

Sault Ste. Marie Canal National Historic Site

Annual Management Plan Implementation Update 2016-17



Management plans identify long-term strategic direction and how sites will be managed, consistent with Parks Canada's mandate. The purpose of the mandate is to protect and present nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage, and foster public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure the ecological and commemorative integrity of these special places for present and future generations.

This annual update serves as a progress report to partners, stakeholders, and the public. It outlines how we've progressed in implementing the management plan over the last year.

Visitor Experience Enhancements

- First annual Lock's Big Picnic event launched with over 1700 in attendance.
- Site interpretive plan developed for future use of buildings receiving restoration.
- New community tent purchased and erected for visitor day use and programming.
- Fat bike rental offer launched for visitors to explore the site in a new way.
- Planning for Canada 150 celebratory events underway including two new events for 2017.

Infrastructure Improvements

- Site entry road reconstruction and parking lot expansion complete.
- Stores Building rehabilitation project progressing on schedule for 2017 completion.
- Study to determine future work required to restore the Powerhouse complete.
- Study and design to guide future work required to restore the Superintendent's Residence complete. Exterior repairs to commence in 2017.
- Relocation of on-site artifacts to Parks Canada storage facility for conservation.

Site Planning and Promotion

- Management planning process underway. Consultation to begin spring 2017.
- Increased awareness as more Facebook posts reached 22,393 users - up 290%.

Stakeholder Relations

- Working to identify collaborative opportunities with Indigenous partners
- Signed new partnering agreement with Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority and renewed existing agreements with Sault Ste. Marie Horticultural Society