



**Written submission from the
Waterfront Regeneration Trust**

**Mémoire de
Waterfront Regeneration Trust**

In the Matter of the

À l'égard d'

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Ontario Power Generation Inc.

Applicability of the Darlington New Nuclear Project environmental assessment and plant parameter envelope to selected reactor technology

Applicabilité de l'évaluation environnementale et de l'enveloppe des paramètres de la centrale à la technologie de réacteur sélectionnée pour le projet de nouvelle centrale nucléaire de Darlington

Commission Public Hearing

Audience publique de la Commission

January 2024

Janvier 2024



Great Lakes Waterfront Trail

A Legacy Initiative of the Waterfront Regeneration Trust and its Partners

PROTECT
CONNECT
CELEBRATE

November 2, 2023

Mr. Denis Saumure
Commission Registrar
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
280 Slater Street, Ottawa, ON K1P 5S9

Dear Mr. Saumure,

Darlington SMR project and the re-integration of the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail

I am writing to you on behalf of the Waterfront Regeneration Trust, the organization responsible for leading the development of the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail. As we are aware of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's role in overseeing projects related to nuclear facilities, we wish to bring to your attention a matter of significant importance concerning integrating the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail within the Darlington SMR (Small Modular Reactor) project.

The Great Lakes Waterfront Trail is a remarkable initiative that emerged as one of the ground-breaking recommendations of the Royal Commission (both Federal and Provincial mandates) led by the Hon. David Crombie.

It is a key part of a broader strategy to regenerate the Great Lakes and redefine our relationship with these precious waters. It contributes to the Province's Great Lakes Strategy, is a foundational part of the province-wide cycle network and is a unique tourism attraction, particularly for cycle tourists.

Since its launch in 1995, it has evolved into an award-winning initiative shared among 170 partners and spans an impressive 3,600 km from Sault Ste. Marie to Quebec.

In 1995, a segment of this trail was thoughtfully integrated through Ontario Hydro's Darlington Nuclear Generating Station (DNGS), providing a dedicated 3.8 km off-road trail with access to the Information Centre. It was a project of the Municipality, OPG and OPG employees who volunteered time to construct the Trail. This innovative alignment showcased that major public utilities, such as DNGS, essential for providing critical public services, could also contribute positively to the community without compromising security. The DNGS received recognition and awards for its stewardship programs and its approach to public access in the past.

Due to construction, a section of the trail from Holt Road to the east was re-routed onto Energy Drive for 1.2 km. This adjustment has had implications for the off-road experience that the trail offers.

The Darlington SMR project presents an important opportunity for Ontario Power Generation (OPG) to re-integrate the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail as an off-road, dedicated trail facility that caters to walkers, cyclists, and people of all ages and abilities.

OPG's commitment to excellence and ecological stewardship should be reflected in trail's design. The alignment should be set in a corridor of greenspace; protecting or restoring natural habitats -- establishing ecological linkages and supporting the ecosystem's biodiversity. It should set a standard and be a source of community pride that inspires public engagement. We also encourage OPG to use this trail segment as a place where people can learn about OPG's stewardship programs and nuclear energy, which would serve as a valuable complement to the Information Centre.

By doing so, DNGS can significantly enhance the quality of experience on Clarington's section of the Trail, benefiting both residents and trail users from across the province and nation.

The Municipality has invested significantly in its 34 km waterfront. The payoff for this investment is a scenic route with long family-friendly (off-road) stretches. It is seen as a major tourist attraction and cherished resource for Clarington residents. Other improvements are coming.

The Municipality is undergoing a comprehensive update of its Waterfront Strategy to set out a new 30-year vision that will incorporate the special identities of its waterfront villages, incorporate sustainability and resilience, and deliver high-quality built forms and parks.

