ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

www.rbg.ca

2007

Annual report to the community
Looking back, looking forward

2007 Board of Directors

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE OF The Honourable James K. Bartleman (to September), and The Honourable David C. Onley (from September), Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

Appointed by Council, City of Hamilton
Councillor Russ Powers
Ian Brisbin
Alec Kelly (from July)
Peter Mitchell (to July)
Terry E. Yates

Appointed by Council, Regional Municipality of Halton
Councillor Jane Fogal
Councillor Rick Craven
Christine Kerr
Belinda Gallagher
Ruth Lee

Appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, Province of Ontario
Madeleine Davidson
Eric Cunningham

Additional members in place of appointments by the Governor-General-in-Council, Canada
Bill Bennett

Appointees of the Board
Gordon Albini (from July)
Leslie Bullock (from July)
Kathy Graham

Representing the Auxiliary of Royal Botanical Gardens
Cathy Rideout, President

Officers of the Board
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Vice-Chair, Kathy Graham
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Treasurer, Ruth Lee
Executive Director, Mark Runciman

Auditors
Brownlow & Associates

Director Emeritus
Dr. Leslie Laking

OUR MISSION

To be a living museum which serves local, regional and global communities while developing and promoting public understanding of the relationship between the plant world, humanity and the rest of nature.

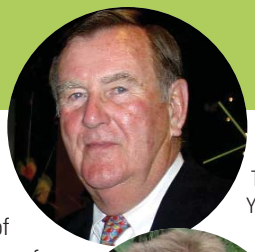
VISION AND MANDATE

Royal Botanical Gardens has a vital role to play as a botanic garden in the 21st century with key roles in the area of horticulture, conservation, education, science and research.

FUNDERS

Royal Botanical Gardens is funded by the people of Ontario through Ontario Ministry of Culture, City of Hamilton, Regional Municipality of Halton, Royal Botanical Gardens members, The Auxiliary of Royal Botanical Gardens, and many corporations, foundations and individuals.

Letter from the Board Chair and Executive Director



Terry Yates

Mark Runciman

New growth in any garden starts with planting, and 2007 was a year in which a number of new projects took root at Royal Botanical Gardens. Rejuvenation projects generated ripples of positive momentum throughout all departments. Projects were initiated to fulfill recommendations contained in the Ontario government's 2005 Mandate Review entitled *A Fresh Start*. The review examined our history and reaffirmed our commitment to our mandated areas, while looking ahead to how we can improve our product in the years to come.

During planning, we looked back at the plans for Hendrie Park Gardens, the Fountain Court and the Plains Road bridge and tunnel, housed in our archives. Our history helped inform us how best to move forward. Central to the rejuvenation project is the construction of the Camilla and Peter Dalglish Atrium. This new facility will house exciting travelling exhibits, shows and other events while providing every visitor with barrier-free access to Hendrie Park Gardens.

Other components to our current construction phase include the addition of a major new water feature in the Rose Garden. Royal Botanical Gardens is boasting another first in 2008 with the opening of an innovative and unique garden with a focus on native plant communities of southern Ontario. Experts tell us, nothing of its size and complexity has been attempted before in Canada.

Our ability to actually start these important projects would not have been possible without the support and generosity of major donors, the cooperation of community partners and the patience of many individuals and organizations.

2007 represented year two of our three-year transition period. Transition funding enabled Royal Botanical Gardens to move forward and see positive results in many areas. Our visitation was up 25 percent and our education program registration increased 29 percent over 2006. Membership was up by 20 percent over 2006 and 45 percent since 2005.

This past year, art in the gardens, whether music or sculpture, continued to be a successful combination. We are responding to the incredibly positive feedback from visitors by expanding these programs.

As a result of these successes our operations have stabilized. That being said, we are not yet sustainable. While public funds are essential to both our operational and capital needs, we realize that expanding philanthropy is a vital component to enabling us to meet new and emerging 21st-century responsibilities.

Staff changes continued during 2007 with important positions being filled in the areas of our mandated activities. The cohesive new team is dedicated to completing and exceeding the goals articulated in the 2005 transition plan. A measure of our capacity to work together was the signing of a new collective agreement between CUPE Local 5167 and Royal Botanical Gardens. The positive results noted above are due to the tremendous efforts of staff, volunteers and supporters. They are all to be commended.

Statistics can never tell the entire story here at Royal Botanical Gardens. Visitors saw wonderful improvements in our cultivated gardens and conservation lands during 2007. We invite you to make a point of visiting us in 2008. Share the Gardens' story with your friends and neighbours and encourage them to visit, to join, to support and take pride in one of Ontario's most important assets.

Terry E. Yates, Board Chair

Mark Runciman, Executive Director

Underpass construction, 1964, and the beginning of Hendrie Park Gardens.

Below: 2007 construction of the new Camilla and Peter Dalglish Atrium, linking to the underpass.

- **Visitation up 25%**
- **Membership up 20%**
- **Education program registration up 25%**

Left: Annual trials in Hendrie Park Gardens in the early years.

Right: new beds and containers along Oak Allee in Hendrie Park Gardens, spring 2007.

Below: Harry Jongerden

Horticulture

Harry Jongerden, Head of Horticulture

In 2007 we continued the process of renewing our cultivated gardens. We are in the early stages of a multi-year effort to rejuvenate the display gardens, theme gardens and collections-based gardens. As well, in 2007 we embarked on an ambitious plan to create new gardens that reflect our mandate.

The rejuvenation of gardens and the creation of new gardens are made possible within our budgetary constraints by horticulture's innovative deployment of resources and the development of partnerships. These improvements are occurring within the context of a revival of plant documentation capacity — the aspect of horticulture within botanical gardens that distinguishes us from public parks or display gardens.

Improvement and change were in the air in 2007, but unfortunately, rain was not. 2007 reminded us that, despite the best intentions, plans and commitment, much depends on nature.

Partnerships

- A Memorandum of Understanding with Fanshawe College was signed to provide students in horticulture-related programs with summer employment and expert training. We acquire more in-course students who, in turn, learn from our expert staff.
- Royal Botanical Gardens organized a meeting between seven other Ontario institutions with documented plant collections to explore the creation of a Provincial Plant Records Database that would combine plant documentation for the benefit of researchers and the public.

Plant Documentation

- A plant documentation assistant was hired in September with support from Kitchener Waterloo Community Foundation.
- A forensic plant documentation project was launched to update plant records in BG-Base, the botanical garden database standard. Documentation's labeling capacity was also revived.

Mapping, GIS

- Two summer students from Fanshawe's Integrated Land Planning Technologies (ILPT) program began a multi-year plan to map cultivated gardens while verifying accessioned plant locations. Fanshawe's ILPT program head, Martin Healey, provided ongoing oversight of this project.

Plant Collections

- We initiated a new model of collections curation in which expert volunteers from flower societies take responsibility and assume curatorial roles.
- Ontario Regional Lily Society president, Maureen Barber, and past-president, Dr. Brian Bergman, now curate the *Lilium* collection.
- Verification of the replanted iris collection in Laking Garden was done during bloom period with the assistance of Auxiliary volunteers.
- Ongoing curatorial review of collections continues, including plans to strengthen the links between horticulture's living collections and our herbarium.

Gardening Staff

- Two new gardener positions were added. Laking and Arboretum had only one gardener and now each have two.

New Gardens

- Designers were chosen for the large capital project gardens in Hendrie Park Gardens. Martin Wade Landscape Architects (Toronto) and Lorraine Johnson, native plant consultant, were selected for the Helen M. Kippax Garden.
- The Landplan Collaborative (Guelph), was selected to redesign the Rose Garden.
- Off-site gardens were designed and installed at Toronto's CN Tower and Ontario Place, in support of marketing and visitor experience department initiatives.

Hendrie Park Gardens

- Oak Allee: New central axis annual beds and urns were installed and flanking wall perennial beds were replanted.
- Woodland Garden: Major replanting was undertaken with non-invasive woodland ornamentals.
- The tent facility was improved and relocated next to Scented Garden.
- Annuals trials were conducted in conjunction with University of Guelph.

- **Partnership with Fanshawe College**
- **New gardens that reflect the mandate**
- **A revival of plant documentation**
- **Staff, student and volunteer staffing model a success**
- **Single-genus collections can look beautiful**

Rock Garden

- Excellent and lasting spring bulb display, with labels.
- Aquatic plant display was revived, which improved aesthetics and water quality in Rock Garden pools.
- Irrigation enhancement near kiosk area resulted in less labour-intensive maintenance.
- Continuing emphasis on high maintenance standards resulted in improved floral displays within the attractive, iconic, Rock Garden setting.

Denis Pearson labeling native trees in the 1970s.

Laking Garden

- Weed-free, new fleur-de-lis iris garden was a success and demonstrated that single-genus collections can look beautiful.
- Irrigation was installed throughout the new lower level design.
- Renewal of the Barbara Laking Heritage Garden was initiated with Auxiliary volunteer curators, Toni Carson and Pat Barton. Supported by the Barbara Laking Memorial Committee, a Barbara Laking student was appointed to bring renewed emphasis to this important training position.
- Under the leadership of its head gardener, Wayne Staley, Laking Garden achieved a high standard of maintenance and overall excellence not seen at Royal Botanical Gardens in many years.

Arboretum

- Lilac Dell maintenance was much improved by weeding and mulching and looked much better than it had in years, but drought and lack of irrigation are taking a toll on the collection.
- Overall look of Arboretum was the best in many years, with grass cut and weeds around trees removed, although gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) and Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*) predation took a toll on many specimen trees.
- Major project to revive the synoptic shrub collection was started — expected to take three years.

High Level Gardens and Princess Point

- These neglected areas from recent years had grass cut, trees mulched and invasive garlic mustard removed or mulched.

Mediterranean Garden and RBG Centre

- A new cactus and succulent display was installed in the Atrium.
- The Kafka collection of over 200 orchids came into our possession thanks to the generosity of the family and the diligence of Orchid Society volunteers.
- Royal, Spicer and Hinton courts looked their best in years.
- Increased visitation to Mediterranean Garden resulted from Glass Under Glass exhibition— an agave sent out a 20-foot flowering shoot again for the event.

