

The LAND TRUST NEWS



PRESERVING SPECIAL PLACES IN OUR COMMUNITY

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RIDEAU WATERWAY LAND TRUST - EST. 1996

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Sugarbush Island Walking Trail Planning Continues

The plans for the development of a walking trail on Sugarbush Island are proceeding. With the support and generosity of Brian Gentry, the owner of the adjoining lands, the RWLT has completed all the regulatory requirements to secure a right of way from the mainland connection of Sugarbush Island to the Davis Lock Road. The survey has been completed and we are awaiting the final legal work.

Once the transfer of the right of way has been completed this will allow the RWLT to complete the planning for the development of this trail.

The walking trail will be 2.9 km in length with a parking lot and trailhead constructed at Davis Lock Road. The trail is being designed as a walking trail, six foot in width with low grade slopes to enable families with young children and those looking for a less strenuous trail to enjoy the nature and serenity of Sugarbush Island. The trail will cross the songbird habitat provided by the meadows, through woodlands to the views over Lake Opinicon and Murphy's Bay Wetland. The trail route has been developed to include resting benches placed at several locations to take advantage of the natural vistas offered by this spectacular property.

The RWLT is expecting to be able to share the plans for this trail with the community in more detail early in the new year and is looking forward to completing the development of the walking trail by October 2012 and welcoming the everyone to an Open House to show the final results of this project.



American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts

The Rideau Waterway Land Trust has been accepted as a grantee organization of the American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts (AFoCLT). Working with this organization, RWLT supporters with U.S. income will be able to obtain U.S. tax credits for their monetary or land donations to the RWLT. The AFoCLT is a U.S. based charity that was established with the sole purpose of enabling U.S. residents to support land conservation in Canada. The AFoCLT Board members travelled from Boston and Seattle and all points in between to the recent Canadian Land Trust Conference to join with and show their support for the Canadian conservation movement. As we all know, land conservation transcends political boundaries and the RWLT is proud to be invited to work with this fine group of people..

The RWLT will include more information for our U.S. supporters with our upcoming annual appeal.



The Land Trust News is published two times a year by the Rideau Waterway Land Trust, a charitable organization.

www.rwlt.org

The New World for Charities in Canada

As was recently reported in a series of articles published in The Globe and Mail, the charity world is changing in Canada. The Federal Government has enacted legislation and brought in regulations, and is considering further actions, that affect the way we manage charities in Canada. New regulations include new reporting requirements for charities and how they report their fundraising costs. Concerns have been expressed by a few that some charities are spending too much of their revenue on fundraising costs. New guidelines have resulted in a new charity return form, known as the 3010B, that must detail fundraising costs. The federal government has determined that charities should keep their fundraising costs below 30% of their fundraising revenue. The RWLT fundraising costs are well below 10% of revenue so we are operating significantly below the guidelines.

In October the Federal Government enacted legislation that will require all Federally incorporated non for profit corporations, which includes the RWLT, to redo their incorporation papers and founding bylaws. One of the new changes puts a higher degree of responsibility, including the possibility of financial penalties, on members of Boards of Directors for the financial management of the organization. The RWLT has always been well served by Board members with training and experience in financial management but some charities that are served by program people on the Board will struggle with this requirement. There are several other new regulations or legislation being passed down to charities including conflict of interest legislation and new regulations governing eligibility for land trusts to remain part of the Ecological Gift Program. Legislation is being considered that will encourage charities to become involved in approved businesses to make the charity more viable. The RWLT is confident they are, and will remain, well onside with these new regulations and legislation but it is taking more time from our volunteer Board members and staff to complete and file the required documents, time that could be spent on the programs of the RWLT.

The final point made by the Globe and Mail articles is that the Federal Government is looking at ways it can cut back its direct financial support of charities in Canada. This change in policy direction is a result of the Federal Government's efforts to cut their budget deficit. Although the RWLT never developed a dependency on Federal funding, and in fact has not received any federal funding of significance in the past year, cutbacks in federal funding has affected some of the organizations we partner with. As a result some of our partnerships have been affected and the RWLT has, and will continue in the foreseeable future, to concentrate on projects that are supported exclusively by its membership.

RWLT News Briefs

RWLT PICNIC

The RWLT would like to thank everyone who attended the RWLT Picnic held at the Newboro Lockstation July 30. The weather was great, the entertainment provided by Roger James was enjoyed by all and the chicken dinner prepared by our supporter, Enbridge Gas, was superb.

