



KAWARTHA CONSERVATION

ANNUAL REPORT

Committed to providing outstanding water quality and quantity management, supported by healthy landscapes through planning, stewardship, and science.

2015

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

We are pleased to share the many conservation programs, projects and services delivered across the Kawartha Conservation watershed in 2015, made possible only by the support and contributions of our member municipalities, partner agencies, organizations, First Nations representatives and residents. Our success in working to build a healthy, vibrant watershed is your success too. Thank you for assisting us in restoring and enhancing our lakes, rivers, streams, wetlands and landscapes.

In 2015, Kawartha Conservation was engaged in major provincial initiatives as well as in dealing with local watershed priorities. At the provincial level, we participated in the Provincial Plan Review of the Greenbelt and Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plans, and the Conservation Authorities Act Review, and also contributed to the provincial Excess Soil Management Policy Framework and the Drinking Water Source Protection Program. At the watershed level, we continued to focus on the development of lake management plans and their implementation, monitoring of watershed health, enabling sound development and economic activity, and providing recreational opportunities to residents in our conservation areas.

As we move forward into 2016, we remain focused on excellent customer service and delivery of high-impact, high-value programs and services in a cost-effective manner.

To set a road map for the future, we will be engaging our key partners and residents in the development of a new strategic plan to guide us to the year 2021. We look forward to your input to our vision going forward and to your continued support and contributions.

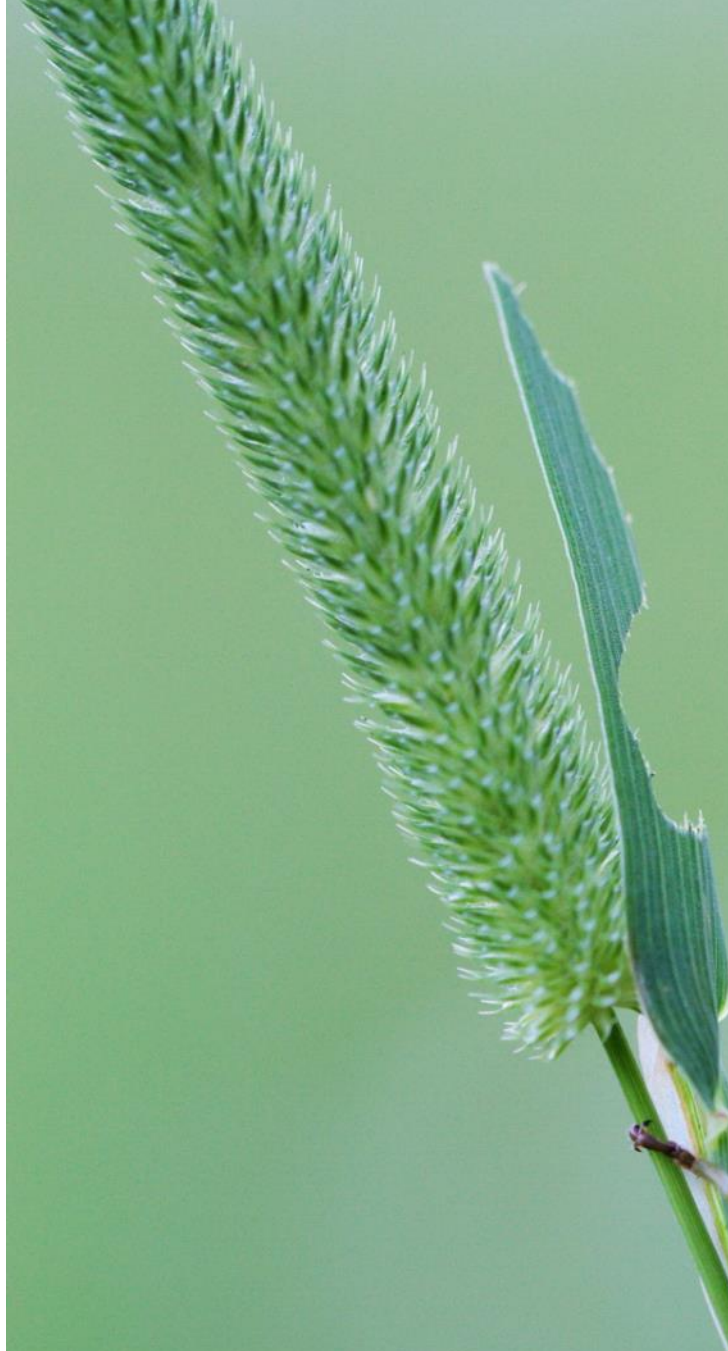


Heather Stauble
Chair



Rob Messervey
CAO

Photo Credit: Mark Majchrowski



A close-up photograph of a green grasshopper with long hind legs, perched on a single blade of green grass. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

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WHO WE ARE

Kawartha Conservation is a watershed-based organization established in 1979 by our municipal partners under the *Ontario Conservation Authorities Act (1946)*. We use planning, stewardship, science, and conservation lands management to protect and sustain outstanding water quality and quantity supported by healthy landscapes. We focus our programs and services within the natural boundaries of the Kawartha watershed, which spans a total of 2,563 square km. Under agreements we also provide technical planning services and lake management activities in areas of the City of Kawartha Lakes outside of our watershed jurisdiction.

