

FRIENDS OF THE



TAY WATERSHED



Photo: Donna Walsh

Trumpeter Swans (Cygnus Buccinator) on Christie Lake

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

www.taywatershed.ca
friends@taywatershed.ca

We All Live Downstream



Our 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.

President's Message

In 2018, your association continued the high level of activities of past years in terms of both the number and range of activities. However, as forecast at our 2017 AGM, increasing attention was required to address the impact of climate change and disturbing challenges to protective legislation for our water resources.

On the positive side, over the past year your Board of Directors delivered over 30 activities in our four main program areas, a slight drop from the record 2017 program, but an increase over previous years. Of more significance was the expanded activity delivered to the essential sectors of *Watershed Protection, Outreach & Education, Climate Change, and Association Capacity Building*. Cooperative projects with our *Partners* decreased slightly, although linkages with partner organizations actually increased somewhat.

As noted in this Annual Report, several new activities were presented the past year, while still maintaining our many tradi-

tional projects and events. However, inordinate effort was required to address the Ontario Government's move to placing a priority for economic development over water protection legislation. That this coincides with major new challenges to water management from increased incidence of flooding and drought is a source of considerable concern.

Creative input was also dedicated to increasing the association membership, branding and donations, to upgrading the mailing list, and to related website design. We were pleased to welcome two new Board Members in 2018. However, regrettably, we experienced the loss of a valued Director and friend, Larry Bowen.

We are, again, indebted to the dedicated work of our Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Advisory Panel, and members – and the invaluable support from our Sustaining Members. Thank you. You made it happen.

David Taylor



Larry Bowen 1942—2018

It is with deep regret that we lost a valued Board member and friend, Larry Bowen, who passed away this past year. Larry contributed so much to our association in the short time he was on our Board, stepping forward with great skill and enthusiasm. His contributions to projects such as Watershed Discovery Day, the Tay Pathway Sign and Board Management reflected his organizational skills, positive approach and concern for the environment. We are grateful for this association with Larry and sadly miss his friendship and cheerful dedication to the Friends of the Tay Watershed.

Photo: Canadian Obituaries .com

All photos credit The Friends of the Tay Watershed Association unless otherwise noted.

Another Busy Year in 2018

Education and Outreach

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.



We represent the watershed annually at the Stewart Park Festival

In 2018, your Association carried forward our core 'Outreach' activities with the Stewart Park Festival, our Watershed Discovery Day, and our Annual General Meeting, and the presentation of our Water Guardian Bursary and Annual Environmental Awards. We also supported many other watershed area events organized by our partners, described later in this report. The association provided extensive input to the community discussion on environmental issues, climate change, and development pressures. Particular attention was directed to the management of the Tay waterway system, to challenges arising from climate change, such as flooding, and to the need to maintain protective water resource legislation, to safeguard wetlands and our surface and groundwater, responding to on-going extreme weather conditions. The association presented wetland resource kits, with a Conservation Ontario wetland CD and related documentation, to regional schools, as part of our 'Youth Outreach' priority.



Photo: C. Dillon
Wetland Kits for Kids

2018 Bursary to Juliet Kennedy

The 'Friends' 2018 Water Guardian Bursary Award was presented to Juliet Kennedy on Saturday, August 18th, in a ceremony at the Association's annual Watershed Discovery Day at the Perth Farmers' Market. Miss Kennedy is a graduate of St. John Catholic High School in Perth. The \$1000. bursary will help her continue into her 3rd year of the Environmental Science Program at Queen's University in Kingston. The nomination committee



was impressed by Juliet's comprehensive knowledge of environmental and water issues and by her expression of passion to pursue further study in this field. The Water Guardian Bursary is made possible through the generosity of Graham Beck and the Little Stream Bakery of Glen Tay.



Photo: D. Zimmerly
David Kroetsch presents
2018 Bursary to Juliet Kennedy

2017 Environmental Awards

The Friends of the Tay Watershed Environmental Awards were presented at our last AGM, 22 March 2018



Photo: D. Zimmerly

Contribution to the Watershed
Dianne Czerwinski and Nicola Oddy
For their organization of the Tay River Pathway



Photo: D. Zimmerly

Contribution to Water Resources
At the provincial, national or international level
Kat Kavanaugh and the
Water Rangers Program <http://waterrangers.ca/en/>



Photo: D. Zimmerly

Contribution to the General Environment
Bob Argue, Executive Director of ecoPerth
For developing climate change plans
With Perth, Tay Valley Township and Lanark
County

Watershed Care and Protection Programs

To contribute to the development of the information base and infrastructure required for the understanding and protection of the Tay Watershed taking climate change into account in our programs

The Association's contribution to the care of the watershed in 2018 touched a wide range of waterbodies and water resource sectors, with, amongst other elements, provision of commentary on water protection policies, an ongoing review of waterway dam management, and the monitoring of railroad tie storage at the CPR Glen Tay site, as well as substantial support to programs delivered by our partners, as mentioned below. To help address challenges from extreme flooding and drought in the waterway in recent years, a new association program, 'Tay Net (Tay Waterway Communication Network)', was launched in 2017 and expanded this past year. The program complements information provided by Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and Parks Canada by monitoring and providing early notice of significant



Chris Stone sets a gauge

changes in water levels along the Tay waterway. Volunteer monitors are now located at nine sites between Bobs Lake and Port Elmsley, complementing information delivered by electronic gauges in eight other locations. This past year, manual gauges were also added at three new sites where there had been information gaps, including the Bathurst Concession Two Bridge, Craig Street Bridge in Perth and Port Elmsley bridge. The next stage of 'Tay Net' in the coming year will formalize the routing of information from the system to interested public and stakeholders. A second stage of the program will commence the monitoring of river water quality by the system, towards establishing an initial 'Riverwatch' program.

