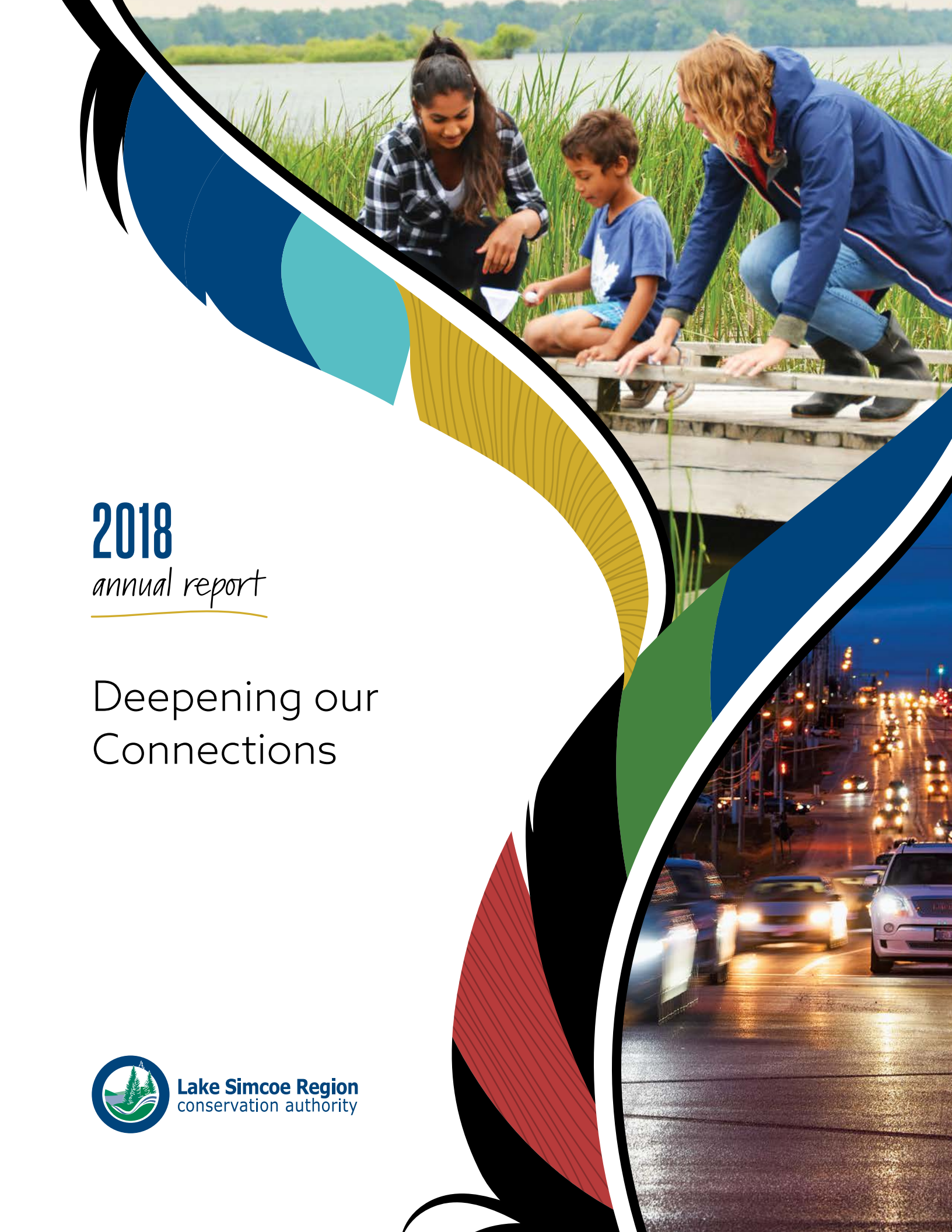




2018

annual report

Deepening our Connections



Lake Simcoe Region
conservation authority

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*Forests reduce the impact of
rainfall all year round, absorbing
rain so it doesn't wash topsoil in
storm drains, rivers and the lake.*



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2018 Board
of Directors

*We engaged 6,910
students in
curriculum-linked
outreach programs
and 1,164 children,
families and
adults through our
community-based
programming.*



A MESSAGE from our CAO

With the gift of
listening comes
the gift of healing.

— CATHERINE DE HUECK

This past year we sought out opportunities to enhance our relationships with our partners and collaborators with the goal of building more meaningful, respectful and reciprocal relationships.

The highlight of this journey took place in the fall, when staff participated in in-depth learning about Indigenous Communities' cultural values, traditions and history through a series of four full-day sessions, each with a particular focus. Session one taught us how Wampum Belts were used to record the relationships and treaties between the First Peoples of Canada and settler societies. The second session explored the history of Indigenous people and how colonization occurred in Canada, through what's known as a blanket exercise. The third session looked at the "duty to consult" as well as the "Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action" from both a non-Indigenous as well as an Indigenous Community lens. The final session was forward looking... based on what was learned, how do we move our relationships forward?

Perhaps we only scratched the surface of what Indigenous Peoples have been through, but I see these sessions as deepening our understanding and stimulating more respectful and reciprocal relationships with our First Peoples.

**STRENGTHENING OUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH NATURE
IS, WAS, AND HAS ALWAYS BEEN,
CENTRAL TO OUR MISSION,
AND 2018 WAS NO EXCEPTION.**

We completed a new 1.06 hectare wetland complex in East Gwillimbury with funding from a new ecological offsetting program we launched. We continued to grow and evolve our already outstanding education programs, adding more experiential learning opportunities. We published a natural heritage strategy, complete with a 39-action implementation plan.

We took steps to address our own carbon footprint with the adoption of a Carbon Reduction Strategy. We released a report recommending revisions to our tree selection process to keep up with changes in the watershed as a result of climate change. We received approval to review Environmental Compliance Approvals for stormwater management projects in Newmarket—a first of its kind in Ontario—which will result in a more integrated, efficient process that will reduce development application wait times.

These are just some of the highlights. The pages that follow provide more detail.

In the end, it's all about reciprocity and finding balance... reconciling with one another and with nature. We all have a role to play to heal this planet and ourselves and it starts with listening.



Mike Walters

Chief Administrative Officer



A MESSAGE from our Chair

Listening is the basis of communication. When we listen—when we truly give our undivided attention to another—we show a deep and authentic respect.

WE ARE ALL AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE LISTENING PLAYS IN GOOD COMMUNICATION WITH ONE ANOTHER, BUT ARE WE LISTENING AS INTENTLY TO NATURE?