Wollemi Pine (*Wollemia nobilis*)

- Six first-generation propagules of the world's rarest tree came to Canada. We have Ontario's only one as a result of the support of Toni and Cliff Carson.
- Our Wollemi pine exhibit is unmatched in depth of interpretive display by any we've seen elsewhere — thanks to strong interdepartmental cooperation.

2007 has confirmed that our new staffing model, with a greater emphasis on students and volunteers, can work. Bloom celebrations — Tulip, Lilac, Iris and Peony, and Rose — were all well attended in 2007, evidence of an improved product with marketing support. It was particularly gratifying to horticulture to know that our gardens looked better for those events than they have looked in many years.

Gypsy moth rained (quite literally) on our flower parade in 2007 with severe defoliation of many specimen trees, but coordinating meetings with local agencies were held throughout the year to prepare a common strategy for 2008's concerted assault on this scourge. Effects of long-term drought remain a serious concern as well. Increasingly at Royal Botanical Gardens, we think within a new paradigm of environmentally attuned water-wise gardening — natural beauty sensibly attained, with sensitivity to nature's limitations.

Education

Barbara McKean, Head of Education

Barbara McKean

We celebrated the 60th anniversary of education at Royal Botanical Gardens in 2007, and it was a spectacular year with record-breaking participation and the launch of innovative new programming. Highlights include:

- **Increased participation**: Over 26,000 people took part in education programs offered at Royal Botanical Gardens, with another 5,700 participating in off-site programming. Over 7,000 more engaged in a variety of garden programming designed to enhance the visitor experience.
- **New staff**: With funding from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities' Job Creation Partnerships Program, we were able to hire an education marketing associate. Along with working on promotional activities, a marketing plan was prepared for education and a new ambassadors program with Auxiliary volunteers was initiated. To revitalize the interpretive program, an interpretation coordinator was hired and assisted by seasonal interpreters funded through Canadian Museums Association's Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations program.
- **60th anniversary celebrations**: An open-house reception took place in September with guest of honour Director Emeritus Dr. Leslie Laking, who launched the first education programs in 1947.

Growing a New Generation of Nature Lovers: Children's Programs

Our first children's program took place in the spring of 1947, when Dr. Leslie Laking and his wife Barbara invited youngsters to come and learn to garden at the former Children's Garden in Westdale. Our children's programs now span a wide range of activity, from curriculum-based school programs to our distance learning program, day camps, youth leadership training, birthday parties and programs for Scouts and Guides.

- NIC staff and volunteers offered over 300 curriculum-based school programs to close to 13,000 children with the generous support of TD Bank Financial Group and school subsidies provided by Turkstra Lumber and the Hamilton Community Foundation.
- Pre-service teachers from Brock University spent their practicum time immersed in outdoor education at the Nature Centre.
- In partnership with Halton District School Board and Aldershot School, and with the support of TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, ECO-RBG was launched in February. Students earned three Grade 12 credits over the course of the semester, spending half a day at Royal Botanical Gardens with our educators and scientists.
- With funding support from Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, we developed programs for both teacher workshops and student field trips/video conferences, focusing on the many rare and endangered species in our area, and across Ontario.
- *E-COnnections RBG* was launched. This quarterly electronic newsletter for educators contains a wealth of seasonal biodiversity teaching ideas and resources. Free subscriptions are available at www.rbg.ca.
- Our Junior Gardening program celebrated its 60th anniversary.
- Day camps and our teen leadership program grew, with close to 1,850 youngsters participating. This represented almost 6,350 camper days spent at Royal Botanical Gardens, our busiest year ever. New initiatives, themes and programs included video conference-based virtual field trips to enhance programs like those focusing on dinosaurs. Special visits from Royal Botanical Gardens' scientists deepened our day campers' knowledge of nature and environmental stewardship. We also developed a new relationship with Reach for the Rainbow, who funded a camp counsellor to work with special needs children.
- In its second successful year, Ecoleaders, our program for new Canadians, expanded to include teens and entire families. With the help of our funders and sponsors, Royal Botanical Gardens was able to hire ethnocultural liaison staff to work at Settlement and Integration Services Organization (SISO) and recruit 400 newcomer participants. Ecoleaders was made possible with the financial support of HSBC Bank Canada and Nature Canada's Parks and People Program, and the support of SISO Hamilton and Park's Canada's Marine Discovery Centre. Additional program partners and supporters included Club 2000 Niagara Ltd., the Hamilton Naturalists' Club and the Bay Area Restoration Council.

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS
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60 Years of Education
1947–2007
Connecting people, plants and nature

Gardening with children — a 60 year legacy

In 1946, Leslie Laking, RBG horticulturist, and director, Dr. Norman Radforth, spend a week visiting public gardens in New York City. The adult and youth educational programs at Brooklyn Botanical Garden inspired them to develop education programming here. Our Junior Gardening program was launched the following year, and is the second longest-running program in North America.

Dr. Leslie Laking visits with 2007's crop of Junior Gardeners, a program he and his wife Barbara started in 1947.

Lifelong Learning: Adult Education

Royal Botanical Gardens has a strong commitment to lifelong learning. Our first adult education course was offered in January of 1947, and the topic, winter tree identification, continues to draw participants each year. The Public Program calendar has grown and changed since, and while yoga, wine tours and alternative energy workshops wouldn't have been on our early course lists, they fit perfectly today in the context of exploring the rich and varied relationships between people, plants and the environment. In 2007:

- 244 courses were offered, with a 57 percent increase in participation over 2006, and evaluations continue to be excellent.
- A successful fall symposium and professional seminar focused on the design and maintenance of natural water features.
- We began offering intensive GPS-certification workshops through GreenCheck, Canada's national standard.
- Both of our new horticultural therapy training courses sold out. These programs provide the coursework needed for professional certification in Canada.
- 1,900 participants took part in our horticultural therapy outreach programs, which travel to retirement and nursing homes and other institutions in the greater Golden Horseshoe.

Beyond our Borders: Reaching Out Across Ontario and Around the World

While our primary focus is hands-on experience within our gardens and sanctuaries, education staff also spread the word as widely as possible through a range of outreach activities. From the 1970s through the early 90s, outreach across Ontario was handled by a team of education staff who provided a province-wide speaker's and exhibit bureau. Since then, we have searched for a financially sustainable way to meet our education goals as Ontario's botanical garden. In 2007, we launched new, technology enabled outreach programs, using interactive videoconferencing to connect to schools across Ontario and around the world.

- Video conference-based programs were piloted during the spring, and launched in September, bringing students to the Gardens from across Ontario, North America and as far afield as the U.K. and Germany. Our outreach education coordinator offered close to 100 programs to over 2,200 students and teachers. These programs have been developed with multi-year support from Ontario Trillium Foundation.
- An additional 5,700 people were reached through other outreach activities, from programs offered at local schools, to participation in large events like the Halton Childrens' Water Festival.
- Over the year, education staff worked with TVO Kids on a Signs of the Seasons feature for their morning show *Giselle's Big Backyard*.
- Staff spoke at provincial and national conferences on topics ranging from video conferencing, to outdoor education techniques and risk management.

Educating our Visitors: Interpretation and the Visitor Experience

For the first time in 10 years we were able to hire an interpretation coordinator to develop and expand our interpretive efforts aimed at visitors.

- In October, with the support of Turkstra Lumber, we opened the 1,000 square-foot interactive exhibit *Wollemi Pine: The Tree that Time Forgot*. The exhibit tells the story of these living dinosaurs and includes information on our own native endangered trees. Turkstra Lumber also subsidized a number of school group visits to the exhibit.
- Trailhead signage and maps were updated with the help of funding from the Hamilton Community Foundation.
- Activities in the Discovery Garden were updated, and new teacher's materials were developed. Our Discovery Packs were updated and new garden displays were also developed in the children's garden area in Hendrie Park Gardens.
- We worked with Science North Enterprises to plan a new entry exhibition at RBG Centre (opening late spring 2009) that introduces and orients the visitor to Royal Botanical Gardens and the work that we do.

Left: In the mid-1960s, RDF Bourne teaches children about the problems created by carp in Cootes Paradise.

Right: In 2007 Karin Davidson-Taylor teaches a classroom in England via video conferencing.

Science

Dr. David A. Galbraith, Head of Science

The science department generates and disseminates knowledge about the world of plants, with emphasis on ecology, horticulture, and the relevance of plants to people, through projects, services and partnerships that support our mandate.

Herbarium

Known internationally as HAM; curator Natalie Iwanycki (also field botanist); 80,000 horticultural and wild plant specimens. In 2007:

- Approximately 250 new specimens; 200 others donated
- Over 750 database records entered; now close to 22,000 entries
- 90 specimens loaned out; data shared with six organizations
- Three herbarium education programs presented
- Six volunteers collectively donated 240 hours

Field Botany

Exploring plants of Southern Ontario with emphasis on nature sanctuaries. In 2007:

- Three new non-native plants found in sanctuaries (*Oplopanax, Magnolia, Malus* sp.)
- Walking fern (*Asplenium rhizophyllum*) rediscovered along escarpment after decades of absence
- Endangered few-flowered club-rush (*Trichophorum planifolium*) populations assessed; one new population found; others declining
- Endangered butternut (*Juglans cinerea*) surveyed for first time in sanctuaries; 151 trees located, health assessed
- Health of Canada's largest endangered red mulberry (*Morus rubra*) population re-evaluated along escarpment, trees sexed, DNA collected; 37 new trees found. Population health declining

Plant Taxonomy

The science of naming organisms and determining relationships. Dr. Jim Pringle, our plant taxonomist for over forty years, describes new species, prepares descriptions for field guides. Our curator emeritus, Freek Vrugtman, is International Lilac Registrar.

International Register and Checklist of Cultivar Names in the Genus *Syringa* L.

