



Ontario Waterways Directors Office  
P.O. Box 567, 2155 Ashburnham Drive  
Peterborough, Ontario K9J 6Z6

January 4, 2018

Dear Mayor Burkett,

In May of this year, you were sent a letter outlining Parks Canada's Port Severn area dams and bridges rehabilitation project. This letter provided some details on the project including estimated timelines for the project to begin. Since that time, our team has undertaken further assessments, including stakeholder engagement, and have determined that, in the best interest of the community and environment, we will begin project mobilization in summer 2018 and the majority of construction in the fall. Construction on the Bayview Dam, however, is slated to begin after the cofferdam installation is complete, in August. The bridge closure necessary for this project would occur after the September long weekend.

While reviewing work plans for the first phase of the project, our environmental team worked with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to discuss flow requirements through Bayview Dam E to support the spawning site below the dam. While we had intended to build a cofferdam with a water bypass to complete in water work at the dam, we learned that this approach would not provide sufficient flow for the walleye and sturgeon (a species-at-risk) that spawn at the site. In order to ensure the best possible environment for the fish to thrive we have decided not to work during the fish spawning window from March 15<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, in speaking with local business owners and community associations, we understand the economic importance of the summer and winter tourist seasons. Utilizing this information we determined a new schedule to minimize the impact of our work on the community.

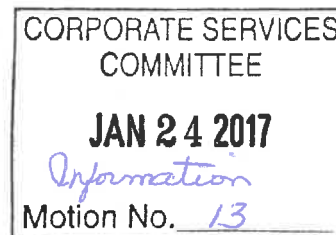
The Port Severn area project currently includes the rehabilitation of the Main Dam, Bayview Dam E and Bridge, Little Chute Dam G, and Blind Dams A, C and D, as well as the replacement of the Fixed Bridge. The plan for the first phase of the project is to begin with repairs to Blind Dam C, as well as Bayview Dam E and its bridge. Cofferdams will be installed at both dams after the fish window has closed. Construction will begin at that time with the Bayview Bridge closure planned after the September long weekend through to mid-December.

Information on subsequent phases of the project will be shared publicly as construction progresses. If you have questions or concerns regarding this project or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact Christie Ulicny, Public Relations and Communications Officer for the project. She can be reached at 705-750-4883 or christie.ulicny@pc.gc.ca.

Kind regards,

Jewel Cunningham  
Director, Ontario Waterways

cc: W. Henry Sander, CAO





Parks Canada  
Parcs Canada



Derek Burke, Director Public Works/Utilities