Cooperation with Partner Organizations

To build partnerships with community organizations and government departments and agencies for the production and delivery of effective programs for the care of water resources (we currently have partnership arrangements with 31 organizations and events)

In line with the association's policy of building partnerships of benefit to the watershed, we cooperated in the delivery of over a dozen activities and events managed by other organisations. In addition to ongoing cooperation with the Lake Networking Group, Lake Links, Kid Fish, and the Source Water Protection and Rural Clean Water Committees, the association assisted with such ad hoc activities as the Tay Watershed Report update, provision of information on the Bollingbroke Dam reconstruction, follow-up to the Perth rocky ramp



Source Water Protection Signage

program, and the Perth Wildlife Butterfly Garden. Board members provided technical input to the development of Source Water Protection signage at the Tayside Estates Park in Glen Tay Hamlet and the municipal beach on Noonan Sideroad. We also cooperated with Bobs & Crow Lakes and Christie Lake Associations, the Town of Perth, Tay Valley Township and RVCA in discussions with Parks Canada on waterway management for the Tay.

Maintenance and Expansion of Association Capacity

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

This past year, the association carried out an extensive update of our membership list, e-mail program, and e-mail notice format, and improvements to branding of our documentation. Upgrades also continued to our website, as the primary vehicle for delivery of association information. To re-build financial reserves, which have been reduced with the activities of recent years, the association commenced a more active donation solicitation

program in 2018. The initial results have been successful, and the association is indebted to the members and public who have supported it. The initiative will be expanded in the coming year, with the delivery of a fundraising event. The association will continue to apply for grants as required to deliver specific activities in 2019. We were pleased to add two new Board members in 2018.

Climate Change

To be aware of global climate studies and anticipate how the effects of climate change may impact the Tay Watershed.

In addition to our ongoing policy of taking climate change into account in our program activities, in 2018 our Association added a focus on mitigation of its impact with the development of the 'Tay Net' volunteer program (above) to provide monitoring of significant water

level changes along the Tay. We also continued promotion for the protection of wetlands in the watershed, and commenced planning for two proactive events focused on climate change for the coming year.

2019 will be another full year of activity

Provision of Community Outreach and Education Activities:

- *Annual General Meeting* (March 28)
- *'Anoté's Ark'* film showing, in cooperation with CFUW
- *Stewart Park Music Festival* booth (July 19-21)
- *Watershed Discovery Day (WDD)* (August 17, Perth Farmers' Market)
- *Perth & District Heritage Fair* - Financial (& volunteer) support
- *Source Water Information Panels* – cooperate in development
- *Annual Environmental Awards* - continue Program
- Continue focus on **youth** with *Kid Fish Day, Perth* (June 21 TBC) and *Water Guardian Bursary* - award to a local student
- 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**
- Promote **public recreation use of, and information on**, watershed water bodies
- Maintain **website and newsletter delivery** of association information



Watersheds Canada Display at Watershed Discovery Day

Delivery of Watershed Care and Protection Programs:

- 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)



Photo: Parks Canada

Removal of a cofferdam at Bobs Lake Dam

Cooperation with Partner Organisations:

- **Support complementary activities** of watershed lake associations, environmental organisations, businesses and government departments and agencies
- Participate in selected lake association *annual general meetings*
- Monitor & support *Parks Canada* programs to protect the managed Tay River system and Tay Canal, Rideau Corridor and 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 2018; Perth Heritage Fair*
- Recognise our corporate community support from **Little Stream Bakery, Stor-N-Lock, The Factory, Maximilians Restaurant and the Perth Farmer's Market.**

Addressing Climate Change:



Photo: F. Roy

2017 Tay Flood

- 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
- Support programs to identify and mitigate impact of climate change on the environment.

Maintenance and Expansion of Association Capacity:

- 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 2019.