- New cultivar names continued to be submitted in 2007
- Mr. Vrugtman attended 5th Symposium on Taxonomy of Cultivated Plants in The Netherlands, presented poster on Registry

Flora of North America and Taxonomy of the Gentian Family

- New manuscripts on taxonomy of Gentianaceae and Clematis, conducted research at Missouri Botanical Garden and Harvard University

Field Taxonomy and Education

- Dr. Pringle led trips for annual Wildflower Pilgrimage organized by Biology Division, University of Tennessee and cooperating organizations

Library and Archives

David Galbraith

Library Redevelopment

- Auxiliary volunteers managed library services in 2007; major project returning books from storage led by volunteer Anne Simpson
- Significant portion of collection retrieved from storage, re-shelved, indexed in temporary space

Royal Botanical Gardens Archives

- Our own archives continued to grow under direction of volunteer archivist Marie Minaker; the Auxiliary generously provided supplies
- Archives continued to provide valuable historic references in 2007 for both publications and researchers

Centre for Canadian Historical Horticultural Studies

- Researchers used historic archival resources to study antique rose varieties
- Auxiliary volunteers undertook care of historic seed and nursery catalogue collection, removing staples, storing in acid-free envelopes, revising database

Botanical Conservation Office

Established in 1995 to promote national and international cooperation in plant conservation, biodiversity and related issues.

Canadian Botanical Conservation Network

- Montreal Botanical Gardens, Royal Botanical Gardens and CBCN cooperated to help botanical gardens educators across Canada in 2007, including new web resources

Global Strategy for Plant Conservation National Focal Point

- Strategy is global effort to halt plant extinction, provide benefits to humanity under UN Convention on Biological Diversity
- Project provides information services, awareness building

North American Botanic Gardens Strategy for Plant Conservation

- Targets for conservation, sustainable development under GSPC
- Strategy printed in 2007 in English, French, Spanish

Genetic Markers in Conservation and Biodiversity Studies

- Study of genetic diversity of endangered wood-poppy (*Stylophorum diphyllum*)

Research Partnerships

University of Guelph

- March 2007: Shades of Green: Exploring Biodiversity, Human Values and Urban Planning one day of workshops and lectures on importance of green space to urban, rural Ontario
- University library specialists advised in redevelopment of Royal Botanical Gardens' library
- Flora of Ontario DNA-Barcoding Plant Collection included 200 higher plants, 20 specimens of lichens, mosses, liverworts

Extramural Research

Projects led by others, including undergraduate or graduate courses.

Leaf Morphology of Introduced Plants

Team: Thea Whitman (Undergraduate Student); Dr. Lonnie Aarssen (Supervisor), Biology Department Queen's University, Kingston

Princess Point Archaeology Field School

Camp sites occupied 2,000 to 400 ybp. Team: Dr. Helen Haines and students, Anthropology Department, University of Toronto at Mississauga

Plant Identification Field Course

Team: Dr. Ed Fife, Dr. Jim Dougan and students, Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design, University of Toronto

Field Course Observations of Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*) Foraging

Team: Dr. Margo Wilson, students, Psychology Department, McMaster University

Trees for Tomorrow Seed Collection

Team: David Depuyat, Ron Thayer, Mark Emery Elgin, Oxford and Middlesex Stewardship Committee, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

Feeding and Toxins in Snapping Turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*) in Cootes Paradise

Team: Dr. Shane DeSolla, Environment Canada

OUR LEGACY – Aleksander Tamsalu

An early contributor to research at Royal Botanical Gardens was Aleksander Tamsalu, a botanist working here from 1955 to 1960. Born in 1891 in Estonia and educated in Russia, he studied with Nikolai Vavilov, one of the world's greatest botanists. After a turbulent career (included being a resistance fighter in WWII) he came to North America in the early 1950s. He tirelessly explored Cootes Paradise and Hendrie Valley habitats, collecting specimens and mapping plant communities. When he died (1960) he left an astonishing 9,800 specimens in our herbarium, forming the core of what we know today about the botany of the nature sanctuaries.

OUR FUTURE – The Digital Herbarium

Herbarium collections are increasingly available electronically, and Royal Botanical Gardens is no exception. We were one of the first herbaria in Canada to have our catalogue on the Internet. In 2001 our digital catalogue (then about 15,000 specimens) went online as part of Canada's efforts to digitize biodiversity data. We're now planning a complete digital herbarium, placing not only our catalogue on the Internet for botanists to search, but also digitized copies of key specimens. By being able to access our herbarium over the Internet our specimens will be protected and many more researchers will be able to use them.

Research Associates

Researchers other than staff involved with the Gardens on ongoing basis.

- Dr. Sigal Balshine, Psychology Department, McMaster University
- Dr. Ronald J. Brooks, Department of Integrative Biology, University of Guelph
- Dr. Susan Dudley, Biology Department, McMaster University
- Dr. Peter Kevan, Environmental Biology Department, University of Guelph
- Dr. Thomas J. Schlereth, Departments of History, American Studies, Notre Dame University
- Dr. David Smith, Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto at Mississauga
- Mr. Freek Vrugtman, Royal Botanical Gardens Curator Emeritus

Aleksander Tamsalu

- **Library is under redevelopment**
- **Herbarium's digital catalogue has close to 22,000 entries**
- **Walking fern rediscovered along the escarpment**

Dr. Jim Pringle (with camera) is still conducting "Spring Wildflower Walks" along Royal Botanical Gardens' nature trails. PHOTO: 1978

- **Many marsh areas now boast 100% aquatic plant cover**
- **Bullfrogs and gray tree frogs reappear in our sanctuaries**
- **Dragonfly and damselfly species count at 29 — nearly triple that of 2006**

Above: Wetland conservation exhibit at the Canadian National Sportsmen's Show — a regular conservation department effort in the 1950s.

Below: The Fishway, operating now for ten years, continues to play a key role in the restoration of Cootes Paradise.

Conservation

David Galbraith, Head of Science/Interim Head of Conservation
Ben Porchuk, Head of Conservation

Ben Porchuk

After being led for two years by Royal Botanical Gardens' head of science, David Galbraith, in November the department welcomed Ben Porchuk to the position of head of conservation.

Aquatic Habitat Management and Restoration

Cootes Paradise and Hendrie Valley Marshes

The restoration of Cootes Paradise Marsh continued to successfully progress. 2007 highlights:

- Ecological restoration is significantly ahead of schedule in parts of the sanctuaries
- Many areas now boast 100 percent aquatic plant cover, while for the remainder of the areas carp are excluded and water quality is improving

MONITORING

Hickory Island

- Monitoring following total destruction of vegetation by a temporary colony of double-crested cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) documents how vegetation responds as cormorants move away
- Vegetation recovery continues with an estimated 50 percent of the island re-vegetated

Nuisance Wildlife

- Oiling prevented the hatching of 467 Canada goose (*Branta canadensis*) eggs and 32 mute swan (*Cygnus olor*) eggs — non-native mute swans increased, out-competing native trumpeter swans for nesting space

Water Quality

- Lower water and precipitation levels and inflowing pollutants resulted in poor water quality in Cootes Paradise Marsh late in the season
- Low water levels culminated in the temporary draining of Cootes Paradise in November, an event that hasn't occurred since the 1960s
- Upper Paradise Pond, President's Pond, and Hendrie Valley Ponds maintained high quality water

Marsh Plant Monitoring

- White water lilies (*Nympheae tuberosa*) increased by several hundred plants
- Southern wild rice (*Zizania aquatica*) grew successfully in multiple locations (generally in protective enclosures)
- Emergent plants expanded, particularly cattails (*Typha* sp.) with over 150,000 new plants

Marsh Monitoring for Amphibians

- Increase of several species, particularly leopard frogs (*Rana pipiens*), American toads (*Bufo americanus*) and green frogs (*R. clamitans*) and reappearance of bull frogs (*Lithobates catesbeianus*) in Hendrie Valley, and tree frogs (*Hyla versicolor*) in Cootes Paradise

Fisheries Biology and Habitat Management

- 81,293 fish of 31 different species documented at the Fishway with 4,410 non-native fish caught and returned to the harbour
- Since 1997 most native species have increased by a factor of five while carp numbers continue to decline, decreasing by more than 20,000
- Winter fish mortality in the harbour substantial across species
- We are monitoring the arrival of a new fish disease; viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS)
- Among the most successful years for spawning—large numbers of yellow perch and largemouth bass documented
- Massive fish kill in Cootes Paradise due to fire and spill upstream at a pesticide packaging plant
- Return of Bigmouth buffalo (*Ictiobus cyprinellus*; one of our rarest fish and nationally listed as a species of Special Concern): eleven individuals recorded at the Fishway and seven in Sunfish Pond

RESTORATION

Aquatic Plantings

- Over 10,000 wetland plants added to Cootes Paradise with the focus on the mouth of Desjardins Canal/Spencer Creek and Long Valley Marsh
- Southern wild rice (*Zizania aquatic*a) reintroduction — see Marsh Plant Monitoring

Grindstone and Spencer Creek Channel Management

Ongoing maintenance of stream corridors to recover a natural channel shape

Spencer Creek Floodplain Reconnection

- Habitat and water quality improvement resulting from reconnection of creek to its floodplain has inspired the idea of replication in other areas along the channel

Carroll's Bay Nature Sanctuary

- Diverse rare plants and animals continue to survive in Carroll's Bay Marsh
- Water quality, while improved remains poor as invasive carp remain dominant
- Sediment results show inner bay is uncontaminated, while signs of harbour metals contamination noted in outer bay

Terrestrial Habitat Management and Restoration

MONITORING

Prescribed Burns

- Qualitative and quantitative monitoring completed at Sassafras Point, York, Boulevard Prairie, Bull's Point and Princess Point Oak Savannah to assess success of program

Sunfish Pond

- Quantitative monitoring of trees and shrubs planted in the riparian zone of Sunfish Pond was completed as well as quantitative and qualitative monitoring of invasive plants

