson
- Jeffrey Blackford
- T.J. Pretty
- Eric Miinch
- Steve Welken
- Greg Mutterback
- Aaron Wad
- Devin Nicholson
- James Snively
- Shannon O'Keefe
- Manlee Ribble
- Craig Bolsover
- Kenneth Lapoint

U.S. Support:

- Representative Caroline C. Kilpatrick
- Representative John D. Dingell
- Representative Lynn N. Rivers
- Representative John Conyers Jr.
- Representative Sander M. Levin
- Senator Spencer Abraham
- Senator Carl Levin
- City of Detroit
- City of Riverview
- Township of Brownstown
- City of Woodhaven
- City of Ecorse
- Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority
- Township of Grosse Ile
- City of Trenton
- City of Lincoln Park
- General Assembly of SEMCOG
- Southern Wayne County Chamber of Commerce
- City of South Gate
- South East Michigan Council of Governments
- Wayne County Commission
- Rivertown Business Association
- Preservation Wayne
- City of Wyandotte
- Grosse Ile Educators
- Hands and Associates Inc.
- DTE Energy
- Detroit Edison
- Joy of Jesus Church
- Freedom Baptist Church
- New Creation Full Gospel Church Inc.
- Zion Progress Church
- Emmanuel Tabernacle by the River
- Michigan Emanuel Alliance
- St. James Cumberland Presbyterian Church
- Second Baptist Church
- New Day Deliverance
- Mount Carmel Baptist Church
- Messiah Baptist Church
- Greater New Mt. Morich
- Michigan Detroit River RAP



Appendix 2

SUB-COMMITTEE - ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Detroit River CHRS Designation is a community based initiative undertaken by a team of invited individuals representing the general public, local municipalities, agencies and organizations on both the Canadian and American sides of the river. We especially want to thank the following sub-committee team members for their efforts in providing input toward the Background Report, the Nomination Document and the Management Strategy:

Human Heritage Team:

- Chris Allsop, ERCA
- Marcel Beneteau, Member, Tercentennial Committee for the Region of Windsor-Detroit
- Janet Cobban, Curator, John R. Park Homestead & Windsor's Community Museum
- Anita Colery, Student, University of Windsor
- Terri Epp, ERCA
- Bob Garcia, Fort Malden National Historic Site
- Elise Harding-Davis, Cultural Black Museum
- Vickie Kruckeberg, Detroit Historical Museum
- Larry Kulisek, Department of History, University of Windsor
- Maud Lyon, Director, Detroit Historical Museum
- Micheal Moyer, Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board
- Nancy Morand, City of Windsor Planning
- Val Pistor, Greater Essex County District School Board
- Tracey Pillon-Abbs, ERCA
- Dr. Trevor Price, Department of Political Science – Retired, University of Windsor
- Joanne Ranger, Fort Malden National Historical Site
- Ken Schmidt, ERCA
- Bob Sutherland, Amherstburg
- Stan Taylor, ERCA
- Rob Watt, Fort Malden National Historic Site

Natural Heritage/Environmental Clean-up Team:

- Charles Bake, CAW Regional Environment Council
- Matthew Child, ERCA
- Jim Drummond, Detroit River Canadian Cleanup Committee
- Rosanne Ellison, American Cleanup/EPA
- Kim Ferguson, Ministry of the Environment and Energy
- Doug Haffner, Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research
- John Hartig, International Joint Commission
- Tom Henderson, Little River Enhancement Group
- Tom Hurst, Essex County Field Naturalists
- Saad Jasim, Windsor Chamber of Commerce Environment Committee, Windsor Utility Commission
- Mark Jones, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Dan Lebedyk, ERCA
- Bruce Manny, US Geological Survey
- Brian Massy, Detroit River Canadian Cleanup Committee
- Gary McCullough, Canadian Wildlife Service – Environment Canada
- John Mills, Environment Canada
- Bob Petit, Holiday Beach Migration Observatory
- Tracey Pillon-Abbs, ERCA
- Paul Pratt, Ojibway Nature Centre
- Brian Reynolds, Primerica Financial Services
- Owen Steele, Ducks Unlimited
- Bob Sweet, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Stan Taylor, ERCA
- Richard Wyma, ERCA

Recreational Values Team:

