



**Friends of the Tay Watershed Association
Annual General Meeting for 2018
Proposed Program of Activities for 2019**

(March 11, 2019)

Mission

The Friends of the Tay Watershed deliver activities, and cooperate with other organizations with complementary interests, to ensure the health of the water and related natural resources of the Tay Watershed for present and future generations.

Strategic Directions

Provision of Community Outreach and Education Activities:

Objective: *To encourage public interest and participation in the protection of water resources and the Tay watershed's natural environment, through the provision of information and the delivery of supportive events.*

- * **Annual General Meeting** (March 28)
- * **'Anote's Ark'** film showing, cooperation with CFUW (April CFUW Meeting)
- * **Kid Fish Day, Perth** (June 15)
- * **Stewart Park Music Festival** booth (July 19-21)
- * **Watershed Discovery Day (WDD)** (August 17, Perth Farmers' Market)
- * **Water Guardian Bursary** - award to a local student
- * **Perth & District Heritage Fair** - Financial (& volunteer) support
- * **Source Water Information Panels** – cooperate in development
- * **Annual Environmental Awards** - continue Program
- * Distribute information on **targeted watershed issues** (wetlands, groundwater, Tay waterway management, climate change impact, Source Water Program, shoreline protection)
- * Carry out focused program for residents on **Tay River** and **selected lakes**
- * Continue focus on **youth**
- * Promote **public recreation use, and information on**, watershed water bodies
- * Maintain **website and newsletter delivery** of association information

Delivery of Watershed Care and Protection Programs:

Objective: *To contribute to the development of the information base and infrastructure required for the understanding and protection of the Tay watershed.*

- * Promote understanding, on the part of the public and policy-makers, of the importance of the targeted issues (listed in 'Outreach'), of the work of **Conservation Authorities**, and of the need for maintaining a priority for **protection of the environment and water resources in economic development programs**
- * Participate in **Source Water Protection Committee & RVCA Rural Clean Water Program**
- * Participate in **Lake Links 2019** organisation & delivery (October 26)
- * Monitor **Bobs Lake/Bolingbroke Dam** re-construction and related Tay waterway management
- * Review status of **groundwater information base** and research in Tay watershed area
- * Maintain **'Tay Net'** waterway monitoring network; expand **'Riverwatch'** component
- * Consider participation, **National Clean Up Day/Ocean Conservancy** (mid-September)

Cooperation with Partner Organisations:

Objective: *To build partnerships with community organisations and government departments and agencies for the production and delivery of effective programs for the care of water resources (we have cooperated with over 50 organisations on activities and events)*

- * **Support complementary activities** of watershed lake associations, environmental organisations, businesses and government departments and agencies
- * Participate in selected lake association **annual general meetings**
- * Seek reduced impact to the Tay waterway of changes in levels of the Bolingbroke Dam, with **Parks Canada**, through early warning and staged changes
- * Provide input to Rideau Management Plan Renewal
- * Continue partner participation in association activities; eg. **Watershed Discovery Day**
- * Maintain website section for the **Lake Networking Group**
- * Provide support to, amongst others, **Source Water Program, Rural Clean Water Program, Ottawa Riverkeeper, Lake Links 2019, and Perth Heritage Fair**
- * Recognise our corporate community support from **Little Stream Bakery, Stor-N-Lock, The Factory and Maximilians Restaurant**

Addressing Climate Change:

- * Support ongoing **Perth Task Force on Local Climate Change & Tay Valley Township Green Energy & Climate Change Working Group**
- * Support planned 2019 area events by **Perth's Canadian Federation of University Women, Lanark County Stewardship Council, and ECOTAY**
- * Maintain a policy of taking climate change into account in our programs
- * Promote and support programs to identify and mitigate impact of climate change on the environment.

Maintenance and Expansion of Association Capacity:

Objective: *To maintain, and expand where possible, the association's capacity for delivering programs and reacting to new opportunities, and initiate action to address policy, structural or resource needs.*

- * Move ahead with program of **renewal of association officer positions**
- * Maintain focus on **association branding** and display materials
- * Maintain support for **website** as a primary delivery source
- * Consider development of a **media series**, and a social media page
- * Continue focus on promotion of **memberships and donations**
- * Carry out a **fundraising** project
- * Maintain contact and cooperation with **partner organisations**
- * Encourage volunteer **assistance for selected roles** (eg. communications; displays; coordination of public information material)
- * **Recognise** individuals and organisations providing special assistance to the Association
- * **Expand provision of information** to Members, Board and Advisory Panel
- * Investigate more sustainable, long-term **archives system**
- * Hold minimum of **four Board meetings** in 2018.