



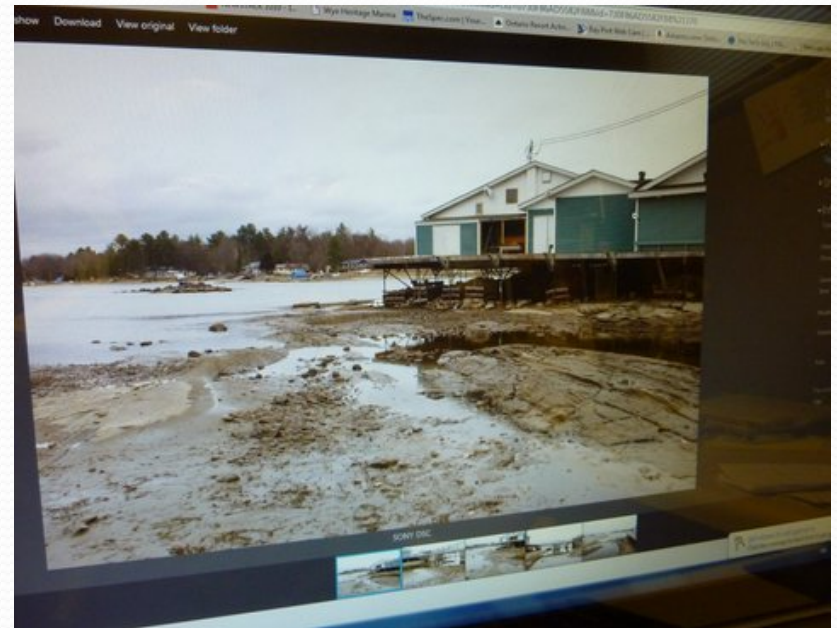
Georgian Bay Leaders Initiative on Low Water Levels in Georgian Bay

Just look out your door...