Odonate (Dragonfly and Damselfly) Count

- 29 species were recorded compared with 11 the year before, including a number that were new for the count and others that were new to our property

RESTORATION

Westdale

- A sanitary sewer was removed from Westdale Creek. Staff removed the concrete weir, re-channeled the stream, replanted the area and created two new amphibian ponds

Sunfish Pond

- Naturalization using native prairie and savannah tree, shrub, grass and wildflower species and stabilization of 30 degree embankment slope — restoration of riparian zone and removal of invasive species underway

Prescribed Burns

- Burns at Sassafras and Bull's Point restored eight hectares of oak savannah and woodland habitat. Several regionally and provincially rare plants re-emerged after burns and areas remained free of garlic mustard

Seed Collection

- Wetland, prairie and forest seed collected in nature sanctuaries, processed and stored for use in restoration projects

Invasive Species Control

Garlic Mustard and Periwinkle

- Two multi-year programs initiated to control garlic mustard at Bull's Point and Rock Chapel and periwinkle in Hendrie Valley

Collaborations

- Trailwatch: a volunteer program that monitors the condition of our trails. Volunteers submit forms that describe trail conditions and issues. Staff compile the forms and takes action as required.
- Niagara College Ecosystem Restoration Program: the first year of a partnership that continues in 2008 saw students complete a theoretical restoration of a portion of the Pinetum and provide an updated interpretation of the collection

SPECIES AT RISK — NEW IN 2007

- Royal Botanical Gardens is among the very few places in Canada or Ontario to host so many species at risk (approximately 40)
- Focus of 2007 program: few-flowered club-rush (*Trichophorum planifolium*), red mulberry (*Morus rubra*), Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*), northern map turtle (*Graptemys geographica*), butternut (*Juglans cinerea*) and least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*)

Cootes to Escarpment Planning Project

- Supported by the Greenbelt Foundation, and working with individuals and agencies owning natural lands in the region, a study is being undertaken of 1,600 hectares that comprise "Cootes to Escarpment" corridor to create strategy for ecological health and sustainable recreation
- Background report prepared in 2007, draft final report is expected in early 2009

Helen M. Kippax (circa 1940s) pictured here relaxing in her garden, introduced Mary Stedman and her late sisters, Margaret and Ruth, to the Gardens in the 1940s. In 2005, a decision was made by the sisters to support the development of a garden to commemorate the life and legacy of their aunt, one of the nine founding members of the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (1934).

Helen M. Kippax Garden
This remarkable new garden, bounded on three sides by the natural lands of Grindstone Creek and Hendrie Valley, opens in early summer 2008. The Garden is intended to inspire and educate the public about the beauty and sustainable use of native plants.

The 2007 Steel Magnolia committee, led by co-chairs Louise Haac and Linda Brown, planned and presented a sumptuous, southern-style event that entertained our guests, updated them on the work of Royal Botanical Gardens and raised an incredible $160,000 in support of the Gardens.

Left to right: Louise Haac, Cathy Rideout (Auxiliary president) and Linda Brown

Development

Lisa Dodd, Director of Development

Lisa Dodd

People make the difference. Development volunteers meeting with interested individuals and talking about Royal Botanical Gardens resulted in more charitable support and laid the vitally important groundwork for future initiatives. Royal Botanical Gardens staff members worked collaboratively to acquire significantly more grants and awards in support of our mandated activities. Thousands of Royal Botanical Gardens' members renewed and new members joined us with increasing representation from across the region.

Why did people support Royal Botanical Gardens in 2007?

Like a well-tended plant, Royal Botanical Gardens is bursting with beauty, life and momentum. Everything at the Gardens is flourishing, from its growing gardens and expanding education, conservation, science and research programs, to the enthusiasm of its members, visitors, volunteers and donors. But there is a growing recognition that we need to do more to sustain this momentum and expand the Gardens' role as a teaching institution fostering best practices in gardening, conservation, environmental stewardship and the love and enjoyment of nature.

Development Supporters in 2007

1	Annual Stewardship Breakfast sponsor
2	Wollemi pine exhibition supporters
3	New Endowment funds
4	Festival and music sponsors
6	Summer student and intern sponsors
23	Steel Magnolia sponsors
26	Society donations
54	Grants and awards supporting horticulture, education, conservation and science
146	In-kind donations from orchids to snowshoes
148	Memorial donations and bequests
1,393	Individual donations
11,087	Royal Botanical Gardens' members
24,243	Member visits

Development plans for 2008 are far-reaching and ambitious.

Like our founding members and supporters, we will be tenacious and focused in supporting the important activities of Royal Botanical Gardens.

Left: 1971 concert in the Lilac Dell, Arboretum

Right: Red-Hot Jazz & Cool Blues continues to be a popular event.

Below: Ross Halloran

Marketing and Visitor Experience

Ross Halloran, Director of Marketing and Visitor Experience

2007 was a breakthrough year for the marketing and visitor services group. We installed a new ticketing system to improve admissions access control and stakeholder reporting. Overall admissions were up and our ethnocultural outreach initiatives saw dramatic increases in visitors originating from Asian, South Asian and Eastern European communities. New art and cultural events extended our season supported by innovative multi-media advertising and marketing programs that raised our profile regionally as well as nationally. Regular public relations and communications efforts saw Royal Botanical Gardens in the news on almost a daily basis and the production of a new *Branching Out* full-length DVD finally gave a voice to the our four mandated areas. External promotional partnerships with other organizations such as Ontario Place and the CN Tower enhanced Royal Botanical Gardens' standing as a pre-eminent horticultural expert in Canada.

Ticketing Access Control

- Installed new ticketing and access control system to link RBG Center and the remote garden areas

Admissions

- Increased overall 2007 admissions by 25.3 percent and regular paid admissions 51.2 percent over 2006

Special Events and Exhibits

- New events: Picnics in Paradise at the Arboretum, Tranquil Thursdays classical music series in Laking Garden
- New exhibits: Glass Under Glass and Crop art exhibit in Mediterranean Garden
- Outreach: Participated in over 30 community outreach events and tradeshows
- Annual: second year of Zimsculpt stone sculpture exhibit and sixth year of Red-Hot Jazz and Cool Blues music series in Hendrie Park Gardens

Marketing

- Launched new Escape to Paradise theme in all promotional materials
- Completed *Branching Out* DVD and many non-mandated promotional DVDs
- Updated website to include new streaming video content and virtual tours

Advertising

- First ever 12-week, 50-foot outdoor billboard of Royal Botanical Gardens on Gardiner Expressway reaching 90,000 westbound motorists daily
- Two separate six-week television campaigns on CBC, Bravo, Weather Network for Royal Botanical Gardens and Zimsculpt
- Additional advertising: radio, newspapers, magazines throughout the year

Multi-cultural Initiatives

- Launched new dual-dialect Chinese language website, Chinese language newspaper campaign and lure brochure
- Conducted new advertising campaigns in Polish, Ukranian, and Russian language newspapers

Communications

- Hired new communications manager in May
- Increased quantity and quality of media coverage over 2006
- Revamped *Now @ THE GARDENS* content and reduced to a quarterly publication

Green Initiatives

- Compostable cups, lids and spoons in Fountain Court Café
- Print materials on FSC-approved 100% post-consumer recycled paper
- Gift shop now features a wide selection of eco-forward retail products

Corporate Partnerships

Attractions: Ontario Place, CN Tower, Toronto Attractions Council, Dundurn Castle, Ontario Tourism Information Centres; **Marketing**: Town Publishing, Aldershot BIA, Shop Dine Tour Toronto Tourism; **Agencies**: Hamilton Tourism, Tourism Burlington, Brantford Tourism, OTMP; **Museums**: AGO, AGH, ROM; **Hotels**: Travelodge, Sheraton Centre, Les Clefs d'Or Concierge (Niagara and Toronto chapters)

Marketing support of Mandated Activities

- Produced new 85-minute *Branching Out* DVD on mandate services
- 10th anniversary event celebration of Project Paradise
- 60th anniversary education event celebration
- Shades of Green science symposium
- Earth Day Event
- Created Student Host of the Environment (SHOE) volunteer program

FLEUR-ANGE LAMOTHE

Left top: Auxiliary Garden — coffee break after planting seedlings for all dried flower arrangements.

Middle: Margaret Barnes appreciates the splendor of the Auxiliary Garden

Bottom: Steel Magnolia volunteer team

Rigth: An early Auxiliary Plant Sale held at RBG Centre.

FLEUR-ANGE LAMOTHE

The Auxiliary of Royal Botanical Gardens

Cathy Rideout, President

Cathy Rideout

The Auxiliary is a large part of the history of Royal Botanical Gardens. We've supported the Gardens with our volunteer activities and donations for almost half a century and we look forward to continuing to grow with Royal Botanical Gardens in the years to come.

Here is a look at how much we've grown over the years, what we hope the future holds, and some highlights from our activities in 2007:

50	different areas in which to volunteer (and growing!)
400	volunteers in 2007 (includes 50 friends)
1,000	volunteers — our long-term goal
43,767	hours of volunteer service donated to Royal Botanical Gardens for 2007
$50,000	donated in 2007 for ongoing projects
$150,000	approved for donation of the elevator in Camilla and Peter Dalglish Atrium

The Auxiliary volunteers worked hard to make 2007 a successful year for Royal Botanical Gardens. And we took time to enjoy ourselves while we were working.

Have you been sitting back thinking, "it looks like the volunteers have fun; as a team they accomplish so much and it is obvious how much Royal Botanical Gardens really needs and appreciates them?" If so, come and join us. We would love for you to help us reach our goal of 1,000 volunteers. Call us at 905 577-7771 or email auxiliary@rbg.ca.

The Auxiliary of Royal Botanical Gardens has been an integral part of our history, growth and development. With ambitious plans to increase their numbers to 1,000, the Auxiliary continues to be a major force in shaping the Gardens of tomorrow.

