
Heart of a Lake

PRESS KIT

VERSION 1: SEPTEMBER 8, 2006

The poster is a vertical rectangular graphic with a color palette of green, blue, and black. At the top, a green horizontal band contains the text "WATERKEEPER'S" in white, bold, sans-serif font, followed by the website "WWW.WATERKEEPER.CA" in a smaller white font. Below this, a large blue section contains the title "HEART OF A LAKE TOUR" in white, bold, sans-serif font, stacked vertically. To the right of the title, three circular icons are arranged vertically: a swimmer, a glass of water, and a fish. Each icon is accompanied by its respective label: "swim", "drink", and "fish". Below the icons are two black and white portrait photographs. The top photo is of Mark Mattson, with his name "MARK MATTSON" printed below it. The bottom photo is of Gord Downie, with his name "GORD DOWNIE" printed below it. At the very bottom, a black horizontal band contains the text "FEATURING GORD DOWNIE" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

Press Releases

Contact:
Mark Mattson, President & Waterkeeper
Office: (416) 861-1237 ... Cell: (416) 666-8961
Online; waterkeeper.ca/heartofalake

TOUR ANNOUNCEMENT

Gord Downie and Waterkeeper bring “Heart of A Lake” to Whitby, Port Hope, Kingston

(Toronto, August 28 2006) – Lake Ontario Waterkeeper is pleased to announce that Whitby, Port Hope, and Kingston have been selected to host three unforgettable evenings of music, poetry, and stories of courage from September 18-21.

Heart of a Lake is presented by Lake Ontario Waterkeeper and features an extraordinary solo performance by Gord Downie of The Tragically Hip. The traveling show, which blends activism with art, is a unique celebration of Lake Ontario.

“Heart of a Lake was inspired by ordinary people’s struggles to win back what they’ve lost: Clean water. Access to their harbours. The respect of government and industry,” says Downie, who was dubbed a Trustee for Lake Ontario in 2005.

Heart of a Lake honours the contributions of volunteers working to win back waterfronts in the three communities. It will also educate audiences about environmental rights, threats to clean water, and tools for preserving democratic decision-making.

“This is our way of saying thank-you to the people struggling to make their communities better places to live,” says Waterkeeper Mark Mattson. “It’s also an opportunity to talk about the connection between clean water and a healthy civil society.”

Tickets for Heart of a Lake go on sale this Friday, September 1. Members of the environmental, university, and business communities will be in attendance.

Waterkeeper’s Heart of a Lake Tour Dates:

Whitby: Monday September 18th, 8pm: The Courthouse Theatre, Centennial Building, 416 Centre Street South, Whitby. Tickets \$20. Available online at www.maplemusic.com or by phone at 416.861.1237.

Port Hope: Tuesday September 19th, 8pm: The Capitol Theatre, 20 Queen Street, Port Hope. Tickets \$25, fees extra. Available at the theatre box office, online at www.capitoltheatre.com or by phone at 905-885-1071.

Kingston: Thursday, September 21st, 8pm: Sydenham Street United Church, 82 Sydenham Street, Kingston. Tickets \$18, fees extra. Available online at www.maplemusic.com and www.grandtheatre-kingston.com, at the Grand Theatre Box office, the John Deutsch University Centre and The Grad Club, and by phone at 613.530.2050.

Lake Ontario Waterkeeper has been working to ensure clean water and access to justice since 2001. In Durham, the group is working to bring back the Oshawa Harbour and neighbouring beaches. In Port Hope, it is helping to address past, present, and future contamination from the nuclear industry. In Kingston, Mattson spearheaded the Belle Park landfill prosecution and helped focus attention on the city's sewage problems. Waterkeeper and Gord Downie are now working with residents to ensure clean air and water in nearby Bath.

-30-

NEW ARTISTS ANNOUNCEMENT

Poet, dancer to join Downie/Waterkeeper Heart Of A Lake Tour

(Toronto, September 13 2006) – Lake Ontario Waterkeeper is pleased to announce that poet Tanis Rideout and dancer Andrea Nann will join musician Gord Downie for next week's Heart of a Lake Tour.