The unprecedented floods, fires and heatwaves may be nature's way of telling us that something is deeply wrong. We need to respond, even if out of pure self-interest, since what's in nature's best interest is also in humanity's best interest.

As an organization, LSRCA is listening and responding. We're undertaking projects to re-naturalize areas previously disturbed. We've launched new programs to offset the environmental damage caused by human activity. In recognition of the importance we place on this work, we've restructured, creating a new Watershed Restoration Services division, whose main goal is to focus resources, collected through development activities, into restoration programs. The Rogers Reservoir constructed wetland, which was completed in 2018, is just one example. There will be many more in the coming years.

As an individual, you may find it difficult to choose which positive actions you can take to help this watershed and planet. It can feel overwhelming when you look at the enormity of a problem such as climate change. But if you take the perspective that we are each responsible for our own actions and set a goal to focus on what you can do, the enormity of the challenge can be overcome.

So... what can you do? Join us at one of the many community tree plantings we offer (check our website calendar of events). Donate to the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation and support their shared vision of a cleaner and healthier Lake Simcoe watershed. Follow our activities on social media. Carpool. Take a walk in nature. Follow the 5 R's: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle. Each of us has the power to change things. Even small changes have the ability to add up to big results.



Aurora Mayor Geoffrey Dawe
Chair, Board of Directors



A POSITIVE path forward

Staff at LSRCA have already experienced the many benefits of working with Georgina Island, including the value of Traditional Ecological Knowledge. We've learned through first-hand accounts about the shift in the lake mussel population—quagga mussels replacing zebra mussels—and we've partnered on some recent projects including development of a subwatershed plan for Georgina Island, an aquatic planting program with Georgina Island students and a major creek restoration.

It's been through this fruitful and evolving relationship that we've realized the true need to make our relationship a priority. In fact, so much so, we addressed it in our 2016–2020 Strategic Plan.

We recognize that as an organization, and most of us as individuals, are at the very beginning stages of understanding the history of First Nations in Canada and in the Lake Simcoe watershed. With that in mind, we undertook a cultural training program led by Cambium

Having a good working relationship with First Nation partners has always been important to us, but over the last few years we've really turned our focus towards learning more about and from our closest neighbours, the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation.

Aboriginal Inc., a consulting company of First Nations facilitators, to improve our knowledge and create a deeper understanding about the first peoples of this land.

The program consisted of four full-day modules that began with dynamic storytelling about the history of First Nations in Canada using intricately beaded Wampum Belts, an interactive Blanket exercise, developed in 1996 by Indigenous elders and leaders, which explored the nation-to-nation relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Canada, followed up with focused discussions on Truth and Reconciliation and the Duty to Consult. The open dialogue began to explore the emotional impacts as well as the practical application of who, when and how to begin formal consultation about how best to move forward.

As an organization, we need and want to understand what these government calls-to-action mean for us as we move forward. While LSRCA recognizes the necessity of mandated consultation,

we are already interested in creating genuine, meaningful engagement and relationships not because we have to; because we want to.

In all, 60 LSRCA staff took part in the four training modules, walking away with a new historical perspective and empathy for those who endured the life-altering impacts of colonization, loss of their land, residential schools, and assimilation. The teachings brought about a desire to find the most positive path forward in our relationships - both personally and professionally, with our First Nation friends.

AS WE WORK TO CONTINUE BUILDING TRUST, FRIENDSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS, WE ARE ROOTED IN THE IDEAL OF MUTUAL RESPECT.

After all, we share the same goal, to see a healthy Lake Simcoe and surrounding environment, not just now, but for many generations to come.

We distributed 9,335 trees and shrubs over 52 orders through our DIY seedling campaign—contributing to forest cover in the watershed.



STRONGER *together*

In 2016 we joined the York Region
Municipal Diversity and Inclusion Group.

Together, this group of York Region businesses and community organizations created a charter solidifying the shared vision of a welcoming and inclusive community—one where diversity is celebrated and where everyone can develop to their full potential, participate freely in society and live with respect, dignity and freedom from discrimination.

Grounded in the belief that we are stronger together, LSRCA's Chief Administrative Officer, Mike Walters and LSRCA Board of Directors Chair, Aurora Mayor Geoffrey Dawe, proudly endorsed LSRCA's customized version of the charter on June 22, 2018. Our commitment is to increase employee involvement and engagement through more diverse and inclusive programs, create enhanced customer experiences and increase our business performance.



STEP UP FOR *sustainability*

It's official! We're
partnering with Toronto
and Region Conservation
Authority and Credit
Valley Conservation on the
Sustainable Technologies
Evaluation Program or as
we like to affectionately
call it, STEP.

The partnership focuses on sustainable technologies and practices within a Canadian context. It's meant to be the "go-to" place for practitioners to find the most current information on the advancement of urban runoff, low impact development, erosion and sediment control, healthy soils, winter salt management and protection of natural features and systems.

This year, in addition to the ongoing collaboration in multiple working groups, STEP developed a "Learn How to Construct Low Impact Development" video for contractors, hosted numerous training sessions and launched a wiki guide.



KICKING CARBON to the curb

At LSRCA, we are all about sustainability. It's in our mission and it's why we were created 67 years ago.

As environmental leaders, we want to walk the walk, which is why we partnered with the ClimateWise initiative to start work on a Carbon Reduction Strategy in 2017. After much research and consultation, the strategy was completed at the end of 2018. Moving forward into 2019, the next step is to implement the strategy within our own workplace environment.

As part of the strategy, we completed a Greenhouse Gas Emission Baseline, set a 10-year reduction target and developed a plan to meet this target. In developing the action plan, we found that transportation (commuting) was our biggest source of emissions. One of the proposed changes is to our fleet operations. The goal is to replace as many vehicles as possible with electric and hybrid versions. This will save in operating costs and reduce our fleet emissions.

We'll also be looking at ways to encourage staff to participate in the new plan once it's finalized. In particular, we want to take a thoughtful and informed approach to changing habitual routines. We want to set an example and inspire a culture where it's the norm to turn off lights, computers and to find alternate ways to travel to business meetings and functions. They're small changes, but when we all participate consistently, that's when the big changes start to yield results.

Our organization had already undertaken numerous projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions including a rooftop solar panel installation (also completed in 2018), the introduction of green fleet vehicles, and the replacement of lights, at the end of their life cycle, with LEDs. The ClimateWise partnership helped move the yardstick further. We were awarded for our efforts in creating a Carbon Reduction Strategy with a 2018 ClimateWise Award for completing a Progressive Action Plan.