"The Women's Committee, organized within the Members' Association as an auxiliary to the Royal Botanical Gardens, held its inaugural meeting on January 17, 1961 … Membership quickly reached 100 and when each was placed in working sub-committees according to expressed interests and talents, additional members were received."

—Royal Botanical Gardens Special Bulletin No. 14, March 1962

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS
(A Corporation without Share Capital)

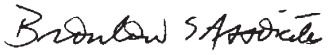
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

AUDITOR'S REPORT
To the Members of Royal Botanical Gardens

We have audited the statement of financial position of Royal Botanical Gardens as at December 31, 2007, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at December 31, 2007 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. As required by the Corporations Act (Ontario), we report that, in our opinion, these principles have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.



Brownlow & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants
Ancaster, Ontario
March 20, 2008

(The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements)

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS
(A Corporation without Share Capital)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2007

ASSETS	2007	2006
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 384,368	$ 1,777,505
Accounts receivable	314,763	273,177
Inventory	105,507	105,138
Prepaid expenses and other assets	180,121	189,355
	984,759	2,345,175
INVESTMENTS (note 5)	14,346,298	14,293,720
CAPITAL ASSETS, NET (note 6)	14,105,416	12,323,531
	$ 29,436,473	$ 28,962,426
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	$ 1,346,373	$ 808,132
Deferred operating contributions (note 7)	4,200,570	4,085,273
Deferred revenues	271,275	926,105
	5,818,218	5,819,510
DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS CAPITAL ASSETS (note 8)	11,260,068	11,754,098
DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS CAPITAL FUNDING (note 8)	514,989	340,518
DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS CAPITAL FUNDS (note 8)	8,330,877	7,982,433
DEFERRED CAPITAL - COIP FUNDING ON CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS (note 8)	841,197	-
	26,765,349	25,896,559
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	(938,544)	(338,396)
Investment in capital assets (note 10)	1,158,640	569,433
Endowments (note 11)	2,122,931	2,022,400
Board restricted funds (note 12)	247,726	238,021
Unrealized gains on investments (note 5)	80,371	574,409
	2,671,124	3,065,867
	$ 29,436,473	$ 28,962,426

Commitments and contingencies (note 18)
Approved by the Board

Director

(The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements)

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS
(A Corporation without Share Capital)

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

REVENUE	**2007**	**2006**
Operating grants		
Province of Ontario – Ministry of Culture	$ 1,911,997	$ 1,912,003
City of Hamilton	575,525	558,042
Regional Municipality of Halton	630,053	624,365
Transition Funding	1,655,000	1,360,000
	4,772,575	4,454,410
Amortization of deferred capital contributions (note 8)	926,125	924,982
Amortization of self-funded capital assets (note 10)	116,647	66,169
Investment income (note 9)	59,998	186,908
Admissions, marketing and visitor experience (note 9 & 15)	1,756,224	1,524,190
Donation from Auxiliary of RBG (note 13)	50,000	48,121
Development – donations	457,636	338,741
Membership fees	363,469	310,501
Mandated activities (note 9 & 15)	1,350,936	923,608
Other fees	53,750	66,220
	9,907,360	8,843,850
EXPENSES		
Operations and maintenance		
Buildings and equipment	1,403,212	1,424,021
Amortization of capital assets (note 10)	1,042,772	991,151
	2,445,984	2,415,172
Mandated activities (note 15)		
Horticulture — gardens, parklands and sanctuaries	1,639,281	1,768,770
Conservation and environmental programs	433,748	63,401
Scientific and research programs	172,348	333,615
Education programs	929,522	645,992
	3,174,899	2,811,778
Administration	1,283,853	1,415,732
Development fundraising	371,339	132,062
Membership services	69,005	174,384
Admissions, marketing and visitor experience (note 15)	2,492,326	1,846,299
	4,216,523	3,568,477
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	$ 69,954	$ 48,423

(The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements)

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS
(A Corporation without Share Capital)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

	Unrestricted	Investment in capital assets (note 10)	Endowments (note 11)	Board restricted funds (note 12)	Unrealized gains on investments (note 5)	Total 2007	Total 2006
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	$ (338,396)	$ 569,433	$ 2,022,400	$ 238,021	$ 574,409	$ 3,065,867	$ 2,427,021
Excess of revenues over expenses for the year	69,954	-	-	-	-	69,954	48,423
Investment in capital assets	(670,102)	670,102	-	-	-	-	(58,122)
Amortization - Investment in capital assets	-	(116,647)	-	-	-	(116,647)	-
Auxilliary funds contributed to Investment in Capital Assets	-	35,752	-	-	-	35,752	-
Endowment contributions	-	-	25,000	-	-	25,000	-
Change in market value of investments	-	-	-	-	(494,038)	(494,038)	574,409
Investment income allocations	-	-	87,900	9,705	-	97,605	237,550
Transfer	-	-	(12,369)	-	-	(12,369)	(163,414)
NET ASSETS, END OF THE YEAR	$ (938,544)	$ 1,158,640	$ 2,122,931	$ 247,726	$ 80,371	$ 2,671,124	$ 3,065,867

(The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements)

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS
(A Corporation without Share Capital)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	**2007**	**2006**
Excess of revenues over expenses for the year	$ 69,954	$ 48,423
Adjustments for:		
- amortization of capital assets	1,042,772	991,151
- amortization of deferred capital contributions	(926,125)	(924,982)
- amortization of investment in capital assets	(116,647)	(66,169)
- deferred operating contributions recognized as revenue	(263,009)	(57,500)
	(193,055)	(9,077)
Net changes in non-cash working capital balances related to operations	(149,310)	13,643
Cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(342,365)	4,566
INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Acquisition of capital assets	(1,137,949)	(191,638)
Construction in progress	(1,686,708)	-
Increase in endowments	100,531	39,263
Increase in board restricted funds	9,705	34,873
Increase in investment in capital assets	705,855	8,047
Increase in deferred operating contributions	378,306	1,481,585
Increase in deferred capital contributions - capital assets	432,095	183,591
Increase in deferred capital contributions - capital funding	174,470	340,518
Increase in deferred capital contributions - capital funds	348,444	791,852
Increase in deferred capital contributions - funding on construction	841,197	-
Investment of reserves in capital assets	(670,102)	-
Increase in investments	(52,578)	(2,005,291)
Change in market value of investments	(494,038)	574,409
Cash provided by investing and financing activities	(1,050,772)	1,257,209
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS DURING THE YEAR	(1,393,137)	1,261,775
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	1,777,505	515,730
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE YEAR	$ 384,368	$ 1,777,505
Cash and cash equivalents are comprised of the following:		
Cash	$ 384,368	$ 479,889
Cash equivalents	-	1,297,616
	$ 384,368	$ 1,777,505

(The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements)

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS
(A Corporation without Share Capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

1. DESCRIPTION

Royal Botanical Gardens is one of Canada's premier cultural, educational and scientific institutions, comprised of more than 1,100 hectares of horticultural display gardens, arboretum, woodlands, wetlands and 30 kilometres of trails. Royal Botanical Gardens is an agency of the Ontario Ministry of Culture and receives additional support from the City of Hamilton (the "City"), the Regional Municipality of Halton, Royal Botanical Gardens members, the Auxiliary of Royal Botanical Gardens (the "Auxiliary"), many corporations, foundations and individuals.

The Auxiliary is incorporated under the laws of Ontario as a separate corporation without sharecapital and was established to promote the objects and interests of Royal Botanical Gardens through volunteer service. The activities of the Auxiliary are undertaken with the approval of the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Royal Botanical Gardens and any profits are to be used by Royal Botanical Gardens. The accounts of the Auxiliary are not consolidated in these financial statements.

Royal Botanical Gardens has an economic beneficial interest in a Crown-controlled foundation, Royal Botanical Gardens' Crown Foundation (the "Crown Foundation"), which is not consolidated in these financial statements. The principal objectives of the Crown Foundation are to solicit, receive and distribute money and other property to support the mission and activities of Royal Botanical Gardens.

Royal Botanical Gardens is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act (Canada) and, as such, is exempt from income taxes.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles applied within the framework of the significant accounting policies summarized below:

(a) Revenue Recognition

(i) Grants are recorded as revenue when the related expenses have been incurred and the applications for the grants have been approved by the relevant government agencies. Grants, which have been received in advance of incurring the related expenses, are included on the statement of financial position as deferred contributions.

(ii) Unrestricted donations are recognized as revenue in the year in which they are received. Restricted donations are deferred and recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.

(iii) Externally restricted contributions for depreciable capital assets are deferred and amortized over the life of the related assets. Externally restricted contributions for land are recorded as a direct increase in net assets invested in capital assets. Externally restricted capital asset contributions that have not been expended are recorded as part of deferred capital contributions on the statement of financial position.

Self-funded contributions for depreciable capital assets are deferred and amortizedover the life of the related assets. Self-funded capital asset contributions that have not been expended are recorded as part of investment in capital assets on the statement of financial position.

(iv) Endowment contributions are recognized as direct increases in endowment net assets in the year in which they are received.

(b) Donations in kind

Donations in kind of $111,072 (2006: $10,015) are recorded at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation and are included in "membership fees and donations" and "user fees and other income" in the statement of operations.

(c) Investments

All investments are classified as available-for-sale because Royal Botanical Gardens does not intend to trade the investments for short-term profit making.

Unrealized holding gains and losses related to available-for-sale investments are excluded from net income and are included in net assets until such gains or losses are realized or an other than temporary impairment is determined to have occurred. When investments are sold, realized gains or losses are recognized in the statement of operations.

The quoted market price was used to estimate the fair value of the financial instruments held as investments.

Investment income, net of investment management fees, is allocated to the restricted deferred funds on a prorated basis, as per their opening balances. Restricted deferred funds consist of the following: deferred operating contributions, endowment funds, board restricted funds and deferred capital contributions — capital funds.

(d) Inventory

Inventory, which consists of items available for sale in Royal Botanical Gardens gift shop, is valued at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined on the first-in, first-out basis.

