

*Laws of His Majesty's Province of Upper Canada*, passed in the year 1821. York: R. C. Horne, 1821.

2 George IV – Chapter 2

**An Act to make provision for the Improvement of the Internal Navigation of this Province. Passed 14th April, 1821.**

Whereas an Act was passed in the fifty-ninth year of His late Majesty's Reign, entitled "*An Act granting to His Majesty a sum of money for the Survey of the Waters of the St. Lawrence and for other purposes therein mentioned*" And whereas it is expedient to provide means for ascertaining the practicability of improving the Internal Communications of the Province by Inland Navigation; and also for procuring plans and estimates of the expence necessary to be incurred for that purpose, and also to repeal the said Act: Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of the Province of Upper Canada, constituted and assembled by virtue of and under the authority of an Act passed in the Parliament of Great Britain, entitled "*An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign, entitled 'An Act for making more effectual provision for the Government of the Province of Quebec in North America, and to make further provision for the Government of the said Province*" and by the authority of the same, That the said first recited Act shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government of this Province, to appoint five Commissioners, two of whom with the President to be a Quorum, for the purpose of exploring surveying and levelling the most practicable routes, for opening a communication by Canals and Locks between Lake Erie and the Eastern boundary of this Province.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Commissioners shall choose one of their number to be President of their Board, and shall appoint a fit person to be Secretary, who shall be allowed and paid such salary as the said Commisioners shall deem proper and reasonable: and the President of the said Board of Commissioners, shall have power to call a Meeting of the same, whenever in his opinion the public interests require it; and the said Board may adjourn from time to time, to meet at any time and place they may deem most conducive to the public good: And further the said Commissioners shall have power to employ such and so many Agents, Engineers, Surveyors, Draftsmen and other persons, as in their opinion may be necessary to enable them to fulfil and discharge the duties imposed upon them by this Act, and to allow and pay the said Agents, Engineers, Surveyors, Draftsmen and other persons for their respective services, such sum or sums as may be adequate and reasonable.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall be the duty of the said Commissioners as soon as may be after the passing of this Act to cause those parts of this Province, which may lie upon or contiguous to the probable courses and ranges of the said Canals, to be explored and examined for the purpose of fixing and determining the most eligible and proper routes for the same, and to cause all necessary Surveys and Levels to be taken, and accurate Maps, Field Books and Drafts thereof to be made, and further to adopt and recommend proper plans for the construction of and formation of the said Canals, and of the locks, dams, embankments, tunnels, and aqueducts which may be necessary for the completion of the same; and to cause all necessary Plans, Drafts and Models thereof to be executed under their direction, and also to devise ways and means for completing the said Canals.

V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall be the duty of the said Commissioners to make or cause to be made with as much accuracy and minuteness as may be, calculations and estimates of the sum or sums of money which will be necessary for completing the said Canals, according to the plan or plans which may be adopted and recommended by them for the construction or formation of the same; and to cause the said calculations and estimates, and all Surveys, Maps, Field Books, Plans, Drafts and Models authorized and directed by this Act, or so many thereof as may be completed, together with a plain and comprehensive Report of all their proceedings under and by virtue of this Act, to be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government of this Province, to be laid before the Provincial Parliament, within twenty days after the Session which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two.

VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Person administering the Government of this Province, from time to time during the continuance of this Act, to issue his Warrant to the Receiver General in favor of the said Commissioners for such sum or sums of money not exceeding in the whole the sum of Two Thousand Pounds Currency, to enable them to pay the necessary expenses to be incurred in carrying into effect the provisions of this Act, which sum or sums of money, shall be paid out of any monies now in the hands of or which may hereafter come into the hands of the said Receiver General, and unappropriated, and shall be accounted for to His Majesty through the Lords Commissioners of His Treasury, for the time being, in such manner and form as His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors shall be graciously pleased to direct: provided always, That an account in detail of all monies paid under the authority of this Act, be transmitted to be laid before the Commons House of Assembly, at the then next ensuing Session of Parliament, and provided also, that so much of the said sum as shall remain unexpended shall be subject to the future disposition of Parliament.

VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this Act shall continue and be in force for the space of three years and no longer.