

2021

Annual Report

to the watershed community



Otonabee
CONSERVATION

2021 Board of Directors

The eight member municipalities within the Otonabee Region watershed appoint representatives to our Board of Directors.

Our eleven member board oversees the activities of the Conservation Authority and reports back to their representative municipal councils.

Township of Selwyn

Andy Mitchell (Chair)
Sherry Senis

City of Peterborough

Diane Therrien
Gary Baldwin
Kim Zippel

Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

Joe Taylor

Township of Douro-Dummer

Karl Moher

Township of Cavan Monaghan

Ryan Huntley (Vice Chair)

City of Kawartha Lakes

Tracy Richardson

Township of Asphodel-Norwood

Paula Warr

Municipality of Trent Hills

Michael Metcalf

Message from CAO/Chair

The year began with an extended period of working from home with restrictions on gathering sizes, a prohibition on certain types of activities, and requirements to follow various precautionary procedures. But, as the year progressed into the summer months and restrictions eased, we began to get a glimpse of a new normal.

At Otonabee Conservation, 2021 was a year that required us to be creative and flexible in how we did our work.

We continued to migrate our services to on-line platforms. Customers can reserve a campsite and make an application for a Sec. 28 permit on-line. Many of our educational programs were delivered virtually.

We made greater use of our website and other social media platforms to communicate information about our programs and services. We saw increases in social media followers and subscribers to our monthly e-newsletter called, Your Watershed News.

We saw an increase in the number of people using our conservation areas. We launched an online visitor survey to gather information about their experience and suggestions for improvements.

We launched our first major fund-raising campaign since the former Otonabee Region Conservation Foundation wound up in 2018. The Your Meters Matter campaign raised over \$23,000 in the first 5 weeks of the campaign. The money raised will be used to revitalize the Jackson Creek Trail.

We responded to a year over year increase in the number of planning and permitting inquiries and permit applications. We processed 401 Sec. 28 permit applications, an increase of 25% from the previous year. We adopted new service standards for issuing permits and began tracking and publicly reporting on how well we were doing in meeting these standards.

We completed our Climate Change Strategy and began implementing some of the key actions identified in the Strategy. We will be issuing our first progress report this spring.

We continued to focus on keeping people and property safe, we issued 16 flood related messages and responded to drought conditions. We continued to support our municipalities in the delivery of the Clean Water Act by providing the Risk Management function and education programs and achieved a major milestone this past year with the completion of all the required risk management plans.

Our staff have worked very hard under very difficult circumstances, to fulfill our mandate of protecting people, property, and the natural environment. Our Board provided thoughtful leadership and direction through this unprecedented time. We wish to thank both the staff and the Board for their dedication to our mission and for their support for each other as we collectively met the challenges and opportunities of the year.

On behalf of the Otonabee Conservation Board of Directors and Staff, we would like to sincerely thank Andy Mitchell for 7 years of leadership as Chair of the Board from 2014 to 2021.



Dan Marinigh
CAO \ Secretary Treasurer



Ryan Huntley
Chair, Board of Directors

About Otonabee Conservation

Otonabee Conservation is a locally-focused, community-based environmental agency that protects, restores, and manages the natural resources within the Otonabee Region watershed. We work with our eight member municipalities to maintain a healthy, environmentally-diverse watershed that improves the quality of life for residents, makes our area more appealing to visitors and new business, and helps to ensure a more vibrant regional economy.

Otonabee Conservation delivers programs and services that support the sustainability of the environment, within the physical and economic context of the watershed and in consideration of the social, cultural, and economic aspirations of its residents.

We work closely with our member municipalities, watershed residents, and many partnership agencies to achieve program outcomes that balance a diversity of needs and local conservation priorities.

Otonabee Conservation by the numbers

8

Municipalities

100,717

Residents

12

Sub-watersheds

195,100 ha

Jurisdiction

4,187 ha

Conservation Lands

4,742 km

Shoreline

94 km

Trails

63

Provincially Significant Wetlands

Otonabee River





Flood & Drought Monitoring

16

flood messages issued

10

snow surveys

2

level 1 low water conditions declared & 6 meetings of the Water Response Team

8

meteorological stations operated

Natural Hazards Protection

Protecting people and property from flooding and other natural hazards.