Stay with the Tay
Donate
to Preserve and Protect your Watershed

We all live downstream



Make a donation here now
or later at www.taywatershed.ca
and hear the
Watershed give a sigh of **Thanks**

FRIENDS OF THE  TAY WATERSHED

Financial Summary *

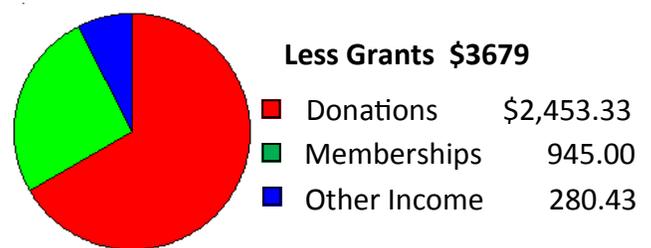
Year Ending December 31, 2018

ASSETS	2018	2017
Bank Acct	\$7,037.36	\$2,510.74
GIC	0.00	5,139.02
Petty Cash	23.15	23.15
Other Assets	918.58	342.42
TOTAL ASSETS	\$7,979.09	\$8,015.33
LIABILITIES	0.00	0.00
NET WORTH	\$7,979.09	\$8,015.33

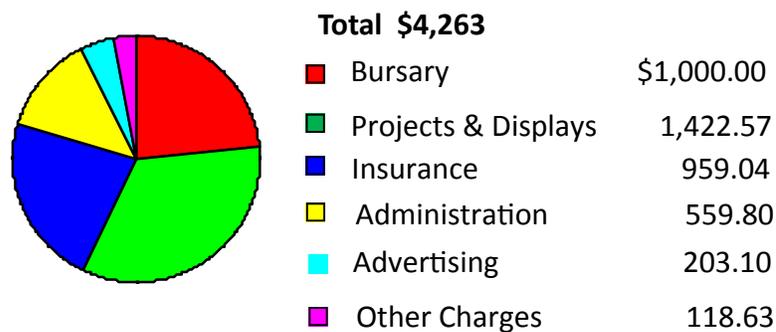
REVENUES	2018	2017
Donations	\$2,453.33	\$1,776.73
Memberships	945.00	520.00
Other Income	280.43	405.87
Grants	548.18	67,901.00
TOTAL	\$4,226.94	\$70,603.60

EXPENSES	2018	2017
Education/Outreach	\$2,422.57	\$3712.12
Projects	0.00	68,132.05
Admin & Management	1,840.61	1,593.63
TOTAL	\$4,263.18	\$73,437.80

Revenues



Expenses



* not yet audited

BOARD OF DIRECTORS for 2018

Executive Members

President	David Taylor
Secretary	Judy Buehler
Treasurer	Marion Letts

Directors

Taro Alps	Bob's & Crow Lake Ass'n	Larry Bowen	Christie Lake Ass'n
Annie Dalton	Tay River, Scotch Line	Irv Dardick	Eagle Lake Ass'n
Carol Dillon	Glen Tay	Jim Graff	Perth Council Rep.
David Kroetsch	Perth	Reid Kilburn	Otty Lake Ass'n
Donna Walsh	Christie Lake Ass'n	Forbes Symon	Director, Development & Protective Services, Perth

ADVISORY PANEL

Susan Brandum	REAL, Past Board Member	David Crowley	Perth, Past Board Member
Karen Hunt	Otty Lake Ass'n, Past Board Member	Doug James	Perth, Past Board Member
Barbara King	Watersheds Canada	Derek Matheson	R.V.C.A.
Dale MacEachern	Parks Canada, Smiths Falls	Frank Roy	Perth, Past Vice President
Richard Schooley	Tay Valley Township, Area business community	Colin Stephenson	Past President
Alyson Symon	M.V.C.A.	Darryl Whitehead	Parks Canada, Peterborough

Webmaster Colin Stephenson

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Little Stream Bakery of Glen Tay
Store—N—Lock, Perth
The Factory, Perth
Maximilian Dining Lounge, Perth
Perth Farmer's Market

In line with one of our priority objectives of building partnerships with organisations having a common interest in the watershed, it has been a pleasure to cooperate with the 49 following community groups, businesses, and government organisations.

Canadian Federation of University Women	Little Stream Bakery	Perth Regional Heritage Fair
Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario	Maximilian's Restaurant	Rideau Roundtable
Christie Lake Association	Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority	Rideau Environmental Action League
Drummond/North Elmsley Township	Ocean Conservancy	Rideau Valley Conservation Authority
Ducks Unlimited Canada	(National Cleanup Day)	Rideau Valley Rural Clean Water Program
Eagle Lake Property Owners Association	OMYA Canada	St. John Catholic High School
EcoPerth	Ontario Ministry of Environment	Source Water Protection Program
ECOTAY Education Centre	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry	Stewardship Council of Lanark County
Farren Lake Association	Ontario Environmental Network	Stewart Park Festival
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Ottawa Riverkeeper	Stor-N-Lock
Frontenac Arch	Otty Lake Association	Tay Valley Township
Frontenac Stewardship Council	Parks Canada, Waterways Unit	Tay Valley Township Green Energy & Climate Change Working Group
Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes Association	Perth & District Collegiate Institute	TD Bank
KidFish Event	Perth & District Community Foundation	The Factory
Lake Links	Perth & District Union Library	Town of Perth, Environmental Services Department
Lake Networking Group	Perth Farmers' Market	Upper Canada District School Board
Lanark County Trails Corporation	Pike Lake Association	Watersheds Canada
Leeds, Grenville & Lanark Health Unit	Perth Legion	