OH MUCK oh my

This past year, nearly 30 private landowner projects were completed in the Holland Marsh with LSRCA funding. Farmers planted cover crops, installed de-dirting equipment, and implemented washwater recycling techniques. All of these projects help to fight wind, soil and water erosion, keeping precious top soil and nutrients in place.

*866 hectares
of soil stabilized
by installing
cover crops on
agricultural
land.*

ROOTING FOR the future

DID YOU KNOW THAT CLIMATE CHANGE WILL AFFECT THE TYPES OF TREES WE CAN PLANT IN YEARS TO COME?

Trees that grow in Ontario today may not flourish 20 or 30 years from now. Based on findings from our "Adapting Forestry Programs for Climate Change" report, we are calling for more purposeful planting and forest management. A closer eye and hands-on approach is also needed to maintain our forests.

Trees and forests play a large role in mitigating climate change through sequestration, shading, and providing wildlife habitat. In the wake of increased development, our goal is to expand and enhance the tree canopy using properly selected trees. The important part to keep in mind however is that the trees selected today may not necessarily be the trees that are required in the future. Being diligent and responsive to changing our tree selection will help to restore and protect water quality in our lakes and streams for years to come.

BREAKING DOWN barriers

You may have seen some construction vehicles near Sheppard's Bush in Aurora this past fall. They were creating a safe passage for brook trout along a tributary of the East Holland River and replacing the old bridge. The bridge, which had seen better days, was constructed years ago when the old Mill was in working order. It was no longer considered safe for people or vehicular traffic, and underneath there was a steep ramp creating a blockage, not allowing the fish to pass through.

In order to ensure no fish were injured during the course of construction, a fish rescue was planned. Staff blocked off a portion of the creek and safely relocated the fish to another part of the stream. A cultural heritage study of this area was also completed and it revealed old pieces of the Mill were used in the original construction of the bridge. A small portion of the bridge was saved to preserve its history and will be displayed beside the new bridge, post-construction.

NOW THAT THE PROJECT IS COMPLETE, THE FISH CAN SAFELY PASS THROUGH AND THE BRIDGE IS SAFE FOR PEDESTRIANS TO CROSS.



IN THE *community*

We regularly work with partners throughout the watershed to deliver community programming designed to educate, engage, raise awareness and build relationships.

From tree plantings, to workshops, to day-long activities involving a number of like-minded collaborators, we reached thousands of watershed residents. Below are a few examples:

BioBlitz

More than 100 people descended upon Rogers Reservoir in East Gwillimbury for our annual BioBlitz event. Citizen science experts presented on a range of topics (bees, birds, fish, and mammals) and recorded species while sharing their knowledge with members of the public through hikes and hands-on activities.

Conservation Awards

In October, 22 environmental heroes were celebrated at the 37th Annual Conservation Awards. Sylvia Bowman was presented the George R. Richardson Award of Honour for her lifelong passion and leadership in the numerous environmental organizations and initiatives she's spearheaded. The Ernie Crossland Young Conservationist Award went to Michael Wang, a grade 12 student from Pickering College, for his leadership of the school's Green Team and for encouraging fellow students to reduce their environmental footprint by minimizing the amount of food waste they produce.

The Cannington Project

In late June, more than 100 students from McCaskill Mills Public School in Cannington walked over to McLeod Park where they learned about the history of land use and land protection. It was the first year the Cannington Historical Society invited LSRCA to participate in the annual event and we enthusiastically agreed! Students were separated into groups and rotated through stations, learning about shrub maintenance, animals (skulls and bones), benthic invertebrates (bugs), the watershed and even planted their own wildflower garden in a cup to take home.



LOOK OUT for the trout!

Brook trout in the Lake Simcoe watershed are able to thrive in cool and barrier free streams thanks to overwhelming community response and funding from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Recreational Fishery Community Partner Program and the Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation.

OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS, GOALS FOR THE NUMBER OF STREAMBANK PROJECTS WERE SURPASSED, GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND EXPECTATIONS.

The success of the Fish Habitat Restoration Project was due to a new collaborative approach including a fresh new marketing campaign, combined with scientific research and geographic information system mapping, to identify and invite landowners, who have brook trout on their property, to a community workshop. At the session, numerous landowners enthusiastically signed up for site visits and with their help, work began on a number of projects. Thanks to 21 landowners, 1826 metres of streambank was restored and 1542 native trees and shrubs were planted to create cool and inviting environments for brook trout to spawn, live and thrive into the future.

WHAT THE WHPA?

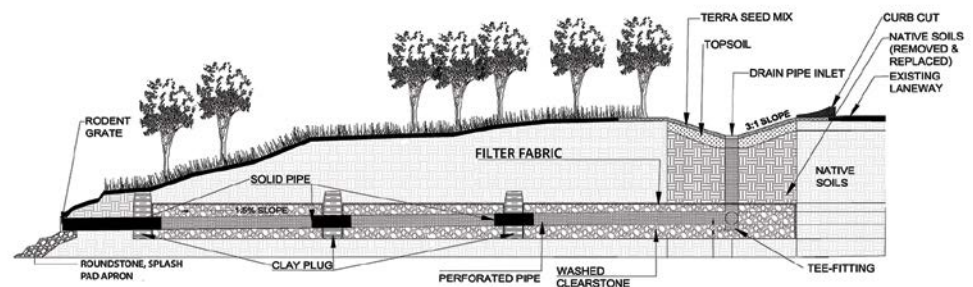
In the spring, we partnered with the Town of Newmarket to give the Magna Centre parking lot a makeover.

It was the first project to use wellhead protection area (WHPA-Q2) compensation funds. The local source water protection plan requires new development to achieve a water balance. If this cannot be achieved, compensation is required for another project at a site nearby.

Prior to construction, stormwater from the western paved entrance of the Magna parking lot flowed unfiltered into the stormwater management pond nearby and eventually into Bogart Creek. When left unfiltered, stormwater carries pollutants and contaminants into our creeks and streams and eventually into Lake Simcoe.

WHPA-Q2 refers to the area where activities that reduce recharge may be a threat.

The five low impact development features installed as part of the project included grass swales with drain inlets (cuts in the concrete curb) that direct rain water away from catch basins and into the swales. Once the water enters the swale, it's directed down into a perforated piping system that is surrounded by a layer of clear free draining stone. The stone can store large amounts of water and allows it to drain slowly into the native soils below, helping to recharge the aquifer.



