

# Communities as Environmental Stewards

*Through the lens of the  
Naturalized Knowledge  
System*

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# Overview of presentation

- ◆ Opening
- ◆ Naturalized Knowledge System
- ◆ Decima Study
- ◆ Case studies
  - ◆ St.Lawrence River Waterfront at Prescott
  - ◆ Eastern Ontario Model Forest/Natural resources Canada
  - ◆ St.Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Studies
  - ◆ IJC Study of Lake Ontario/St.Lawrence River
  - ◆ Thousand Islands/Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve
- ◆ Closing

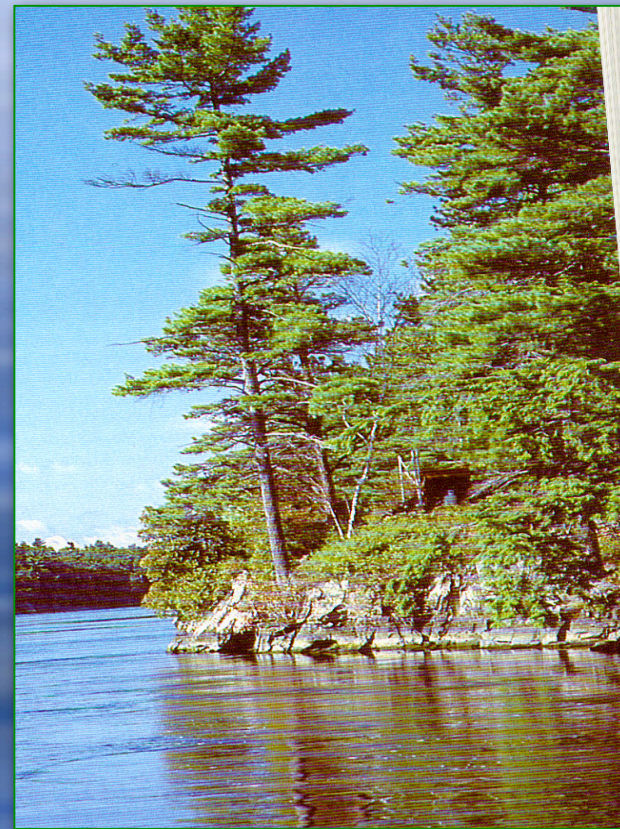
# Naturalized Knowledge System

- ◆ The spiritual is close to the earth
- ◆ The earth is our mother
- ◆ Responsibility is the best practice
- ◆ Knowledge is Powerful but only when it is shared
- ◆ Everything is connected to everything
- ◆ Co-operation is the way to survive

