

FRIENDS OF THE



TAY WATERSHED



Photo by: Simon Lunn

# 2016

# ANNUAL REPORT

*We All Live Downstream*

# Here is 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.

## and Strategic Directions

### 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.



Watersheds Canada at Watershed Discovery Day



Paddling Puppeteer talks about rivers at 2016 WDD

### 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.

### 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)



Partnered with the Lanark County Quilters Guild on 200th Anniversary Bench



Participating in modifications to Haggart Island Dams and monitoring progress.

### 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 initiate action to address policy, structural or resource needs.

### Monitor and Comment

To be aware of reviews, reports and proposed changes at the provincial level that may impact on the Tay Watershed.



# The Friends of the Tay Watershed Association

## President's Message

This Annual Report presents good news about your association's activities. It also comes at a time of some uncertainties. In 2016, our association presented one of the largest programs of our 16-year history, with over 35 activities in our four major target work areas of watershed protection, public education, partner support, and capacity building. This was not possible without the dedicated work of our Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Advisory Panel, and our members – and the invaluable sponsorship of our Sustaining Members.

Building 'Partnerships' remains a high priority. Over the years, we have cooperated with over 40 organisations in an increasing range of activities. Many of these relationships go back to our beginning. Others have been more recent, such as the 4<sup>th</sup> Perth Scout Group and Lanark County Trails Corporation. All are valued relationships, and an essential part of our program.

Maintaining association capacity is also a priority. We were pleased to welcome four new Directors to the Board last year. Initial steps were taken on the planned rebranding of our website and promotion materials, which will be completed in 2017.

However, there are issues on the environmental horizon. One major element is the uncertainty surrounding weather patterns and the impact on water bodies of last year's severe drought conditions. This has to raise flags about our water supplies, and need for serious commitment by lawmakers of all levels of government to place a high priority on the protection of community water resources, particularly for rural communities entirely dependent on wells. Hopefully, all political parties will assume responsibility for this in 2017.



### Organizations and folks we've partnered with over the years.

#### Having fun and working toward a healthier watershed

Christie Lake Association  
 Drummond/North Elmsley Township  
 Eagle Lake Property Owners Association  
 EcoPerth  
 ECOTAY Education Centre  
 Farren Lake Association  
 4<sup>th</sup> Perth Scout Group  
 Frontenac Stewardship Council  
 Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes Association  
 KidFish Event  
 Lake Links  
 Lake Networking Group  
 Lanark County Trails Corporation  
 Lanark County Quilters Guild  
 Little Stream Bakery  
 Maximilian's Restaurant  
 Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority  
 Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry  
 Ontario Environmental Network  
 Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters

Ontario Trillium Foundation  
 Ottawa Riverkeeper  
 Otty Lake Association  
 Parks Canada, Waterways Unit  
 Perth & District Community Foundation  
 Perth & District Union Library  
 Perth Farmers' Market  
 Pike Lake Association  
 Perth Regional Heritage Fair  
 Queens University, Water Research Centre  
 Rideau Valley Conservation Authority  
 Royal Bank  
 Stewardship Council of Lanark County  
 Stor-N-Lock  
 Tay Valley Township  
 TD Bank  
 TD Friends of the Environment Foundation  
 The Factory  
 Town of Perth  
 Watersheds Canada

### Executive Committee

David Taylor  
 President  
 Frank Roy  
 Vice President  
 Carol Dillon  
 Secretary  
 Marion Letts  
 Treasurer

### Board of Directors

Taro Alps  
 Larry Bowen  
 Judy Buehler  
 Robert Cosh  
 Annie Dalton  
 Jim G r a f f  
 Bill Jamieson  
 David Kroetsch

### Advisory Panel

Susan Brandum  
 David Crowley  
 Karen Hunt  
 Doug James  
 Barb King  
 Derek Matheson  
 Richard Schooley  
 Alyson Symon  
 Colin Stephenson  
 Darryl Whitehead

### Sustaining Members

Little Stream Bakery  
 Stor-N-Lock  
 The Factory  
 Maximilian's Restaurant  
 TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