3,664 metres of streambank restored to improve habitat for recreational fish like brook trout.



WETLAND

wonderland

You know you must be doing something right when the local media comment on one of your newest projects as “winning the lottery”.

That’s how one of our local media personalities described our purchase and creation of a wetland in Rogers Reservoir, a project that began in 2017 and was completed in June of this year with a grand opening celebration in October.

Thanks to a new program implemented last year, we were able to fund a brand new wetland feature and habitat in East Gwillimbury, the first of its kind in our watershed. The Rogers Reservoir Wetland Restoration Project was funded through our new Ecological Offsetting Program, with a price tag of nearly \$600,000.

The new 1.06 hectare wetland is located beside the Nokiidaa Trail, a quick 10 minute walk from its entrance at Mount Albert Sideroad and Old Yonge Street. The location was carefully chosen because of its seasonally wet nature, making it a

perfect location to be transformed into a habitat for local and migrating wildlife. Natural features added include enhanced and expanded forests, meadows, a snake hibernaculum and even a sandy shoreline for turtles to nest. Visitors to the wetland area can watch wildlife from the new boardwalk and viewing platform, and if they’re lucky, will see wood ducks, snapping turtles, painted turtles, green frogs, spring peepers, mayflies, water boatman and dragonflies.

The wetland wouldn’t be complete without creating a space for an education component. An outdoor classroom was built at the site, which is within walking distance to two local schools. In June, a kindergarten class from a nearby school walked to the wetland classroom and released monarch butterflies that they had lovingly raised in their classroom.

To celebrate this major milestone, an official opening was held in late October. We invited the public and project partners to join us for a Halloween-themed tree

planting. Many community members came out, in Halloween costumes, to participate in a variety of family-friendly activities and to plant trees.

Currently, wetlands represent nearly 40% of all the natural features in the watershed.

Through LSRCA’s permitting process, the Ecological Offsetting Program requires the funding support of developers. Funds collected under the program are applied to projects that will either create or restore natural heritage features within the watershed. The program’s effectiveness lies in the fact that the funding model requires projects that offset the impacts of development on a 2.5:1 ratio—meaning LSRCA can add or restore more natural features than were removed during development.

Wetlands are important features for any watershed because they provide habitat for rare or threatened species of flora and fauna. They are also important to us for their ability to absorb and filter water, protecting our built environment from flooding and the impacts of climate change.

INTERESTING FACT:

Rogers Reservoir was chosen as the location for a field trip for the “2018 Provincial Conservation Areas Workshop: Keeping the Balance — People and Nature”.

A total of

44 staff

representing

24 Conservation Authorities

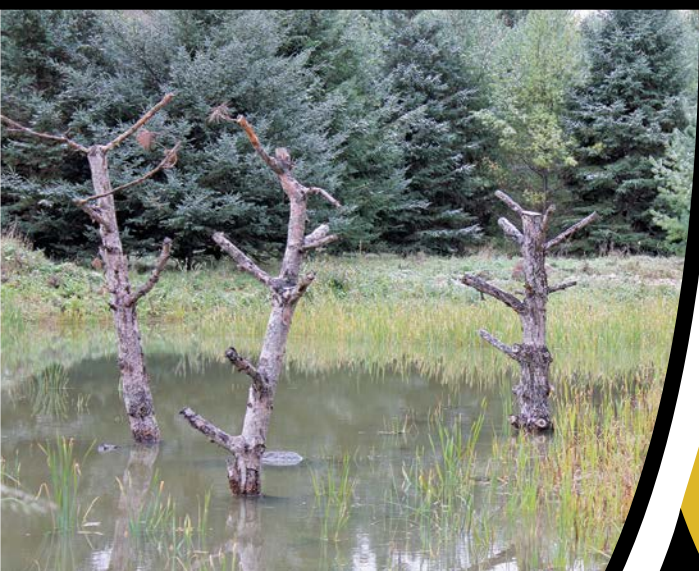
from across Ontario toured Rogers Reservoir to learn about the new wetland feature.



WETLANDS, WOODLANDS AND WATERCOURSES: *partnering with a purpose*

The Lake Simcoe watershed continues to be one of the fastest growing regions in Canada.

An increase in forested area in the Lake Simcoe watershed will continue to ensure quality drinking water to over 450,000 residents.



Increasing population and urban expansion require LSRCA and our municipal partners to accommodate growth while also maintaining natural heritage features and systems.

A natural heritage system is made up of woodlands, wetlands, shorelines and watercourses, and provides many significant environmental services in our watershed. A recent study we commissioned took an inventory of natural features and attached a staggering value to the services they render in the watershed—128,000 hectares of natural heritage features providing \$922.7 million in ecosystem services such as recreation, water supply, pollination, clean air and carbon sequestration!

Armed with this information, we developed the Natural Heritage System Restoration Strategy. Complete with a 39-action implementation plan with clear and measurable targets, our strategy aims to protect, restore and improve our natural spaces to support vibrant and healthy communities while reinforcing climate change resilience.

CUTTING THE *red tape*

The Town of Newmarket and LSRCA signed the first agreement of its kind in Ontario, transferring sole responsibility for review of stormwater features for Environmental Compliance Approvals to LSRCA. The modernized process eliminates duplication, provides a more integrated environmental assessment and will dramatically reduce wait times for new developments.

EDUCATION

reimagined

The Education team has been hard at work reimagining its outdoor education program.

There is a growing movement in Education which promotes the idea that age-appropriate outdoor learning is most effective when students engage in multiple outdoor experiences at every grade level. This integrated approach includes the traditional classroom learning alongside schoolyard and local greenspace experiences. The result is a deeper and richer learning experience for students and teachers.

Creating Outdoor Classrooms

Reimagining Outdoor Education starts with a creative outdoor space. In 2018 we oversaw the completion of five "Schoolscaping" pilot projects. The schools selected, each had their own unique property management issues (flooding, lack of shade, etc.) that hindered opportunities for outdoor learning. Once selected, LSRCA staff were welcomed by students and given a schoolyard tour while the team completed a site assessment. Surveys were then sent out to all of the students and teachers in order to determine how different areas in the schoolyards were being used and what other natural features they were interested in.