Abundant, clean water is the lifeblood of the Kawarthas. It supplies our drinking water, maintains property values, sustains an agricultural industry, local commerce, and contributes to a tourism-based economy that relies on recreational boating, fishing, and swimming. Our programs and services promote an integrated watershed management approach that balances human, environmental, and economic needs.

We are governed by a Board of Directors comprised of elected representatives from our municipal partners: The City of Kawartha Lakes, Region of Durham, Township of Scugog, Township of Brock, Municipality of Clarington, Municipality of Trent Lakes, and Township of Cavan Monaghan.



VISION

A sustainable watershed with clean and abundant water and natural resources assured for future generations.



MISSION

To provide leadership in watershed management and conservation.



MANDATE

Outstanding water quality and quantity management, supported by healthy landscapes through planning, stewardship, and science.

CHAIR

Heather Stauble
City of Kawartha Lakes

Ron Hooper
Region of Durham
(Municipality of Clarington)

VICE-CHAIR

Ted Smith
Region of Durham
(Township of Brock)

Don Kett
Region of Durham
(Township of Scugog)

Pat Dunn
City of Kawartha Lakes

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gord Miller
City of Kawartha Lakes

Jordan Landry
Township of Cavan
Monaghan

Peter Raymond
Municipality of Trent Lakes

Tom Rowett
Region of Durham
(Township of Scugog)



OUR CUSTOMERS AT THE HEART OF EVERYTHING

Our customers are very important to us and customer service is at the heart of everything we do. Our customers include users of our programs and services, partners and stakeholders, all levels of government, local First Nations communities, members of the public, and members of our Board of Directors. Our interaction with customers is guided by the Customer Service Policy we implemented this year, which identifies a variety of standards that will help us to ensure customer service excellence. In addition, we are committed to providing our team with on-going training and education to ensure we are well-equipped to meet our standards.

SCHULICH COMES TO THE KAWARTHAS

In an effort to ensure that our customer service delivery is consistent across all program areas, staff participated in comprehensive customer service training with funding support from a Canada Ontario Job Grant and Victoria County Career Services. An instructor from York University's renowned Schulich School of Business joined us for two days and our staff were able to take away a certificate of completion of the *Building a Strong Customer Service Culture for your Organization* course.

FIBRE OPTIC SERVICE HELPS US BETTER SERVE OUR CUSTOMERS

Our Administrative Centre is located in a rural area, and as such it has always been a challenge to find internet service fast enough to meet our needs. In late summer, we initiated a review to evaluate all available service options, and through this process we upgraded to a fibre optic network provided by a local company, Cable Cable.

This change has taken the internet speed in the Administrative Centre from 5mb/sec to 100mb/sec, and greatly improved staff's ability to quickly assist customers with online services, such as review of digital mapping used in the permit application process.

"WHEN ONE TUGS AT A SINGLE THING IN NATURE,
THEY FIND IT ATTACHED TO THE REST OF THE WORLD."
- JOHN MUIR



CONNECTING KIDS WITH CONSERVATION

CST *INSPIRED MINDS LEARNING PROJECT* GRANT WINNERS

In the spring, we submitted a project idea *Connecting Kids with Conservation* through the Canadian Scholarship Trust Foundation's (CST) Inspired Minds Learning Project, which challenges communities and organizations across Canada to submit new and innovative ideas to support the growth and development of children locally. Our project idea was featured alongside hundreds of others in a national contest which encouraged Canadians to vote to help their favourites win funding support. In the end, we received \$10, 000 to support our project idea.

The funding allowed us to launch a curriculum-linked outdoor education program for children within the City of Kawartha Lakes and surrounding areas on a pilot basis. We were also able to build an outdoor classroom at Ken Reid Conservation Area, which provides students with the opportunity to learn in a structured classroom environment in the 'great outdoors'. The classroom features tables and chairs, as well as an outdoor chalkboard.

TD FUNDING BOOSTS RESOURCES

In late summer, we were successful in obtaining \$4, 270 from the TD *Friends of the Environment* Fund to further support the implementation of our pilot outdoor education program. This funding was used to purchase supplies for the program.

'TAKE ME OUTSIDE TO LEARN' AT KEN REID

In October, we partnered with the Trillium Lakelands District School Board to bring their popular *Take Me Outside to Learn* event to Ken Reid Conservation Area. Over 30 families (116 people) attended with their children up to age eight and explored the possibilities of learning outside.