(e) Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost, except for donated assets, which are recorded at fair market value at the date of contribution. The fair market value of donated land at the date of contribution could not be determined and therefore the total 1,100 hectares of land have been recorded at a nominal value of $9,428.

Amortization is provided on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

Building	40 years
Mechanical equipment	20 years
Gardens and natural area infrastructures	20 years
Roadways and parking lots	20 years
Vehicles and equipment	5 years
Furniture and fixtures	10 years
Computer equipment	3 years
Media stock	5 years
Exhibits	3 years

(f) Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual amounts could differ from those recorded in the financial statements.

3. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING POLICY

During the year, Royal Botanical Gardens adopted the provision of CICA Handbook Section 3855 Financial Instruments - Recognition and Measurement. The new generally accepted accounting principle requires investments to be recorded at their fair market value rather than at cost. As a result of adopting this new standard, Royal Botanical Gardens recorded an unrealized gain for the change in accounting for financial assets classified as available-for-sale and measured at fair value instead of cost. The change in accounting policy was applied retrospectively and the comparative balances on the financial statements have been restated. This change increased the investment value during 2007 by $80,371 (2006: $574,409).

4. RECLASSIFICATION

Certain 2006 comparative amounts were reclassified to conform to the current year's financial statement presentation.

5. INVESTMENTS

The investments consist of funds that are professionally managed, diversified and are invested in the following categories: cash and near cash securities, fixed income securities and equity securities.

	2007	**2006**
Cost of investments at December 31	$ 14,265,927	$ 13,719,311
Unrealized gains on investments	80,371	574,409
Market value at December 31	$ 14,346,298	$ 14,293,720

Investments are valued at market as at year end and are composed of the following types of securities:

Cash, cash equivalents and accrued interest	$ 446,754	$ 963,380
Fixed income securities	6,960,283	7,118,802
Equity securities	6,939,261	6,211,538
	$ 14,346,298	$ 14,293,720

Royal Botanical Gardens has undertaken and committed to the completion of a construction project: adding a new section to the building at RBG Centre, building a new signature garden and revitalizing Rose Garden in Hendrie Park Gardens. This project will be funded in part from Capital and Third Party Restricted funds and will necessarily require that a significant portion of the invested pool of funds be liquidated over the coming year. It is management's intention to liquidate investments to provide up to $8,330,877.

6. CAPITAL ASSETS

The change in net book value of capital assets was due to the following:

	2007	2006
Balance, beginning of the year	$ 12,323,531	$13,123,044
Purchase of capital assets funded by deferred capital contributions	432,095	183,591
Purchase of capital assets internally funded	705,854	8,047
Construction in progress	1,686,708	-
Amortization of capital assets	(1,042,772)	(991,151)
Balance, end of the year	$ 14,105,416	$12,323,531

Capital assets consist of the following:

	2007		
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net
Land (note 2e)	$ 9,428	-	$ 9,428
Buildings	14,508,682	$ 7,191,428	7,317,254
Mechanical equipment	2,456,847	1,146,567	1,310,280
Gardens and natural area infrastructures	4,070,709	1,726,799	2,343,910
Roadways and parking lots	1,644,047	999,420	644,627
Vehicles and equipment	1,138,114	1,105,639	32,475
Furniture and fixtures	904,003	700,392	203,611
Computer equipment	1,571,289	1,260,333	310,956
Media stock	151,430	15,143	136,287
Exhibits	131,856	21,976	109,880
Construction in progress	1,686,708	-	1,686,708
	$ 28,273,113	$ 14,167,697	$ 14,105,416

	2006		
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net
Land (note 2e)	$ 9,428	-	$ 9,428
Buildings	14,313,321	$ 6,831,153	7,482,168
Mechanical equipment	2,445,835	1,024,000	1,421,835
Gardens and natural area infrastructures	3,862,419	1,528,471	2,333,948
Roadways and parking lots	1,644,047	917,217	726,830
Vehicles and equipment	1,102,030	1,018,688	83,342
Furniture and fixtures	873,233	611,530	261,703
Computer equipment	1,198,142	1,193,865	4,277
	$ 25,448,455	$ 13,124,924	$ 12,323,531

7. DEFERRED OPERATING CONTRIBUTIONS

The change in deferred operating contributions during the year consists of the following:

	2007	2006
Balance, beginning of the year	$ 4,085,273	$ 2,689,894
Amount drawn from funds during the year from prior years	(263,009)	(130,854)
Amount drawn from funds during the year and received during the year	(57,625)	-
Contributions received in the year from fund raising	208,371	985,524
Contributions received from the Auxiliary during the year	50,000	48,121
Investment income allocation	177,560	492,588
Balance, end of the year	$ 4,200,570	$ 4,085,273

Deferred operating contributions consist of the following:

	2007	2006
Externally restricted funds:		
Project Paradise (see below)	$ 571,169	$ 701,835
Dorothy Muriel Matson Fund	655,030	627,746
Dunington Grubb Fund	501,080	480,208
Barbara Laking Memorial	136,712	130,970
Stanley Smith Horticultural Fund	25,554	24,490
Anna Harvey Clematis Fund	13,519	12,956
Dr. Ronald Graham Fund	34,541	33,102
J. Douglas Watson Memorial	16,182	15,508
New World Species Fund	11,827	11,334
Dorothy Miller Fund	645,637	617,074
Mary Stedman	468,538	330,484
Ruth Stedman	534,822	512,545
Margaret Stedman	65,523	62,794
Sunfish Pond Restoration – CN Rail 3	57,147	400,000
Auxiliary Greenhouse	-	40,065
Bob and Margaret Macdonald Lilac Fund	51,617	50,000
Appeal – Horticulture and Education	26,835	-
Appeal – Protecting Paradise	36,247	-
Miscellaneous Small Funds	48,590	34,162
	$ 4,200,570	$ 4,085,273

Project Paradise:

The restoration of Cootes Paradise as part of the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration project in Cootes Paradise and Grindstone Creek and the Hamilton Remedial Action Plan is still in progress. The Project Paradise fund has been established by various donors to support this project.

Detail of amount drawn from funds during the year:

	From Existing Funds	Funds Received in the year	2007	2006
Project Paradise Fund	$ 162,150	$ -	$ 162,150	$ 25,675
Barbara Laking Memorial Fund	-	-	-	30,000
Dorothy Miller Fund	-	-	-	1,500
Sunfish Pond Restoration Fund	60,238	-	60,238	-
Auxiliary contributions	40,065	50,000	90,065	73,352
Bob and Margaret Macdonald Lilac Fund	556	-	556	-
Miscellaneous Small Funds	-	7,625	7,625	327
	$ 263,009	$ 57,625	$ 320,634	$ 130,854

Detail of net contributions to funds received during the year:

	2007	2006
Project Paradise Fund	$ 980	$ 520
Barbara Laking Memorial Fund	50	200
Mary Stedman	123,690	-
Ruth Stedman	-	463,725
Sunfish Pond Restoration – CN Rail	-	400,000
Auxiliary contributions	-	69,879
Bob and Margaret Macdonald Lilac Fund	-	50,000
Appeal – Horticulture and Education	26,835	-
Appeal – Protecting Paradise	36,247	-
Miscellaneous Small Funds	20,569	1,200
	$ 208,371	$ 985,524

8. DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Deferred capital contributions consist of the following:

	2007	2006
Balance, beginning of the year	$ 20,077,049	$ 19,686,070
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	(926,125)	(924,982)
Contributions received for capital purposes	1,449,263	581,084
Investment income on deferred capital contributions	346,944	734,877
Balance, end of the year	$ 20,947,131	$ 20,077,049

Deferred capital contributions consist of the following:

Deferred capital contributions - capital assets	$ 11,260,068	$ 11,754,098
Deferred capital contributions - construction in progress	1,686,708	-
Funds previously expended	12,946,776	11,754,098
Deferred capital contributions - to fund capital commitment	8,000,355	8,322,951
	$ 20,947,131	$ 20,077,049

Deferred capital contributions consist of the following:

	2007	2006
Deferred capital contributions - capital assets	$ 11,260,068	$ 11,754,098
Deferred capital contributions - capital funding	514,989	340,518
Deferred capital contributions - capital funds		
Higginson Fund	4,165,228	3,991,733
Garfield Weston	4,109,524	3,938,350
Phase One Capital Contributions	56,125	52,350
	8,330,877	7,982,433
Deferred capital contributions – COIP funding on construction in progress	841,197	-
	$ 20,947,131	$ 20,077,049

9. REVENUE

Investment income consists of:

	2007	2006
Investment income earned during the year	$ 745,447	$ 1,589,286
Less: Investment management fees	(75,708)	(100,778)
Net investment funds available for allocation	669,739	1,488,508
Allocation to deferred capital contributions - capital funds	(346,944)	(734,877)
Allocation to deferred operating contributions	(177,560)	(492,588)
Allocation to endowment funds	(75,532)	(39,262)
Allocation to board restricted funds	(9,705)	(34,873)
Total investment income	$ 59,998	$ 186,908

Admissions, marketing and visitor experience consist of:

General and miscellaneous marketing revenue	$ 45,594	$ 647
General and group admissions	393,050	303,384
Special events	383,028	252,769
Food and beverage	176,486	136,440
Rentals	349,194	471,407
Garden Shop sales	408,872	359,543
Total revenues from admissions, marketing and visitor experience	$ 1,756,224	$ 1,524,190

Mandated activities consist of:

Revenues from mandated activities:		
Horticulture — gardens, parklands and sanctuaries	$ 33,509	$ 896
Conservation and environmental programs	446,588	29,499
Scientific and research programs	124,772	276,063
Education programs	746,067	617,150
Total mandated activities	$ 1,350,936	$ 923,608

10. INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL ASSETS

The change in investment in capital assets is calculated as follows:

	2007	2006
Excess of expenses over revenue		
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	$ 926,125	$ 924,982
Amortization of self-funded capital assets	116,647	66,169
Amortization of capital assets	(1,042,772)	(991,151)
Investment in capital assets, beginning of the year	569,433	627,555
Net change in investment in capital assets		
Purchases of self-funded capital assets	705,854	8,047
Amortization of self-funded capital assets above	(116,647)	(66,169)
Increase (decrease) in investment in capital assets	589,207	(58,122)
Investment in capital assets, end of the year	$ 1,158,640	$ 569,433

The investment in capital assets consists of the following:

	2007	2006
Capital assets, net (note 6)	$ 14,105,416	$ 12,323,531
Amounts financed by deferred capital contributions	(12,946,776)	(11,754,098)
Investment in capital assets	$ 1,158,640	$ 569,433

11. ENDOWMENTS

Contributions restricted for endowments consist of donations received by Royal Botanical Gardens where the endowment principal is required to remain intact. Accordingly, these amounts are classified as long-term investments. The investment income generated from the endowments must be used in accordance with the purposes established by donors. A policy has been established by the Board whereby the endowment funds are preserved from inflation by allocation of investment income. The provision for the year 2007 was established at 2% (2006: 2%).

