



CATFISH CREEK CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

2000 *Annual Report* 50TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

For the past 50 years, the natural resources of our watershed and the people who use them have greatly benefited from the work of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority. In the year 2000, CCCA celebrated its Golden Anniversary of service as environmental stewards and water managers responsible for protecting and preserving some of Ontario's most beautiful conservation and natural heritage lands.

As we begin our second half-century of service to the Counties of Elgin and Oxford, the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority looks back on its first 50 years with pride and modesty. We spent much of the past year in celebration, highlighted by a Pops Concert at Springwater in September. Ric Wellwood's new book about the Authority's past, *"The River, The Lake And The Creek"*, allowed us to review a productive history.

As a member of Conservation Ontario,

we are convinced that the future of all Conservation Authorities is tied to organized fund raising and marketing. A great local example is the generosity of businessman Glen White of Steelway Building Systems, who commissioned Artist Peter Robson to create a century-old scene at historic White's Pond. Now a limited edition print series, signed and numbered, the print is designed to help raise funds for CCCA. Mr. White donated 200 of them to the Authority for this purpose.

Naturally, we also remain dependent on the support which comes to us from the five municipalities within the watershed who have realized that water management and conservation are absolute necessities for sustainable development and a healthy community. We continue to thank them for their support, and for their input into our Board of Directors. We at CCCA look forward to the next 50 years and its many challenges.



Top Left: '50's - White's Mill, Springwater.



Centre: '60's - Springwater Forest.



Top Right: '80's - Aylmer Slope Stability Project.

Bottom Left: '70's - Springwater Beach and Day Use Area.



Bottom Right: '90's - Fisheries Rehabilitation, Bradley Creek.



HIGHLIGHTS OF 2000

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

- provided technical support and policy development to local municipalities and proponents by reviewing and commenting on over 55 Planning Act applications and development proposals affecting a broad range of natural hazard and natural heritage issues
- reviewed and provided comments on 14 Municipal Drain Reports
- reviewed over 20 proposals including issuance of 12 permits relative to fill placement, construction or alteration to watercourses in accordance with Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act
- reviewed over 60 property inquiries (legal, real estate, and general information requests)
- protected fish habitat and mitigated impacts to aquatic ecosystems in partnership with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- refined fish habitat classification and mapping of watercourses in the Southwestern Ontario Drain Classification Project
- initiated a comprehensive aquatic and terrestrial habitat inventory of the Mill Creek Sub-Watershed



Official Opening
- Carolinian Canada Millennium & Arboretum Trail
Springwater Conservation Area.

FLOOD CONTROL

- continually monitoring streamflow, reservoir and watershed conditions
- 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 5000 cubic yards of material from Catfish Creek in Port Bruce for flood control purposes
- Ice Monitoring Program
- regular inspections, operation and maintenance of the Springwater Dam
- collected and maintained historical flooding data
- provided emergency planning and a flood warning system

COMMUNITY INFORMATION/EDUCATION

- participated in the Trans Canada Trail Water Relay
- partner with the Southwestern Ontario Leave A Legacy Program and Thames Talbot Land Trust
- distributed resource materials to landowners through the CCCA Resource Centre
- technical advisor on the Elgin Stewardship Council
- maintained web-site to inform public of CCCA events and programs

- worked extensively with the Environmental Leadership Program at East Elgin Secondary School
- published a book depicting the first 50 years of the CCCA
- provided maple syrup and environmental education programs to approximately 3,500 students
- held an outdoor concert at Springwater to celebrate our 50th Anniversary

EXTENSION SERVICES

(Tree Planting/Woodlot Management/Soil Conservation)

- 30,200 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
- implemented Woodlot Management Plans for local municipalities and private landowners
- planted and managed a 15 acre pine plantation for Imperial Tobacco Canada Limited
- erosion control and fisheries rehabilitation projects
- vegetation and debris dam removal for the Catfish Creek Drain Project
- resumed management responsibilities from the Ministry of Natural Resources for the CCCA Agreement Forests

CCCA OWNED LANDS

- renamed the former Sparta Gravel Pit Property the Yarmouth Natural Heritage Area
- officially opened the Carolinian Canada Millennium and Arboretum Trail at the Springwater C.A.
- dedicated a tree to each member municipality in recognition of their 50 years of support
- installed gates and signage for access control and permitted uses at the Y.N.H.A. and the Springwater Forest
- upgraded the electrical services and installed a new computerized reservation system at the Springwater C.A.
- completed a comprehensive biological survey of the Y.N.H.A. using the new Ecological Land Classification System
- trail development
- received a draft Management Strategy for the Y.N.H.A.