Each family embarked on a self-guided walk through nature, visiting learning stations manned by Kawartha Conservation and School Board staff along the way. Participants used a map to look for treasure, used a journey stick to document their learning, experienced the beauty of nature and trees, worked with clay, embarked on a story walk, sang songs, stretched their muscles in the outdoors, learned about water bugs, and created woodland art.



OUR LAKES ARE ALWAYS A TOP PRIORITY

LAKE MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Science-based lake management planning is a process for understanding the pressures and issues impacting our lakes and determining priorities for management activities to sustain their environmental and economic health. Each year, since 2010, we have begun a new plan for various lakes in the City, each involving three years of research plus another year for plan development and approvals. Lake Management Plans have been completed or are underway for Sturgeon Lake (2010 to 2014), Balsam and Cameron Lakes (2011 to 2015), Pigeon Lake with support from Otonabee Conservation (2012 to 2016), Canal and Mitchell Lakes, which are being developed in partnership with the Lake Simcoe and Region Conservation Authority (2013 to 2016), Four Mile Lake (2013 to 2017), and Head and Shadow Lakes (2014 to 2018). This program has been financially supported by the City of Kawartha Lakes and recently, by the Municipality of Trent Lakes together with contributions from our many partner agencies and stakeholder participants.

THE SCUGOG WATER FUND

The Scugog WATER Fund, supported by the Region of Durham, encourages best management practices that help protect Lake Scugog. In 2015, \$21,794 in grants were provided to 16 projects with total investment of over \$54,394 with landowner contributions and funding from Forests Ontario. The activities included nine water well stewardship projects, four shoreline erosion control projects, two native tree and shrub plantings, and one septic system.

PORT PERRY BAY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Engagement with the Working Group for a Healthy Lake Scugog continued throughout the year in the development of the Port Perry Bay Enhancement Project. Kawartha Conservation is assisting with science, monitoring, and proposal development to support a dredging and shoreline enhancement program in the southern portion of the Bay. In 2015, we took sediment samples from 24 sites in the Port Perry Bay, partnered with TRCA to conduct bathymetry and vegetation sampling in support of the dredging project, and drafted a Request for Proposal for *Consulting Services for a Design Study and Impact Analysis for the Enhancement of Port Perry Bay*. In December, we reviewed the submitted consultant proposals for the project with Scugog Township staff and Council, and a successful proposal was selected, pending necessary approvals in early 2016.

PIGEON LAKE OPEN HOUSES

In late summer we held Open Houses in Omemee, Bobcaygeon, and Lakehurst to discuss the Draft Pigeon Lake Management Plan. The purpose of the Open Houses was to present science, background information, and draft management actions in order to gain community input. Our goal is to develop a Plan that encourages a balance between human use and a healthy aquatic ecosystem in order to sustain a healthy Pigeon Lake.

The Open Houses had an overwhelming turn-out, with over 250 people attending, and representation from our Community Advisory Panel as well as Municipal representation from the Municipality of Trent Lakes and the City of Kawartha Lakes.

Attendees heard from speakers representing Kawartha Conservation, The Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association, The Land Between, and Fleming College on the topics of aquatic plants, invasive species monitoring, local biodiversity projects, and shoreline ecology. Valuable audience questions and feedback ensued, primarily on the topics of wild rice and aquatic plants, septic systems maintenance, decommissioning of hardened shorelines, and invasive species programs.



THE BLUE CANOE

Our Blue Canoe team paddled their way across 14 lakes this summer, speaking with shoreline property owners about protecting water quality and ecological health. With two teams and two canoes, they reached nearly 4,000 people, sharing information on docks, doorsteps, and at various events and meetings. The Blue Canoe program is supported by the City of Kawartha Lakes, Municipality of Trent Lakes, OMAFRA, and RBC Blue Water Project, and has reached nearly 8,000 people in the Kawarthas since 2012.

The team was encouraged by the level of interest property owners had in taking action on their properties, as well as by the number who had already taken positive steps to improve water quality. The support of cottage and road associations, along with enthusiastic community members, made significant impact.



CELEBRATING LOCAL EXCELLENCE

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

Each year, we showcase our appreciation to some of the outstanding people, groups, and businesses who have demonstrated environmental excellence. Awards will be presented at our Annual General Meeting on March 9th, 2016.

Paul LaPorte is an outstanding local conservationist who has contributed significantly in our watershed. In 2015, Paul worked with Kawartha Conservation, Scugog Township, Ontario Invasive Plant Council and others to create awareness about invasive plant management in Port Perry and Scugog Township. He has also volunteered his time and expertise to initiatives in order to further awareness and lead to positive action to control invasive species locally. Paul has also offered a tremendous amount of support towards assisting Kawartha Conservation deliver a variety of workshops and events.



INDIVIDUAL CONSERVATIONIST
Paul LaPorte

In 2015, the Residents of Rosedale served as a great example of community members taking positive action to initiate community stewardship projects. They engaged in fundraising, planning, promoting, and gaining community support for the redevelopment of a previously unusable park in their community. They involved many partners in the project, including local businesses, the Coboconk, Norland and Area Chamber of Commerce, Parks Canada, the City of Kawartha Lakes, the Ministry of Transportation, and Fleming College. The final design of the site uses urban stormwater landscaping to contribute to a healthier lake, which is the emphasis of Kawartha Conservation's 'BlueScaping' initiative.



