



NORM MILLER
MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT
PARRY SOUND-MUSKOKA

August 29, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in connection with the replacement of the Oxtongue Lake Narrows Bridge and Oxtongue River Bridge in the Township of Algonquin Highlands, County of Haliburton.

As a previous resort owner/operator I know the value of tourism to our region. I also understand the impact of interruptions in accessibility and service to the sustainability of a tourism operation.

The interruption in traffic brought on by the bridge replacements will be significant for operators. Resort operators rely on repeat business clientele and tourism marketing programs for bookings. A break in access to resorts along this route can have a significant and long-lasting impact and therefore some pre-emptive consideration for loss of business should be a consideration in the planning process.

It is my hope that the appropriate Ministries will give consideration to these factors and enact a policy that would help operators to survive highway improvement projects of the scope suggested in this case.

Sincerely,

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