

Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park

**Cultural/Historical
Resources Integrity
Subcommittee**



Terms of Reference

August 2005

Purpose of the Cultural/Historical Resources Integrity Subcommittee:

The purpose of the subcommittee is to ensure that additional information is obtained on the cultural/historical resources of the KHSSP and that it is assembled so it can be used in management planning, and subsequently in park management, public education and interpretation.

Background:

The Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park (KHSSP) is an area with many natural values and the primary purpose of this natural environment class park is the protection of its ecological integrity. However, the KHSSP is largely a cultural landscape, having been used and modified by people for many purposes, especially in the last 200 years. It has been used for hunting, trapping, fishing, logging, mining, farming, cottaging, outdoor recreation, water control, education, research and other purposes. These uses have had impacts and left artifacts that are more or less visible and have various degrees of historic and heritage value. Examples include: old cabins, old cottages, logging camp remains, dams and mine sites. There is also a legacy of intangible heritage features and values, such as sacred places, names, stories and legends. Finally, there are various archival resources, such as old documents, government reports, maps, air photos, diaries, historic photos, paintings, etc., relating to the heritage of the KHSSP.

These cultural/historical resources need to be identified, investigated, mapped and evaluated so they can appropriately managed to ensure protection of their integrity. Ontario Parks is currently preparing "Cultural Heritage Guidelines" under the Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves. These guidelines will be used to assist this process.

Some work has been done to record the history and heritage features of the area but much more remains to be done in a systematic way, focused on the park area and involving KHSSP staff, Ontario Parks staff involved in the cultural resources guidelines, the Management Advisory Board (MAB), local residents, historical groups, park visitors, universities and colleges.

Objectives and Actions of the Subcommittee:

1. Compile a list of existing printed information on the heritage of the KHSSP.
2. Develop systems for recording and storing information on the heritage of the KHSSP.
3. Identify new sources of information on the heritage of the KHSSP.
4. Identify research needed to improve information on heritage resources in the KHSSP, their protection, management and interpretation.
5. Review any draft guidelines for managing heritage resources for KHSSP.

Authority:

The Cultural/Historical Resources Integrity Subcommittee has been created by the KHSSP MAB and will ensure that its activities and processes are governed by the same understandings under which the MAB functions. The subcommittee will ensure that its recommendations include information received through the direct public involvement of citizen experts, pertinent and current historical knowledge and any other available information that will aid in the creation of

sound recommendations. The subcommittee will follow direction highlighted in the following documents:

- Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Charter
- *Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park Act*
- Ontario Parks Operations, Policies and procedures
- *Provincial Parks Act*
- Management Advisory Board Code of Conduct

Time Lines:

This subcommittee has been established to construct the framework under which the protection, preservation, and restoration of cultural resource integrity will support management planning and the administration of the park. While it is understood that specific recommendations may be sought by the Board prior to its deliberations on management planning, the work of this subcommittee will continue indefinitely.

Reporting/Approval Requirements:

The committees' process authority will reside with the Management Advisory Board. For issues requiring policy approval recommendations, the approval authority will reside with Ontario Parks. Approval of the subcommittees' recommendations will reside with the Management Advisory Board.

Communications:

Any external communications planned by this subcommittee must be approved by the Board before release. Regular updates will be provided to the Management Advisory Board by the subcommittee.

Committee Membership:

This subcommittee will be comprised of members of the Board, specific employees of Ontario Parks (OP) and the MNR and various volunteers who have both a special interest in the protection of cultural heritage integrity in the park and particular expertise useful to the fulfillment of the subcommittee's mandate. By encouraging the participation of citizens on the Cultural/Historical Resources Integrity Subcommittee, we will not only tap into levels of expertise additional to those of paid personnel, we will also achieve a very high level of direct public involvement in planning and an exposure to various viewpoints.

This subcommittee will be co-chaired by the MNR/OP and a member of MAB.

Subcommittee members will be reimbursed for mileage and out-of-pocket expenses, at rates consistent with MNR policies, while serving on the subcommittee. Meeting times and venues will be selected to minimize these expenses.