COMMUNITY CONSERVATIONIST
Residents of Rosedale

In 2015, the Trillium Lakeland Board was very supportive of the reestablishment of Kawartha Outdoor Education Program in the community to help us eventually win funding through the Inspired Minds Learning Program. The board also donated funds and supported the program. Additionally, they allowed us to host their event 'Take a Walk' at Ken Reid Conservation Area. The TLSBD also chose Ken Reid as a winter location for snowshoeing, 'Feed all 4' initiative, and provided snowshoes to be housed at the



PARTNER
Trillium Lakeland
District School Board

ated a commitment to protecting and improving our watershed with our *Environmental Recognition Awards*. The 2015

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Over the years, the Kawartha Land Trust (KLT) has built a strong partnership with Kawartha Conservation, with the two agencies collaborating on a number of projects. In 2015, KLT led the Kawarthas Naturally Connected project which is a collaboration between more than 25 stakeholder groups and organizations to create a local Natural Heritage System. They have also provided support to the Nogies Creek Waterway project. Late in 2015, KLT took ownership of Boyd Island, on Pigeon Lake. The protection of this site was made possible through the donation of Mike Wilson, who donated the vast majority of the island and surrounding islands and by nearly 600 donors who donated to the securement and long-term stewardship of the island.



PARTNER
Kawartha Land Trust

Victoria County Career Services (VCCS) supported the work of Kawartha Conservation in 2015 through facilitating a Canada Ontario Job Grant application process, which resulted in a \$12,000 grant for employee customer service training. They also provided an additional \$3,000 to support this training. VCCS also facilitates the local Employer Advisory Committee which is comprised of local businesses and provides an opportunity to discuss best practices as well as challenges in hiring. VCCS job developers have also facilitated a number of placements for staffing at Kawartha Conservation in the past.



BUSINESS
Victoria County Career Services



A RESILIENT WATERSHED REQUIRES TEAMWORK

BUILDING SOLID ROOTS FOR POSITIVE ACTION

With support from the Ontario Woodlot Association, Kawartha Chapter we were able to sell over 18,980 tree and shrub seedlings and native grass plugs in 2015 through our [Seedling Distribution Program](#). These will be planted by landowners for stewardship projects such as shoreline naturalization and rural reforestation on private land across the watershed.

In October, in celebration of [TD Tree Day](#), our stewardship staff along with 22 community volunteers planted 150 native tree and shrub species at McQuarrie Point in Lindsay.

VOLUNTEER SHORELINE WORK AROUND THE WATERSHED

In May, our staff joined 43 residents from Victoria Place in [Bobcaygeon](#) to protect their shoreline from erosion and contribute to the health of Pigeon Lake by planting a buffer around one of their three lagoons. Throughout the day, over 2000 native plants were planted.

In August, members of the Fenelon Falls Horticultural Society, and a team of Youth Stewardship Rangers joined our staff at Garnet Graham Park in [Fenelon Falls](#) to establish a riparian buffer along 35 m of shoreline. The team worked together to weed a 22 m site that was planted last year and also planted over 400 individual plants. The planting will help deter geese from the park, and prevent runoff from entering the lake.

OUR 2015 'MOST VALUABLE SHORELINE STEWARDS'

Throughout the summer and fall we hosted the first ever Blue Canoe 'Most Valuable Shoreline Steward' contest. The winners, and owners of their very own Blue Canoe donated by Paluski Boats, were the Victoria Place residents. This Pigeon Lake community planted over 2000 native plants along 360m of shoreline to combat erosion, filter run-off, and protect water quality in the lake. The runner-up prize went to Pine Point Lane community, who stabilized and naturalized 12m of shoreline along the eastern shore of Scugog Island. Their prize pack included a Home Hardware gift card, a rain barrel, and a bat box courtesy of Home Hardware Lindsay and For the Birds Birdseed Company.



NEW FUNDING TO SUPPORT AGRICULTURAL BEST PRACTICES

Agricultural land makes up about 50% of the Kawartha watershed, and due to this large land area, there is potential for significant impact and benefits to watershed health. By ensuring agricultural best management practices (BMPs) are in place, we can help sustain rural communities, maintain healthy lakes, and protect our local economy.

In 2015, with nearly \$290,000 in support over a three-year period from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs, we launched the Kawartha Lakes Farmland Stewardship Fund. The fund supports landowners who implement practices to minimize nutrient and sediment input to waterbodies within the City of Kawartha Lakes.

In Year 1, six projects for a total of \$31,512 were approved through the Fund and selected by a Steering Committee; a barn eaves trough project (pictured below), two manure storage projects, two well decommission projects, and one well upgrade.