Waterkeeper has dubbed Tanis Rideout the "poet laureate" for Lake Ontario and added the up-and-coming author to its three-town port tour. Tanis is crafting a poem inspired by the water-front battles taking place in Oshawa, Port Hope and Kingston specifically for Heart of a Lake.

Andrea Nann is one of Toronto's foremost contemporary dance choreographers. Andrea is best known for her ability to marry spellbinding movement with spoken word, video, design, and other art forms.

"We are honoured to have two of the lake's most talented artists join us for the Heart of a Lake tour," says Waterkeeper and environmental lawyer Mark Mattson. "Their generosity is yet another example of the spirit that makes the Lake Ontario community so remarkable."

-30-

LOCAL SPEAKER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Oshawa Marina spokesperson to speak at Gord Downie, Waterkeeper show

(Toronto, September 5 2006) – Larry Ladd, long-time chair of the Oshawa Marina Users Group, will address the audience at the Gord Downie/Lake Ontario Waterkeeper Heart of a Lake show on September 18.

Waterkeeper announced this morning that Ladd has been added to Heart of a Lake's Whitby show. Ladd will join Waterkeeper Mark Mattson and Gord Downie of The Tragically Hip in this unique celebration of Lake Ontario.

"We are thrilled that Larry accepted our invitation," says Mattson. "The Heart of a Lake Tour brings together the people and the ideas that are making the lake's communities healthier places to live. Larry's long history in Durham and his unswerving commitment to the Oshawa Harbour make him the perfect ambassador for this community."

Larry Ladd is a retired autoworker who was born and raised in Oshawa. He helped to launch the Oshawa Marina Users Group in efforts to prevent the closure of the Oshawa marina. The marina was closed in 2002, but Ladd and the Group continue to work towards a clean, green waterfront.

Heart of a Lake blends activism with art in an effort to strengthen the bond between different communities around Lake Ontario. The Tour will be in Whitby on September 18 (Courthouse Theatre), Port Hope September 19 (Capitol Theatre), and Kingston September 21 (Sydenham St. United Church).

-30-

Port Hope native to speak at Gord Downie, Waterkeeper show

(Toronto, September 5 2006) - Sanford Haskill, long-time Port Hope resident and former councillor, will address the audience at the Gord Downie/Lake Ontario Waterkeeper Heart of a Lake show on September 19.

Waterkeeper announced this morning that Haskill has been added to Heart of a Lake's Port Hope show. Haskill will join Waterkeeper Mark Mattson and Gord Downie of The Tragically Hip in this unique celebration of Lake Ontario.

"We are thrilled that Sanford accepted our invitation," says Mattson. "The Heart of a Lake Tour brings together the people and the ideas that are making the lake's communities healthier places to live. Sanford's family has watched one stretch of this waterfront change over two centuries. His knowledge of the local environment and his contributions to different community causes make him the perfect ambassador for Port Hope."

Sanford Haskill was born and raised in Port Hope. His family has owned the same stretch of Lake Ontario shoreline since 1793. He has been active in environmental causes, sports and historical associations, and local politics.

Heart of a Lake blends activism with art in an effort to strengthen the bond between different communities around Lake Ontario. The Tour will be in Whitby on September 18 (Courthouse Theatre), Port Hope September 19 (Capitol Theatre), and Kingston September 21 (Sydenham St. United Church).

-30-

Loyalist environmentalist to speak at Gord Downie, Waterkeeper show

(Toronto, September 5 2006) – Martin Hauschild, president of the Loyalist Environmental Coalition, will address the audience at the Gord Downie/Lake Ontario Waterkeeper Heart of a Lake show on September 21.

Waterkeeper announced this morning that Hauschild has been added to Heart of a Lake's Whitby show. Hauschild will join Waterkeeper Mark Mattson and Gord Downie of The Tragically Hip in this unique celebration of Lake Ontario.