Picnic Island 2011

Picnic Island 2012



Leaders Who Want Action

Assiginack

Archipelago

Beausoleil First Nation

Blue Mountains

Billings

Carling

Central Manitoulin

Collingwood

Georgian Bay

Georgian Bluffs

Gore Bay

Killarney

McDougall

Meaford

Midland

North Eastern Manitoulin Island

Northern Bruce Peninsula

Owen Sound

Parry Sound

Penetanguishene

Plummer

Seguin

Severn

South Bruce Peninsula

Tay

Tiny

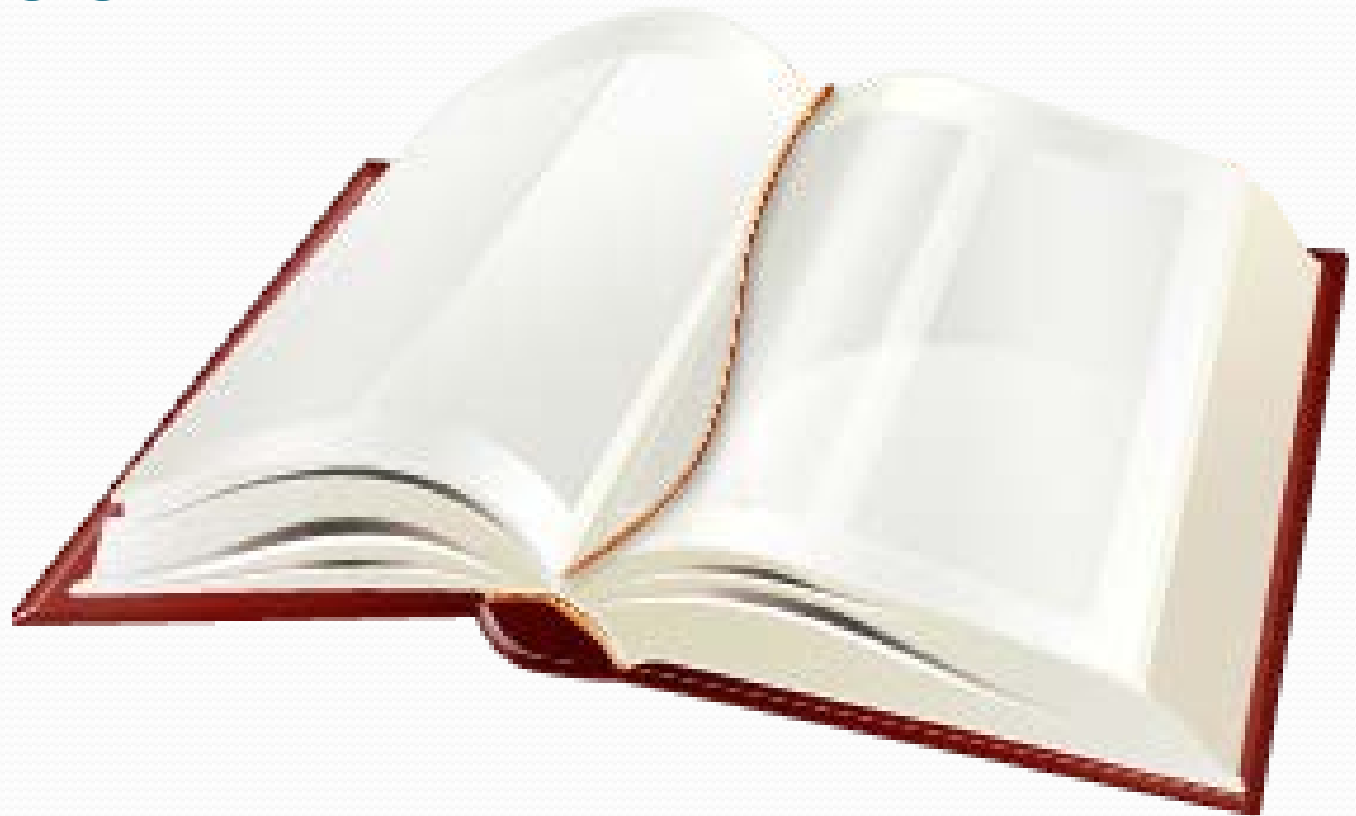
Wasaga Beach

Our Focus

- Georgian Bay
- Assistance for businesses and municipalities who are being economically impacted by declining water levels
- Action in 2013

Our focus is not to engage in the international debate over the cause and solutions to regulate the water levels in the Great Lakes

Case Book



Case Book

- Reports the impact of low water that individuals, businesses and municipalities are seeing around the Bay
- 24 of 44 municipalities have included so far
- Section 1: Economic harms in 2013
- Section 2: Longer term harms
 - Georgian Bay economy
 - Real estate value
 - Tax base
 - First Nations
 - Enjoyment of property and life



Marinas

- 68 marinas affected
- dredging and blasting
- slips cannot be used
- marina to be relocated

Report from Carling:

“Two of the area’s 5 marinas expect to lose 72 of their 230 slips due to low water in 2013. If no remedial work is undertaken, revenue loss will be \$100-150,000. Staffing reductions will be about 2,500 hrs. Dredging is required at a cost of \$330,000. “



Municipalities

- **31 government facilities**
- harbours need dredging
- water intakes relocated
- town docks stranded
- public beaches unusable

Report from Kagawong Village:

“The water system has an intake which is now in perilously low water. If the intake is blocked, all households and businesses in the hamlet will be affected.”



Businesses

- **76 businesses affected**
- reduced hours
- reduced/no water access
- staff lay-offs
- closure

Report from Owen Sound:

“Ontario Northland, operator of the Chi Cheemaun ferry, is concerned about having enough water to dock the ferry in Owen Sound.”



2013 Cost of “Coping”

- Estimated at \$20 million
- Cost of dredging
- Cost of dock repairs
- Viability of a community

Report from Beausoleil First Nation:

“The vehicular ferry (Indian Maiden) is a critical transportation link. It must be available 24/7 for emergencies. The low water has resulted in the number of passengers being reduced to 40 from 70. Emergency ambulance runs have had to be cancelled.”



Special Report – Trent Severn Waterway:

“The Trent-Severn waterway is a major access point to Georgian Bay. The exit channel from the Severn Waterway into Georgian Bay (at Hwy 400 underpass) now has only 5 feet of draft. Boats will soon not be able to exit, closing the waterway.”

Longer Term Harms

- Replacement of municipal shoreline infrastructure
 - Individual projects (municipal wharf, water intake) in the millions of dollars each
- Losses to the Georgian Bay tourism and general economy
 - Estimated at **\$50-100 million per year**
- Accommodative repairs to residential cottage properties
 - Estimated at **\$500 million** currently



A Plan of Immediate Action

Our Request

1. Provincially:

- \$10 million in financial relief for businesses and municipalities
- Permit streamlining
- Assistance from Premier in taking our case to Ottawa

2. Federally:

- \$10 million in financial relief for businesses and municipalities
- Streamlining of DFO permits and regulations for dredging