Henry Lickers 1994

# The Earth is our Mother

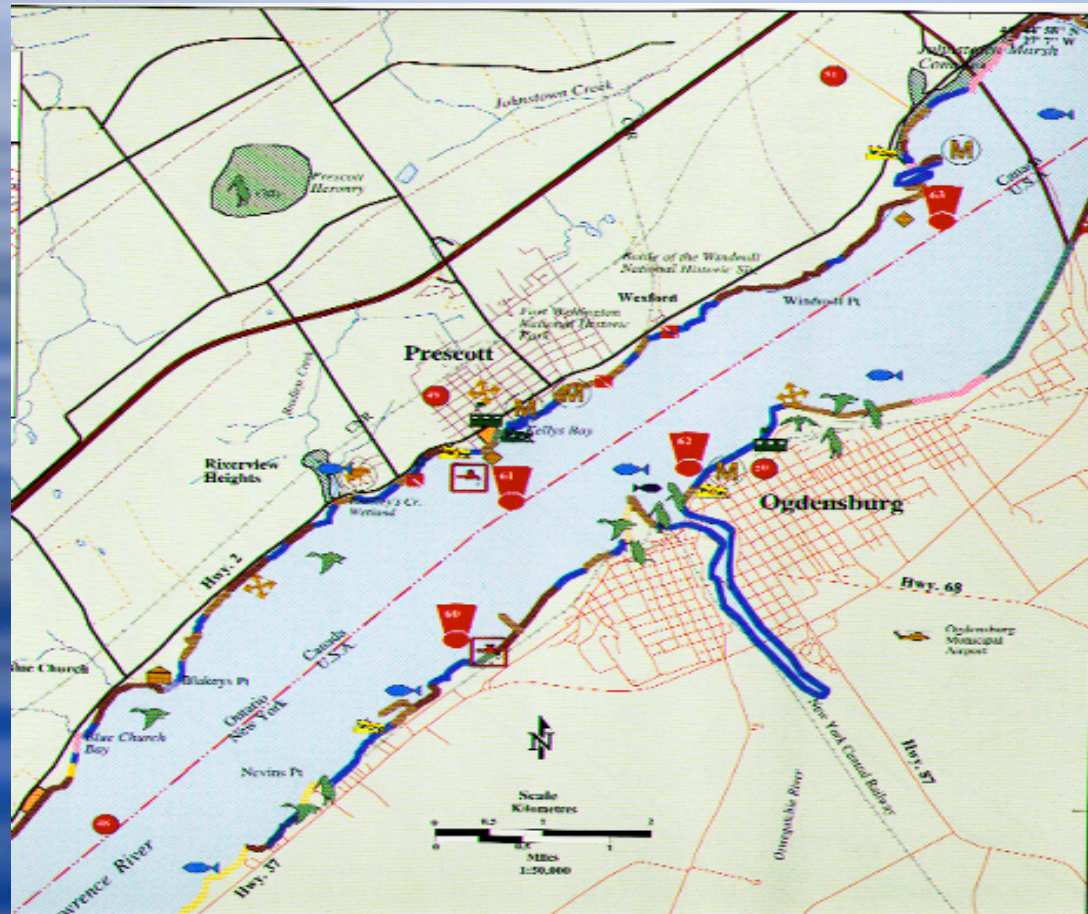
- ◆ Great Lakes-St,  
Lawrence Forest Region
  - ◆ Sugar maple
  - ◆ American beech,
  - ◆ Basswood
  - ◆ Yellow Ash
  - ◆ Yellow Birch
  - ◆ Eastern Hemlock
  - ◆ Eastern white pine
  - ◆ Red, white, and Bur Oak
  - ◆ Balsam Poplar, Fir



# Early communities

- ◆ 2000 years and more ago
- ◆ The Haudenasaunee and the St. Lawrence
- ◆ The Europeans
- ◆ The Loyalists
- ◆ The Seaway
- ◆ People!! Exotics!!

183 years later.....



# The legacy - in 1971

- ◆ Landuse practices
- ◆ Industry
- ◆ Fill - new land/old waters
- ◆ Railway
- ◆ Dumping ground
- ◆ Industry
- ◆ Bulk storage



30 years ago...



# The challenges

- ◆ Intensity of long time use
- ◆ Tradition/attitude
- ◆ Fragmented jurisdictions
- ◆ Official plan/zoning by-laws
- ◆ Little equity
  - ◆ Human resources
  - ◆ Political influence
  - ◆ Knowledge
  - ◆ Financial resources

