



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
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THE WAABAN CROSSING

The word Waaban has its origins in the Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) language. The word means *tomorrow*, and signifies the dawn and awakening of a new day and the possibilities that they bring. The choice of this word is meant to reflect and celebrate the histories, stories, and contributions of the Indigenous community in the region. The choice of the name was facilitated with the support of the First Peoples Group and underwent extensive consultation with Indigenous Nations and members of local Indigenous communities. As part of an ongoing commitment to break down systemic barriers, the choice of the name Waaban also reflects Canada's long journey towards reconciliation and the building of bridges.

A HISTORY OF THE THIRD CROSSING

The idea of a third crossing has been on Kingstonians' radar since the 1960s, with Mayor Fray suggesting the need for a Rideau River crossing from Pittsburgh Township. In 2007, after decades of studies, debates, and proposals, City Council approved a capital budget to start an Environmental Assessment. A formal endorsement followed in 2012.

In 2018, with funding already secured at both the municipal and provincial levels, Infrastructure Canada committed the remaining 1/3 of funding (\$60 million). Final permits were approved in late 2019. Ground was officially broken and construction began on the Third Crossing in December 2019.

The 1.2km, two-lane bridge is now in its fourth phase. It will improve emergency services, increase active transportation, and enhance business connectivity. Construction is set to be complete by the end of 2022.



A drone image of the Waaban Crossing, taken November 2021.
Photo courtesy of the City of Kingston.

PROGRESS PHOTOS



Sept 2020 (City of Kingston Drone)



March 2021 (visiting the site)



Nov 2021 (City of Kingston Drone)