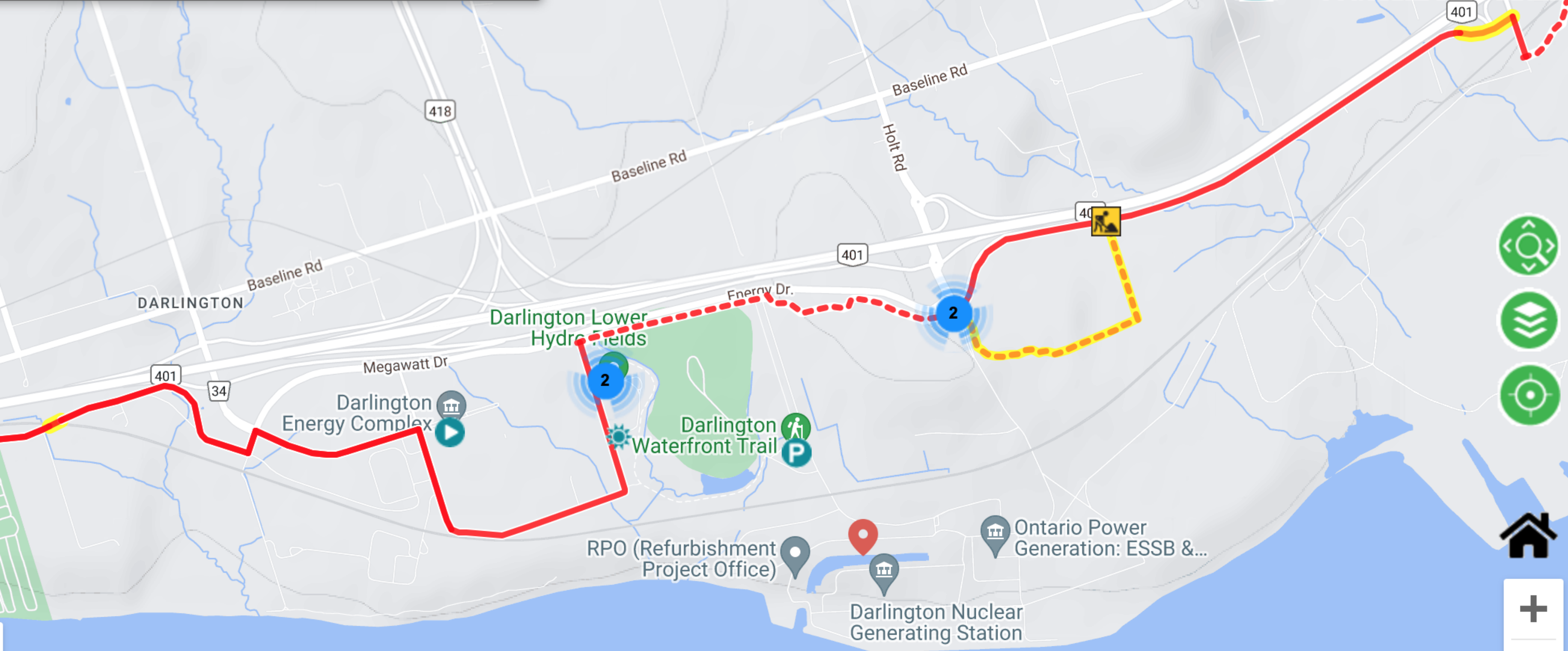
The Great Lakes Waterfront Trail is a legacy project that relies upon the leadership, commitment and vision of each of the communities and partners it connects. We urge OPG to use the Darlington SMR project as an opportunity to build upon the legacy it helped initiate back in 1995.

We appreciate your consideration of this matter and look forward to the continued collaboration between the Waterfront Regeneration Trust and OPG. Please feel free to contact us at mk@wrtrust.com for further discussion or information.

Sincerely,
Marlaine Koehler,
Executive Director, Waterfront Regeneration Trust
mk@wrtrust.com

cc: Municipality of Clarington
Regional Municipality of Durham
Jim Boate, Volunteer Waterfront Regeneration Trust

Attachments: Map showing the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail through DNGS
Press clippings from the launch of the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail.



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The Clarington Independent

Bowmanville, ON
Community Paper

18600

20 May 95

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SUITE 190, SCARBOROUGH M1L 4T5

Waterfront Trail Opens June 1st

On Thursday, June 1, the Clarington Waterfront Trail will be officially opened by the Commissioner of the Waterfront Regeneration Trust, David Crombie.

A schedule of events has been drawn up by the Waterfront Trail Tour Committee for Crombie and others who wish to join him. Events start at 9 o'clock sharp on Thursday morning.

A report to the General Purpose and Administration Committee states, Crombie, Mayor Diane Hamre and members of Council will meet for a walk through Darlington Provincial Park.

At 10:30 there will be a ribbon cutting at Darlington Generating Station to inaugurate that portion of the trail which passes through the nuclear plant property.

Crombie will be met at the western entrance of the Ontario Hydro property by Station Manager R. Strickart, students from Waverley Public School and Trail Volunteers.

