



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ALGOMA POWER HELPS WAWA BUILD A NEW GOOSE AND A BRIGHT FUTURE**

**WAWA, ONTARIO (February 23, 2017)** - The Municipality of Wawa (“Municipality”) is pleased to announce a partnership with Algoma Power Inc. (“Algoma Power”) and its parent company FortisOntario Inc. (“FortisOntario”). Algoma Power, as a long-time community partner in Wawa, recognizes the importance of preserving an iconic Canadian monument, the Wawa Goose, especially now that Canada marks its sesquicentennial. To that end, Algoma Power is committing to a multi-year donation totalling \$40,000 for the replacement and maintenance of the Wawa Goose. This endowment will be comprised of an initial contribution for the installation of the new Goose, followed by annual contributions through 2021 for ongoing maintenance requirements.

“We look forward to the unveiling of the new Wawa Goose monument during the celebration of Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup> birthday! It is truly an honour and privilege to be able to pledge our support for this project and to work with the Municipality of Wawa on sustaining a significant piece of Algoma’s history,” says Jennifer Rose, Regional Manager Algoma Power Inc.

The Municipality has initiated a maintenance fund where all additional public donations will be placed; this maintenance fund will ensure that the Wawa Goose will remain cared for and will look its best into the future.

The town’s name, Wawa, originates from the Ojibway word “wawagonk” meaning Wild Goose and the Wawa Goose has long been a symbol of its identity. The Wawa Goose was first created to attract travellers off the newly constructed Trans-Canada Highway, remaining the main purpose of the historic monument. As one of the most photographed landmarks in North America, it has been a fundamental stop for many cross-Canada tours. More than just an attraction for tourists, the Wawa Goose Monument has become representative of Wawa itself – an icon instantly recognizable on the world stage.

Ron Rody, Mayor of Wawa, stated, “On behalf of Citizens and Staff of the Municipality of Wawa we would like to sincerely thank Algoma Power for this generous donation. Their show of community support for the icon of Wawa, and their recognition of the importance that the Wawa Goose holds for the benefit of the community is greatly appreciated. With this donation to the Wawa Goose, our valued community partner, Algoma Power is helping to ensure that Wawa remains a strong and vibrant community for years to come.”

Further information will be announced shortly with regard to the final fundraising campaign to renew the Wawa Goose.

API is a wholly-owned subsidiary of FortisOntario Inc. API has 12,000 customers in the Algoma District of northern Ontario, more than 1,800 kilometers of distribution lines in an area that covers over 14,000 square kilometers. FortisOntario, headquartered in Fort Erie, has operations in electricity distribution and transmission, and serves approximately 65,000 customers primarily located in Fort Erie, Port Colborne, Cornwall, Gananoque and the Algoma district of Ontario and meets a peak demand of over 275 MW. FortisOntario is 100% owned by Fortis Inc. of St. John’s, Newfoundland. For more information on FortisOntario, please visit the corporate website at [www.fortisontario.com](http://www.fortisontario.com).

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