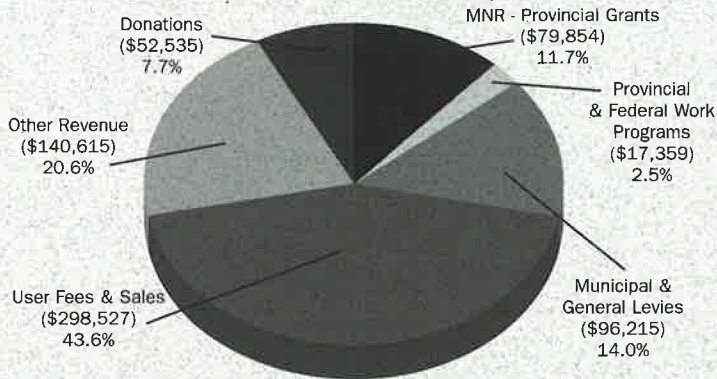


Conservation Award Winner - Anne & Hank Vandenbrink.

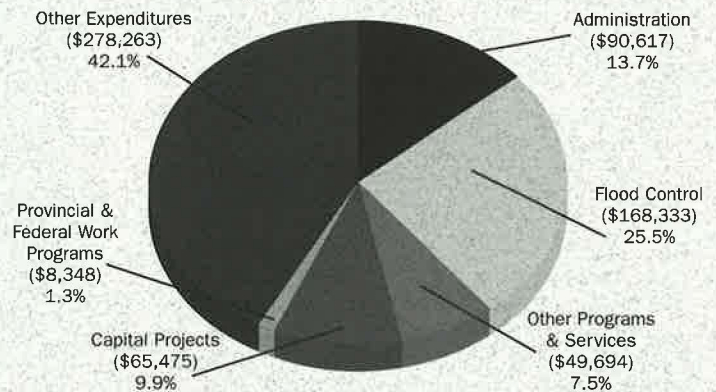
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2000 FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Revenue = \$685,105



Total Expenditures = \$660,730



2000 FULL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

Municipality

Town of Aylmer
Municipality of Central Elgin
Township of Malahide
Township of South-West Oxford
City of St. Thomas

Member

Roger Vandierendonck (Chairperson)
Danial Dale (Vice-Chairperson)
George Cleminshaw
Carl McQueen
Marie Turvey

2000 Staff

Kim Smale	General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Susan Mann	Financial Services Coordinator
Ed Pietrzak	Conservation Areas Supervisor
Rob Lindsay	Conservation Services Coordinator
Christine Depuydt (until Sept.)	Resource Planning Coordinator
Tony Difazio (from Oct.)	Resource Planning Coordinator
Loretta Luksys-Vinnai	Special Projects Coordinator
Tricia Sanders	Historical Archives Technician
Heather MacKenzie	Land Use Inventory Technician
Barry Martin	Operations Assistant
Ric Wellwood	Fundraising/Communications



Seated (left to right): Marie Turvey, Danial Dale, Roger Vandierendonck, George Cleminshaw, Carl McQueen. Standing (left to right): Tricia Sanders, Tony Difazio, Loretta Luksys-Vinnai, Ric Wellwood, Heather MacKenzie, Rob Lindsay, Kim Smale, Ed Pietrzak, Susan Mann, (Absent) Barry Martin.



50 YEARS AT A GLANCE

- CCCA established February 23, 1950.
- Archie Coulter elected first Chair of CCCA in 1950.
- Helen Grawburg was elected first female Chair of CCCA in 1990.
- CCCA's total watershed area is 490 sq. kilometres (189 sq. miles) and includes 5 member municipalities. These include the Town of Aylmer, the Township of Malahide, the Township of South-West Oxford, the City of St. Thomas, and the Municipality of Central Elgin.
- CCCA has planted more than one million trees in the watershed since 1950.
- More than 125 erosion control projects constructed on private and municipal lands to preserve soil resources and reduce sedimentation.
- CCCA maintains over two million dollars worth of infrastructure and owns 523 hectares (1,293 acres) of land.
- In 1993, provincial grants to CCCA totalled \$331,257.00.
- In 2000, provincial grants to CCCA totalled \$79,854.00.
- In 1950, the total municipal levy was \$10.00.
- In 2000, the total municipal levy was \$80,740.00.