"We are thrilled," says Mattson. "The Heart of a Lake Tour brings together the people and the ideas that are making the lake's communities healthier places to live. Martin's understanding of water quality issues has made him a leader in the environmental movement in this area. He is the perfect ambassador for this community."

Martin Hauschild has more than two decades experience in the environmental field and a former Engineering Officer in the Canadian Army. Martin lives on Amherst Island.

Heart of a Lake blends activism with art in an effort to strengthen the bond between different communities around Lake Ontario. The Tour will be in Whitby on September 18 (Courthouse Theatre), Port Hope September 19 (Capitol Theatre), and Kingston September 21 (Sydenham St. United Church).

-30-

Heart Of A Lake Presenters

GORD DOWNIE: TRUSTEE FOR LAKE ONTARIO



Gord Downie has been involved with Lake Ontario Waterkeeper since its earliest days. His long-standing support for the movement prompted a tour across the country with the Tragically Hip (2004), a solo appearance at ideaCity05, a handful of fundraising events (mostly hockey auction prizes) and an awareness building event at the Grad Club in Kingston (2006). Gord is also an activist, working with Waterkeeper on a series of joint-

submissions to the Ministry of the Environment regarding Lafarge Canada Inc.'s plan to burn tires at their cement kiln in Bath, Ontario.

In the last year, Gord has emerged as a defining artistic force behind Lake Ontario Waterkeeper.

TANIS RIDEOUT: POET LAUREATE FOR LAKE ONTARIO



Tanis Rideout is a poet and writer living and working in Toronto. She was dubbed “Poet Laureate for Lake Ontario” in September, 2006.

Last fall she released her first full-length book of poetry *Delineation*, which was praised as a “tantalizing, harrowing read.” In the spring of 2005 Rideout joined Sarah Harmer to read her poetry on Harmer’s *I Love the Escarpment Tour* to draw attention to damage being done to

the Niagara Escarpment by ongoing quarrying.

Her poetry has appeared in numerous quarterlies and magazines and received a grant from the Toronto Arts Council. She has read across Canada and the United States, including appearances for the last two years at the Joe Burke Literary Festival on Wolfe Island. Tanis is currently working on a novel about Mt. Everest.

ANDREA NANN: DREAMWALKER DANCE COMPANY



Andrea Nann is a Toronto based contemporary dance choreographer, performer, teacher and artistic director of Dreamwalker Dance Company. Following her graduation from York University's Department of Fine Arts in 1988, she became a full-time member of the Danny Grossman Dance Company (DGDC) where she created, performed and taught major roles from the works of Mr. Grossman and guest choreographers, until 2003.

Ms. Nann's artistic vision is to create, perform and present eloquent honestly spoken work reflecting a humanistic, expressive, and intelligent world. She is concerned with issues of humanity and by the choices that people make in response or reaction to the events around them. As an independent choreographer, performer and producer Ms. Nann has collaborated with author/poet Michael Ondaatje, poet/musician Gordon Downie (The Tragically Hip), filmmakers Peter Mettler, Nick Depencier, Nicole Mion, Brian Johnson, Lisa Hayes and Veronica Tennant, and dance/literature choreographer Sarah Chase.

Lake Ontario Waterkeeper

Clean water depends on an empowered public. Too often, citizens are shut out of decision-making, cannot access important information, or cannot appeal to impartial judges. Lake Ontario Waterkeeper triggers or creates new forums for public participation. We train citizens to contribute. We collect, publish, and disseminate the vital information they need. At all times, we fight for just decisions.

WHO WE ARE

Lake Ontario Waterkeeper (LOW) is an environmental justice organization committed to advocating clean water and strong communities around Lake Ontario. We are working diligently to win back Lake Ontario – to restore our watershed’s natural assets and to ensure that every community has equal access to natural justice. We seek to foster a spirit of empowerment among the citizenry in order to strengthen a growing legacy of environmental stewardship throughout the Lake Ontario region.