ROCK DUNDER DAY

The RWLT partnered with the Morton Hall Committee and the Township of Rideau Lakes in welcoming the neighbours of Rock Dunder to **Dunder Topper** on October 15. The day included lunch at Morton Hall followed by a guided walk of Rock Dunder. More than 50 people attended and Simon Lunn, RWLT Board member, generously donated his time to give a presentation at the Hall and to lead the walk.

RWLT VIDEO - PRESERVING LEGACY

The RWLT would like to thank Brad Smith and his team as well as the supporters of the RWLT who participated in the production of the RWLT video, *Preserving Legacy*. It tells the story, through the words of RWLT supporters as to why it is so important to preserve some of the natural areas in the Rideau Corridor, not only for the benefit of the current residents and visitors to the area but also for future generations. The cinematography has earned rave reviews from all who have viewed it. The premier showing was at the 2011 Land Trust Conference and the RWLT hopes to show it at upcoming events throughout the region.

EVENING WITH SARAH HARMER

Special thanks to RWLT supporter, CIBC Wood Gundy - Kingston, for sponsoring the *Evening With Sarah Harmer* concert on the opening evening of the Canadian land Trust Conference. Over 300 of their clients took opportunity to come out and learn about land trusts.

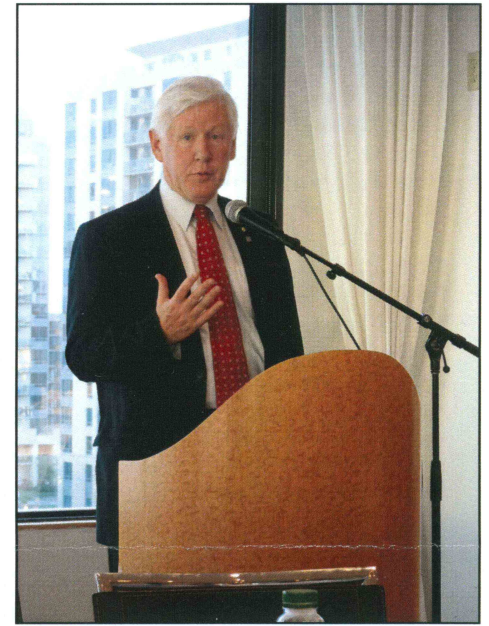
2011 Canadian Land Trust Conference

The 2011 Canadian Land Trust Conference was held in Kingston, September 21 - 23. The Rideau Waterway Land Trust was pleased to be a host group for this prestigious event. This national conference, in five short years, has grown to be the highlight of the annual land trust calendar in Canada and in fact the Kingston conference sold out.

The RWLT had four delegates attend this three days of education and networking. In addition to 29 seminars lead by leading land trust practitioners from across North America, Rock Dunder was a featured destination for one of the field trips.

The conference was opened with a concert at Sydenham Street United Church featuring Sarah Harmer, Canada's Juno award winning artist who now calls Kingston her home. In her remarks, Sarah spoke of her personal connection to Rock Dunder and thanked the land trust movement for the work they are doing not only in the local area but across Canada. Land trust delegates from across Canada were joined by over 400 land trust supporters from the Kingston area for this evening to be remembered.

Bob Rae, RWLT's Honorary Chair, gave the keynote address at the Friday morning breakfast. Despite the early hour of 7 am, the delegates were joined by Ted Hsu, MP for Kingston and the Islands, John Gerretson, MPP for Kingston and the Islands and the Mayor of Kingston and five of his councilors to hear Bob's message that land ownership in Canada does come with rights but it also comes with responsibilities. The responsibility to make sure we do not harm its natural values so we can pass it on to the next generation.



RWLT Honorary Chair - Bob Rae

The RWLT is Busy

In addition to the Sugarbush Island Walking Trail, the RWLT staff and volunteers are busy working with landowners throughout the Rideau Corridor on land acquisition projects.