Based on the information received, LSRCA staff made recommendations for how the schoolyard could be enhanced. Grant money from different sources helped complete the project and teachers were then provided with an opportunity to learn more about how to effectively take advantage of the outdoor space to maximize the outdoor learning experience for their students.



Expanding Experiential Learning

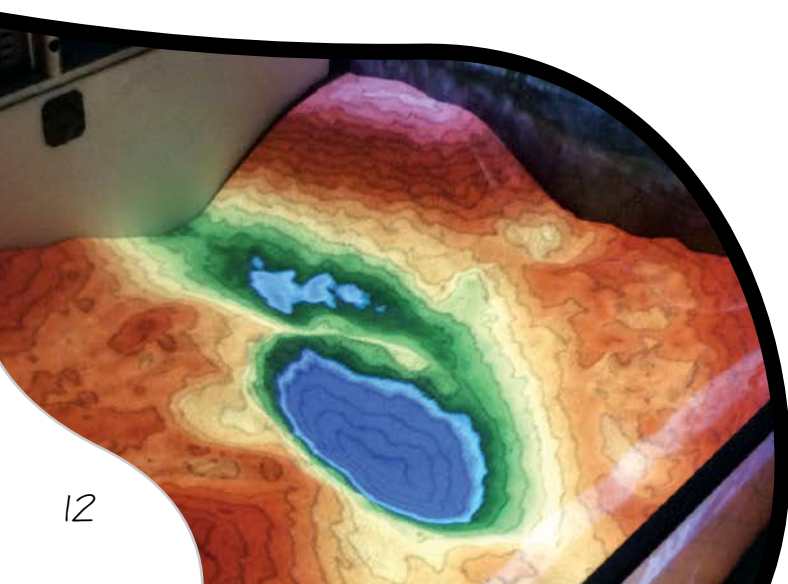
For years, grade four and seven students would hop on a bus and travel to our Nature Centre at Scanlon Creek for a day of outdoor education. These experiences were great, but they were isolated learning opportunities. In 2017, Simcoe County District School Board set out to change that.

The progressive school board determined that it would be better for all grades to have outdoor learning experiences and LSRCA's Education team would provide focused programming for grade four students. Now, in addition to one trip to the Nature Centre, students would also receive two 100-minute classroom visits at their school from an LSRCA Education team member, where learning can happen both in the classroom and the schoolyard.

Simcoe County District School Board is leading the way in making Outdoor Education a priority and we're excited to be a part of it.

Thinking Outside the Box

This year, our Geographic Information Systems (GIS) team used their creativity and technical savvy to build a brand new educational tool—an Augmented Reality Sandbox. This sandbox uses a combination of sand and sensors to teach students about topography, geography, natural science and how the watershed functions. By allowing students to literally dig their hands into a sand box, they are able to see how elevation changes on the land affect what happens to water. The fully mobile, interactive sandbox hit the road and was on display at the annual York Region Children's Water Festival at Bruce's Mill, but has now made its home at our Nature Centre at Scanlon Creek.



SHAKE UP IN THE salt industry

Winter road salt is quickly becoming one of the biggest environmental concerns in Lake Simcoe, with the majority of salt entering our waterways from roadways and commercial parking lots.

This year, our staff created two technical bulletins to provide helpful tips to municipal staff in two areas of salt management: Parking Lot Guidelines and Sand versus Salt. Both bulletins address the salt issue at a municipal level and provide research, tactics and easy-to-use policy guidelines for municipalities to implement.

In addition, we formed the Freshwater Roundtable. Major stakeholders, including representatives from commercial property owners, government, the insurance industry, snow and ice contractors and conservation authorities were

invited to participate. The first meeting is scheduled to take place in January 2019. The immediate goals of the Freshwater Roundtable will be to identify the barriers to adopting effective winter maintenance practices in the commercial sector and to begin creating a joint strategy on how to advocate for policy and legislative changes. Look forward to more on this in 2019.

Badge Blitz at Scanlon

In an effort to reach out to new community groups, the Education team extended an invitation to local Girl Guides and Boy Scouts to attend the first-ever Badge Blitz. Three different age groups were invited to participate in the fun-filled weekend event to connect troops with the outdoors. Over 30 children attended and engaged in activities like birding and building shelters, allowing them to work towards earning badges.

Forest School

Home schoolers and their parents visited Scanlon Creek for four weekly afternoon sessions to learn in nature. Activities focused on active, risky play and growth in self-confidence. A daily agenda and theme gave some structure, but each day was ultimately driven by the curiosities and creativity of the children. The program provided an opportunity and a safe place to learn and test boundaries. Overwhelmingly positive feedback has prompted the Education team to explore growing the program in 2019.



4,969 total participants in
outdoor and environmental education
programs at the Scanlon Creek
Nature Centre.

LSRCA IN the news

A year in review

JANUARY

Warm spell brings pressure cracks to Lake Simcoe

Oversalted: Why Ontario needs a new approach to snow removal



MARCH

Don't just stand there... get outside!

MAY

Make Rogers Reservoir in East Gwillimbury your new outdoor destination

JULY

Lake Simcoe Life in balance, despite invasive species

Scientists and anglers are keeping an eye on quagga mussels.

What if you find this unfriendly giant creeping in your garden

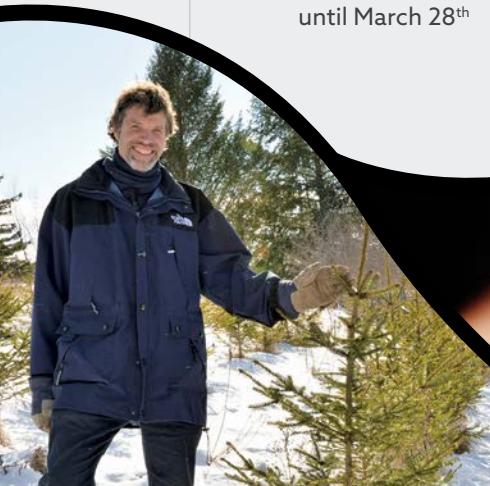


APRIL

Skip the Straw this Earth Day

FEBRUARY

Warm up or cool off by planting trees: LSRCA offers do-it-yourself seedling sale until March 28th



JUNE

How weather whiplash is affecting water quality in Lake Simcoe watershed

Nine municipalities within the watershed rely on the lake for their drinking water supply.

"Climate change is a very real threat to watershed residents, and to our way of life," said the conservation authority's CAO Mike Walters. "What we do over the next 100 years is going to be very important."