	2007	2006
Balance, beginning of the year	$ 2,022,400	$ 1,983,138
Contributions received during the year	25,000	-
Investment income on endowment funds	87,900	202,676
Endowment funds taken into income	(12,369)	(163,414)
Balance, end of the year	$ 2,122,931	$ 2,022,400

Endowments consist of:

	2007	2006
General endowment	$ 20,747	$ 20,000
Woodland Garden Fund	644,588	621,381
Palmer Memorial Fund	193,387	186,425
Osborne Memorial Fund	71,803	69,219
Beth Parker Orchid Fund	31,500	30,366
Anne Elizabeth Powell Memorial	687,928	663,161
Albert Nind Scholarship Fund	28,727	27,691
A. Parker Orchid Lab	18,035	17,385
Drs L & J Robinson, Medicinal Garden	56,143	54,122
Broman Land Trust	78,358	75,537
Elizabeth M. Lindley	266,715	257,113
Library Endowment Fund	25,000	-
	$ 2,122,931	$ 2,022,400

The statement of changes in net assets reflects a transfer of investment income in excess of the 2% inflationary adjustment interest from endowments to unrestricted to reflect the use of these funds in the current year in accordance with donor restrictions.

Investment income pro-rated to endowment funds and available for distribution exceed the amount of revenue recognized by $35,084. This balance became available too late in the year to be prudently expanded, according to the restrictions of each fund. The balance remains available for disbursement in 2008.

12. BOARD RESTRICTED FUNDS

Net assets subject to Board restrictions represent amounts received by Royal Botanical Gardens that have been restricted for specific purposes by the Board. Generally, the Board will restrict bequests, donations and interest earned on these monies. These restricted amounts are not available for other purposes without approval of the Board.

The change in board restricted funds is calculated as follows:

	2007	2006
Balance, beginning of the year	$ 238,021	$ 203,148
Investment income on endowment funds	9,705	34,873
Balance, end of the year	$ 247,726	$ 238,021

Board restricted funds consist of the following:

	2007	2006
General	$ 232,980	$ 223,275
Organizational	14,746	14,746
Balance, end of the year	$ 247,726	$ 238,021

13. AUXILIARY OF THE ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

The accounts of the Auxiliary are presented separately and are not consolidated in these financial statements. Due to the nature of the operations, all of the net assets of the Auxiliary represent unrestricted funds. As at December 31, 2007, the balance of unrestricted funds of the Auxiliary was $223,034 (2006: $198,725).

During the year, total cash receipts and balance transfers to Royal Botanical Gardens by the Auxiliary amounted to $50,000 (2006: $184,233).

	2007	2006
Unrestricted contributions	$ 50,000	$ 48,121
Capital purchases	-	46,047
Deferred contributions restricted - operations applied in 2007	-	4,313
Deferred contributions restricted - capital applied in 2007	-	35,752
Phase One Capital Development Fund	-	50,000
Total cash receipts for the year	$ 50,000	$ 184,233

14. ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS CROWN FOUNDATION

As at December 31, 2007, the Crown Foundation reported total assets of $27,063 (2006: $27,024). During the year, no funds were distributed from the Crown Foundation to Royal Botanical Gardens (2006: nil).

15. OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Royal Botanical Gardens is mandated to provide a publicly accessible space for attractions and tourism and to carry out activities in its four mandated areas on behalf of the people of Ontario. These public services are not financially self

supporting and therefore require public funding in order to be sustained.
No provision has been made in this table for administration or overhead costs.

	Revenue	Expenses	2007 Surplus (Deficit)	2006 Surplus (Deficit)
Admissions, marketing and visitor experience:				
General and miscellaneous marketing	$ 45,594	$ 795,721	$ (750,127)	$ (601,842)
Admissions	393,050	382,500	10,550	(3,164)
Special events	383,028	765,714	(382,686)	(185,446)
Food and beverage commissions	176,486	-	76,486	136,440
Rentals	349,194	139,179	210,015	356,230
Garden shop sales	408,872	409,212	(340)	(24,666)
	$ 1,756,224	$ 2,492,326	$ (736,102)	$ (322,448)

	Revenue	Expenses	2007 Surplus (Deficit)	2006 Surplus (Deficit)
Mandated activities:				
Horticulture — gardens, parklands and sanctuaries	$ 33,509	$ 1,639,281	$(1,605,772)	$ (1,767,874)
Conservation and environmental programs	446,588	433,748	12,840	9,276
Scientific and research programs	124,772	172,348	(47,576)	(100,365)
Education programs	746,067	929,522	(183,455)	(29,207)
	$ 1,350,936	$ 3,174,899	$ (1,823,963)	$ (1,888,170)

As detailed in Note 7, revenues applied to mandated activities include $320,634 drawn from donor restricted deferred operating funds. These revenues represent the extent of private funding for these activities.

16. DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR

	2007	**2006**
Operating funds raised	$ 457,636	$ 338,741
Funds raised and applied to:		
Deferred operating contribution funds	208,371	915,645
Endowments	25,000	-
Deferred capital contribution funds	1,500	52,350
Total funds raised	$ 692,507	$ 1,306,736

The above balances do not include funds donated by the Auxiliary of RBG, nor grants applied to administration or mandated activities. Funds raised in 2006 include $400,000 contributed by CN Rail for the restoration of Sun Fish Pond and a private donation of $463,725 for the signature Helen M. Kippax Garden.

17. TRANSITION FUNDING

A three-year joint-funding program, designed to develop and rebuild Royal Botanical Gardens was announced in June of 2006. This exciting program is a partnership between our core funders: Ontario Ministry of Culture, Regional Municipality of Halton and City of Hamilton. Funding has been applied as follows:

Year	Funding
2006	$ 1,360,000
2007	1,655,000
2008	835,000
	$ 3,850,000

Funding through this program will decline by $820,000 in 2008 with respect to 2007. After 2008, there will be no further funding support from this program, resulting in a further decline of $835,000 in revenues. Royal Botanical Gardens will need to find alternative funding support if it is to maintain or improve upon the current level of mandated activities.

18. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

(a) In the ordinary course of business, Royal Botanical Gardens may be contingently liable for litigation and claims with customers, suppliers and former employees. Management believes that adequate provisions have been recorded in the accounts where required. Although it is not possible to accurately estimate the extent of potential costs and losses, if any, management believes, but can provide no assurance, that the ultimate resolution of such contingencies would not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of Royal Botanical Gardens.

(b) During the year, Royal Botanical Gardens was named in a lawsuit claiming damages in the amount of $2,000,000 for breach of contract. A counter claim has been filed with respect to this matter. As it is too early to determine the impact of these events, no amounts have been recorded in the financial statements.

19. COMMITMENT TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS

Royal Botanical Gardens has committed to the completion of a construction project in progress. This project comprises a structural addition to the building at RBG Centre, (to be called the Camilla and Peter Dalglish Atrium), a new signature garden (to be called the Helen M. Kippax Garden), and a revitalized Rose Garden in Hendrie Park Gardens. The Canada Ontario Infrastructure Program (COIP) project was originally budgeted to cost $11,680,000. However, our most recent revised forecast, after allowing for cost over runs and changes in scope, now amounts to $ 13,933,790.

Royal Botanical Gardens anticipated funding this completion of this project as follows:

Description	Amount
Current forecasted cost of the project	$ 13,933,790
Less: costs incurred to date	(1,686,708)
Costs to completion	12,247,082
Funds available:	
Remaining federal and provincial assistance through COIP funding	3,830,803
Investment portfolio available, prorated for Deferred Capital Contribution - Capital Funds	7,206,181
Investment portfolio available, prorated for committed Deferred Operating contributions	1,060,580
Pledged financial support from the Auxiliary	150,000
Total of funds available	12,247,564
Deficit to be covered by fund raising	$ 482

The final costs of this project, upon completion may differ from our current forecast.

2007 Donors, Supporters and Contributors

We are most grateful to everyone who supports Royal Botanical Gardens. Your generous contributions make possible the ongoing operation of this national treasure. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list and we apologize for any errors or omissions. Please call 905-527-1158, ext. 290 with any corrections. We also express our appreciation to those supporters whose names do not appear as they have chosen to remain anonymous.

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EP Ipswich
Garden Club Of Ancaster
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Queen's Garden
School Sisters of Notre Dame
Stratford & District Horticultural Society
The Auxiliary of Royal Botanical Gardens
Thorndale Horticultural Society
W.E.C. International
Winona Horticultural Society

2007 Publishing and Publications in Outside Media

GALBRAITH, DAVID A.

Chek, A. A., Prior, K. A., GALBRAITH, D. A., and Lougheed, S. C. 2007. *Application of Genetics to Conservation of Canadian Reptiles.* In Bishop, C. A., and Seburn, C. (Eds.) Ecology, Conservation and Status of reptiles in Canada. Herpetological Conservation 2. Chapter 7 (pg 113-130). ISBN-13: 978-0-916984-70-0.