# Activities Carried Out in 2016

## Education and Outreach

The Friends of the Tay Watershed were active on a number of fronts this past year. These efforts included:

- Monitoring drought conditions
- Watershed Discovery Day
- Beginning Tay Pathway Panel
- Dedicating Viewpoint Bench
- Monitoring Update of Bobs Lake Dam
- Water Guardian Bursary
- Stewart Park Music Festival
- Partnering to replace Haggart Island Dam
- Reinstating Environmental Awards
- Lake Links



**We present the watershed annually at the Stewart Park Festival**



**We dedicated a Viewpoint Bench with the Lanark County Quilters Guild**



**We are preparing an interpretive panel to donate to the Tay River Pathway**



**We awarded two Water Guardian Bursaries**

This year, again with the support of the One Percent for the Environment Donation from the Little Stream Bakery of Glen Tay, we gave out two Watershed Guardian Bursaries. One went to Will Clow of Tichborne, who graduated from Granite Ridge Education Centre in Sharbot Lake. Will has enrolled in the Fish and Wildlife Technology Program at Fleming College in Peterborough. The second award went to Emily Barr of Westport. Emily is a graduate of St. John Catholic High School in Perth and is currently a fourth-year BSc student of Environmental and Physical Geography at Nipissing University in North Bay.



Thanks for your support of our Bursary Project

Lake Links



Watersheds Canada



Susan Brandum & REAL



**We reinstated the Annual Environmental Awards Program**  
Photos: David Zimmerly



**We monitored the Update of the Bolingbroke Dam**

Photo: Parks Canada

## More 2016 Activities

### Watershed Care and Protection Programs:

- **People, Green Algae and Healthy Lakes**

This project, undertaken in collaboration with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, Carleton University and other partners formally ended with submission of final reports on 6 July 2016.



The most important result was that a survey of historical sediments from 20 lakes in Eastern Ontario showed that climate change is a significant contributor to increased aquatic plant and algae growth in these lakes. A concise [Algae Education Manual](#) was published and 500 copies were printed for use by lake associations with the intent that the results will influence best management practices in the years ahead. This program is supported by a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

- **Storm Water Testing**

Further information about the drainage system, sources of storm water and sampling points was gathered in order to assess the significance of contaminant data collected from sampling of the Wilson Street Stormwater Drain on 29 September, 2015. A formal report of the findings was presented to the Town of Perth, bringing this project to a satisfactory conclusion.

- **Maintenance and Expansion of Association Capacity**

Maintaining our association's capacity to deliver is essential, and efforts continued on several fronts in 2016. We have adopted a new domain address - [www.taywatershed.ca](http://www.taywatershed.ca) (clicks to the old domain, [tayriver.org](http://tayriver.org), will be re-directed). In addition, the design and branding for the website has been updated and this will be carried over into our promotion and displays in 2017. A new website section has been added to provide online information for the Lake Networking Group. And we have transferred our e-mail address to [friends@taywatershed.ca](mailto:friends@taywatershed.ca) (E-mails to the former [friends@tayriver.org](mailto:friends@tayriver.org) will be re-directed). The Board held four formal meetings last year in addition to Executive and Special Meetings

### Renew your membership before, or at, the AGM and be eligible for a \$25.00 Maximilian Gift Certificate

Once again this year, Maximilian Dining Lounge has donated a gift certificate for dinner as a draw prize at our Annual General Meeting on 21 March.

To be included in this draw all you need to do is renew your membership now for 2017 – only \$10.00 . You may renew online at [taywatershed.ca](http://taywatershed.ca), click on 'Association', or by cheque to the address below.

Friends of the Tay Watershed  
P.O. Box 2065  
57 Foster Street  
Perth, ON, K7H 3M9



The draw will be at the AGM – it is not necessary to be present. (You are automatically included if you have already renewed.)

