



About Us

Since 2001 the Ontario Waterpower Association (OWA) has been representing the common and collective interests of the waterpower industry. To date our membership has grown to over 150 organizations. It includes generators, engineering firms, environmental consultants, legal, project financing and insurance firms, Aboriginal communities and other organizations, all sharing the common interest of advancing waterpower in Ontario. Our members look to us to provide an effective forum for coordinating, promoting and identifying the common interests of the waterpower industry in Ontario.

Our Mission

We will:

- Preserve and grow value for our membership;
- Facilitate the responsible growth and enhance the competitiveness of the industry;
- Coordinate and promote the common interests of the membership;
- Promote the achievement of sustainable development;
- Build strategic relationships with:
 - Government;
 - Aboriginal organizations;
 - Industry, resource management associations, and the environmental community; and
- Be recognized as the primary source for quality information about waterpower.

OWA Membership Benefits

- Opportunities to provide advice and comment in key policy and development initiatives;
- Opportunities to participate on OWA committees and task teams;
- Access to the restricted "Members Only" section and "Member's Forum" on the OWA website, which includes policy input, correspondence, communication products and various reports produced by the OWA;
- Listing in the OWA membership directory (online and in print);
- Networking opportunities, meetings and referrals;
- Discounts to OWA workshops and the annual Power of Water Conference;
- Voting opportunity at the OWA Annual General Meeting;
- Sponsorship and discounted exhibit opportunities at the Power of Water Conference;
- Subscription to the quarterly OWA newsletter *Renew*;
- Unlimited postings to OWA's online employment opportunities;
- Industry networking, data research and information sharing through the OWA website and MNR-wide data exchange; and
- Print and website advertising opportunities.

Membership Fee Schedule (as of January 1, 2011)

Member Category		Annual Fee
Generators	Less than 1 MW	\$500
	More than 1 MW	\$300 per MW
	Maximum	\$50,000
Developers	In development	\$75 per MW
	Minimum	\$500
Product & Service Suppliers	>3M in annual business ¹	\$8,000
	3M in annual business	\$6,000
	2M in annual business	\$4,000
	1M in annual business	\$2,000
	> 500K annually	\$1,000
	< 300K annually	\$825
Other Organizations	< 250K annually	\$500
		\$825
		\$500
Community Power		\$500
Seniors & Students		\$100

¹ Annual gross revenue from the waterpower sector in Ontario

Our Current Advocacy Priorities

The Ontario Waterpower Association (OWA) exists to represent the common and collective interests of the waterpower industry, and as such is actively involved in the following advocacy priorities:

Priority policy initiatives for 2011 include:

- Advance a provincial-government led “hydro strategy”;
- Champion waterpower in the Long-Term Energy Plan and IPSP;
- Advance policy and procurement for pumped storage;
- Advance distinct policy and procurement for kinetic/VLH hydro;
- Support FIT, HCI and other active development proposals;
- Advance waterpower development in the Far North;
- Implement policy and guidelines for dam safety/ public safety around dams;
- Develop additional Best Management Practices for Environmental Assessment;
- Implement ESA Agreement framework;
- Continue to advocate an approach to addressing diesel dependency;
- Support transmission initiatives to enable waterpower development; and
- Advance amendments to the Crown land site release policy.

The OWA provides a central forum where our members can express their concerns and provide meaningful input into the direction that the Association should take regarding key issues facing the industry. As the “voice” for the industry, the OWA encourages the direct involvement of our members by inviting their participation on various internal task teams. These teams are yet another way our members can actively participate by providing direct input and advice.

Our Achievements

The OWA has contributed to the advancement and improvement of a number of key policies, procedures, economic and environmental issues. Listed below are just a few of our many recent accomplishments:

- Class EA for Waterpower Projects;
- Best Management Guide for Lake Sturgeon;
- Best Management Guide for American Eel;
- Endangered Species Framework Agreements;
- Hydroelectric Contract Initiative;
- Dam Safety Regulation;
- Building Capacity Together – An Introduction to Waterpower (self-directed learning DVD set);
- Aboriginal Community Guide to Waterpower Development;
- Community Guide to Waterpower Development;
- A Citizen’s Guide to EA; and
- “The Power of Water” vignette series;

External Stakeholder Collaboration

The OWA is directly involved in many committees and groups that are actively involved in several issues that will have a direct impact on the waterpower industry. Below is a short list of the many committees and groups the Association currently participates in:

- Environmental Assessment Proponents Group (EAPG)
- Waterpower Working Group (WPWG)
- Species at Risk Program Advisory Committee (SARPAC)
- FIT Advisory Panel
- LRIA Advisory Panel