— MIKE WALTERS, CAO





DECEMBER ●

Wild weather pushes Barrie's winter maintenance work

"There's a public perception that if a little salt is helpful, then more salt is better. While that's not necessarily true, and municipalities know it, they're dealing with the pressures of extreme weather events, growing populations and public expectations, which all serve to counteract the progress they are making to reduce their salt usage."

— BILL THOMPSON, MANAGER,
INTEGRATED WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT

● AUGUST

Thousands of goldfish live in Simcoe County Stormwater ponds and that's a problem

GTA building boom spawns shadowy 'black market' for waste soil

● OCTOBER

Environmental champions honored with LSRCA awards

LSRCA celebrates new wetland at Rogers Reservoir



● SEPTEMBER

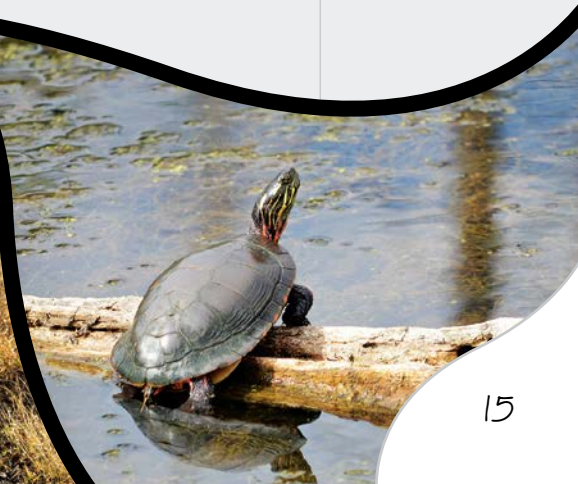
Lake Simcoe property owners get an education session on water level management

Five family-friendly cycling routes in and around Bradford West Gwillimbury

● NOVEMBER

'Never buy a pet turtle', rescue expert advises

Red-eared sliders are one of the world's top 100 most invasive species because people often release them into the wild.



STAFF spotlight



Christa Sharp

JOB TITLE

**Restoration Program
Coordinator**

WHAT I REALLY DO

I work with a great team to complete restoration projects with private landowners, municipalities and community groups. We secure and manage grants, provide technical advice and implement projects.

PARTICULARLY PASSIONATE ABOUT?

Hangin' with my family at the cottage.

ACCOMPLISHMENT I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD OF

I have an uncanny ability to always pick the rainiest, snowiest and coldest days to drag people outside to do field work.

RANDOM FACT

I was an amateur boxer for 2 years.

Colleen Newton

JOB TITLE

**Administrative Assistant,
Enforcement**

WHAT I REALLY DO

Gather information from citizen phone calls and emails to create enforcement/violation files. I also provide administration support to the enforcement team.

PARTICULARLY PASSIONATE ABOUT?

My hobbies and being creative. I enjoy making jewellery, as well as colouring nature, wildlife and birds to unwind and relax.

ACCOMPLISHMENT I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD OF

Having made lasting and memorable friendships from travels around the globe.

RANDOM FACT

I have 6 very adorable, spoiled and adored chinchillas.

Dan Andrews

JOB TITLE

**Land and Resource Planning
Technician**

WHAT I REALLY DO

Increase Conservation Area revenues by offering quality visitor experiences. I also strive to maintain the ecological integrity of the 35 conservation landholdings across our watershed.

PARTICULARLY PASSIONATE ABOUT?

Outdoor recreation and family. I love researching and leading people through outdoor recreation experiences.

ACCOMPLISHMENT I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD OF

It's still a work in-progress, but encouraging my three children to become contributing, meaningful citizens.

RANDOM FACT

My kids and I volunteer teach canoeing-skills to Trails Youth Initiatives participants at Pangman Springs CA.



Kathy Reynolds

JOB TITLE

Payroll/Intermediate Accountant

WHAT I REALLY DO

Monitor investments and ensure staff get paid and many other financial obligations.

PARTICULARLY PASSIONATE ABOUT?

Hockey....especially Toronto and a good cup (or more) of coffee.

ACCOMPLISHMENT I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD OF

I have two degrees and two post grad diplomas. Three were accomplished on line while working full time.

RANDOM FACT

I have a brown belt in Judo and I have been to Cuba 17 times mainly for the coffee.



Geoffrey Peat

JOB TITLE

Manager, GIS & IT

WHAT I REALLY DO

Work with a team of professionals to deliver the best IT, GIS (mapping), network and IMS (database) solutions and infrastructure.

PARTICULARLY PASSIONATE ABOUT?

Helping young people understand their relationship with the earth and coaching young athletes.

ACCOMPLISHMENT I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD OF

Running for Canada at the 2018 World Masters Athletics Championships and winning the bronze medal in the 1500m on the track.

RANDOM FACT

I coach distance running with the Newmarket Huskies Track Club in the Minor age program (10-14).



Paul Cottenden

JOB TITLE

Forest Technician

WHAT I REALLY DO

I work with the Forestry team to promote the LSRCA's tree planting programs, sell the LSRCA's annual tree seedling allocation and also assist in the forest management of the Durham Regional Forest.

PARTICULARLY PASSIONATE ABOUT?

Passing along the knowledge I have gained to private landowners we work with and having a minimal negative impact on the planet.

ACCOMPLISHMENT I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD OF

Being directly involved in the planting of nearly 1,000,000 trees throughout Ontario in my career.

RANDOM FACT

I swam across a two mile stretch of Lake Simcoe in the summer of 1984. It was a fundraising event for Kempenfest.



Trevor Stanford

JOB TITLE Senior Outdoor Educator

WHAT I REALLY DO

Develop, design and deliver curriculum-linked outdoor education programs to students from K-12, at Scanlon Creek.

PARTICULARLY PASSIONATE ABOUT?

All things outdoors such as fishing, hiking, biking, skiing, snowboarding, kayaking, canoeing and camping.

ACCOMPLISHMENT I AM PARTICULARLY PROUD OF

Implementing and delivering French programming and program resources at the Nature Centre.

RANDOM FACT

I have lived in the Lake Simcoe watershed for almost 30 years.

STAFF

achievements

In October, outreach educator **CASSANDRA CONNELL** co-led a national webinar on designing green school yards, put on by the Child and Nature Network. There were 73 people watching online and 180 registrants who received the recording link.

ROB BALDWIN, general manager of planning and development was invited to participate on the speakers panel at the 2018 Ontario Excess Soil Symposium. The event seeks to find ways to support the reuse of excess soil in Ontario as well as enforcement and the prevention of illegal dumping.