A great deal of effort was also placed towards outreach and promotion of the Fund. A webpage and brochure were created, informational mail-outs were undertaken, ads were placed in local papers, and staff attended and presented at a variety of information sessions, workshops, and events in order to bring more awareness to the Fund.



'BLUESCAPING' OUR COMMUNITIES

In the spring, we received \$83,000 in funding from Royal Bank of Canada and the Environment Canada EcoAction program in support of a 'BlueScaping' program to be delivered in 2015 and into 2016. 'BlueScaping' is about reducing runoff by managing stormwater on site. It uses landscape features and techniques to help reduce runoff and improve the quality of water reaching our lakes.

Much of the work this year focused on revitalizing the Rosedale Parkette (pictured above) in partnership with the Residents of Rosedale. 25 volunteers assisted with the work and with planting 1000 native perennials. The final parkette design uses naturalization techniques and a pervious paving product to wind a trail through the site. Naturalization replaces the previous invasive vegetation with native plants, which have deeper roots that better withstand erosion and absorb more nutrients and runoff. The pervious pathway means that rainfall soaks into the ground right where it falls. To celebrate National Tree Day, Shields Home Hardware in Coboconk also supported the planting of native trees at the site.

We also hosted four 'BlueScaping' workshops in the fall in Lindsay and Port Perry with a total of 31 urban residential local landowners in attendance. These workshops taught landowners the newest trends in residential landscaping and how to use them to add pizzazz to their properties.



KEEPING OUR WATERSHED HEALTHY

MONITORING

Good surface water quality is needed for drinking water, recreational activities, agriculture, tourism, industry, fish and wildlife habitat, and to maintain the overall health of our watershed. Surface water monitoring data supports the management of land and water use activities that can impact water quality. In 2015, a total of 47 rounds of samples were taken from a variety of locations across the watershed by staff, volunteers, and students.

Samples are taken to monitor: Surface water and groundwater quality; Flow conditions; Precipitation amounts; and Sensitive aquatic habitats.

INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT

Invasive species are a very real threat to the health of our watershed. We undertake work on an ongoing basis to help manage the spread of these species, and in 2015 this work included:

- Developing strategies with neighboring Conservation Authorities to address invasive species in a local context
- Hosted two Sweet White Clover pulls at Ken Reid Conservation Area in August
- Began planning Emerald Ash Borer workshops to be held in early 2016
- In partnership with the Ontario Invasive Plant Council, Ganaraska Conservation, Central Lake Ontario Conservation, and the Municipality of Clarington, we delivered a workshop *Creating a Municipal Invasive Plant Management Strategy* to 43 municipal staff members

RED PINE THINNING AT DURHAM EAST CROSS FOREST

Thinning of Red Pine plantations in Durham East Cross Forest Conservation Area began late this year and continued through to early 2016. Removing select trees from the plantation will enhance overall forest health and wildlife habitat. Opening the Pine canopy allows for natural regeneration of native tree species, including White Pine, Sugar Maple, Black Cherry, and American Beech.

PROTECTING NATURAL FEATURES

Conservation Authorities administer the Section 28 Regulation of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, which regulates development in relation to river and stream valleys, steep slopes, watercourses, flood plains, and wetlands, plus the respective allowances that are associated with each feature. This regulation serves to protect people and property from flooding and erosion hazards while protecting the environment. Our regulations are therefore not only crucial for maintaining and improving the health of our watershed, but also for ensuring that landowner investments are protected.

Conservation Authorities have also been delegated the responsibility of commenting on behalf of the Province of Ontario on planning matters related to natural hazards. In addition, we provide plan review advice with respect to the health of watersheds including the management of water and natural heritage resources.

In 2015, we reviewed and commented on 31 severances, 37 minor variances, 3 Official Plan amendments, 15 zoning by-law amendments, 6 subdivision proposals, 29 legal inquiries, 5 site plan approvals, and 26 information requests.

Under *Ontario Regulation 182/06*, we issued 339 permits, responded to 61 complaints, and issued 45 violations. We also completed 8 voluntary remediation agreements.

