

**For immediate release**

## **2013 Power of Water Canada Conference and Tradeshow a Huge Success**

*National Event Continues to Grow*

**(October 25, 2013 – Toronto)** More than 375 representatives from industry, non-government organizations, government and First Nations from across North America and beyond made the 2013 Power of Water Conference the biggest and best yet. The three-day event is the largest gathering of the hydroelectric sector in Canada.

Key themes of this year's conference included social licence and sustainable development, Aboriginal capacity building and partnerships and emergent financial and environmental considerations. Technical sessions ranged from new risk assessment tools to advancements in geomatics. The event also featured a trade show showcasing leading edge products and services from several suppliers.

"This year's conference was outstanding," said Paul Norris, President of the Ontario Waterpower Association, "In today's evolving policy environment it's increasingly important for the industry – large and small – to come together with key partners and regulators to advance our shared objectives."

The event's keynote speakers each expressed confidence in an increased role for waterpower in Ontario's electricity supply mix going forward.

The Honourable Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Energy, encouraged the industry to more actively tell waterpower's good news story.



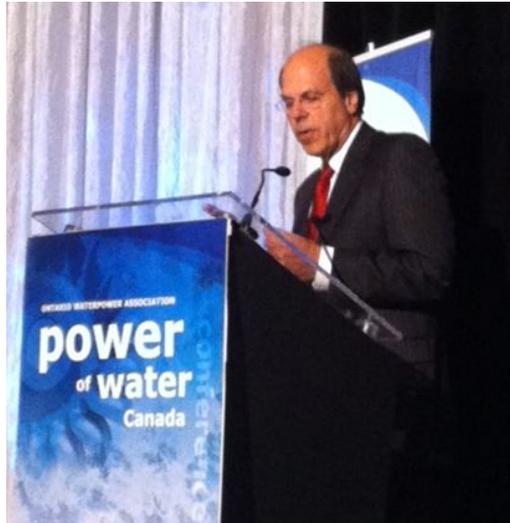
Minister of Energy, Bob Chiarelli

"Get out there and remind Ontario about the proud history of hydroelectric generation here in our province," he said "and perhaps just as important, tell Ontarians about the great future potential of hydroelectric generation – Ontario's original source of clean, reliable, affordable and emissions free electricity source."

The value of partnerships was also a key theme: "The Ministry of Natural Resources is working hard to ensure the sustainable use of Crown land for renewable energy, including waterpower projects," said

Natural Resources Minister David Oraziotti. “We are pleased to cooperate with partners like the Ontario Waterpower Association in that vital effort as we phase out coal-fired generation, seek to mitigate climate change and create green jobs.”

Increasing waterpower’s flexibility to support system reliability was a core message from Bruce Campbell, CEO and President of the Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO).



**Bruce Campbell, President, CEO, of the IESO**

“Storage can provide a broad range of services to the system – from balancing out the variability of wind to relieving transmission congestion. Hydro and storage are almost synonymous...and certainly something we see as a natural pairing,” said Campbell.

On the evening of October 21<sup>st</sup>, the OWA hosted its annual awards ceremony, recognizing the contribution of industry leaders. Karen McGhee, President of MKE, received the R.R. Dodokin Award for her outstanding contribution in advancing waterpower in Ontario.



**Karen McGhee, R.R. Dodokin Award recipient**

Describing McGhee as one of the hardest working members of the waterpower community, OWA Board Director Paul Young said “Anyone who knows Karen will know she is the opposite of a quitter, and through her tenacity she is able to make projects work that to others would seem impossible.”

Hatch was presented with the OWA's Innovation for the development of a Risk Assessment Tool in partnership with OPG and MNR. This award recognizes those organizations that have shown leadership in innovation through the development of important advancements which will result in benefits to the waterpower industry.



**Hatch recipient of the 2013 Innovation Award**

Finally, Bracebridge Generation was recognized for their leadership in environmental sustainability with the Stewardship award.



**Bracebridge Generation wins Stewardship Award**

CEO Chris Litschko said, "I am humbled and incredibly proud to accept this on behalf of our Company, Directors, Shareholders and the many parties who have assisted us in growing our green electricity generation. This award has to be shared equally with our communities who provided advice and volunteered on committees to ensure our plants fit in well with Muskoka's rich history of generating green electricity".

Next year's 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Power of Water Conference will be held again at the White Oaks Conference Resort from October 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>. Save the date!

The OWA was founded in 2001 to represent the common and collective interests of the province's original green energy sector – waterpower. More than 150 members are committed to advancing resource management and sustainable development.

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