



July 01, 2022

Deep/Quest 2 Expeditions  
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To Whom It May Concern:

Architectural Conservation Ontario – Prince Edward County Branch (ACO-PEC), supports the **Operation Vortex 2022 Search of Sunken History** project documenting shipwrecks in Lake Ontario waters off the coast of Prince Edward County.

Through education and advocacy ACO PEC encourages the conservation and reuse of structures, districts and landscapes of architectural, historic and cultural significance, to inspire and benefit Ontarians.

The long narrative of ships, wrecks and survival against sometimes insurmountable odds are a window into our County's cultural heritage - evidenced by those marine events that lie in Lake Ontario's depths, just off the shores of Prince Edward County.

These near waters have for centuries played host to shipwrecks, marine disasters and significant events (testing of AVRO ARROW rockets) and in part have shaped our community's development through the evolution of its tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

This symbiotic relationship between land and water brought change to our landscapes, our economic pursuits and our culture. Villages grew, new settlements were established and trade expanded and flourished. One thing remained static – our natural limestone outcroppings and shoreline – the very thing that contributed to the demise of so many ships and the death of many crew members.

The visual data produced by this underwater film project will provide new and important information that is imperative to document as it provides essential insight into not only our cultural heritage, but that of all Ontarians. The waters of Lake Ontario are integral in defining our cultural heritage. It resonates the close relationship between marine and land evolution.

Respectfully,

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