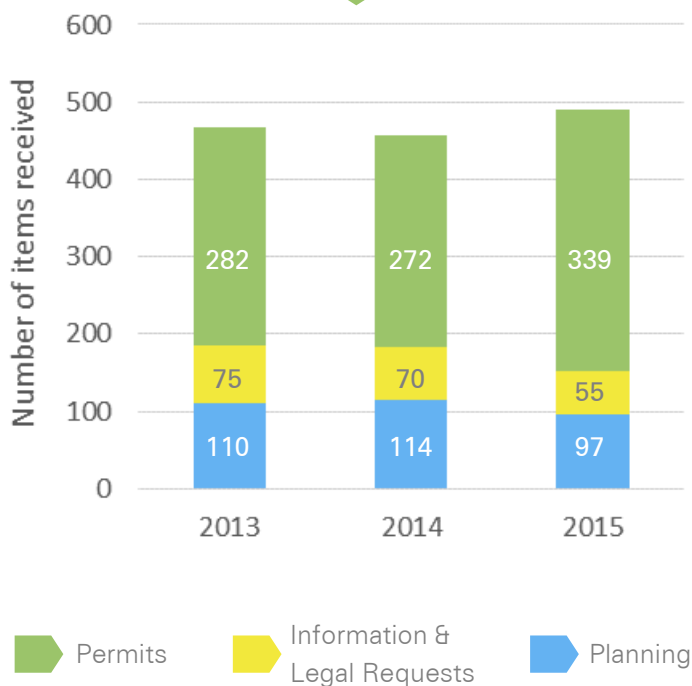


Photo Credit: Mark Majchrowski

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

The Source Protection Plan for the Trent Conservation Coalition (TCC) Source Protection Region was approved by the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change on November 14, 2014 and came into effect in January of 2015. The plan sets out policies that will protect the water sources that supply the 22 municipal drinking water systems within our area.

In 2015, we assisted our local municipalities with implementation activities which included drafting implementation guides for Haliburton, Scugog, and the City of Kawartha Lakes. We also spoke at and provided coordination assistance for the TCC Municipal Forum that was held in October.

Risk Management responsibilities set out in the Plan were formally delegated to us by the City of Kawartha Lakes under a delegation agreement and a Risk Management Official (RMO) was hired in 2014. This year, the RMO developed standard operating procedure documents for negotiating Risk Management Plans (RMP) to address fuel and agricultural-based threat activities and negotiated an agricultural-based RMP for a horse farm in the Intake Protection Zone for the Southview Estates municipal drinking water system. An information session was also hosted in Seagrave to inform residents about potential drinking water threats associated with Home Heating Oil.





PROTECTING THE FUTURE OF OUR GREENSPACES

'HEALTHY HIKES' ALONG THE OAK RIDGES MORaine

In May, we partnered with the Ontario Headwaters Institute to host two hikes along the Oak Ridge's Moraine to encourage local residents to get active, spend time in nature, and engage in the coordinated review of the province's Greenbelt Plan, Oak Ridge's Moraine Conservation Plan, Niagara Escarpment Plan, and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. The hikes took place at Pigeon River Headwaters Conservation Area and Fleetwood Creek Natural Area with a good turnout of local residents. Additional partners included Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation, City of Kawartha Lakes, Save the Oak Ridges Moraine Coalition, and Ontario Heritage Trust.

ENTRANCE FEES SUPPORT REVITALIZATION OF KEN REID

At the beginning of July we began charging a \$2.00 daily parking fee at Ken Reid Conservation Area. The area has seen a significant increase in visitors in recent years, and additional resources were required to properly maintain the area so that amenities don't become run down or unsafe. Visitors were also provided with the option to purchase an annual pass, and 56 passes were sold this year. The revenue generated from charging entrance fees will be reinvested directly into the continued maintenance and development of roadways and other infrastructure within the Conservation Area.

A ROAD MAP FOR KEN REID

This year, we began revising the Management Plan for Ken Reid Conservation Area. When finalized, the Plan will provide a five-year road map for best managing the property. Public feedback will be gathered and considered in shaping the Plan, which is set to be finalized before the end of 2016.

NOGIES CREEK WATERWAY PLAN

In collaboration with a number of local agencies, associations, residents, Trent University, Fleming College and the Municipality of Trent Lakes, we worked on the development of a plan for the Nogies Creek Waterway— which stretches from Bass Lake to Pigeon Lake, including Boyd Island. The concept plan will identify areas of interest within the project area which could potentially support recreational, educational, scientific, and cultural activities. Work will continue in 2016 and include the development of a Management Plan for the area which will guide the development of the Waterway. A communications plan will also be developed to promote the Waterway and enhance public awareness of the unique nature and significance of the area.



MANAGING THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

CHANGING CLIMATE- A CHALLENGE AND AN OPPORTUNITY

This summer, we finalized a background paper which presents a framework for a Kawartha Conservation Climate Change Strategy. Key topics include: Analysis of observed changes in weather and climate and their future projections; Impacts of changing climate on the natural environment and society; National and provincial frameworks and actions on climate change; Response to climate change by Ontario municipalities, Conservation Authorities, and NGOs; Mitigation and adaptation: planning for the future. Board approval was obtained to move forward on the development of a Climate Change Strategy which is expected in spring of 2016.