At noon, there will be historical storytelling of the Port Darlington Area.

From Port Darlington, Crombie and his entourage will wind their way up the Bowmanville Creek Valley, then to the town hall for a barbeque and a presentation.

Afterwards, Crombie and Mayor Diane Hamre will be given a lift — literally — by a Bowmanville Zoo elephant to the zoo.

From there, they will be taken by horse and buggy to the Wilmot Creek area for an interpretive nature walk through the Wilmot Creek valley lands. The tour will then cycle from Wilmot Creek to Bond Head,

where this municipality's Waterfront Trail comes to an end.

A couple of other events happening in conjunction with the Crombie Tour is the barbeque hosted by the Clarington United Way Committee with activities for children. This will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Town Hall in Bowmanville. Clarington residents are welcome to attend.

The Durham Region's Public Works Department will host a public open house of the Bowmanville Water Supply Plant from 12:30 to 3 p.m.

The Waterfront Trail Tour Committee is made up of staff from the Planning and Development Department, Community Services and the Economic Development Office.

A budget allowing a maximum expenditure of \$1,500 for the day's events was recommended.

13 May 95

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Hitting the Waterfront Trail

CK 3942
by Laura J. Richards

From Hamilton to the Trent River, the Commissioner of the Waterfront Regeneration Trust continues his walk along the Waterfront Trail.

On June 1, David Crombie and his entourage will be in Clarington, walking and bicycling the trail in this municipality.

Frank Wu, Clarington's Director of Planning and Development, said, Crombie's day will start off bright and early at 9 o'clock on Thursday morning, June 1.

"He'll start in Darlington Provincial Park and proceed through," Wu said.

From there he will go to the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station fitness trail and across Ontario Hydro's property to the Holt Road access.

Wu said Crombie would then go to the Bowmanville Creek and head to the conservation area.

At 1 p.m. he is expected to be at the Clarington Town Hall in Bowmanville for a presentation and to participate in the municipal staff's United Way barbecue.

"There will be a lot of fun things to do," Wu said.

"There might be a clown and

balloons for the children," he hinted.

After Crombie is feted and fed, the plans are for the commissioner and Mayor Diane Hamre to get a free ride to the Bowmanville Zoo via an elephant.

"After the zoo, they will proceed to Wilmot Creek and cross over the new bridge to finish the walk to Bond Head parkette," the Planning Director said.

The Waterfront Trail is one of six components of the Lake Ontario Greenway Strategy, prepared by agencies and groups with a respon-

Turn to page two ✓

Waterfront Trail 3942 Launched June 1

from page one
sibility and/or interest in the waterfront, states information from the trust.

The strategy will ensure that the waterfront activities contribute to ecosystem health by protecting natural and cultural heritage, remedying problem areas and systems, and enhancing opportunities for recreation and economic activities.

The trail will link 160 natural areas, 126 parks and promenades, 67 marinas and yacht clubs, and hundreds of historic places in a continuous ribbon along this northern shore of Lake Ontario.

Projects are funded by a number of sources, including provincial and federal funds, service clubs and businesses and other groups.

The Waterfront Trail was originally planned to go from the Burlington Bay to Trenton, but has been expanded to include the Hamilton area.

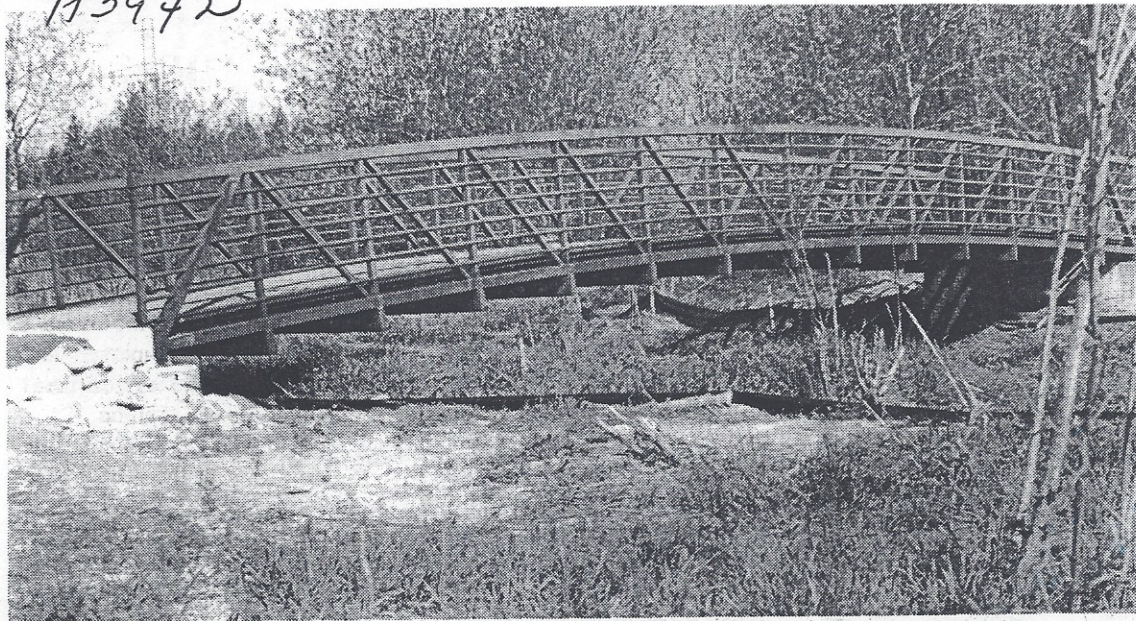
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Waterfront Trail in Clarington