_2007. Book Review: *Gaining Ground: In Pursuit of Ecological Sustainability.* Alternatives Journal 33(2&30): 52.

PRINGLE, JAMES S.

_2007. *Gentianaceae: Gentian family.* In: Rhoads, A.F., & T.A. Block, eds. 2007. The Plants of Pennsylvania: An Illustrated Manual, ed. 2. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. 764-770 (approx.)

_2007. *Validación de una nueva combinación en Gentianella (Gentianaceae).* Arnaldoa 14: 143. 2007.

THEŸSMEŸER, TŸS

_2007. *Cootes Paradise Restoration – Adopt a Creek.* BARC Newsletter. No. 58. pg 6 (Fall 2007)

VRUGTMAN, FREEK *

_2007. From the Registrar's Desk. Lilacs - Quart. Jour. 36(1):20-22.

Syringa vulgaris 'Lila Wonder', Bunnik 2005. History and description of a new introduction from The Netherlands, and a note about the Aalsmeer nurseries and the auction clock. [RBG Contribution 170].

_2007. Lilac Cultivar Name Registration 2005. HortScience 42(1):5.

Registration of the cultivar names *Syringa pubescens subsp. patula* 'De Belder', *and S. vulgaris* 'Weston's Rainbow'. Correction: *S.* (Villosae Group) 'Marie Rogers', the color of the fully formed flower buds is Red-Purple Group 71-A, opening to Purple-Violet Group 81-C. [RBG Contribution 129].

_2007. From the Registrar's Desk. Lilacs - Quart. Jour. 36(2):75-77.

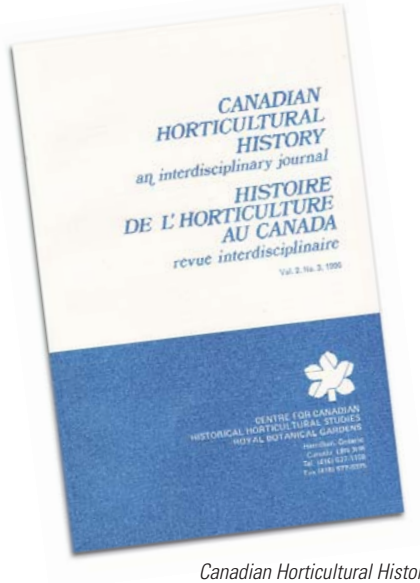
Syringa villosa 'Legacy', USDA-NRCS Bismarck, PI 540443, is not a clone, but a topovariant propagated from certified breeder's seed distributed by the USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center, Bismarck, North Dakota, USA.

_2007. From the Registrar's Desk. Lilacs - Quart. Jour. 36(3):117-118.

Syringa vulgaris Sensation White Reversion is not a cultivar name, it is a selector's designation or cognomen that has been attached to the white-flowering separation which occurs when bi-coloured *S. vulgaris* 'Sensation' is propagated from meristem cuttings.

_2007. Cultivar name registration — an information resource. Poster presentation. 5th Symposium on the Taxonomy of Cultivated Plants. Abstract book (p. 33) October 15-19, 2007 Wageningen University, The Netherlands.

* Freek Vrugtman is Royal Botanical Gardens' Curator Emeritus, having retired in 1992, and continues to serve as the International Lilac Cultivar Registrar.



Canadian Horticultural History was produced from 1985 to 1995 by the Centre for Canadian Historical Horticultural Studies (CCHHS) at Royal Botanical Gardens

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Executive Assistant
Marlene Sutherland

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Buildings Maintenance Technician
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Curator of Collections/Horticulturist
Alex Henderson
Plant Documentation Intern
Jodi Vanderheyden (from September)

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Lyall Rudderham
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Hendrie Park Gardens
James Koegler
Robert Kruizinga
Tim Schwenker
Laking Garden
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Arboretum
Richard Maslanka
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Head of Grants and Research Initiatives
Catherine Arlein
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Kerri Withers

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Plant Taxonomist
Dr. James S. Pringle, PhD
Field Botanist and Herbarium Curator
Natalie Iwanycki
Head of Conservation
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Tÿs Theÿsmeÿer
Restoration Ecologist
Jennifer Bowman (from April)
Terrestrial Ecologist
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Species at Risk Biologist
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Vicki Hopton (from August)
Senior Special Events Planner
Bill Peeling (from April to July)
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Andrew King (to April)
Alison Rath (to March)
Vicki Hopton (from May to July)
Scott Boyle (to October)
Robert Falconer (to October)
Katelan Dunn (from October)
Amanda Timmins (from October)
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Claudia Logan
Rentals Co-ordinator
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Visitor Services Manager
Vicki De Nardis (to July)
Acting Visitor Services Manager
Bill Peeling (from August)
Manager, Shop at the Gardens
Bonnie Collins
Reception
Laurie Mitchell (from March)

2007 Quick Facts

Royal Botanical Gardens is the largest botanical garden in Canada.
Royal Botanical Gardens features within its 60 documented collections approximately 40,000 plants displayed in five major garden exhibition areas.

History

1930 — Received Royal Charter from King George V
1932 — Opened to the public
1941 — Established by an Act of the Provincial Legislature

Visitation

480,000 (approximate). Paid visitors, school groups, conference attendees, trail users, etc.

Core Program Areas

Horticulture
Conservation
Education
Science

Employees

Spring and summer: 180
Off season: 66 full-time (38 part-time)

Membership

6,800 households (combined individual and family involving more than 11,500 individuals)

Auxiliary Volunteers

400 volunteers provided
43,767 volunteer hours

Royal Botanical Gardens Size

Total: 1,100 hectares (2,700 acres or 11-square kilometres)
Cultivated Gardens: 121 hectares (250 acres)
Nature Sanctuaries: 971 hectares (2,450 acres)
Trails: 23 kilometres

Charitable Registration Number

13350 0850 RR0001

Investment Manager

Jarislowsky, Fraser Ltd

Horticultural Collections and Highlights

8,000 taxa (different species and cultivars) in the permanent collection; maintains the International Lilac Registry

Rock Garden

40,000 spring flowering bulbs and 60,000 summer annuals

Arboretum

Features over 600 species and cultivars of lilacs, as well as extensive magnolia and crabapple collections

Laking Garden

1,100 iris and 400 peony species and cultivars, daylilies and hostas, ornamental grasses, as well as an extensive perennial garden and a heritage garden

Hendrie Park Gardens

The Gardens' largest garden area is noted for its collection of 2,000 antique and hybrid roses in the Centennial Rose Garden, as well as Woodland, Scented and Medicinal gardens, World of Botany and a remarkable collection of climbing plants on the Amy Pergola

Mediterranean Garden/RBG Centre

Two-storey indoor garden, features plant species from the world's five Mediterranean climate regions

Herbarium

80,000 specimens

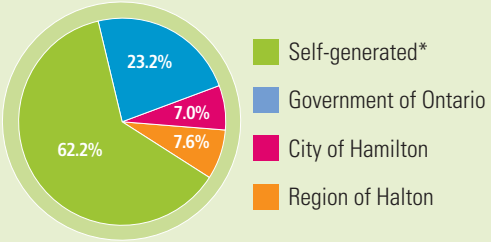
Wildlife Species Recorded at Royal Botanical Gardens

Birds: 263 species
Mammals: 25 species
Fish: 64 species
Amphibians: 16 species
Reptiles: 15 species

Wild Plant Species Recorded at Royal Botanical Gardens

1,160 species

Funding: (chart excludes transition funding)



* donations, memberships, admissions, rentals, gifts and grants

Cultural, Special Events and Conference Facilities

Annual events: Glass Under Glass, Mediterranean Food & Wine Festival, Tulip, Lilac, Iris and Peony, Rose celebrations, Tranquil Thursdays, Red-Hot Jazz & Cool Blues, Zimsculpt. Weddings and receptions: 75 couples married at the Gardens

Facilities

RBG Centre, 680 Plains Road West, Burlington. This administration, research and public learning facility houses the auditorium, classrooms, archives and herbarium, Mediterranean Garden, the children's Discovery Garden, The Garden's Café, Fountain Court Cafe and the Gardens' gift shop.

The Nature Interpretive Centre, Arboretum, Dundas. The NIC, our gateway to Cootes Paradise, features exhibits on our wetland restoration activities and is the hub of our formal education program and children's camps.

Rock Garden Teahouse and Turner Pavilion Teahouse. Open seasonally; providing visitors with a quick lunch or snack.

2007 Awards

Dr. Victor Cecilioni Award for the Environmentalist of the Year

Barbara McKean, head of education, in recognition of personal and professional commitment to promoting environmental awareness, presented by Hamilton Environmentalists of the Year Awards Committee

Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario President's Award

Barbara McKean, head of education, for contributions to outdoor education in Ontario

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS
www.rbg.ca

680 Plains Road West, Burlington, Ontario L7T 4H4
P.O. Box 399, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3H8
905-527-1158, 1-800-694-4769, Fax: 905-577-0375

CHARITABLE REGISTRATION NUMBER:
13350 0850 RR0001

ANNUAL REPORT PRODUCTION
COORDINATION/WRITING/EDITING
Sherry Houston, Communications Manager
CONTRIBUTORS:
Catherine Arlein, Head of Grants and Research Initiatives
Lisa Dodd, Director of Development
Dr. David Galbraith, Head of Science
Natalie Iwanycki, Field Botanist and Herbarium Curator
Harry Jongerden, Head of Horticulture
Ross Halloran, Director of Marketing and Visitor Experience
Barbara McKean, Head of Education
Marie Minaker, Royal Botanical Gardens Archivist (volunteer)
Ben Porchuk, Head of Conservation
Dr. Jim Pringle, Plant Taxonomist
Cathy Rideout, Past-President,
The Auxiliary of Royal Botanical Gardens
Tÿs Theÿsmeÿer, Aquatic Ecologist

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- 32 cubic meter natural gas unused
- or equivalent to not driving 821 km in an average car
- or equivalent to planting 32 trees