



CATFISH CREEK CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

WATERSHED

• NEWS AND INFORMATION •

1999 Annual Report Issue

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

The start of a new millennium opens infinite possibilities for those who seek a brighter future. For the people involved with the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority, it means new challenges. We must continue to provide a constant level of service to the community in these times of reduced funding, and the weakening of environmental commitment by the province.

We welcome these challenges as the CCCA celebrates the 50th Anniversary of its founding on February 23, 2000, secure in the knowledge that the lessons we have learned during the last half of the twentieth century will give us the tools to fulfill our mandate for the next fifty years and beyond.

Over the past year, the Authority expanded its land management responsibilities with the acquisition of the environmentally significant Sparta Property from the County of Elgin. Thanks to the kind support of the Richard and Beryl Ivey Fund, a fund within the London Community Foundation, and the Friends of the Environment Foundation, the CCCA was afforded the opportunity to invest in a full Biological Inventory of this unique property. Fisheries rehabilitation work was instituted for the Springwater Pond, along with the reconstruction of the



Waterlily Trail at the Springwater Conservation Area. Both of these projects were helped along with the generous assistance of the Ford of Canada Community Services Committee, the Elgin Stewardship Council and the Elgin Chapter of the Friends of the Environment Foundation.

As you can see, the environmental obligations which the local community began to shoulder some fifty years ago are being realized, but only with the help of an increasing number of partners. We value this input of funding and volunteers from those who recognize and value the efforts made toward conservation in the watershed.

A large number of conservation projects remain ready to initiate, when appropriate funding becomes available. As each is completed, the natural wonders in this part of the province will be protected and nurtured. Environmentally significant lands will continue to burst forth in natural riches and the quality of life in Elgin County and beyond will continue at a level we all demand. The twenty-first century beckons us, but with the cautionary that we must never take our natural heritage for granted. It is the one factor in Canadian life which always gives generously to those who respect and protect our forests, streams, wildlife, and water resources.

50 YEARS OF CONSERVATION!

The Catfish Creek Conservation Authority is celebrating its 50th Anniversary on February 23, 2000, with an Open House at the Aylmer Old Town Hall. Support has been provided by the Aylmer & District Museum with funding through the Ontario Lottery Corporation.



HIGHLIGHTS OF 1999

FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING

- maintenance and operation of four water level gauges and one weather station
- channel sounding and map production to determine potential dredging sites in Port Bruce
- removed 6165 cubic yards of material from Catfish Creek in Port Bruce for flood control purposes
- installation of new stop logs in the Springwater Dam to maintain structural integrity
- pro-active Ice Monitoring Program
- operation and maintenance of the Springwater Dam
- implemented more cost effective ways and means of dealing with ice jams in the Hamlet of Port Bruce
- updated Flood Warning and Operations Plans to incorporate changes through municipal restructuring



Fisheries Assessment

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

- worked to protect valley lands and flood plain areas by processing 18 permits under Section 28 Regulations of the Conservation Authorities Act
- provided environmental input to watershed municipalities by responding to 64 Planning Act applications or documents
- reviewed and provided comments on 8 Municipal Drain Reports
- further developed the Authority's Geographic Information System (GIS) Mapping
- reviewed 65 property inquiries (legal, real estate and general information)
- renewed an Agreement with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to protect and promote healthy fisheries within the watershed
- participation in the Southwestern Ontario Municipal Drain Classification Pilot Project

COMMUNITY INFORMATION/EDUCATION

- member of the Elgin Trans Canada Trail Committee
- active participant in the newly formed Southwestern Ontario Leave A Legacy Program
- member of Volunteer Elgin
- joined the provincial Conservation Services Cooperative to access printed resource materials for distribution to landowners through the CCCA Resource Centre
- technical advisor on the Elgin Stewardship Council
- developed a web site to inform the public of Authority events and programs
- hosted a tour of the Springwater maple syrup operation for the wife of the Japanese Ambassador to Canada

- received a Recognition Award from Wildlife Habitat Canada for the preservation of the Springwater Forest
- participated in the International Year of Older Persons Community Partnership Projects Program

EXTENSION SERVICES

(Tree Planting/Woodlot Management/Soil Conservation)

- 23,600 trees planted throughout the watershed to improve air and water quality and enhance wildlife habitat
- supplied and planted native trees at various Conservation Areas through the Community Forest Program
- provided certified staff to approve Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program Plans for private landowners
- delivered large stock hardwoods to local municipalities for roadside planting
- provided landowners with technical expertise and a wide range of tree planting services
- implemented Woodlot Management Plans for local municipalities and private landowners
- design and implementation of streambank stabilization projects incorporating bio-engineering techniques
- fisheries rehabilitation projects
- Buffer Strip Planting Program

CONSERVATION AREAS

- upgraded the electrical services at the Springwater C.A.
- installation of a computerized reservation system
- completed trail improvements on the Waterlily Trail and Springwater Forest
- implemented a Reservoir Rehabilitation Project at Springwater which included the removal of Carp and drawdown of water levels to improve water quality

ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT AREAS PROTECTION

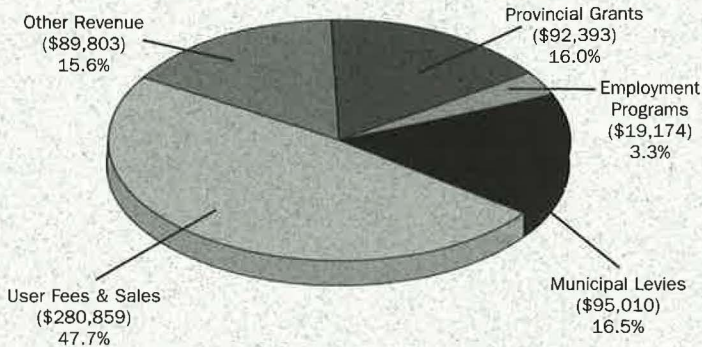
- developed stronger partnerships with national, provincial, & local agencies in coordinating significant land protection
- acquisition of the Sparta Property from the County of Elgin
- initiated a complete biological survey of the Sparta Property thanks to the assistance of the Friends of the Environment Foundation and the London Community Foundation
- hosted an Open House to gather public input for the development of a Management Strategy at the Sparta Property
- installed gates and signage for access control and permitted uses



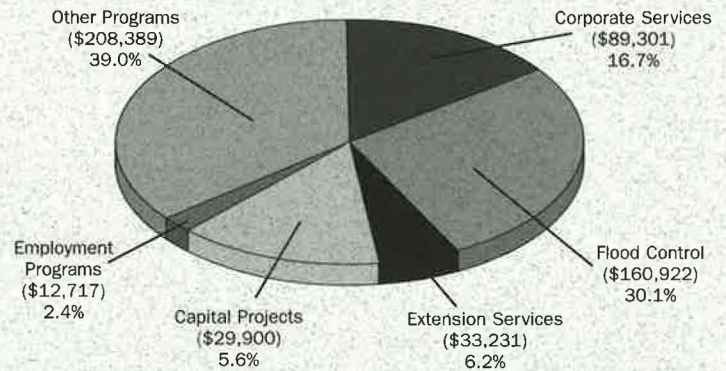
Conservation Award Winner - The Tarry Family

1999 FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Revenue = \$577,239



Total Expenditures = \$534,460



1999 Full Authority Membership

Municipality

Township of Malahide

Town of Aylmer

Municipality of Central Elgin

Township of South-West Oxford

City of St. Thomas

Member

George Cleminshaw
(Chairperson)

Roger Vandierendonck
(Vice-Chairperson)

Danial Dale

Carl McQueen

Marie Turvey

1999 Staff

Kim Smale

Susan Mann

Rob Lindsay

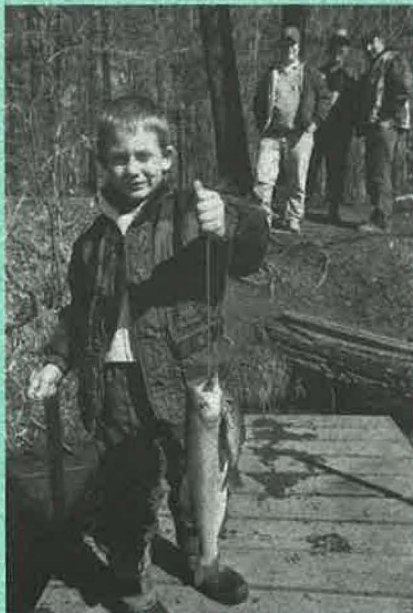
Ed Pietrzak

Christine Depuydt

General Manager/
Secretary-Treasurer
Financial Services Coordinator
Conservation Services
Coordinator
Conservation Areas
Supervisor
Resource Planning
Coordinator



Seated (left to right): Kim Smale, George Cleminshaw, Roger Vandierendonck. **Standing (left to right):** Ed Pietrzak, Susan Mann, Rob Lindsay, Marie Turvey, Danial Dale, Christine Depuydt, Carl McQueen



Trout Derby

2000 UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

February 12	Aylmer Ducks Unlimited Green Wing Day
March 11-26	Springwater Maple Syrup Festival
April 29	Opening Day of Trout Season
May 1-May 31	Tim Horton's Trout Derby
June 10	Beaver Lumber Family Fishing Derby
June 16-18	Van Fest
July 7-9	Ontario Family Fishing Weekend (fish license free)
July 9	1st Annual Springwater Rod, Custom & Street Machine Show
August	Annual Disc Golf Tournament
August 12	Springwater Mountain Bike Race
September 2	Friends of Springwater Carnival
September 2	Friends of Springwater Fireworks
September 10	3-D Archery Championships
December 9	Christmas Spirit Walk

**For more information please contact our office
at 773-9037 or visit our website at www.execulink.com/~ccca**



Working Together Today For A Healthier Environment Tomorrow !