The above notes the pedestrian/bike bridge over the Wilmot Creek south of the

As Thursday, June 1st nears so does the visit by Mr. David Crombie, Commissioner of the Waterfront Regeneration Trust, who will arrive in Clarington on the above date.

Mr. Crombie started out from Hamilton on May 13th and will complete his walk, cycling and canoeing in Trenton on June 11th.

Thursday, June 1st is set aside for his visit to Clarington which commencing in the western part of the municipality at 9 a.m. with a walk through the Darlington Provincial Park with a ribbon cutting at the Darlington Generating Station at 10:30 a.m.

The schedule is set for a Historical story of the Port Darlington area at 12 noon and a BBQ and presentation at the

railway tracks and 401 highway.

The area, is most pleasing, and can be reached off east from

Municipal Administrative Centre at 1 p.m.

An interpretative walk then takes Crombie and entourage down Cobble Dick Road west of Newcastle Village to catch the waterfront trails as it passes through the lands of the Wilmot Creek area.

It is in this area that a new pedestrian and bike bridge has been constructed to pass over the famous Wilmot Creek.

The walk then proceeds eastward ending up at the lakefront in Bond Head south of the Village of Newcastle.

The BBQ at noon is being hosted by the Clarington United Way Committee with proceeds going to the United Way.

Cobble Dick Road or west from Clark Street

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Waterfront Trail Now Open

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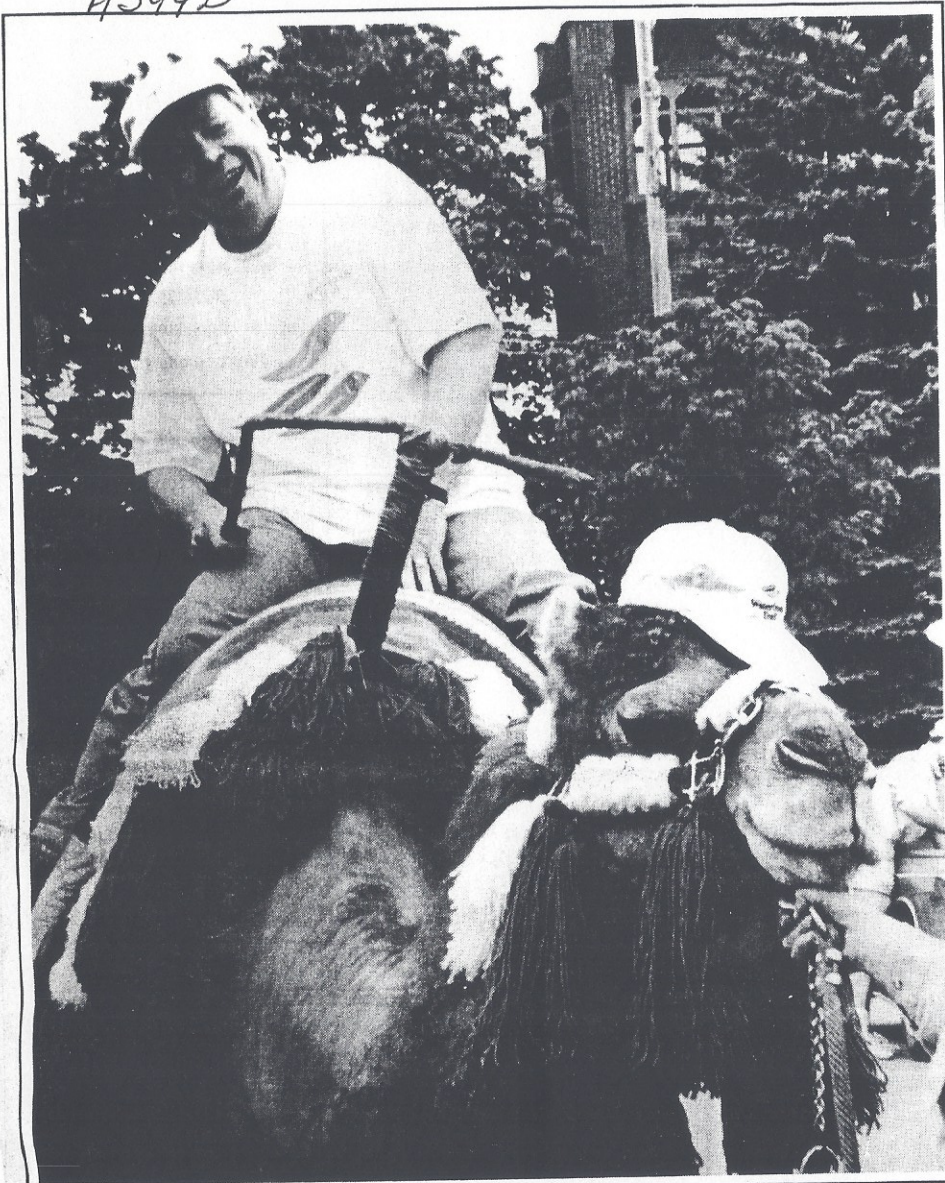


