



**July 29, 2008**

**To whom it may concern:**

This letter is in reference to the replacement of the Oxtongue Lake Narrows Bridge (GWP 93-89-00) and the Oxtongue River Bridge (GWP 5550-04-00) in the Township of Algonquin Highlands in the County of Halliburton a key tourism artery which poses great challenge to many tourism establishments.

As a trade association representing the resort sector of Ontario's tourism industry, we wish to bring to your attention how vital tourism is in and around Ontario especially the Muskoka/Algonquin regions. Accessibility to resort and other tourism businesses is absolutely essential for the travelling public. There is certain to be a significant loss of business to the establishments located in the region, sure to result in devastating economic impacts, access challenges and unacceptable forms of pollution, ie. Noise, dust etc.

We do recognize that construction is important but a plan has to be considered in advance of any decisions in order to mitigate the serious impacts which can befall these businesses and agreed to by all parties. We urge you to hold a special meeting for all parties who will be impacted by these plans to ensure that tourism and various businesses are not severely hampered. We also strongly suggest that the plan must meet with the agreement of all key stakeholders. We trust that the plight of all these stakeholders will be taken in serious consideration. Ontario's tourism industry has been impacted by many impacts including the economic downturn.

Resorts of Ontario is a provincial Association formed in 1942 for the purpose of serving and representing the interests of the resort industry.

**Yours sincerely,**

*Grace*

**Grace Sammut  
Managing Director  
Resorts of Ontario**

**GS/mkd**

RESORTS OF ONTARIO, 29 Albert St. N., Orillia ON L3V 5J9  
705.325.9115 Fax 705.325.7999 1.800.363.7227  
[www.resortsofontario.com](http://www.resortsofontario.com) [grace@resortsofontario.com](mailto:grace@resortsofontario.com)