

The Stakeholder Groups of the Kawartha Highlands

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140,000+ Stakeholders Strong!

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Kawartha Highlands Protection

After a four-year process and three months of intense consultation The Stakeholder Groups of the Kawartha Highlands (SGKH) is pleased to endorse Bill 100, The Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park Act introduced by Premier Ernie Eves in the Ontario Legislature on June 17th.

As an active participant in the final consultation process guided by MPP Chris Hodgson the SGKH was proud to lobby for the rights of all tenure holders, traditional users and to support the principles of wise use conservation and environmental protection within the Kawartha Highlands Signature Site (KHSS).

With the development of a new Charter for the KHSS, Bill 100 and the striking of a Management Advisory Board to ensure continued local stakeholder participation the SGKH believes that a workable compromise has been reached.

“We are pleased with what has been achieved in the last three months and hope that the resulting Charter and Legislation will serve the area well for generations to come.” said Peter Chown a member of the SGKH Executive who was active in the development of the Charter.

Mr. Chown went on to say that the new Management Advisory Board will need to represent all stakeholders and draw on practical knowledge of the KHSS in their new role. “Once the dust settles much of the success or failure of the KHSS will depend on the Advisory Board” said Chown.

The Stakeholder Groups of the Kawartha Highlands (SGKH) is an umbrella organization that is open to all established organizations with direct and ongoing ties to the KHSS. Membership to the SGKH includes the Township of Galway, Cavendish and Harvey, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, North Kawartha Lakes Association, Canadian Seaplane Pilots Association, many cottage associations, rate-payer and other associations.

The Stakeholder Groups of the Kawartha Highlands will continue to make positive and constructive suggestions to the MNR and Management Advisory Board on the future operation of the KHSS.

The SGKH vision for the Kawartha Highlands Signature Site is a “Legacy of Protection” that combines the goals of long-term environmental protection, safeguarding of the site’s natural and cultural heritage values, enshrining the continuation of traditional activities and the protection of private property rights as managed by a strong local stakeholder/stewardship committee in partnership with the MNR, local municipalities and local businesses.

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