- Chris Allsop, ERCA
- Charles Bake, CAW Regional Environment Council
- Ralph Barnwell, Town of Amherstburg Recreation
- Lloyd Burridge, City of Windsor Parks and Recreation Department
- Terry Fink, Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation
- Elizabeth Hamel, Windsor Essex County & Pelee Island Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Faye Langemaide, City of Windsor Parks and Recreation Department
- Julia Madden, LaSalle Parks and Recreation
- John Oram, Boblo Island
- Cynthia Silveri, City of Detroit Parks and Recreation Department
- Tracey Pillon-Abbs, ERCA
- Ken Schmidt, ERCA
- Bruno VandenBerghe, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
- Tina Walters, LaSalle Leisure Services Dept.
- Richard Wyma, ERCA



Appendix 2

SUB-COMMITTEE - ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ...continued

Community Relations Team:

- Charles Bake, CAW Regional Environment Council
- Ken Bondy, Chairperson, CAW Windsor Regional Environment Council
- Sherri Bondy, Amherstburg Chamber of Commerce
- Danielle Breault, ERCA
- Carol Cakalo, LaSalle BIA
- Roman Dzus, Windsor-Essex County Development Commission
- Jim Evans, Ontario Restaurant Association, Duffy's Restaurant
- Elizabeth Hamel, Windsor Essex County & Pelee Island Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Joanne Hoppe, CBC
- Saad Jasim, Windsor Chamber of Commerce Environment Committee, Windsor Utility Commission
- Jack Kindred, Publisher, Amherstburg Echo
- Barb Malmberg, Event Planning and Sponsorship Supervisor, Windsor Star
- Karen Mauro, Editor, LaSalle Silhouette
- Don Mumford, Program and Promotion Manager, CHWI
- Jim Mundy, Casino Windsor
- Terry Patterson, Wilson, Walker, Hochberg, Slopen
- Tracey Pillon-Abbs, ERCA
- Eric Proksch, General Manager, CHUM Group
- Brian Reynolds, Primerica Financial Services
- Ken Schmidt, ERCA
- Michael St. Pierre, Daimler-Chrysler Canada Ltd.
- Stan Taylor, ERCA
- Mike Turton, ERCA
- Richard Wyma, ERCA
- Mylène Young-Percival, Director of Sales, Windsor Hilton
- Grace Zek, President, Ontario Restaurant Association, Duffy's Restaurant

Additional Staff Contributing to this Management Strategy:

- Geordon Harvey
- Carl Johannsen
- Deanne Johnstone
- Vivian Kennedy



Appendix 3

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION, PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES AND FESTIVALS

The following is a list of community consultation, promotional activities and festivals that have been undertaken to date to assist in increasing awareness and to provide consultation opportunities for the Detroit River CHRS initiative.

Community Consultation and Promotional Activities

- Feb. 1998 *LaSalle Zehrs* - A display was set up and brochures handed out to promote the Detroit River nomination and designation.
- May 1/98 *Newsletter* - The first newsletter was distributed in May of 1998 to community partners.
- May 4-8/98 *Education Week* - A display was set up at the Essex County Civic Centre highlighting the winners of the CHRS School Art and Writing Contest and the nomination and designation for the Detroit River.
- June 10/98 *Windsor Chamber Boat Cruise* - Windsor Chamber Business After Five Boat Cruise invited members of the Detroit River CHRS committee to highlight the nomination and designation of the Detroit River and its Watershed.
- June 1998 *School Project* - A Celebration of the Detroit River through Art and Writing - School Children Contest was held. Certificates of Merit were given to winners and drawings and work will be highlighted in future publications. Press releases were also well received.
- July 9/98 *Mayors Conference* - CHRS Detroit River display set up during the Annual Great Lakes Mayors Conference held at the Cleary International Centre in Windsor.
- July 17/98 *ERCA 25th Anniversary* - The Detroit River was highlighted during Essex Region Conservation Authority 25th Anniversary Celebration.
- July 1998 *CHRS Puzzle* - Students working on the CHRS project, completed a display to take to festivals, which included four Detroit River CHRS puzzles. The puzzles were very popular with people of all ages.
- Sept. 12/98 *Boat/Bus Tour* - A Detroit River Boat and Bus Tour was held for Community Stakeholders. The tour highlighted the CHRS project, the AHRI project and ERCA activities.
- Oct. 1998 *CHRS LOGO* - A logo design was created to symbolize the natural, heritage and recreational values of the Detroit River nomination and designation initiative.
- Oct. 1998 *CHRS Brochures* - An brochure has been created and photocopies have been made. Approximately 2000 have been distributed.
- Nov. 1998 *Video* - A video was produced highlighting the Detroit River, the CHRS project and community activities. The video has been used as a promotional tool to help educate people of the Detroit River Heritage, promote letters of support and increase awareness of its value. The video was also presented during the nomination presentation to the CHRS Board.
- Nov. 1998 *Slide Presentation* - Various Power Point presentations were prepared to highlight the details of the nomination and designation for the Detroit River. A presentation was also made to the CHRS Board.
- Jan. 1999 *Detroit River Fact Sheet* - A one-page fact sheet was prepared for distribution to those interested in obtaining further information on the CHRS project. The Fact Sheet highlighted current activities and information on how to get involved.



