

Music Commission Project/Howard Cable Speech June 16, 2007

It is my pleasure to announce an exciting new project for Seaway Winds this evening.

Seaway Winds is now in its sixth year of operation, after an absence of a community concert band in Cornwall for 50 years. In order for the Band to become established, a significant financial contribution has been made by the Ontario Trillium Fund – your tax dollars. And for that, Seaway Winds thanks you! (Applause).

But in order for the Band to be able to perform in this wonderful facility, the Band has looked to the Corporate Community for support. As stated in the Band's Mission Statement, "to bring music to the community", the band has been successful in keeping ticket prices most affordable with virtually no increase in individual concert prices since the beginning of the Concert Series, 4 years ago. This achievement has been possible because of the Corporate support from the community for Seaway Winds. You should have received a brochure for our 2007-08 Concert Series tonight. Please see an usher if you did not. You will see all of the Companies who have supported our next series. And in your concert program, you will note this year's sponsors. If you have an opportunity, be sure to commend them for their support of Seaway Winds.

To night we want to pay special tribute to one our Corporate Sponsors who has supported Seaway Winds every year since the Band's organization – Ontario Power Generation. Ontario Power Generation or OPG, is one of the successor companies of Ontario Hydro. It owns the hydro electric power generating station, R.H. Saunder, located in the west end of Cornwall, on the Saint Lawrence River.

R.H. Saunders generating station, is one half of the Internation Moses-Saunders dam, whose construction was completed 49 years ago. As part of the Generating Station's 50th Anniversary Celebration next summer, OPG has provided the financial resource to have a musical composition commissioned specifically for Seaway Winds. This musical commissioning is a 1st for OPG. The company has had paintings commissioned before for special occasions, but not music. I must specifically mention my personal appreciation for the support of this project by OPG's local Corporate Relations Officer, Linda Halliday, who was able to obtain the funding approval from OPG's head office. Linda was unable to attend this evening's performance. However I would like to introduce Mr. Mike Boutilier, First Line Manager – Operating at R.H Saunders Generating Station. Thank you Mike. (Applause)

This gift of music will reach many people. The composition will be premiered by Seaway Winds at the R.H. Saunders Official 50th Anniversary Celebration next summer. I'm sure that you will also hear it at one of the concerts next year. The composition will also be published and available to bands around the world. There will be a summary of this significant engineering and construction project included with the score and the fact that the composition was commissioned for Seaway Winds, Cornwall Ontario. But the most exciting part will be the music itself. The music will paint the picture of the river and rapids, the construction of the dam and the operation of the generating station.

The question was, who best could accomplish this task? Barbara & I discussed this and came up with a few qualifications:

- The best Canadian Composer
- Someone with International Experience
- Preferably in addition to being a composer, he/she would be a conductor, arrange, scriptwriter, radio and television producer," well-Credentialed"
- Someone who has worked in musical theatre
- Someone who has been recorded with a wide range of musical genres.
- Recipient of the Order of Canada and perhaps some other accolades

It only took about 2 seconds and the name Howard Cable was in our minds!

Howard Cable is a composer, conductor, arranger, music director, scriptwriter, radio and television producer from Toronto.

- He has composed music in tribute to all parts of Canada
- He was worked extensively for CBC radio, including his self-titled show, "Music by Cable", "Canadian Cavalcade" and "Jolly Miller Time"
- He has conducted and broadcast more that 1000 radio dramas on CBC radio
- He had a 20 year association with Canadian Brass where he completed over 80 compositions and arrangements
- He was a consultant for Sharon, Lois and Bram – great Canadian Children's group
- He was principal pops conductor, of Orchestra London Canada, Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra, Hamilton Philharmonic
- He has composed and arranged for and conducted the Elmer Iseler Singers, The Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and the Toronto Children's

- Chorus, Timmins Concert Singers, The Scarborough Philharmonic Orchestra
- Worked in musical productions in both Canada & the USA with Ella Fitzgerald, Tony Bennett, Peggy Lee, Bob Hope, Victor Borge, Danny Kaye and Jim Carrey
 - In addition for the compositions he has done for radio and television, he wrote 10 film scores for the National Film Board
 - The Hockey Night in Canada Theme Song, originally composed by Dolores Claman, Cable made a new arrangement for the Hockey Night in Canada 50th anniversary which is included on his CD – Cable for All Seasons
 - In 1980 he received the Canadian Band Directors' Association Award for his contribution to the development of Canadian Band music
 - 1999, was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada.

His association with many respected orchestras, bands and choral groups and his extensive work with musical theatre, radio and television has placed him in popular demand by musical groups across north America and around the world.

Seaway Winds is thrilled that Mr Cable has accepted this commissioning project – Ladies & Gentlemen, Mr. Howard Cable.

Howard is visiting this weekend to complete his research of the project. He likes to spend time on location so he can hear the sounds and feel the energies before putting pencil to manuscript.

This is the first commissioning for Seaway Winds. This is exciting!!

Thank you t OPG for this project possible. Thank you to Howard Cable for accepting the project.

Ladies & Gentlemen – stay tuned! Next year you will be hearing some music composed specifically this area and performed, “in tune” by your own Seaway Winds.