The success of the Riverkeeper model, combined with our own success in the field, provides us with the inspiration to fight every day for clean water and strong communities. As members of the Waterkeeper Alliance, we join a collective of over one hundred and fifty water programs worldwide, all with the common goal to protect our rivers, lakes and oceans in order to maintain clean water and a community’s right to a healthy watershed.

Every day, we bear witness to the injuries inflicted on our water quality, our communities, and our local economies. Great losses occur each time Canadians and Americans turn their backs on our greatest fresh-water resources – these losses take the form of depleted fisheries, contaminated beaches, filthy urban rivers, and the chemical cocktails that lurk at the bottoms of our harbours.

While Lake Ontario is often considered irreparably polluted, as active members of the waterfront community, we know this is not true – there is hope. Lake Ontario Waterkeeper is proud to be part of a powerful commitment made by a community stretching from one end of the lake to the other – a commitment to reclaim the natural and civil heritage that will re-establish the Great Lakes System as the biological, economic, and cultural heart of our region.

WATERKEEPER'S OPERATING BUDGET

Our operating budget for 2006 is \$330,000.

MARK MATTSON: PRESIDENT & WATERKEEPER



In the last decade, Mark Mattson has emerged as one of Canada's most dedicated environmental lawyers. He left a career as a criminal defence attorney to pursue a practice focused on the environment. He has acted as counsel for environmental and public interest groups at some fifty hearings, as well as representing the public at both the Provincial and Federal level and has appeared on behalf of clients in front of the International Water Tribunal in Amsterdam.

Mr. Mattson currently serves as President and Waterkeeper with Lake Ontario Waterkeeper and the Canadian representative to Waterkeeper Alliance's Board of Directors. He is the supervising attorney with the Clean Water Workshop, a program dedicated to mentoring law students and providing legal tools to citizens fighting for clean water in their communities. Mr. Mattson is a skilled leader in defending Canadians' clean water rights using tools such as private prosecutions, Ontario's Environmental Bill of Rights, and federal and provincial environmental assessments. He participated in landmark hearings such as the Walkerton Inquiry and is credited with helping Ontario residents win some of the largest fines ever levied under Canada's Fisheries Act for landfill pollution. He has been a

guest lecturer on environmental law at numerous seminars and other forums, including the University of Toronto.

Mark is a graduate of the University of Windsor School of Law and received his BA from Queens University. He is a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada.

KRISTYN TULLY: VICE PRESIDENT



Krystyn graduated from Ryerson with a degree in Radio and Television Arts BAA in 2000. She entered the environmental justice movement as a researcher during the Walkerton Inquiry, where she met Mark Mattson, and became Lake Ontario Waterkeeper's first employee in 2001.

Krystyn is the editor of *Waterkeeper.ca Weekly* and administrator of LOW's Clean Water Workshop, a mentoring program that serves 20 law students each year. She is responsible for day-to-day management of the organisation, balancing administration with leadership of key projects such as the communications effort to draw attention to radioactive pollution in Port Granby, the creation of LOW's award winning web site, and an appeal to the Auditor General of Canada to save waterfront access for the residents of her home town of Oshawa.

Krystyn was promoted to Vice President of Lake Ontario Waterkeeper in 2005 and is currently working on a second Bachelor's degree in Public Administration and Governance. She is also the Lake Ontario Advisor to Great Lakes Aquatic Habitat Network & Fund.

The Issues

ENVIRONMENTAL TRENDS: THE ISSUES THAT WILL DEFINE OUR ERA

Durham Region, where Ontarians are being confronted by the limitations of suburbia. In Ajax/Pickering, sewage treatment plants can't keep up with population growth and beaches are closed more often than anywhere else in the province. In Oshawa, local interests have been challenging the federal government for control of their own harbour for years; as they negotiate, chain link fences bar access to the harbour and contaminants leak from an old landfill into the lake. This region is quite possibly the most disconnected from its waterfront of all the stops on the tour.