# And Here is our Proposed Program of Activities for 2017

## Provision of Community Outreach and Education Activities:

- \* *Stewart Park Music Festival* booth (July 14-16)
- \* *Watershed Discovery Day (WDD)* (August 19, Perth Farmers' Market)
- \* Award of *Water Guardian Bursary* to a local student
- \* Financial (& volunteer) support to *Perth & District Heritage Fair*
- \* Participate in *RBC Blue Water Day* (Tentative)
- \* Participate in Perth *Kid Fish Day* (Tentative)
- \* Finalise funding & install the *Tay Pathway Interpretive Panel*



KidFish Day at the Basin

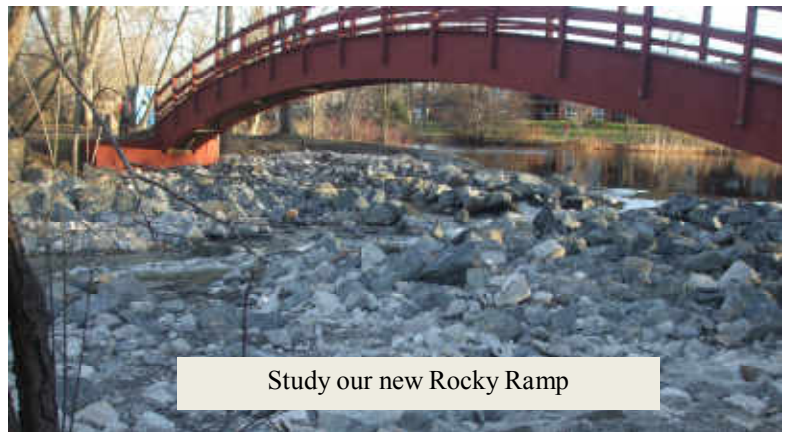


Canoeing is fine!

- \* Promote public access to and use of the Tay River and Tay Canal
- \* Expand website capacity for delivering association information (see 'Capacity')
- \* Maintain the newsletter series
- \* Continue the Association's *Annual Environmental Awards* Program
- \* Consider assistance to '*Paddle on the Tay*' for Canada 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary or a separate paddle-on-the-Tay event
- \* Promote expanded information on Tay Watershed components providing water to Rideau Canal system
- \* Investigate cooperation with *Envirothon*

## Delivery of Watershed Care and Protection Programs:

- \* Cooperate with Town of Perth and RVCA on installation of a *Rocky Ramp* replacement for the Haggart Dam
- \* Monitor lagoon enhancement project for Perth
- \* Continue participation in *Source Water Protection Committee*
- \* Participate in *Lake Links 2017* delivery (October 21)
- \* Monitor & provide information on *Bobs Lake/ Bolingbroke Dam* re-construction
- \* Continue participation in *RVCA Rural Clean Water Program*
- \* Review status of groundwater information base and research in Tay Watershed
- \* Disseminate information in the community on groundwater pollution arising from abandoned vehicles
- \* Review status of water quality in watershed streams with RVCA



Study our new Rocky Ramp

## 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 and support *Parks Canada* programs to protect the managed Tay River system, Tay Canal and *Rideau Corridor*
- \* Invite partner participation in association activities; eg. *Watershed Discovery Day*
- \* Consider support to '*Paddle on the Tay Canal*' portion of the Canada 150<sup>th</sup> Paddle
- \* Provide support to: *Lanark Stewardship Council MNRF Habitat Restoration Project; Haggart Rocky Rapid Project (RVCA/Town of Perth); Lake Links 2017; Lanark County Trails Interpretive Panel*
- \* Recognise our corporate community support from **Little Stream Bakery, Stor-N-Lock, The Factory, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, and Maximilian Dining Lounge**; expand partnerships where appropriate.



Upper Beveridge Lock

## Addressing Climate Change:

- \* Maintain the association policy of taking climate change into account in our programs
- \* Support *Town of Perth Climate Change Mitigation Program*
- \* Support programs to identify and mitigate impact of climate change on the environment

## Maintenance and Expansion of Association Capacity:

- \* Hold five Board meetings in 2017.
- \* Update Association branding and display/promotion materials
- \* Continue expansion of website capacity for delivery of watershed information
- \* Add a Facebook component for additional capacity in delivery of notices, photos etc.
- \* Continue membership promotion and updating of the Association's membership list
- \* Maintain contact and cooperation with partner organisations
- \* Encourage volunteer assistance for selected roles (eg. mailings; membership list; displays; coordination of website input)
- \* Recognise individuals and organisations providing special assistance to the Association
- \* Expand provision of information to Advisory Panel
- \* Investigate a more sustainable, long-term archives system