BEN LONGSTAFF, general manager of integrated watershed management and **BRIAN KEMP**, general manager of conservation lands both participated in the International RiverFoundation's 21st Annual International River Symposium in Australia. Ben, an expatriate, was able to attend the symposium while visiting his home country and present on LSRCA's new Phosphorus Offsetting Program and our award-winning Twinning Partnership with the Ayuquila-Armeria watershed in central Mexico. The Twinning Partnership presentation was done on behalf of Brian Kemp. While Brian was not in physical attendance, he was able to participate, virtually, on the follow-up panel as part of the Twinning presentation.

ROB BALDWIN, general manager of planning and development and Steve Auger, manager of urban restoration gave separate presentations at the World Environmental and Water Resources Congress, an annual conference organized by the Environmental and Water Resources Institute, bringing together leaders for technical and public policy discussions in planning, design, construction and operation of environmentally sound and sustainable infrastructure.

JESSICA CHAN, natural heritage ecologist, achieved her Ontario Wetland Evaluation System (OWES) certification, now qualifying her to evaluate wetlands and determine their provincial significance. Jessica can identify and determine the boundaries of a wetland and can provide a recommendation to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for provincial status.

DAN ANDREWS, land and resource planning technician, received his High Efficiency Trail Assessment Protocol (HETAP) certification through the American Trails Network and is now one of 11 in Ontario to be certified, and only 16 in all of Canada. The HETAP is about inventory processes that provide information about trail conditions like grade, cross slope and width. The information obtained from these assessments is used by land managers to enhance safety and enjoyment for trail users, monitor environmental impacts on trails, and identify potential access barriers.

CORY BYRON, forestry program coordinator, is now qualified as a Managed Forest Plan Approver (MFPA). MFPA's review and approve Forest Management Plans developed under the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program. Cory also completed the Ontario Tree-Marker Training Program and will help ensure the sustainability of Ontario's public and private woodlands by making management decisions for individual trees. With these qualifications, Cory will play a critical role in managing LSRCA's forests.

DAVID PRICE, field operations technician, earned his designation as a Certified Arborist this year through the International Society of Arboriculture. Arborists specialize in the care of individual trees and are trained to provide proper emergency tree care, tree removal, pruning, planting and many other services.

DR. BRIAN GINN, limnologist, along with **DRAKE COULOMBE**, **TOSHIA FLEISCHAKER**, and **RAYMOND BOLTON** from our science and GIS departments, published a recent study in the Journal of Great Lakes Research entitled "Quantifying a shift in benthic dominance from zebra (*Dreissena polymorpha*) to quagga (*Dreissena retriformis bugensis*) mussels in a large, inland lake". The study reveals quagga mussels have replaced zebra mussels and invaded the deep water in Lake Simcoe. The result of the invasion reveals increased spring Secchi disk transparencies and more benthic invertebrate biomass below 20 meter depths.

We provided teacher professional development workshops for 173 teachers.

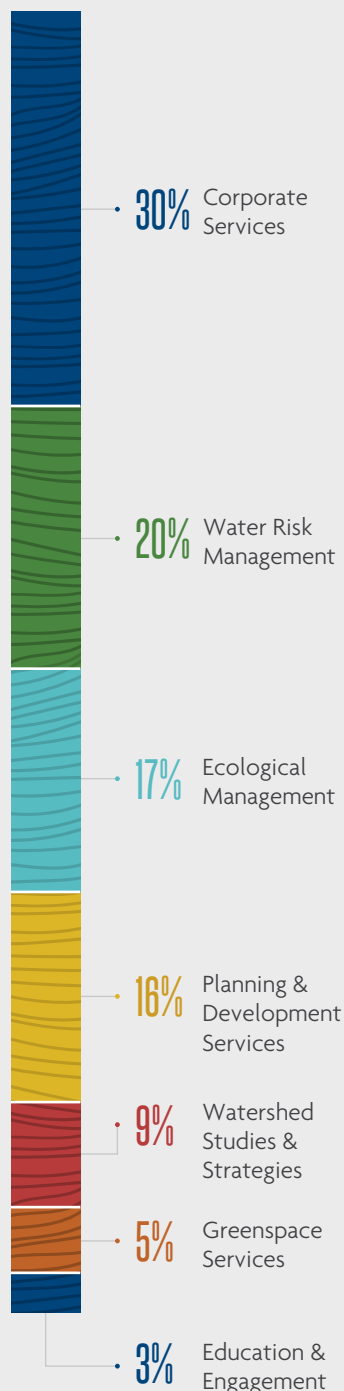
FINANCIAL

summary

2018 Revenues
\$18,360,880



2018 Expenditures
\$18,360,880



REVVING UP

our revenue

Our Corporate and Financial Services team works hard day in and day out to make sure that we stay on target for the future. In 2018, the introduction of a new investment strategy enabled the interest on our idle money to double over 2017 returns. Technical improvements allowed for operational efficiencies through improved procurement, the elimination of over 1,000 physical cheques annually (through the adoption of EFT's) and a new, faster search function at the front desk is saving everyone time and money.

*We received
25 Freedom
of Information
Requests in 2018.*



2018 board of directors

Chair

Mayor Geoffrey Dawe
YORK REGION
TOWN OF AURORA

Vice-Chair

Councillor
Richard Simpson
TOWN OF INNISFIL

CITY OF BARRIE
Councillor Peter Silveira

CITY OF BARRIE
Citizen Representative
Mr. Jay Dolan

CITY OF KAWARTHA LAKES
Councillor Stephen Strangway

DURHAM REGION
Township of Brock
Mayor John Grant

DURHAM REGION
Township of Scugog
Regional Councillor
Bobbie Drew

DURHAM REGION
Township of Uxbridge
Mayor Pat Molloy

TOWN OF BRADFORD
WEST GWILLIMBURY
Councillor Peter Ferragine

TOWN OF NEW TECUMSETH
Councillor Shira Harrison-McIntyre

TOWNSHIP OF ORO-MEDONTE
Councillor Scott Macpherson

TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA
No representative appointed

YORK REGION (AT LARGE)
Town of Georgina
Regional Councillor & Deputy Mayor
Naomi Davison

YORK REGION
Town of East Gwillimbury
Mayor Virginia Hackson

YORK REGION
Town of Georgina
Mayor Margaret Quirk

YORK REGION
Township of King
Councillor Avia Eek

YORK REGION
Town of Newmarket
Councillor Dave Kerwin

YORK REGION
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
Councillor Ken Ferdinands