Plan Review & Permitting

401

permit applications

↑25%

368

permits issued

↑59%

1,300

interactions with watershed residents

361

planning circulations commented on

Our Natural Hazards Protection Program safeguards people and property from flooding and other natural hazards. To do so, we offer important services such as plan review and permitting, natural hazards mapping, flood and drought monitoring, and dam operations.

We have a regulatory responsibility to ensure compliance with our Development Regulations, Ontario Regulation 167/06, and to represent the provincial interest to natural hazards under the Planning Act. In 2021 we saw a 25% increase in permit applications and a 59% increase in the number of permits issued.

We operate Flood Forecasting and Warning system and monitor watershed conditions to detect low water conditions; in 2021 we issued 16 flood messages and 2 level 1 low water conditions.

We educate watershed residents about how to be safe and respond to natural hazards that may impact them; in 2021, the Springwater Awareness program was delivered to 959 students in 47 classes at 7 local schools!

We own and operate 5 Dams. In 2021, repairs were made to 3 dams; the retaining wall was repaired at Hope Mill Dam, a deck extension and railing replacement was conducted at Warsaw Auxiliary Dam, and erosion remediation and embankment stabilization was conducted at the Warsaw Back Dam.



Water Monitoring

16

surface water locations sampled for water quality

11

groundwater sites sampled for water quality/quantity

13

sites sampled for benthic macroinvertebrate indicators

Water Programs

Contributing to the protection of existing and future sources of municipal drinking water.

Contributing to and supporting provincial water monitoring programs by undertaking studies and monitoring programs at the watershed level.

Drinking Water Source Protection

11

Risk Management Plans negotiated for **21 significant drinking water threats**

213

active files were responded to

67

notices issued under Section 59 of the *Clean Water Act*

Otonabee Conservation supports the implementation of water quality and quantity monitoring programs in partnership with provincial agencies.

We collect groundwater quality and quantity samples at 11 sites as part of the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring network; surface water samples are collected at 16 sites as part of the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network.

Otonabee Conservation, acting under its authority as the Otonabee-Peterborough Source Protection Authority, coordinates the local implementation of the Drinking Water Source Protection Program. We support municipalities, landowners, and the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Committee to meet obligations under the Trent Source Protection Plan (TSPP) and the Clean Water Act.

The TSPP is 1 of 22 Source Protection Plans in Ontario. Under agreements with 8 municipalities, we operate the Risk Management Office and deliver an ongoing Education and Outreach program.



Camping & Recreation

25,477 **↑11%**
visitors camped with us!

8,976 **↑15%**
nights camped

3,018
campsite bookings

Conservation Lands

Managing and conserving lands for the protection of natural heritage features and values. Providing opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Otonabee Conservation ensures the proper management and stewardship of 4,187 hectares (ha) of land owned by the Authority.

We operate two campgrounds and 29 ha of recreational lands that are free day-use areas for outdoor activities including hiking, biking, nature viewing, boating, picnicking, fishing, hunting, and swimming.

In 2021, 25,477 visitors camped with us at our two campgrounds, Warsaw Caves Conservation Area (CA) and Beavermead Campground. This is an 11% increase from the previous year. We also saw a 21% increase in day use permits issued for Warsaw Caves CA.

460 ha of our lands are Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI); 2,437 ha of our lands are forested, while 1,727 ha are wetlands.

We also undertake activities to conserve, protect, rehabilitate, establish, and manage natural heritage by planting trees and native plants, and naturalizing shoreline on our Conservation Lands.

Where appropriate, we manage some of our lands for resource development including commercial forestry, aggregate extraction, and agriculture.

9,369
day use visitors at Warsaw Caves CA

3,123 **↑21%**
day use permits

25%
increase in revenue at Warsaw Caves CA and Beavermead Campground

96
hunting permits issued



Tree Planting in Selwyn Township

Education

3,165

students attended virtual environmental education sessions with us!

104

high school students from 3 schools planted trees throughout the watershed

Natural Resources Conservation

Advancing and contributing to the maintenance of a healthy and resilient natural environment.

Land Stewardship

1,980

native trees and shrubs planted

396,000 kg

Carbon sequestered over 80-years

168

volunteers

6

planting locations

Otonabee Conservation provides support and advice for private and public land restoration and stewardship activities, which contributes to a healthy watershed. This is often in the form of native plantings, habitat enhancement, and shoreline naturalization projects that are often undertaken in partnership with municipalities, schools, public agencies, and community service groups.

In 2021, our NEW Climate Change Strategy was finalized including a series of goals, objectives, targets and actions, and an annual report to track progress.

