



FRIENDS of the TAY WATERSHED Association

Our Association's Activities in 2014

Public Education and Awareness

- *Stewart Park Music Festival*, Perth (three day booth)
- *Source Water Protection Committee* (ongoing participation)
- *RBC Blue Water Day* (organised and staffed display)
- *Watershed Discovery Day* at the Crystal Palace, Perth (Theme: 'Bring your water questions to the experts')
- LCAN/Lanark Climate Action Network (ongoing participation)
- *Perth Antique Fair* (three day booth, Quilt Lottery Sales)
- Viewpoint bench on the Tay River; began organisation, based on public suggestions
- Picnic area stop and dock for paddlers on the Tay River, at the RVCA Perth Wildlife Reserve (proposed and helped organise)
- Delivered watershed, water and environment information through website
- Annual public meeting on OMYA Canada Inc.'s water withdrawal permit (attended)
- *Lake Links* (see display table below, Partnerships)
- Initiated activity towards securing HYDAT (national water recording system) acceptance of the OMYA water intake data
- *Ottawa Resilient Rainwater Seminar* on storm water management (attended)

Youth Events/Activities

- *Perth Heritage Fair* (financial contribution and volunteer support)
- *Watershed Discovery Day* – a “family themed“ event (expanded children participation activities)
- *Water Guardian Scholarship* award to a local student (2014: Derek Oliver, PDCI)
- *Polaris Institute* (as needed involvement - environmental training materials)

Stewardship and Monitoring

- Cooperation with Town of Perth and Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) in Tay River water sampling program
- Attendance at public presentation on proposed Haggart Island Dams replacement; development and submission of association suggestions
- Participation in policy discussion and review meeting on Tay River water management practice, with Parks Canada, and three lake associations
- Review of Bobs Lake/Bolingbroke Dam status, in cooperation with Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes Associations, Christie Lake Association, Eagle Lake Association, and Parks Canada

- Monitored government progress in maintaining the Tay Canal (Rideau Canal) system infrastructure, and public promotion program

Partnerships

- Tay Valley, Drummond/North Elmsley, Beckwith and Perth municipal 200th Anniversary committees (participation)
- Lake association annual general meetings for Christie Lake, Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes and Otty Lake (attendance)
- Treasurer partner in '*People, Aquatic Plants and Healthy Lakes Study*' two year program, with RVCA, Mississippi Valley Conservation, Carlton University, MOE, Ottawa River Keeper. (Trillium Grant)
- Hosted *Watershed Discovery Day* in partnership with RVCA, Town of Perth, Watersheds Canada, Rideau Environmental Action League, Perth & District Library, and Ottawa Riverkeeper
- *Lake Links annual conference* (organised and staffed watershed information table)
- *Ottawa Riverkeeper* (developed new partnership, commencing with local event and press release, and membership in the *Riverkeeper Riverwatch Program*)
- Initiated program of inviting selected partner organisations for presentations at Board meetings
- Opened discussions with *TD Canada Trust* for expanded cooperation in association work
- Participated in the RVCA Rural Clean Water Program and annual meeting

Maintain the Organization

- Complete review of Association By-laws, with membership participation (approved)
- Submission of updated By-laws for approval to Canada Revenue Agency (approved)
- Developed recognition program for organisations that provide direct, sustaining assistance to the association (Store-n-lock; Little Stream Bakery; The Factory)
- Rebuilt association membership list in first of two stages to be completed next year
- Updated, renewed and expanded mailing list
- Adopted expanded policy of communication with members, Board and Advisory Panel
- Adopted program of renewed cooperation with partner organisations, include lake associations, environmental groups, municipalities, and government agencies
- Developed new newsletter format, and sent out first of planned newsletter series
- Organised and delivered quilt lottery to develop funding for a 200th Anniversary watershed project
- Maintained policy of quarterly Board meetings, with Executive Committee meetings as required
- Presented annual reports and public information session as part of 2013 AGM

March 16, 2015