

The Eganville Leader

116th Year - No. 18

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

Eganville, Ontario

(81 90 plus 10 cents GST) \$2



Ottawa River designation

A 15-year process begun by the late Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MP Len Hopkins to designate the Ottawa River as a Heritage River was finalized last Thursday with the unveiling of a large monument. On hand for the ceremony were, from left, Ray Bonenberg, director Renfrew County Community Features Development Corporation; Councillor Wendy Jocho and Chief Kirby Whiteduck, Pikwakanagan First Nation and Algonquin Negotiation Representatives for Algonquins of Ontario (AOO); Jennifer Fay, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry; Larry Graham, chair Ottawa River Designation Committee; Lois and Doug Hopkins, Renfrew County Warden Jennifer Murphy, Petawawa Mayor Bob Sweet, Louise Bissonnette, Projects Officer Economic Development and Tourism for Prescott and Russell; Connie Millek, Algonquin Negotiation Representative for AOO, and Norma Shields, Manager Heritage Designation Parks Canada.

The Ottawa is officially designated a Heritage River

By Terry Flurie
Staff Writer

Petawawa — A 15-year campaign to see one of Renfrew County's most beautiful natural resources receive its rightful designation was celebrated last Wednesday at an unveiling ceremony at Petawawa Point.

Representatives from all levels of government and various Indigenous

termination, passion and hard work, I have to tell you, we would not be here today."

He said as Mr. Hopkins looks down from above, he would be extremely proud of what was occurring.

Mayor Sweet once again stated

he felt the document Mr. Hopkins produced to support the designation should be mandatory reading in every high school in the county as resource material, if not provincially and nationally.

"It's an outstanding document in all

official languages," he said.

Mayor Sweet acknowledged the process encountered some "little bumps" along the way, noting anything good takes time and now it was time to celebrate the designation.

He acknowledged the efforts of

Larry Graham, chair of the Ottawa River Heritage Designation Committee, who "picked up the torch" when Mr. Hopkins passed away in 2007 and carried the project through to the river's designation last year.

Algonquins Had Early Concerns
Pikwakanagan Chief Kirby White-duck, the Algonquin

ensure their long-term management to conserve their natural, historical and recreational values for the benefit of Canadians now and in the future.

River Must Be Experienced

Mr. Graham, chair of the Ottawa River Heritage Designation Committee said the designation will allow communities of all sizes to