In 2021, we sold 11,475 native trees and shrubs to 101 local landowners through our Tree Seedling Sales Program.

We delivered events and presentations to foster awareness of climate change and the watershed environment. We delivered virtual environmental education sessions to 3,165 students in over 70 classes and we also delivered 4 in-person tree planting events with 104 high school students.

We also provided plan review and technical clearance support and expertise to assist 8 municipalities.



\$26,000

invested in technology to facilitate remote work

\$37,000

employment subsidies

800%

increase in number of donors

Corporate Services

Ensuring the effective and efficient operations in the delivery of programs and services.

Communications

140

news items in the local media

105,540

website users

52%

increase in *Your Watershed News* e-newsletter subscribers

24%

increase in social media followers

We support the Board of Directors in meeting its legislated mandate and responsibilities.

We provide the necessary administrative and support services for the efficient and effective operation of the Authority for services such as payroll, purchasing, financial, human resources, IT, GIS, vehicle, equipment and facility management.

We provide communications and marketing to ensure our watershed residents are aware of our programs and services and provide outreach to form collaborative relationships with watershed residents, municipalities, and community partners.



Financials

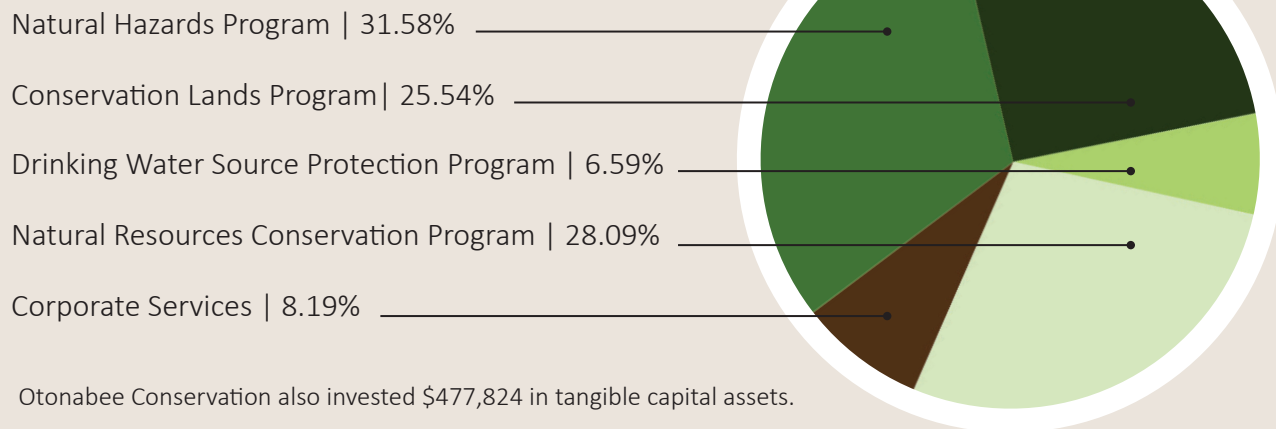
Thank you to our member municipalities for your contributions, which further our work together on a watershed basis!



2021 Revenue | \$3.3 Million



2021 Expenses



Otonabee Conservation also invested \$477,824 in tangible capital assets.

We are grateful for government funding received in 2021:

- Employment & Social Development Canada: Canada Summer Jobs
- Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry: Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure Fund | Flood Management Program

Environmental Excellence Awards

The Otonabee Conservation Environmental Excellence Awards recognize the outstanding people and groups within our watershed who have demonstrated the advancement of watershed health through projects on the landscape and actions that contribute to a healthier environment for everyone.

Individual Conservationist
Brianna Salmon

Environmental Stewardship
Trout Unlimited - Millbrook Chapter

Conservation Partnership
Peterborough Public Health

Business
Trent University

Peterborough Regional Science Fair

Award for Environmental Excellence
Shaun Plassery

Staff Service Awards

Gordon Earle	20 years
Donald Allin	5 years
Jessie James	5 years
Lori Moloney	5 years

Donors & Grants

We are grateful for generous contributions from individual donors, local organizations, foundations, and community partners who make our work possible!