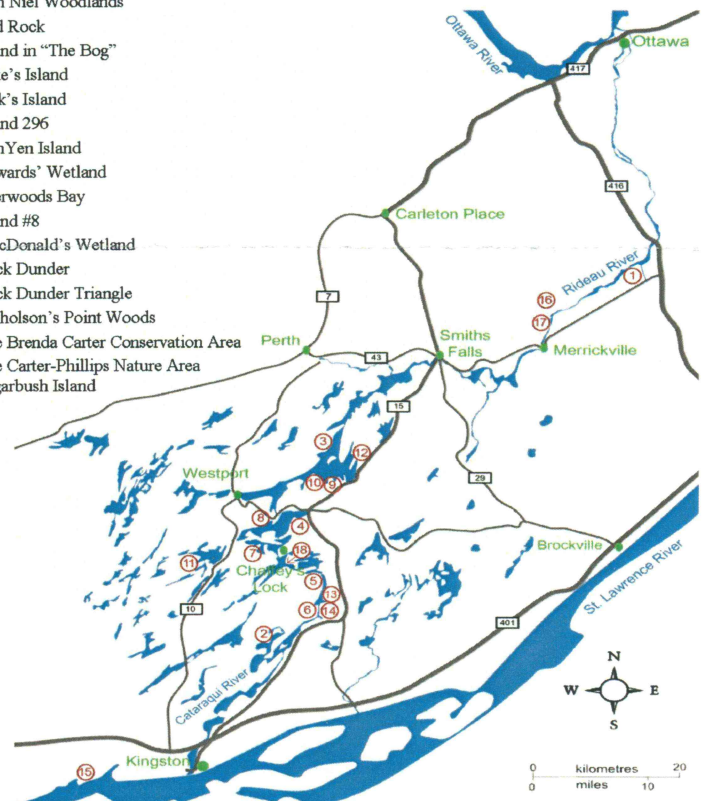
The RWLT continues to be approached by landowners throughout the area to discuss the preservation of their lands. Several of these initiatives are nearing completion and will see some significant lands transferred to the RWLT in the near future for permanent protection.

With the rising value of real estate in our area, these projects often involve very detailed discussions with land owners and their legal and financial advisors. In addition to the complexities of the donation process, the owners' wishes for the future preservation and management of their lands are also discussed. A land donation agreement must be arrived at that meets not only the landowner's wishes but also the objectives of the RWLT.

The RWLT Board of Directors have a responsibility to ensure that land acquisition projects are structured not only to meet these identified needs and objectives but also that the resources are in place to care for these lands in perpetuity.

Preserved Properties & Conservation Easements

1. Besley Woods
2. Van Niel Woodlands
3. Red Rock
4. Island in "The Bog"
5. Kate's Island
6. Jack's Island
7. Island 296
8. KenYen Island
9. Edwards' Wetland
10. Sherwoods Bay
11. Island #8
12. MacDonald's Wetland
13. Rock Dunder
14. Rock Dunder Triangle
15. Nicholson's Point Woods
16. The Brenda Carter Conservation Area
17. The Carter-Phillips Nature Area
18. Sugarbush Island



Thanks to the following Individuals and Businesses for their support from January 1st - November 1, 2011

Circle of Leadership

Karen Cooper
Peter Gillespie
Peter Hannah & Dalpne Wretham
Doug & Wendy Lewis
Janice Ley & Eric Usherwood
Bryce & Nancy Walker
Vince & Elaine Watters

\$500 and up

Molly Ellard
Donald Ferguson
Joe & Mary-Lou Hamilton
Joseph Holmes
Robert & Marilyn Horwood
Hunter McGill
Cameron & Diana McRae
Peter Milliken
Dave & Sharon Walker
Muriel Walker

\$250 - \$449

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Avery & Terry Cox
Fred and Rosemary Dixon
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Richard Hughson
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Michael Walker
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up to \$249

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Barry & Shannon McCorquodale
L. Underhill & L. McIntyre

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Bill Melnichuk
Sheila Menard & Susan Irving
Erin Merry & Eric Tremblay
William & Sandie Mills
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Jane Monaghan
Beth Moores
Harry & Sandra Murphy
Linda Nuttall & Mark Chojnacki
John Palmer
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Frank & Marg Phelan
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Ruth Webber
Howard Wheatley
Jeffrey & Shirley Wimperis
Donald Witman
Elizabeth Wrenshall
Gerard & Mary Wyatt

Supporting Organizations

Canadian Land Trust Alliance
CIBC Wood Gundy Kingston
Township of Rideau Lakes
Choose the Blues Productions
The Cove Country Inn
Hungry - Rosal Cottager's Association

If your name is missing or misspelled, please accept our apologies and let us know so we can change our records.



1 Jasper Avenue, Smiths Falls, ON K7A 4B5
Tel: 613-284-2010 Fax: 613-284-8093
Email: davew@rwlt.org Website: www.rwlt.org
Charitable Registration # 89233-6348-RR0001

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.