



**Friends of the Tay Watershed Association
AGM – January 31, 2012**

**Review of Activities for 2011
By Sector**

Key Issues and Projects for 2011

- Development and award of the first *Water Guardian* scholarship for watershed students entering post-secondary environmental programs.
- Celebration of the 175th anniversary of the Tay Canal and completion of signage.
- RVCA's plan to publish an updated review of the state of the Tay Watershed
- Continued distribution of Tay Times tabloid e.g., to Grade 8 science program.
- Partnership with Canadian Federation of University Women for *Treasure the Tay* Evening and meeting to address safe swimming in the Tay.

Public Education and Awareness

- Newsletter written and distributed to all members
- Perspectives on Water presentation ~ a screening of “Water on the Table” in collaboration with CFUW.
- Co-sponsored information evening *Treasure the Tay*
- Provided and staffed FoTW booth at Maplefest
- Provided and staffed booth at Stewart Park Music Festival
- Attended Source Water Protection Public Meetings in Perth
- RBC Blue Planet Day – Provided display and volunteers in bank lobby
- Held *Watershed Discovery Day* at EcoTay
- Provided and staffed booth and attended Lake Links.
- Provided electronic links to community through website and facebook.
- Organized tours of the five original Tay Canal sites in partnership with Drummond/North Elmsley Township and heritage committee.

Children's Events

- Successful grant of \$5,000 from the RBC's Blue Water Program to sponsor Grade 8 science programs on local water to two classes.
- Financial and volunteer support for Perth Heritage Fair
- Presented Watershed Discovery Day at EcoTay Education Centre
- Provided funding and guidance for water-themed, curriculum-based education for two watershed grade 8 classes through Nature Works Learning

Sponsorship

- Participation in Polar Plunge in fund-raising for community
- FoTW support for funding application for signage for Tay Canal

Advocacy and Monitoring

- Continued monitoring of development of Miller Farm property on Tay River
- Provided detailed comments to the Town of Perth's Water Treatment Plant Residue Environmental Assessment and monitored related events.
- Continued lobbying for treatment of Wilson St storm water before discharge into the Tay River.
- Continuing discussion for inclusion of upper Tay River, upper lakes and Bolingbroke Dam in Rideau Corridor Heritage Project

Partnerships

- Shoreline surveys of over 1,000 properties on Bobs and Crow Lakes.
- New partnership developed with Canadian Federation of University Women
- Development of new Tay Watershed Plan in cooperation with RVCA.
- Advertised and attended OMYA public meeting reporting on water taking
- Participation in development of Accessibility Trail with TVT Trails Committee
- Ongoing meetings and discussion with Parks Canada re Rideau Corridor Landscape Design
- Representation on Perth, Tay Valley and Drummond North Elmsley's committees for community 200th anniversary in 2016.
- With Lanark Stewardship Council, sponsored and organized a *Tay Paddle* with ecological interpreter.
- Presented talk - *Local Water – Fact and Fiction* in partnership with Perth Public Library's summer program on *Water*.
- Attendance at Pike Lake AGM.
- Support letter on behalf of local history *Voices of Pike Lake* for an Ontario Historical Society award.
- Partnered with Lanark Stewardship Council, RVCA, Tay Valley Township, OMYA Canada and Rivington Rally Honda as sponsors for Watershed Discovery Day.

Recognition

- Nomination of FoTW for Tri-Valley Environmental Award by Tay Valley Township
- Recognition of FoTW Founders with presentation of certificates at WDD.

Maintain the Organization

- AGM - January
- Board meetings – March, June, September, November
- Executive meetings – monthly
- Board Development - Visit to Tay View Mill in June
- Updates for website and development of Facebook site
- Registered Charity Information Return - weekly accounting system updates
- File with Industry Canada (requirement of incorporated status)