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Press release

For immediate distribution

THE RIVERS AND LAKES FOUNDATION OF CANADA JOINS FORCES
WITH TQM PIPELINE
TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

Coaticook, September 23, 1999 — Confident that it is entirely possible to reconcile economic development and protection of aquatic and riparian ecosystems, **Trans Québec & Maritimes Pipeline** (TQM Pipeline) concluded a partnership agreement with the **Rivers and Lakes Foundation of Canada** in 1998. This partnership enables the Foundation to pursue its objectives of protecting and restoring lakes and watercourses.

The Foundation is proud to present concrete results of this co-operation, especially certain work done alongside the Coaticook River:

Where the TQM Pipeline system crosses the Coaticook River, the Foundation has restored the riverbank vegetation to offset erosion caused by spring flooding.

At the bend upstream from the Vaillancourt bridge, riverbank restoration has also been completed. A heavy load of coarse sediment had caused the natural bank to recede significantly, destroying a portion of the natural riparian forest. Restoration has reconstructed the bank in this location to protect the natural riparian environment.

We are featuring, however, the riverbank restoration and protection carried out in Dixville on Simone Durocher's property on the Coaticook River. It had been damaged significantly during the spring 1998 flooding.

On September 23, 1999, at 11:45 a.m., a sign indicating this environmental partnership will be unveiled on Ms. Durocher's property, at 516, chemin Nadeau in Dixville, in the presence of André Langevin, Mayor of Coaticook, Michel Belzil, Préfet MRC de Coaticook, Jacques Masson, President of the Coaticook UPA, and representatives of the Foundation and TQM Pipeline. The media are invited to the unveiling and the reception that will follow.

As a result of its partnership with TQM Pipeline, the Rivers and Lakes Foundation has been able to carry biostabilization work of exceptional quality. The Foundation intends to continue its efforts to protect lakes and rivers in the Eastern Townships, the Montérégie and in all other locations where its expertise may prove useful.

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