



## PROGRAMME

### INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON FRESHWATER MANAGEMENT IN THE GREAT LAKES–ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BASIN

ORGANIZED BY  
THE *COMITÉ DE CONCERTATION ET DE VALORISATION DU BASSIN DE LA  
RIVIÈRE RICHELIEU* (COVABAR)

September 13 – 15, 2007  
SOREL-TRACY, QUEBEC

• **Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**

- 10:30 a.m.** The 4<sup>th</sup> annual COVABAR golf tournament.  
Organization being handled by the COVABAR golf committee.  
Group departure at around 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon, following a brunch
- 6:00 p.m.** **SYMPOSIUM OPENING**  
Registration
- 6:30 p.m.** Opening cocktail party
- 7:00 p.m.** Inaugural speech on the symposium's theme by Quebec Environment Minister Line Beauchamp  
Symposium facilitator: Normand Cazalais, geographer, COVABAR ambassador
- 7:30 p.m.** Dinner  
Annual COVABAR *Mérites* awards  
Event animator: comedian Pierre Légaré

• **Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00 a.m.** Registration  
Juice, coffee, muffins, apples
- 8:30 a.m.** Welcoming address: Hubert Chamberland, COVABAR President, and Marcel Robert, Mayor of Sorel-Tracy and the symposium's Honorary President
- 8:45-9:00 a.m.** "Significant Geohistorical Features of the Saint Lawrence River Basin" - Christian Morissonneau, historian and geographer, *Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières*
- 9:00-10:30 a.m.** Panel discussion on the major issues relating to Great Lakes–St. Lawrence River basin freshwater management:
- "Water management in Quebec": Yvon Maranda, Integrated Water Management Department Head, *ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs du Québec*;
  - International management of the Great Lakes–St. Lawrence basin: Tom McAuley, engineering consultant, International Joint Commission (IJC) for Canada-US boundary waters;
  - 
  - "Waterways, water bodies, and land-use planning": Jean Décarie, urban planner.

- "Citizen involvement in water management, and the challenge of moving from consensus to concrete action": Christian Simard, General Manager, Nature Québec/Union québécoise pour la conservation de la nature (UQCN)

**10:30-10:45 a.m.:** Break

**10:45 a.m.-12:10 p.m.:** Global approaches to watershed-based water management:

- The Quebec basin network: Jean Landry, President of the *Réseau des organismes de bassin du Québec* (ROBVO);
- The Ontario basin network: Don Pearson, General Manager, Conservation Ontario;
- Electricity producers' concerns regarding St. Lawrence River management: Sylvain Robert, hydraulic engineer, Hydro-Québec;

**12:10-12:15 p.m.:** Mini-conference – "Local solidarity, leading out onto international citizen solidarity": Raymond Jost, Director, International Water Secretariat

**12:15-12:30 p.m.** Announcement of the Charente-Richelieu twinning project by Rémy Filali, Charente Basin Managing Director and Hubert Chamberland, President of COVABAR; launch of the joint Internet site

**12:30-2:00 p.m.:** Lunch

**2:00-3:30 p.m.** Elements of integrated water management action plans from various basins:

- Lake Champlain Basin: Bill Howland, General Manager, Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP);
- The Charente Basin (France): Rémy Filali, General Manager, *Institution interdépartementale pour l'aménagement du fleuve Charente* (EPTB Charente);
- The Rideau Valley (Ontario): Charles Billington, Community Relations Director, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority.

**3:30-3:45 p.m.** Break

- 3:45-4:15 p.m.** Presentation of "A Programme to Enhance Waterway Biodiversity in an Agricultural Environment": Marlène Thiboutot, *Union des producteurs agricoles du Québec* (UPA) and Claude Grondin, *Fondation de la Faune du Québec* (FFQ).
- 4:15-5:45 p.m.** The International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO): Presentation by Jean-François Donzier, Permanent INBO Technical Secretary  
Deliberation and discussion on the creation of the North American Network of Basin Organizations (NANBO)
- 7:00 p.m.** Dinner

• **Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00 a.m.** Registration  
Juice, coffee, muffins, apples
- 8:45 a.m.** Introduction: Arthur Fauteux, President of the *Conférence des élus de la Montérégie de l'Est*
- 9:00-9:30 a.m.** Conference: Gérard Beaudet, Director, University of Montreal Urban Planning Institute
- 9:30-10:00 a.m.** Global approaches to watershed-based water management (*continued*):
- Brazil's water policy: Raymundo Garrido, former President of the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO).
- 10:00-10:30 a.m.** Elements of integrated water management action plans from various basins (*continued*):
- The Lot Valley (France): Christian Bernad, President, *Association pour l'aménagement de la vallée du Lot*.
- 10:30-10:45 a.m.** Break
- 10:45-12:15 p.m.** Specific local and regional issues:

- "Wetlands conservation, from thinking locally to acting globally": Pierre Dulude, Team Leader, Habitat Conservation Program Development, Ducks Unlimited Canada;
- "A warning on invasive exotic plants in wetlands": H  l  ne Godmaire, Saint-Lawrence–Great Lakes Union Quebec Section Manager;
- Youth education: Chantal d'Auteuil, General Manager, Baie Missisquoi Watershed Basin Corporation.

**12:15-12:30 p.m.** Announcement, by Jean-Fran  ois Donzier, Secretary-General of INBO and Hubert Chamberland, President of COVABAR, initiating the process of creating a North-American network of basin organizations

**12:30-2:00 p.m.** Lunch

**2:00-3:15 p.m.** Panel discussion on the principles of integrated basin-based water management

Session moderated by Jacques Ruelland, President of the *Regroupement national des conseils r  gionaux de l'environnement du Qu  bec* (RNCREQ):

- Review of the issues discussed during the symposium;
- Relationship between integrated watershed management and implementation of a water policy;
- Guiding principles of integrated watershed management: polluter-payer, user-payer, user-fees system, basin contracts etc.

Panelists:

- G  rard Beaudet, Director, University of Montreal Urban Planning Institute;
- Jean Landry, President of the *R  seau des organismes de bassin du Qu  bec* (ROBVQ);
- Don Pearson, General Manager, Conservation Ontario;
- Sylvie Trudel, "From one river to another" project leader, Saint-Lawrence, Great Lakes Union.

**3:15-3:30 p.m.** Break

**3:30-4:15 p.m.** Resolutions and conclusion

**4:15 p.m.** Closing address: Hubert Chamberland, President of COVABAR

**4:30 p.m.** End of the symposium