Appendix 3

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION, PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES AND FESTIVALS

- March 1999 *Discussion Paper* - A discussion paper was produced to commence the process of developing the management strategy document as part of designation. The paper highlight suggested actions to be reviewed by stakeholders.
- April 1999 *Stakeholders Questionnaire* - A group of key stakeholders were sent questionnaires to find out what activities they are involved in as part of enhancing and protecting the Detroit River.
- Oct. 2/99 *River Walk* - Members of the CHRS Committee participated in a River Walk along the Detroit River. A Detroit River CHRS display was set up at the University of Windsor to highlight the initiative and provide an opportunity to obtain feedback from participants.
- Jan. 2000 *School Calendar* - Winners of the school writing and drawing contest were highlighted in a calendar, which was made available to the winners.
- May 28/00 *Windsor Art Gallery Boat Tour* - Members of the CHRS Committee participated in a Boat Tour, organized by the Windsor Art Gallery, highlighting the key values of the Detroit River.
- June 17/00 *Community Consultation Session - Windsor Yacht Club* - The community was invited to attend a community consultation session to review the draft Management Strategy and provide input on how they think the Detroit River should be preserved, interpreted and enhanced.
- June 17/00 *Passport to our Heritage Event* - A self-guided tour was organized to highlight exciting locations along the Detroit River and to discover its rich heritage.
- June 21/00 *Community Consultation Session - Fort Malden* - The community was invited to attend a community consultation session to review the draft Management Strategy and provide input on how they think the Detroit River should be preserved, interpreted and enhanced.
- June 24/00 *Community Consultation Session - Freedom Festival* - The community was invited to attend a community consultation session to review the draft Management Strategy and provide input on how they think the Detroit River should be preserved, interpreted and enhanced.
- July & Aug/00 *Community Consultation Sessions - Devonshire Mall* - A chance to obtain community input from the community on the Management Strategy. A information booth display was set up on two occasions at the Devonshire Mall in Windsor. Many people completed a survey and provided their support for CHRS designation.
- 2000 & of Beyond *Registry of Actions* - A Registry of Action is being developed to outline current and future activities the Detroit River Stakeholders. It is anticipated that the registry will be an ongoing list of activities and watershed involvement.

Annual Festivals (1998-2000)

Displays were set up and staffed at various community festivals during each of the past three years highlighting the CHRS project and providing consultation opportunities for input. The displays included CHRS puzzles, brochures, pamphlets, info-sheets and activities for children. The following is a list of festivals:

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| May | LaSalle Strawberry Festival |
| June | Marine Day, International Freedom Festival |
| August | Amherstburg Heritage Festival |
| August | Tecumseh Corn Festival |
| September | Harrow Fair |
| September | Olde Sandwich Town Festival |



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The light house
at the Windsor City Marina



Ford Canada - Wagon Works Site
(courtesy of Ford Canada)



Detroit River Wetlands



The Edmund Fitzgerald sailing along the Detroit River, bringing iron ore to the steel mines of Ohio and Pennsylvania (courtesy of Ronald Suichu)



The symbol echoes many of the themes discussed during the design process, between the logo committee and the graphic design team. The committee wanted a design that was at once representational and abstract. There were a variety of themes that were considered appropriate for the design, including history and heritage, the natural environment, ecology, and human usage of the river, to name a few.

The new core symbol echoes many of these themes in an abstract way. The top element, a stylized “D”, may be taken to represent a sailing vessel or the prow of a canoe. The “cattail” element is self explanatory as a symbol of the natural vegetation and the ecosystem that depends upon the river for its maintenance. The central “swoosh” is of course indicative of the river itself. Finally, the lower element is a reflection of the top element and also a stylized fish, indicative of the interplay between the two elements.

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