

The LAND TRUST NEWS

PRESERVING SPECIAL PLACES IN OUR COMMUNITY

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RIDEAU WATERWAY LAND TRUST - EST. 1996

SPRING 2007



Join Us at Rock Dunder as we Celebrate Rideau 175

The Rideau is the place to be this summer as excitement builds for the 175th Anniversary of the opening of the Rideau Canal. There will be no shortage of activities for young and old with numerous celebrations taking place along the canal system from Ottawa to Kingston.

The Rideau Waterway Land Trust (RWLT) invites you and your family and friends to join us in celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the Rideau Canal on June 7th at one of our most scenic preserved properties, Rock Dunder.

The day's activities will begin at 9:30 a.m. with greetings from Gavin Liddy, Superintendent Parks Canada Eastern Ontario and the Township of Rideau Lakes Mayor, Ron Holman. The RWLT Board of

Directors will welcome participants and visitors, unveil Rock Dunder's "Donor Wall Plaque" and say a special "thank you" to the Rideau Trail Association for their work improving and extending Rock Dunder's trail system.

JUNE 7th

**FRIENDS OF ROCK DUNDER
CELEBRATE RIDEAU 175**

Visitors will be led on a guided interpretive hike on Rock Dunder's scenic trails.

Rock Dunder has three walking trails. These trails offer different levels of difficulty so you may choose the hike you are most comfortable

with. Hike to the top of Rock Dunder, 275 feet above Morton Bay or enjoy a shorter walk with a visit to the cabins and views of the Bay.

Our guides will help you decide which walk is best for you. Please remember to wear hiking shoes and to dress for the weather. After your hike please join us for a brown bag lunch and refreshments in the RWLT tent at the trail entrance.

Rock Dunder is located off Highway 15 at Morton, Ontario. Admission to this event is \$15 for adults, children 16 and under are free. Your contribution will go towards the RWLT's property improvement work.

For more information, please contact the Rideau Waterway Land Trust office at 613-284-2010 or email sharonw@rwlt.org.



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A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE

 Rideau Waterway
LAND TRUST

World Heritage Designation

The Rideau Canal

The Rideau Canal, including Fort Henry National Historic Site of Canada and Kingston fortifications, was nominated as a World Heritage Site in 2006.

The official designation announcement will be made from New Zealand in late June, and then be relayed to Ottawa to be shared with the world.

This designation is the most significant global recognition any site can achieve. If successful, the Rideau Canal will join the thirteen amazing Canadian sites that are presently inscribed to the World Heritage List and will be Ontario's first World Heritage Site.

Canada's Existing World Heritage Sites Include:

- Nahanni National Park Reserve (Northwest Territories)
- Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump (Alberta)
- Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks (Alberta and B.C.)
- Historic District of Old Québec (Quebec)
- Gros Morne National Park (Newfoundland and Labrador)
- Old Town Lunenburg (Nova Scotia)

9th Annual Corn Roast

Saturday August 4, 2007

Every year the Rideau Waterway Land Trust staff and volunteers work together to coordinate one of the most successful events along the Rideau Canal, the "Corn Roast at Chaffey's Lock". This family-fun event is a friendraiser and fundraiser for the Land Trust and attracts over one thousand people.

The day will begin with boat building for the Fast & Furious Sea Trials. Teams have three hours to design and build a sea worthy craft to race along the Rideau Canal in hopes of winning the coveted "Rideau Cup". In the evening, the Cadillacs will take the stage and everyone will rock the night away to the sounds of the #1 jukebox hits from the 50's and 60's.

Our team of over 40 volunteers from the community work together every year to ensure that this event is a success. Parks Canada provides the

location, and many local businesses show their support by sponsoring this wonderful family event.

The Corn Roast also provides an opportunity for our members and supporters, who return year after year with their family and friends, to meet the RWLT Board of Directors and Staff. We look forward to seeing you again and having a little chat.

Mark your calendars for **August 4th**.
We hope to see you there!

We invite you to join your friends and neighbours at Chaffey's Lock on August 4th and support the important work of the Land Trust.

Tickets will be available in mid-June at the RWLT office, Chaffey's Lock Lockstation or The Hub of the Rideau Convenience Store, Main St. Elgin.



2007 Leeds - Grenville International Plowing Match & Country Festival

September 18 - 22

Another summer 'Must See' is the 2007 Leeds - Grenville International Plowing Match & Country Festival. This year the match location is at Crosby, at the intersection of Hwy. #15 and County Road #42 in the Township of Rideau Lakes on the lands of Chantland and the neighbouring farms.

The event showcases all aspects of Ontario's dynamic agricultural industry, including farm machinery and ways to enhance country living, along with competitive plowing. A chance to experience agriculture in the past and future, and enjoy food, entertainment and fun for the family.

The RWLT will be participating as an exhibitor, please visit us in the Ministry of Natural Resources Partner's Tent. Watch for the Rideau Waterway Land Trust sign and please stop to say hello.



Meet Your Board

Director - Joe Hamilton

Joe Hamilton was born in Elgin, Ontario. He graduated from Ottawa Teachers' College in 1963 and holds a B.A. from Queen's University, 1974 and a M. Ed. from Queen's University, 1981.