The CCCA is a non-profit organization that needs your financial support and volunteerism to ensure community driven environmental initiatives continue in the future. **An official tax receipt will be issued for minimum donations of \$10.00.** Charitable Registration Number 10687 9240 RR0001

YES, I would like to show my support for the CCCA and the local community.

Please accept my donation of \$ _____
to support the following initiatives:

- ☐ Protection of Environmentally Significant Lands
☐ Springwater Forest Preservation and Management
☐ Conservation Education
☐ Community Forest Program

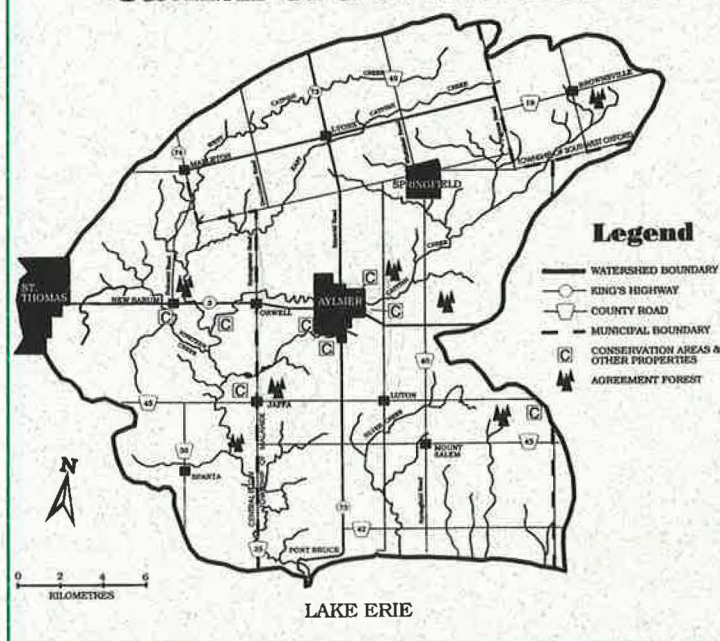
Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Please mail to: Catfish Creek Conservation Authority,
R.R. # 5, Aylmer, Ontario N5H 2R4

Catfish Creek Watershed



1999 COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

Al Jewell Perfect Signs
Alisar Aggregates Inc.
Assumption Holy Rosary School
Aylmer C.I.B.C.
Aylmer & District Museum
Aylmer McDonald's
Aylmer B.I.A.
Aylmer Area Community Foundation
Baertsoen Manufacturing Ltd.
Beaver Lumber (Aylmer)
Carolinian Canada
City of St. Thomas
Clemishaw, George
County of Elgin
Dan Higgs Excavating
Dell, Phil
Department of Fisheries & Oceans Canada
Doug Tarry Limited
Dowler-Karn
Ducks Unlimited Canada
Ducks Unlimited Aylmer—Green Wings
East Elgin Millennium Committee
East Elgin Sportsmen's Club
East Elgin Secondary School
Elgin R.V.
Elgin Hiking Trail Club
Elgin Trans Canada Trail Committee
Elgin County Outdoor Education Centre
Elgin Stewardship Council
Family Campers & RV'ers
Ford of Canada Community Service Committee

Friends of Springwater
Friends of the Environment Foundation-Elgin
County Chapter
Gall, Johan (Dr.)
George Wilson & Son Excavating
Grawburg, Helen
Green Lane Environmental Group
H.A. Kebbel Funeral Home
Hamilton, Ward and Cathers Insurance
Hennessey, Bowsher, Gibson & Carrie
Higgs & Higgs Inc.
Hill, Thomas
Hobgood, Leslie
Human Resources Development Canada
Industrial Cleaning Products
Jamestown Valley Equine Stables
JEM Services
Jennings Furniture
Johnson Meats
K & K Locksmiths
Kelly, Tim (London Life)
Koleada, Michael
Koolen Electric
London Community Foundation
Mapleton Taxidermy & Cheese Shop
Mid-Erie Developments
Municipality of Central Elgin
Nature Conservancy Canada
New Sarum Family Restaurant
Norfolk Cooperative
Northern Casket

Ontario Works, St. Thomas-Elgin
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters
Order of Good Cheer
Parkside Secondary School
Richard & Beryl Ivey Fund
Rosethorn 7-2-11
Scouts Canada, Elgin District
Smith Auto Electric
Springwater Recreational Rentals
Springwater Forest Supporters
St. Thomas Shrine Club
St. Thomas Field Naturalists
St. Joseph's High School
Steelway Building Products
Stewart, Eileene
Thames Valley District School Board
The Aylmer Express
Tim Horton's (Aylmer)
Tommy White's Source For Sports
Town of Aylmer
Township of Malahide
Township of South-West Oxford
Turvey, Marie
Vandenbrink Farm Equipment Inc.
Volunteer Elgin
Wayne Gavey Auto Repair
Williams Funeral Home Ltd.
Woolley Maintenance
Yarmouth Sand & Gravel

**The Catfish Creek Conservation Authority would like to thank the following businesses
for their support toward the printing of the 1999 Annual Report**



Tim Kelly
Representative
Member of the Merit Corps

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