



NIAGARA FALLS NATURE CLUB

P.O. BOX 901, NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO, L2E 6V8.

March 9, 2020

Jocelyn Baker, Canadian Chair
Niagara River Ramsar Binational Steering Committee

Re: Ramsar Designation for Canada

Members of the Niagara Falls Nature Club support the designation of the Niagara River as a Ramsar Wetland of Importance.

The US has designated their side of the river and now it is time for Canada to do the same. The river and surrounding areas have undergone extensive efforts to clean up and restore areas where toxic chemicals were dumped and water quality was degraded and shorelines were stripped of vegetated buffers. This designation will help to ensure that improvements of the Niagara River and surrounding greenspaces, so important for quality of life and health of humans and wildlife, will continue under treaty.

The Ramsar designation will bring economic benefits to communities on both sides of the river. Eco-tourism is growing and this designation can help publicize all the wonderful sites for birding and for enjoying the beauty of nature.

As members of a nature club, we applaud the efforts that have been made to protect and enhance the biodiversity on both sides of the river and we know that this bi-national designation will be beneficial for the Niagara River and for all who visit and reside here.

Sincerely,

Joyce Sankey, Conservation Director
Niagara Falls Nature Club

C: Sandie Bellows, Chair, Niagara Parks Board of Commissioners
David Adames, CEO, Niagara Parks
Wayne Gates, MPP