There are two processes in Durham that are key to the community's future. First, the Town of Ajax launched a sweeping investigation into its chronic beach closures after Lake Ontario Waterkeeper revealed it had one of the worst beach records on the lake. This investigation is likely to change the suburbs view development and sewage treatment infrastructure.

In Oshawa, the City is fighting the Oshawa Harbour Commission for control over the Harbour. In 2002, boaters were kicked out of the harbour and fences were built to keep the public at bay. Since then, the OHC has done nothing to clean up an old dumpsite in the harbour and is actively working with industry to turn the recreational area into a hub for a handful of shipping interests.

Issues: Will the City of Oshawa successfully negotiate control over the Oshawa Harbour away from the federal government? Will CN construct a new rail line to the harbour, against the wishes of the city and local residents? Will the Harbour Commission be granted full Port Authority status?

Goals: Use media and other awareness tools to bolster the argument in favour of city control in order to restore public access, the marina, and initiate soil clean-up and sustainable development. Participate in the environmental assessment of the CN rail line to make sure it is fair and environmentally sound. Educate the city about the potential challenges associated with Port Authorities and the *Canada Marine Act*.

Port Hope, the home of one of Canada's longest-running battles for environmental justice. Since the Manhattan Project, this community has been part of our nuclear industrial complex. Fuel for reactors is made and bundled here. Radioactive waste sites from fuel and weapons projects are scattered throughout the community - and are not scheduled for cleanup for a few more years. More than 100,000 cubic metres of radioactive waste still sit at the bottom of the Port Hope Harbour. This region is probably the most polluted, but at the same time most aware of the lake and its waterfront potential.

There are a number of processes in the Port Hope area that will define the community for generations to come. Cameco Corporation (makers of nuclear fuel) and Zircotec (makers of nuclear fuel bundles, now owned by Cameco) will undergo relicencing hearings this fall. The federal government is in the middle of a multi-million dollar cleanup of radioactive waste around town and the public is working hard to have a fair, thorough environmental assessment. What happens in these hearings will largely define the way Canadian communities are treated during nuclear-related decision-making processes for years to come.

Issues: Will Cameco be granted a new operating licence this fall? Will the federal government clean up the 6 radioactive waste sites scattered around the town in a way that is environmentally sound and transparent for the public?

Goals: Participate in the Cameco re-licencing hearing this fall. Comment on the clean up environmental assessment documents and push for a proper public hearing ("review panel"). Investigate non-compliance and explore legal options like private prosecutions, requests for investigation, etc.

Kingston, Waterkeeper's and Gord Downie's hometown. One of the oldest cities on the lake, Kingston has a host of infrastructure problems. It is the site of the battle that eventually spawned Waterkeeper (the Belle Park landfill). It is across the water from Wolfe Island, one of the communities that knows our organization and supports us most strongly. It is also the site of one of our biggest issues right now: ensuring government provides people with access to a fair decision-making process.

There are several processes underway in the Kingston area right now, including: an appeal to the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario to stop Kingston's sewage from polluting Lake Ontario; an application with Gord Downie to the MOE to reject Lafarge's application to burn alternative fuels; an application with Gord Downie to the MOE to order a Part V hearing into Lafarge's proposal to create an alternative fuels waste disposal facility onsite; an application with Gord Downie to the MOE to reject Lafarge's application for a Certificate of Approval to expand its cement kiln dust landfill, which leaks contaminants into the Bath Creek; and, a project with the Wolfe Island Wildlife Association to launch Lake Ontario's largest wetland rehabilitation project.

Issues: Will Kingston stop dumping untreated sewage into Lake Ontario, the St. Lawrence River? Will Lafarge either abandon its proposal to burn Alternative Fuels in Bath or subject its plan to peer review (air) and a hearing (waste)? Will Lafarge modernize its cement kiln dust landfill?

Goals: Stop Kingston's untreated sewage from polluting local waterways. Ensure Lafarge's air emissions are truly clean. Ensure Lafarge's landfill does not pollute the Bath Creek.