Hosted 28
community
events, with over
1160 attendees
participating
at those events

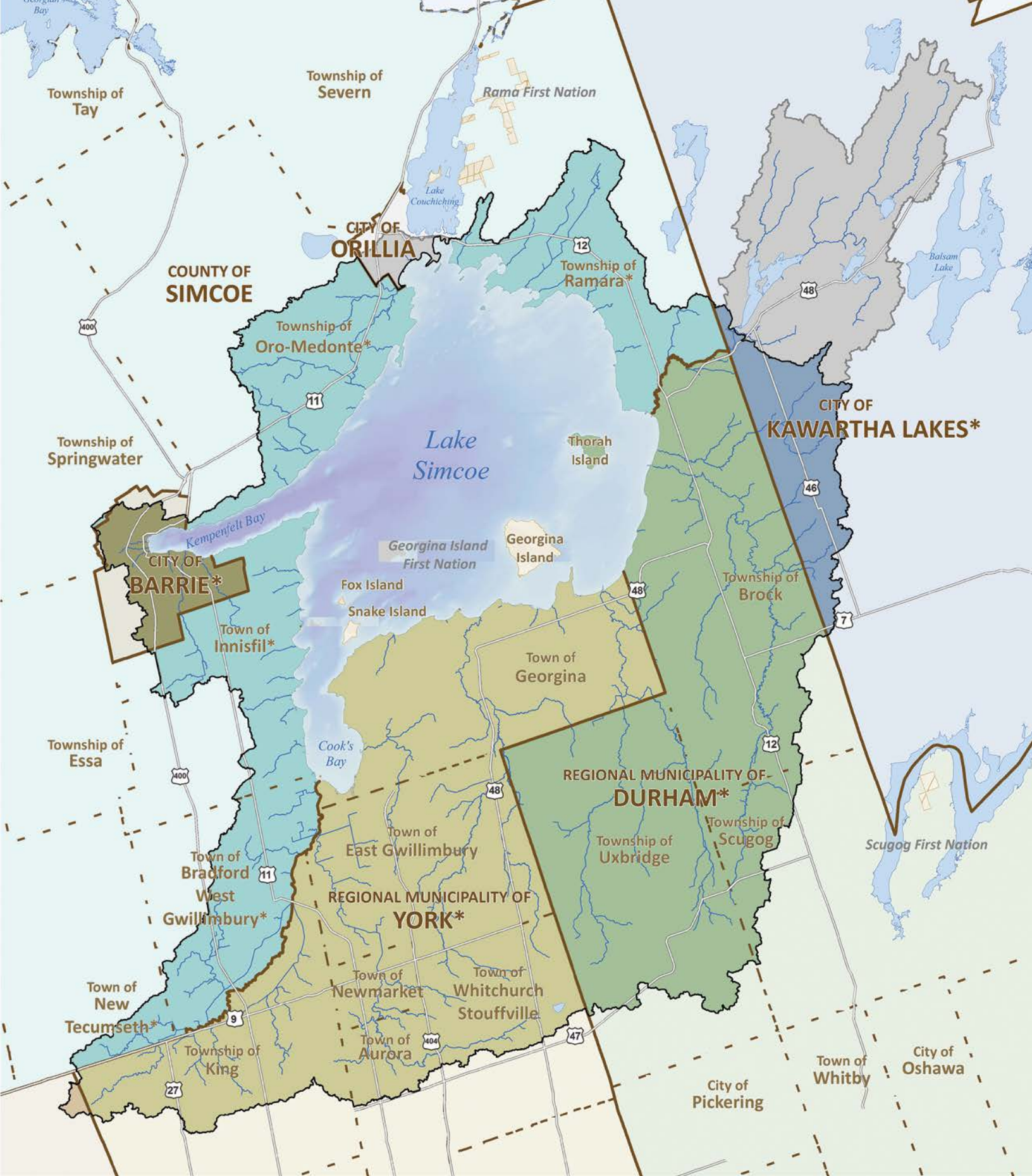
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

LSRCA is a local watershed
management organization
incorporated under the
Conservation Authorities
Act (1946).

Since 1951, we have been dedicated
to protecting, restoring and managing
the Lake Simcoe watershed.

Over our 67 years of service, our
jurisdiction has grown to include the
entire Lake Simcoe watershed with
the exception of the City of Orillia and
the Upper Talbot River subwatershed,
in the City of Kawartha Lakes.

LSRCA is governed by an 18-member
Board of Directors, appointed by nine
member municipalities.



Legend

-  Lake Simcoe Watershed
-  LSRCA Jurisdiction
-  Watercourse
-  Major Road
-  Upper / Single Tier Municipality
-  Lower Tier Municipality
-  * Member Municipality, LSRCA

0 5 10 20 30 Kilometres

This product was produced by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority and some information depicted on this map may have been compiled from various sources. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the information, data / mapping errors may exist. This map has been produced for illustrative purposes only.
 LSRCA GIS Services DRAFT created December 2017.
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 The following datasets municipal boundaries and roads are © Queens Printer for Ontario, 2017. Reproduced with Permission



Lake Simcoe Region
conservation authority



Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) is the leading environmental protection agency in the Lake Simcoe watershed. For over 65 years, we've been collaborating with community, government and other partners to protect and restore the environmental health and quality of Lake Simcoe and its watershed.

120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 3W3

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TF 1-800-465-0437

f [lakesimcoeconservation](https://www.facebook.com/lakesimcoeconservation)

@ [lakesimcoeconservation](https://www.instagram.com/lakesimcoeconservation)

@ [LSRCA](https://twitter.com/LSRCA)

▶ [TheLSRCA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTheLSRCA)

LSRCA.on.ca



Lake Simcoe
Conservation
Foundation

Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation (LSCF) is the leading environmental charity in our watershed, raising funds from individuals and organizations for the critical environmental programs and projects of Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority. LSCF is one of only a few environmental charities nation-wide that has been accredited in Imagine Canada's Standards Program after demonstrating excellence in operations in the charitable sector. Contact LSCF directly for information about how you can support their important fundraising activities.

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E foundation@LSRCA.on.ca

T 905-895-1281

TF 1-800-465-0437

lakesimcoefoundation.ca



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This publication was printed on FSC paper.

If you require this document in an alternate format, please contact us at 905-895-1281.