



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Two Locals Named to Lead Efforts to Clean Up St. Clair River



**SARNIA, Tuesday 09/29/2009** --- Mrs. Kris Lee of Sombra, Ontario and Mr. Terry Burrell of Sarnia were elected as Canadian Chair and Canadian Vice-Chair respectively, for the St. Clair River Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC) at their September 24, 2009 meeting held in Sarnia.

Mrs. Lee, who thanked the previous Canadian Co-Chair Mr. Bela Trebics for his many years of service to BPAC, said she was excited by the appointment and delighted that Mr. Burrell had accepted the nomination of Co-Vice Chair.

"Terry's experience on Sarnia City Council and knowledge of the community will be very useful for the St. Clair BPAC," she said. "Both provincial and federal government agencies are committed to the clean up effort and this is an exciting time for everyone working to restore the river."

Mrs. Lee has served on the BPAC since its inception in 1988 and works extensively with several local environmental non-government organizations and industry association advisory panels.

Terry Burrell is a municipal representative to the BPAC. He said that he looks forward to the challenges ahead as the BPAC is beginning to make measurable progress on several issues impacting the quality of the river including sediment contamination, impairments to fish populations and river aesthetics.

"We are making progress and it is vital the community support our efforts and continue to press all levels of government to provide financial and technical resources to continue remediation work," he said. BPAC was formed in 1988 to provide public input on programs to improve the quality of the St. Clair River watershed on both U.S. and Canadian sides. Reporting directly to the International Joint Commission (IJC), BPAC's mandate is to address the beneficial use impairments (BUI's) identified by the IJC such as beach closings, loss of wildlife habitat and restrictions on fish consumption. The BPAC provides advice to government officials, creates public awareness regarding the magnitude of the concerns, and recommends actions for remediation.

For more information on the status of delisting for the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC), please visit the Friends of the St. Clair River web site: [www.friendsofstclair.ca](http://www.friendsofstclair.ca)

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