Councillor Dreslinski, Commissioner David Crombie, Mayor Diane Hamre, and Councillor/ Liberal Candidate Mary Novak all start the day for a leisurely walk along the new Waterfront Trail on Thursday. The Trail, which stretches from Hamilton to Trenton, has 17 kilometres in Clarington.

through is one of the most environmentally sensitive areas in southern Ontario, as well as being the most heavily populated. Over 875,000 people live within three kilometres of the waterfront from Burlington Bay to the Trent River, 4.5 million live within a half-hour drive, and 7.3 million within a two hour one. There have been human communities along the water's edge as long as the Lake Ontario waterfront has existed- some dating

back at least 11,000 years when the glaciers first receded. Thus, the area is also one of rich heritage, with over 577 identified archaeological sites, 540 designated historic buildings, and hundreds of cultural heritage landscapes. The existence of the Trail helps to ensure that these areas, both of environmental and historical importance, remain for everyone to enjoy.

"Lawrence of Arabia" Hits the Trail



David "Lawrence of Arabia" Crombie rides through Bowmanville on a camel to help kick off the opening of ^{Clarington's} portion of the Waterfront Trail. The camel was supplied courtesy of the Bowmanville Zoo.

The new Waterfront Trail opened this week in Clarington, with David Crombie, the Commissioner of the Waterfront Regeneration Trust on hand for the ceremonies. Mr. Crombie has been travelling the trail since May 13, officially opening it in participating communities along the way.

The Waterfront Trail links 160 natural areas, 126 parks and promenades, 69 marinas, hundreds of historic places, and dozens of fairs, museums, art galleries and festivals in its 325-kilometre length, running from Hamilton to Trenton. Clarington's portion of the trail spans 17-kilometres from Darlington Provincial Park to Bond Head.

The opening began at the Park, with Mr. Crombie and members of Clarington Town Council starting off along the trail. Darcy Baker, the Manager of Trails Implementation was also on hand to answer any questions.

Mr. Baker stressed that anyone wishing to use the Trail could do so. No permits are required to enter the Park as long as you are on foot or cycling. The trail through Darlington Park splits into two, with cyclists using the road and leaving the nature trails for pedestrians. This not only makes the Trail safer for both people on foot and on bikes, but by restricting cyclists to the road also helps to protect the sensitive natural setting of the nature walk.

At this point in the Trail's development, a large part of it still runs along roadsides. In Clarington for example, the Trail comes north along Bennett Road to Hwy. 2, over to Cobble Dick Road in Newcastle, before heading back down towards the lake. This is due in part to the Wilmot Creek community; negotiations are still underway as to where the Trail will run

through the community.

