

TRADUCTION

Project to modernize the wharfs of the Oka ferry**THE COMMISSION INVITES CITIZENS TO VOICE THEIR OPINIONS****ON APRIL 24TH**

Québec, April 10, 2006 - The commission of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement (BAPE) will be holding the second part of the public hearing on the *Project to modernize the wharfs of the Oka ferry by Traverse Oka inc.* on **Monday, April 24, 2006 in Hudson** and on **Wednesday, April 26, 2006 in Oka**, starting at **7:00 p.m.** In the course of this second part of the public hearing, the commission will hold the following sessions :

<p style="text-align: center;">Starting at 7:00 p.m. on April 24, 2006</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Hudson Stephen F. Shaar Community Centre 394, Main Road</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Starting at 7:00 p.m. on April 26, 2006</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Oka Salle de la mairie 183, rue des Anges</p>

The sessions will continue on the following days, depending on the needs of the public and the commission.

This part of the public hearing will be devoted exclusively to hearing the briefs and verbal opinions of the persons, municipalities, organizations and groups wishing to express their opinion or put forward suggestions to the commission in regard to the project.

PRESENTING A BRIEF

A brief is a document that presents the author's opinions or concerns regarding an issue. It allows the author to develop and state the arguments in support of these opinions.

As a general rule, a brief often contains the following elements: a short presentation of the individual, group, organization or municipality tabling the brief, a summary explanation of the interest that the author has in the project, the author's opinions on the project as a whole, the author's concerns about the project and, as the case may be, the author's suggestions and comments to improve the project. Those persons who decide not to submit a brief can express their opinion verbally during the public hearing. A verbal presentation may be developed in the same manner as a brief.

Advice is provided, for information purposes only, in the form of questions in the document entitled *Preparing a brief*. This latter document is available at the consultation centres as well as in electronic format on the website of the BAPE at www.bape.gouv.qc.ca under the English version of the heading "Comment participer" of this mandate.

SUBMITTING A BRIEF

To facilitate the planning of the public sessions of the hearing, all individuals wishing to present a brief or express their opinions verbally during the hearing are invited to inform, as soon as possible, Ms. Josée Primeau, Commission secretariat coordinator, of their intention, by dialing 418 643-7447, extension 421 or, toll-free, 1 800 463-4732.

To ensure that the commission is able to read the brief before the public hearing, the brief must be clearly identified with the project and sent, **no later than April 20, 2006**, to the secretary of the BAPE, at 575, rue Saint-Amable, bureau 2.10, Québec (Québec) G1R 6A6, **in care of Ms. Josée Primeau**.

Those persons wishing to submit their brief by e-mail can send it to traverse_oka@bape.gouv.qc.ca. The original document must follow by mail. Briefs will be disseminated on the website of the BAPE under the heading "Consulter la documentation", as soon as they are made public by the commission.

WHERE CAN THE PROJECT DOCUMENTATION BE CONSULTED?

You can consult the documents related to the project as well as the transcripts of the sessions of the first part of the hearing on the website of the BAPE under the heading "Consulter la documentation" of this mandate, as well as at the BAPE office in Québec, at the Bibliothèque centrale de l'Université du Québec à Montréal and at the following locations:

- Oka Municipal Library, 183, rue des Anges, Oka;
- Stephen F. Shaar Community Centre, 394, Main Road, Hudson.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS ESSENTIAL!

Public participation is essential for the commission. This participation makes it possible to hear the arguments, opinions and suggestions of participants prior to the drafting of the report that will be submitted to Mr. Claude Béchar, Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks, by July 13, 2006 at the latest. Thereafter, the Minister will have 60 days to make the report public.

Persons wishing to obtain additional information can get in touch with Ms. Josée Primeau at 418 643-7447, extension 421 or, toll-free, at 1 800 463-4732, or by e-mail at the following address: traverse_oka@bape.gouv.qc.ca.