FLOOD FORECASTING AND MONITORING

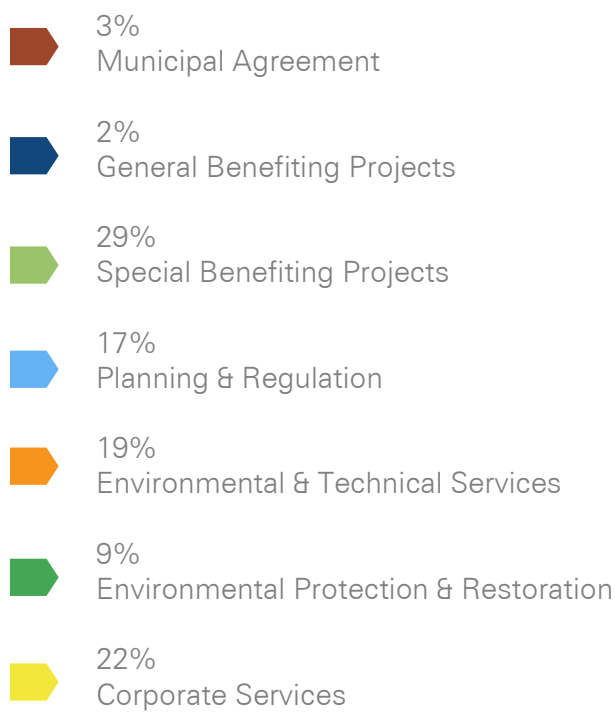
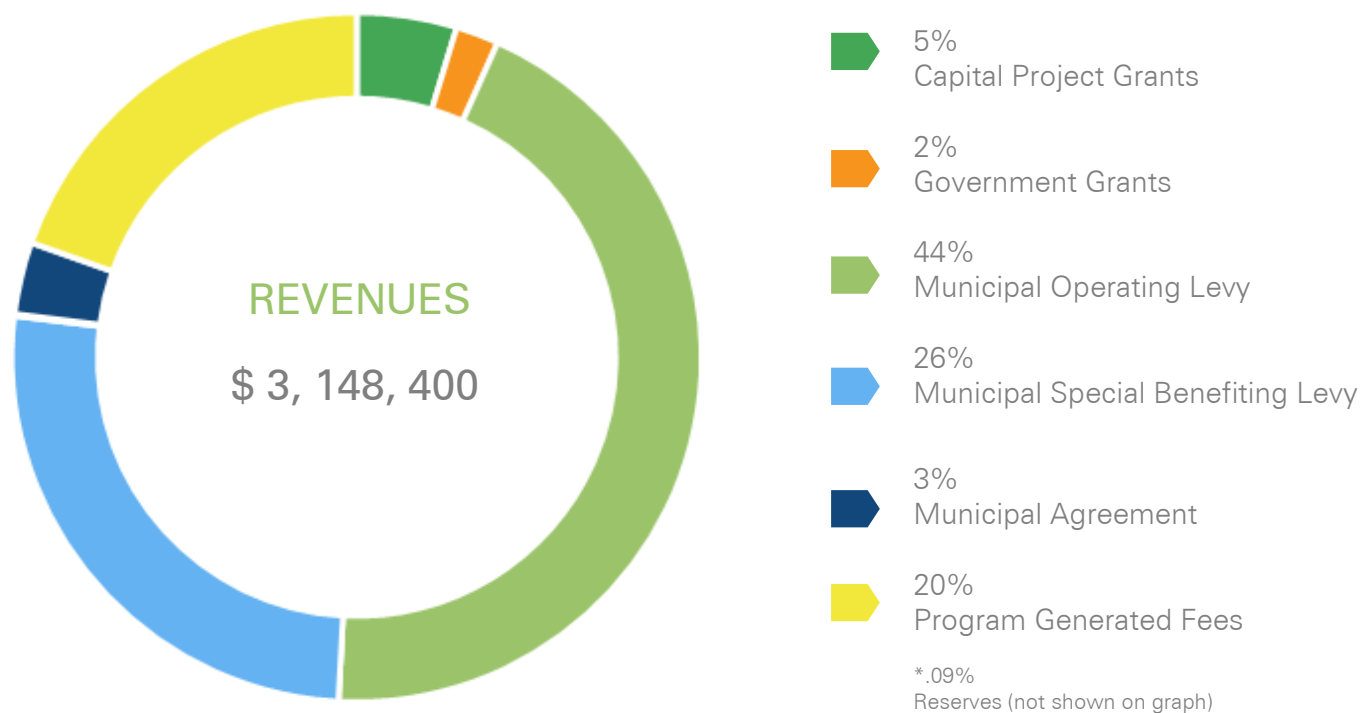
Flood forecasting and warning is a fundamental responsibility delegated to us by the province. We fulfill this duty by monitoring water levels, precipitation, and watershed conditions. This involves collecting and analyzing real-time water level and precipitation data from a network of 11 monitoring stations, supplemented with additional information from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Environment Canada, weather forecasting agencies, and partner organizations. Our activities also include the preparation and maintenance of flood contingency and flood response plans, daily monitoring of water levels and precipitation, assessment of potential flood threats, communication with municipalities, and participation in municipal flood response activities when required. In 2015, a new all-weather precipitation gauge was installed in Indian Point Provincial Park, and we issued five Watershed Conditions Statement flood messages.

