

**For Immediate Release:  
December 28, 2009**

## **NPC FILES FOR CONCILIATION**

**Niagara Falls, Ontario:** The Niagara Parks Commission (NPC) announced that it has filed an application with the Ministry of Labour, seeking the appointment of a Provincial Conciliator to assist with its ongoing contract talks with Local 217 of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union. NPC Park employees have been without a contract since October 31, 2009.

NPC first served notice to bargain with the union leadership in early August with the hope of reaching a settlement prior to the end of current contract. “Unfortunately the union leadership was not available to begin these talks until November,” stated NPC General Manager John Kernahan. “The parties have put forth considerable effort throughout a series of bargaining sessions and while progress has been made, there remain a number of key issues which continue to separate us. Ultimately, we believe conciliation is a necessary step, to help move this process along with the goal of reaching a new agreement with our staff as soon as possible”, Kernahan went on to add.

Despite the application for conciliation, the Commission has invited the OPSEU negotiating team to continue talks while waiting for the appointment of a Conciliation Officer. OPSEU Local 217 represents approximately 600 full time and seasonal employees at NPC.

Created in 1885, The Niagara Parks Commission is an Agency of the Government of Ontario. Established to preserve Niagara Falls and the Niagara Parkway for the enjoyment of its visitors, NPC operates at no cost to taxpayers.

### **For more information contact:**

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