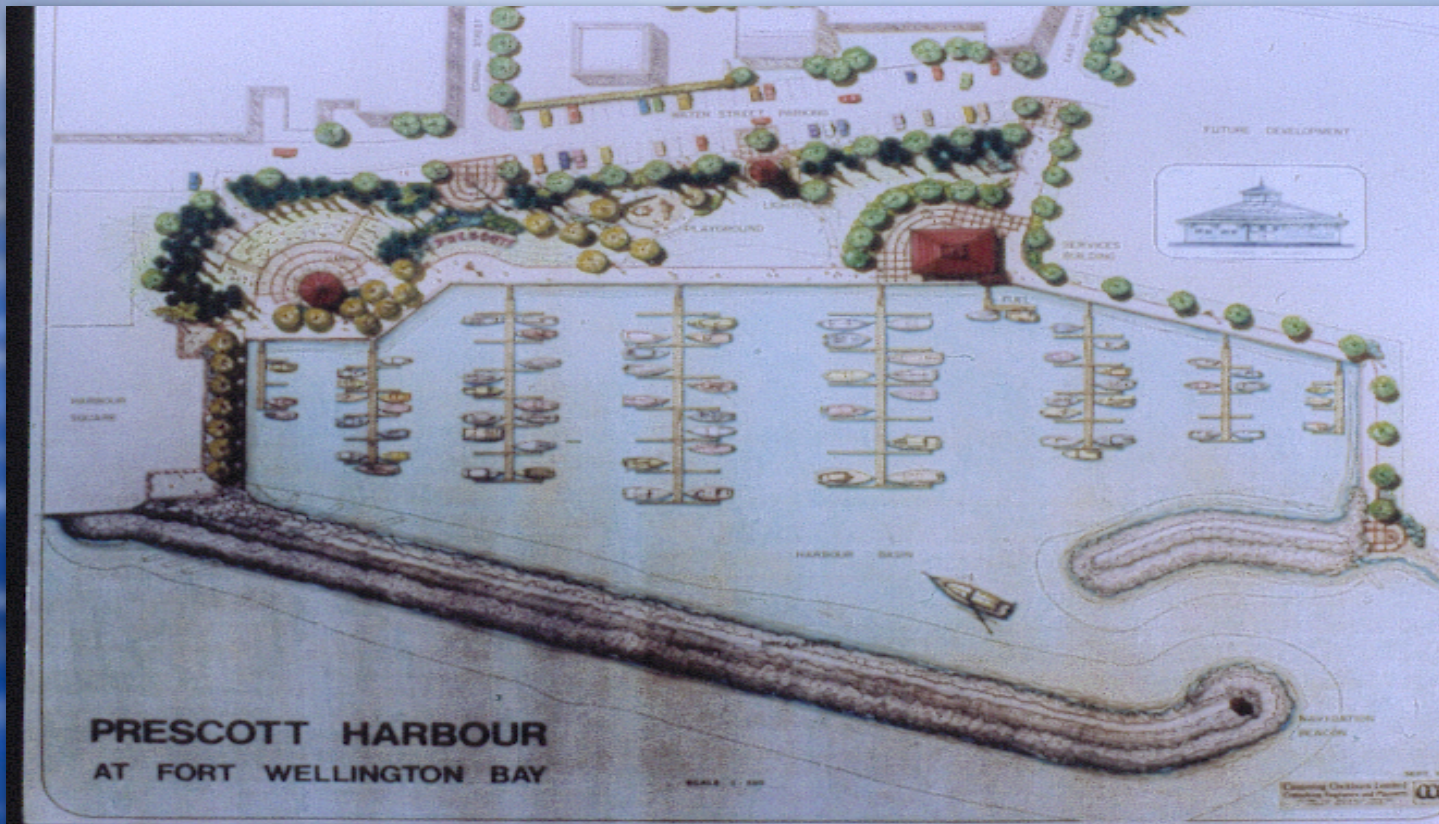


# The community's response -

- ◆ Organization HOPE
  - ◆ Vision
  - ◆ Youth
  - ◆ Determination
  - ◆ Dedication
- ◆ Community self study
- ◆ Town Hall meetings
- ◆ Environmental Option



# Community vision



A long way to go...



# Dredgate delay - no contaminants found



# Midway.....After



# Before.....After



# Before.....After



# Co-operation is the way to survive

- ◆ Overcoming Fragmentation
- ◆ Better Decision making
- ◆ Well functioning of community
- ◆ Facing Demographic and economic realities
- ◆ Building on partnerships
  - ◆ Gov'ts
  - ◆ Business
  - ◆ Local government
  - ◆ Community volunteers