The Trail will be a vital link between communities, bringing people into contact with the water's edge throughout the year and offering lake access to those interested in recreational and sports activities—walking, biking, birding, boating and/or exploring the vast natural and cultural heritage of the region.

During the past three years, the Province of Ontario, local governments, the private sector, service clubs, community groups, and conservation authorities have worked with the Waterfront Regeneration Trust in creating the Trail. "Clarington has built a lot of new trails," said Mr. Baker. Ontario Hydro has constructed a portion of the Trail through the Darlington Nuclear Generating Station, using a wooded area and linking it with an existing fitness trail that was built to be used by the employees at the Station.

The alignment and placement of the Trail has been left up to local governments, as opposed to the Province arbitrarily placing the Trail where they felt it best. Maintenance for the Trail will also be left up to local governments. Mr. Baker said, "The good thing about trails is dollar for dollar, they are cheaper to build and maintain than arenas and ball parks...people want more family oriented, unprogrammed events."

"People have rediscovered the value and attractiveness of the water's edge, and have shown a willingness to remedy past neglect," said Mr. Crombie. "They know that the waterfront has the potential to help renew both our economy and our environment. We at the Trust, along with our partners, like to call this whole renewal process 'regeneration'."

The area that the Trail runs
Continued on page 7

Waterfront Trail opens

(Continued from page 1)

of the Toronto Waterfront (Crombie Commission), a Waterfront Trail was recommended. In June of 1992, the Ontario Legislature approved Bill 1, An Act to Establish the Waterfront Regeneration Trust with the Honourable David Crombie as Commissioner.

By Spring of 1995 the Trail will be substantially completed and provide links to 160 protected natural areas, 126 parks and promenades, 67 marinas and yacht clubs, hundreds of historic sites, fairs, museums, art galleries, festivals and join city to country along its 275 km. path.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Wu stated that it was appropriate that the ceremony be taking place where the trail crossed the area of the landing of the first settlers in Darlington on the day when Darlington Township's Bicentennial was being celebrated.

"It is an important milestone in the history of Darlington," Wu said.

Diane Hamre, Mayor of Clarington, welcomed the assembled to the "Coming together at the Waterfront Ceremony" on behalf of the Clarington Council, staff and the community.

"I'm proud of the co-operative effort of all the levels of government, the various agencies involved and the private and public sectors in the community who worked in a spirit of co-operation to make the project into reality," she said. "The Trail will be very beneficial to Clarington."

Gary Herrema, Chair, Region of Durham said that he welcomed the opportunity which the Waterfront Trail presented to preserve and enhance the area for future generations. "When I first heard of Mr. Crombie's dream for a Waterfront Trail, I considered it more of a nightmare. But, I read in the Good Book about David taking on Goliath, and, this is exactly what happened here. This dream is becoming reality. It is especially important that it happen in this Bicentennial year of Darlington Township."

Mr. Irv Harrell, Chair, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority, said the partnership theme generated by the Trail was a modern innovation which will be the way of the future. He also praised Mr. Crombie for his foresight and ability, without which the Trail would never have happened. "This," he said, "is a 'Just in Time Project' which will link communities across Southern Ontario."

Each of the speakers in turn remarked upon the productive co-operation between the many partners involved in the project; the Provincial Government, The Region of Durham, C.L.O.C.A., the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Planning and Development Departments, Public works Departments, Community Services Departments, Community Groups and Organizations, Corporations and concerned citizens who all pulled together in this unprecedented spirit of co-operation to ensure the project's success.

Gord Mills, M.P.P., Durham East presented cheques on behalf of the Provincial Government to both Mayor Hamre and Mr. Herrema. The Municipality of Clarington received \$259,938.

The Region of Durham received \$34,000. These amounts, together with the \$64,970 Clarington contributing and the \$54,000 the Region has slated for the Trail fulfilled the partnership pledge between them for the Trail funding. The total cost of the Clarington-Durham partnership project will be \$412,720. Ontario Hydro is participating as a partner and will construct a portion of the trail at the Darlington Generating Station. Private citizens have also granted public easements for the Trail.

The Federal Government was represented by the Honourable Alex Shepherd, M.P. who said that the project "was an excellent example of how co-operation and partnership can work together for a positive result."

The Honourable David Crombie, the "man with the dream" said "I simply mentioned a trail. It took a lot of people to make it happen."

It was a partnership. A lot of people had to come together to make this happen."