

News Release

Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan

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For immediate release

Another water quality challenge restored

The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan (BQRAP) Restoration Council is pleased to announce that another water quality challenge, identified for the Bay of Quinte, has received official confirmation from the federal and provincial governments of a status change to restored. The challenge is: Beach closings

The BQRAP assessed four area beaches: Centennial Park at Deseronto, Kingsford Mills on the Salmon River, Frankford Park on the Trent River, and Centennial Park at Northport. These beaches are meeting or exceeding the criteria outlined in the BQRAP regarding beach postings and contaminant sources. This means 6 of an original eleven water quality challenges have been deemed restored. After all eleven water quality challenges have been formally declared restored the Bay of Quinte can be removed from the Great Lakes Areas of Concern list.

“Today, the Bay of Quinte is a healthy and vibrant ecosystem, well-known for the recreational opportunities it offers both residents and tourists. Reaching another milestone in rehabilitating the Bay, is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our federal, provincial, and municipal partners, as well as, industry, agriculture, the public and local conservation authorities,” says Brad McNevin, CAO of Quinte Conservation and Co-chair of the BQRAP Restoration Council.

“These are exciting times for the Bay of Quinte Restoration Council. After several decades of rehabilitating the Bay we are starting to change the status of a number of the water quality challenges. Now, it is important to ensure strategies are in place, so the Bay doesn’t backslide to conditions that required a remedial action plan in the first place,” says Glenda Rodgers, CAO of Lower Trent Conservation and Co-chair of the BQRAP Restoration Council.

So what does all this mean? The Bay is a huge economic driver for the area and the source of drinking water for thousands of area residents. As the RAP starts to wind down, the process of ensuring water quality does not backslide will need to take on a more local focus.

Everyone has a role to play in maintaining the Bay’s water quality. Whether it’s implementing stewardship projects to improve water quality, advocating for water quality issues, volunteering as a citizen scientist, or talking to your local politicians and municipalities about actions to keep the Bay a healthy and vibrant ecosystem. Maintaining water quality is everyone’s responsibility.

The final reports and supporting information can be found on the BQRAP web site – www.bqrap.ca

The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan is in partnership locally with Lower Trent Conservation and Quinte Conservation

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