Conservation Guardian

\$10,000- \$49,000

Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough
Anonymous Donor
Tree Canada

Conservation Supporter

\$1,000- \$4,999

Jennifer Clinesmith
Forests Ontario
Daniel Marinigh
Colin Matheson
Nefab Inc.
One Tree Planted

Ontario Power Generation
Trans Canada Trail
TD Friends of the Environment
TD Canada Trust
Anonymous Donor

Conservation Friend

\$250 - \$999

Dan & Julie Brandsma
Peter Brouwers
Sally & Doug Chivers-Storey
Li Ching Chiu
in honour of Adrian Vannahme
J Fred Doris
Commercial Press and Design
Madeleine Endicott
in honour of Joanne & Mike
Leslie Fraser
Sherry Hambly
Edward Kloosterman
Nil Lavallee
Brian Lindsay

Michael Mackey
Charlie & Hayley Martin
Brayden McGregor & Jackie Vanek
Thomas Miller
Peterborough Cycling Club
Nick Ragaz
in memory of Lisa Pond
Sue Sauve
Alan & Linda Slavin
Ravi-Inder Soligo
Richard & Emily Straka
Jeff Waite
Walpole Family
Emily & Matthew Warren
Wild Rock
Mark & Kim Zippel

Conservation Donor up to \$249

Nicole Armstrong
Christopher Barr
Kathy Balme
Brian Begley
Leanne Bing

in honour of Jason Tunis

Michael Brennan
Harold Briggs
Brian Brown
Nicole Brown
Martin Burnham
Eld & David Butterworth
Michelle Cain

in honour of Jane Purvis and Steve & Helen Lovick

Glenn Cameron
CanadaHelps.org Protect the Environment Fund
Sylvia Cashmore
Mike & Heather Casey

in honour of Tupper

Stephan Charlebois
Daniel Chronowic
Mark Ciana
Sarah Clancey

in honour of Robin Marshall

Laurie Collette
in honour of Jessie Iriwanto

Leslie Crough
in memory of former ORCA Chair, F. Paul Crough

Michelle Daling
Amanda Dame
Dave Dame
Diversified Communications
Pearl Dixon
Jackie Donaldson
Cameron Douglas
Emily Downie
Ryan Driscoll
Kayla Dunford
Noah Edwards
Ann & Bruce Farlow

Jessamyn Flynn
Christopher Fox
Trevor Griffin
Brad Griffiths
Michael Gwilliam
David Hall
Karen Halley
Arthur Herold
Ryan Huntley
Carlotta James
Jessie James
Kate Jarrett

in honour of Terry, Martha, & Rachel Hart

David Johns
KawarthaNOW.com
in honour of everyone working to protect Jackson

Kayte-Lynn Kowal
Allison Lainey
Jim Lanciault
Marc Lapointe
Terra Lasenby
in honour of Fiona

Robert Lavers
Robert Loney
Marta Lundman
in honour of Ted, Kris, & Amelia

Katherine MacDonald
Paul & Debbie Macko
Steve MacKinnon
in honour of the MacKinnon Family

Peter & Marilyn MacLoughlin
Mabel Mak
Erin Makins
Leah Manley
Robert Mason
Susan Matthews

in honour of Doug Lavery & Linda Lloyd

Dorothy & Bill McCord
Erin McGauley
Alex McLeod
Jaclyn Mercer

in honour of Rasalie Mercer and in memory of Marcus Mercer

Thomas Miller
in honour of Anthony & Jane Peterson

Jeffrey A Minicola
Kyle Moore
Karl Moher
Toni Murchison
Chris Pageau
Chris Parker
Sheila Perry

in memory of Alicia & Walter Perry

Duane Pierce
in honour of Ken Pierce
Mark Pierce
in honour of Ken Pierce

Roger Pitt
Allison Potts
in honour of Barbara Potts

Kerri Poulin
Denise Powell
Christopher Pritchard
in memory of Molly the beagle

Rice Lake Snow Drifters
Chris Risley
Li Robbins
Theresa Roberston-Chenier

Robert & Ann Ross
Danny Shay
in memory of John McIntyre

John Sousa
Mark Strong
Anne Trudell
Justinas Trumickas
in memory of Algis Grajauskas

Mary Jane Turcotte
Ashley Vandervelde
Gary von Roden
Sheila & Douglas Watt

Bill Welch
Anonymous Donor



Otonabee
CONSERVATION

Otonabee Region Conservation Authority
250 Milroy Drive
Peterborough, Ontario, K9H 7M9

Tel: (705) 745-5791

Fax: (705) 745-7488

Email: otonabeeca@otonabeeconservation.com



@OtonabeeC

otonabeeconservation.com