2001 UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| February 20 | Ontario Maple Syrup Producers Association Regional 1st Tapping Ceremony |
| March 10-April 1 | Springwater Maple Syrup Festival |
| April 28 | Opening Day of Trout Season |
| April 30-May 31 | Tim Horton's Trout Derby |
| June 15-17 | Van Fest |
| July 6-8 | Ontario Family Fishing Weekend (fish license free) |
| July 8 | 2nd Annual Springwater Rod, Custom & Street Machine Show |
| August | 6th Annual Disc Golf Tournament |
| August 11&12 | Beaver Lumber Family Fishing Derby |
| August 18 | Springwater Mountain Bike Race |
| September 1 | Friends of Springwater Carnival & Fireworks |
| December 8 | 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 \$ _____ in support of the following initiative(s):

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ 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, 8079 Springwater Road, R.R. # 5, Aylmer, Ontario N5H 2R4

Conservation Authorities of Ontario

MANDATE

Conservation Authorities, created in 1946 by an Act of the Provincial Legislature, are mandated to ensure the conservation, restoration and responsible management of Ontario's water, land and natural habitats through programs that balance human, environmental and economic needs.

OBJECTIVES

- To ensure that Ontario's rivers, lakes and streams are properly safeguarded, managed and restored
- To protect, manage and restore Ontario's woodlands, wetlands and natural habitat
- To develop and maintain programs that will protect life and property from natural hazards such as flooding and erosion
- To provide opportunities for the public to learn from, to enjoy, and respect Ontario's natural environment



Tree Planting Site - Imperial Tobacco Canada Limited.
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2000 COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

Al Jewell Perfect Signs
Alisar Aggregates Inc.
Allied Systems (Canada) Company
Assumption Holy Rosary School
Aylmer & District Museum
Aylmer Area Community Foundation
Aylmer B.I.A.
Aylmer C.I.B.C.
Aylmer Tire
Beaver Lumber (Aylmer)
Berkelman's Welding & Mfg.
Bishop, Gord
Calvar, Yves
Carolinian Canada
City of St. Thomas
Clemishaw, George
Collins, Dorothy
County of Elgin
Dell, Phil
Dickson, Roberta
Doug Tarry Limited
Ducks Unlimited Aylmer Green Wings
East Elgin Millennium Committee
East Elgin Secondary School

Elgin Hiking Trail Club
Elgin Stewardship Council
Elgin Trans Canada Trail Committee
Elgin-St. Thomas United Way
Ellis Farm Equipment
Family Campers & RV's
Fisheries & Oceans Canada
Formet Industries
Friends of Springwater
Friends of the Environment Foundation-
Elgin County Chapter
George Wilson & Son Excavating
Grawburg, Helen
Hamilton, Ward & Cathers Insurance
Harriman, Steve
Hennessey, Bowsher, Gibson & Carrie
Herrington, Harry
Higgs & Higgs Inc.
Hill, Thomas & Cheryl
Human Resources Development Canada
Imperial Tobacco Canada Limited
Industrial Cleaning Products
Jaffa Environmental Education Centre
Karda, Margo & Mike

Kebbel, Deneen & Bob
Kelly, Tim (London Life)
Koolen Electric
Lafontaine, Cheryl & Dennis
London Community Foundation
Luksys, Stella & Jonas
McKenna, Barbara
Municipality of Central Elgin
Nature Conservancy Canada
New Sarum Family Restaurant
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Ontario Works, St. Thomas-Elgin
Order of Good Cheer
Parker Fuels
Pressey, Lela & Phineas
Presstran Industries
Richard & Beryl Ivey Fund
Rush Creek Wines
Scouts Canada, Elgin District
Smale, D. J.
Smith Auto Electric
Springwater Forest Supporters
St. Joseph's High School

St. Thomas Field Naturalists
Steelway Building Systems
Stewart, Eileene
Studer's Dairy
Summers Corners Public School
Thames Valley District School Board
The Aylmer Express
The Others
Tim Hortons (Aylmer)
Tommy Whites' Source For Sports
Town of Aylmer
Township of Malahide
Township of South-West Oxford
Turvey, Marie
Uher, David & Marietta
Van Pelt's
Vandenbrink Farm Equipment Inc.
Volunteer Elgin
Watson, Jeff
Waydan Auto Repair
White, Patricia & Glen
White, Robert
Williams Funeral Home Ltd.
Yarmouth Metal Fabricators

The Catfish Creek Conservation Authority would like to thank the following businesses for their support toward the printing of the 2000 Annual Report

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