Inukshuk by the Tay

# Financial Summary \*

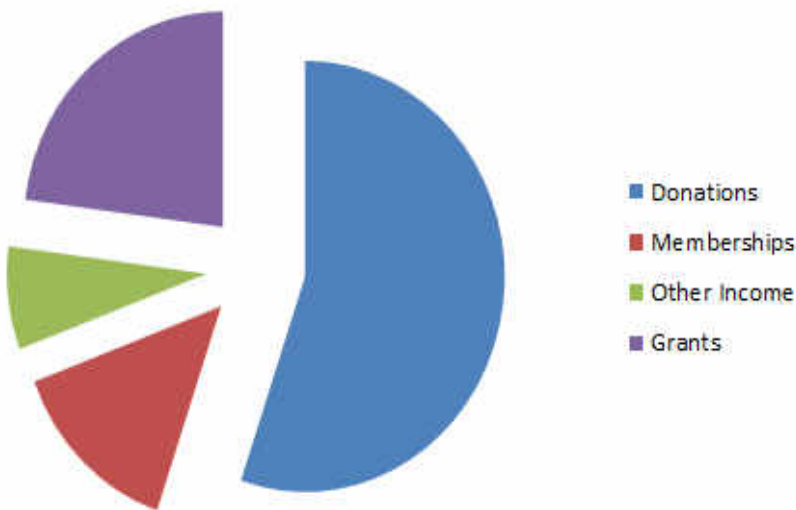
## Year Ending December 31, 2016

ASSETS	2016	2015
Bank Acct	\$4,261.36	\$3,242.12
GIC	6,113.15	8,048.53
Petty Cash	23.15	13.65
Other Assets	451.87	259.60
OTF Funds	0.00	19,103.50
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$10,849.53</b>	<b>\$30,667.40</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$10,849.53</b>	<b>\$30,667.40</b>

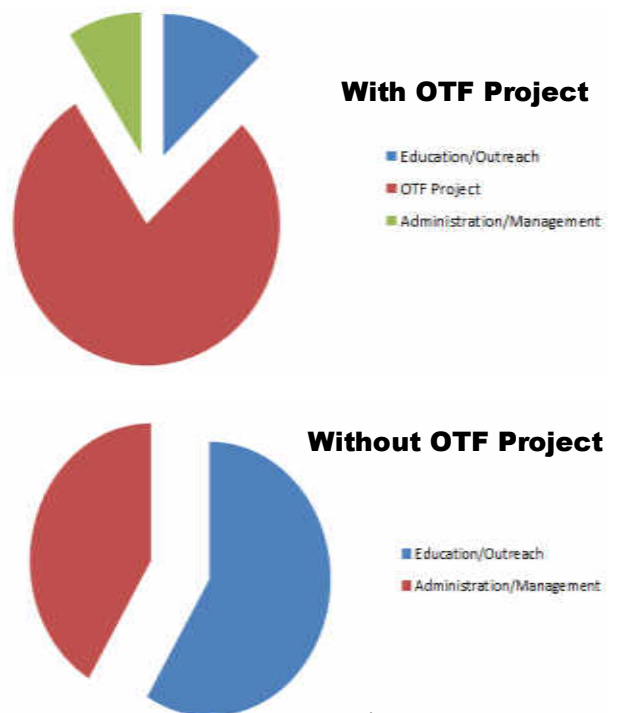
REVENUES	2016	2015
Donations	\$2,155.00	\$2,053.70
Membership	550.00	689.02
Other Income	301.79	300.00
Grants	896.00	75,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,902.79</b>	<b>\$78,042.72</b>

EXPENSES	2016	2015
Education/Outreach	\$3,099.00	\$2,604.05
OTF Project	19,103.50	93,096.50
Admin & Management	2,188.73	1,990.25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,391.23</b>	<b>\$97,690.80</b>

### Revenues



### Expenses



\* not yet audited