MAPPING FLOOD PLAINS

Up-to-date flood plain mapping is important to municipalities in planning future growth and development in settlement areas, and is especially important in planning for flood emergencies. In 2015, we continued flood plain mapping on 10 priority flood prone subwatersheds in the City of Kawartha Lakes, to assist in planning future growth and development, and creating flood damage centres as part of the City's Emergency Management Plans. We also continued floodplain mapping studies this year to determine regulatory flood lines. In June, we presented the findings from the Sinister Creek watershed Floodplain Mapping Study to our Board of Directors, to stakeholders at an information session in July, and the Study underwent peer review later that month. The final draft of the Sinister Creek Flood Plain Mapping Study was approved by our Board of Directors in November.

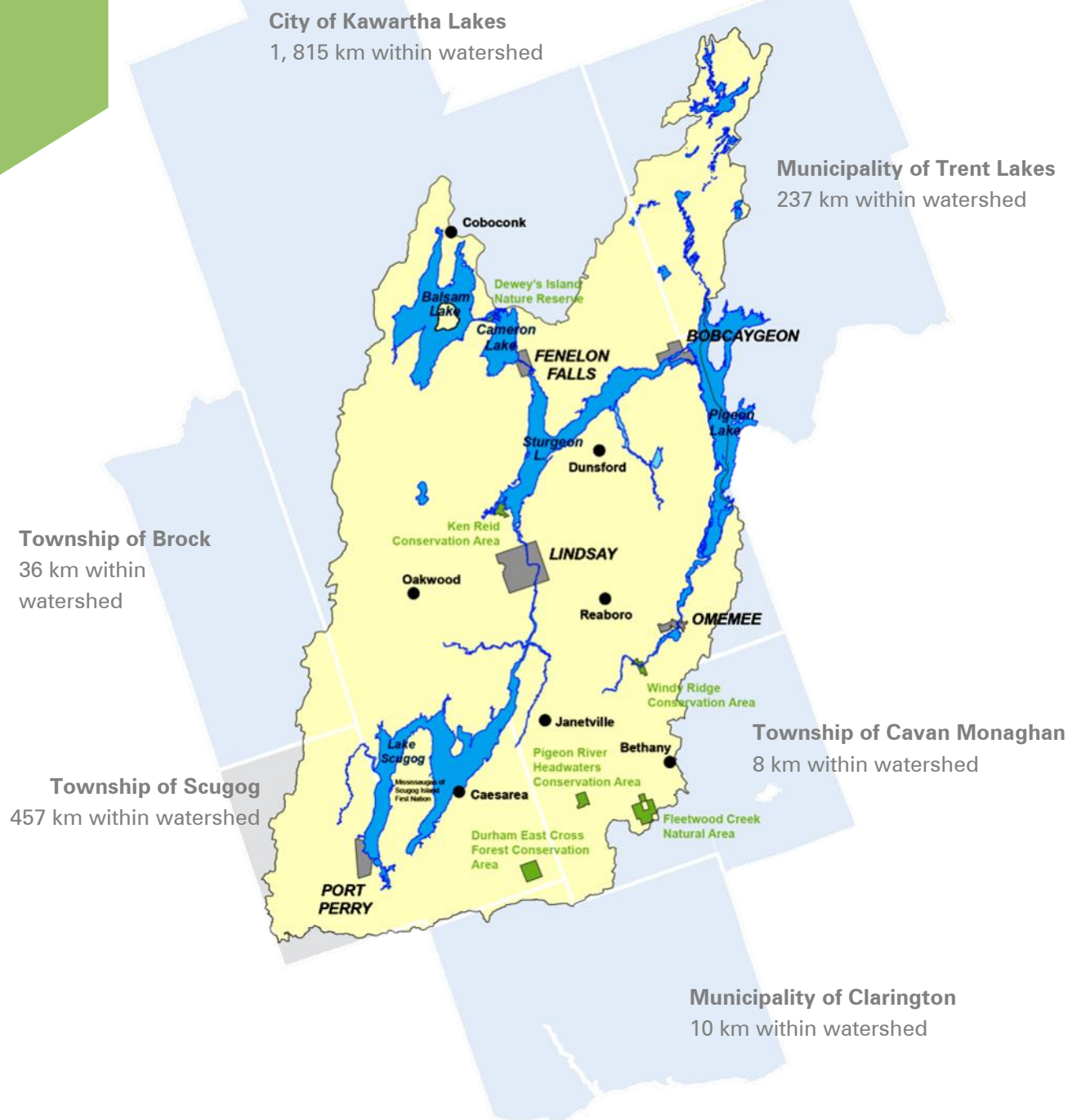
FINANCES

This financial information is condensed from the Board of Directors' Approved 2015 Budget Summary. The complete auditor's report for the year ended December 31, 2015 is anticipated to be available in April 2016, copies of which will be available upon request.



KAWARTHA CONSERVATION WATERSHED

2, 563 square km



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Member of



**Conservation
ONTARIO**
Natural Champions