Joe was an elementary school teacher for the Kingston and Area Catholic School Board from 1963 to 1972 and later an elementary school principle from 1972 to 1996.

Joe has been a director on the Rideau Waterway Land Trust Board since 2004.

He is currently President of the Elgin and Area Heritage Society and Chairman of the North Leeds Community Development Corporation. Joe also sits on the Board of Directors of Saint Barnaby's Catholic Parish Pastoral Council and the Leed's County Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Having been born and raised in the "Heart of the Rideau Lakes" Joe says "I do have a true and deep appreciation of the beauty of the Rideau Lakes". He enjoys spending his leisure time boating on the Rideau Waterway with his wife, Mary Lou.

As a Board member Joe endeavours to do all he can to maintain and preserve this treasure.

Our Goals 2007 - 2009

Last winter the Land Trust Board of Directors and Staff began the task of developing a new Strategic Plan for the RWLT. As a result of many hours of discussions and consultations with members and partners, the highlights of the Strategic Plan can be summarized by the following objectives:



- **Enhance our human resources and skills** through continued recruitment of volunteers and increased training and education programs, the Land Trust will build a network of volunteers to further our land conservation work in the Rideau Corridor.
- **Take a more pro-active approach to land preservation through acquisition**, ensuring we do not miss opportunities to preserve the significant lands and habitats of the Rideau Corridor.
- **Increase public awareness of the Land Trust** by establishing a presence at local events along the Rideau and by being proactive with other community groups' activities. We need to demonstrate how the accomplishments of the Land Trust benefit individuals, families and businesses that live, work and play in our community.
- **Increase fundraising** by building a more diversified fundraising program which will establish a base of operational support, increase stewardship funds and ensure long-term financial support for our mission, "to preserve important natural lands and habitat in the Rideau Corridor and foster a healthy future for our communities".



Volunteers Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who has shown an interest in volunteering for the Land Trust! We will be calling you shortly to talk about our upcoming projects and how you can help. Volunteers will be needed to help out with a variety of tasks. We look forward to talking to you about what you enjoy doing and how you can support the Land Trust by joining our work teams. Volunteers make things happen whether working at one of our properties or helping out at our special events.

If your contact information has changed or if you would like to add your name to our volunteer list or would like more information on how you can help, please contact the RWLT office at 613-284-2010 or email sharonw@rwlt.org or anneb@rwlt.org.

Our Board of Directors

Hon. Bob Rae,
Honorary Chairman

Peter Hannah, President

Doug Lewis, Vice-President

Frank S. Symons, Secretary

Dave Walker, Treasurer

Brian Gold, Director

Joe Hamilton, Director

Simon Lunn, Director

Support Your Land Trust by Donating Appreciated Securities

Our supporters who have unrealized capital gains on eligible securities may want to consider donating such securities instead of cash to the Land Trust. By doing so the donor can reduce the after-tax cost of their donations as the following example illustrates.

Suppose your top marginal tax rate is 45% and you decide to donate \$10,000 to the Land Trust. If you donate cash, the after-tax cost of the donation is \$5,500 (\$10,000 minus the 45% value of your tax deduction).

If you are holding some shares in your investment portfolio that are currently worth \$10,000 but for which you originally only paid \$4,000, you may want to consider donating these to the Land Trust. Should you decide to sell these shares, you would have to declare 50% of the gain (\$6,000) as taxable income of \$3,000. Your tax on this gain would be \$1,350 (45% of \$3,000). If, on the other hand, you decide to donate the shares to the Land Trust, you will receive a tax receipt for the full value of the \$10,000 donation AND you will not incur capital gains tax for the gain on the securities.

In other words, the net cost of donating these securities is only \$4,150 (\$10,000 minus the 45% value of the tax deduction for the donation minus the \$1,350 value of not incurring capital gains tax). Of course, the larger the unrealized gain the more compelling the case is for donating securities as opposed to cash.

Donating appreciated securities is easy. Simply give your broker instructions to transfer the securities to the Rideau Waterway Land Trust's account through our broker, CIBC Wood Gundy, and the Land Trust will issue a charitable receipt for the value of the securities on the day they are donated. It is a simple way to help preserve the natural properties in the Rideau Corridor while enjoying additional tax benefits.

If you would like more information on donating securities to the RWLT, please contact Sharon Walker at the Land Trust office, at 613-284-2010.

Our thanks to Bryce Walker for this contribution to the newsletter.

Bryce & his family have a cottage on the Rideau and are long time supporters of the RWLT.

We wish to say "thank you" to everyone who donated to the RWLT Annual Campaign. Your contributions raised **\$12,577.63** for our Volunteer Education and Training Program.

Membership Renewals

Watch for your membership renewal package, which will be mailed out shortly.

Your contribution as a member is valuable to the RWLT. A strong membership enables us to continue our work of preserving special places in the Rideau Corridor.

Your support has made the RWLT one of the most successful land trusts in Ontario and has led to the securement of thirteen properties and an additional 260 acres through conservation agreements.

Photos used in this edition of our newsletter are courtesy of: Robert Williams, Simon Lunn and Evergreen Foundation.



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The mission of the RWLT is to preserve important natural lands and habitat in the Rideau Corridor and foster a healthy future for our communities.