

AROUND the Rideau



March | April 2019

Goodbye and Thanks

Departing board members were recognized and thanked for their service at the RVCA's March Annual General Meeting. Their guidance and leadership have been instrumental over the years. Special thanks to Jeff Banks (Rideau Lakes), Anne Barr (Merrickville-Wolford), Brian Campbell (Tay Valley), Erin Greco, Ed Hand, Ralph Pentland and Tom Scott (Ottawa), Joe Gallipeau (Smiths Falls), Sharon Mousseau (Beckwith), Ray Scissons (Drummond/North Elmsley), Mark Parliament (Westport) and Lyle Pederson, former Chair (Elizabethtown-Kitley).



Chair Pieter Leenhouts (left rear) and Vice Chair Judy Brown (fifth from left) say thank you to departing Board Members: Ray Scissons, Drummond/North Elmsley (left); Sharon Mousseau, Beckwith (third from left); Lyle Pederson Former Chair, Elizabethtown-Kitley, (fourth from left, rear); Tom Scott, Ottawa (far right).

2019 Board of Directors

The RVCA has a new Board of Directors with the election of Chair Pieter Leenhouts from the City of Ottawa and Vice Chair Judy Brown representing the Town of Perth. The RVCA Board of Directors is made up of appointees from the Rideau's 18 member municipalities. These representatives oversee the work of the conservation authority.

RVCA Board of Directors

Andy Jozefowicz	.....	Athens
Dale McLenaghan	.....	Augusta
Brian Dowdall	.....	Beckwith
Victor Heese	.....	Central Frontenac
Vacant	.....	Clarence-Rockland
George Sachs	.....	Drummond/North Elmsley
Rob Rothgeb	.....	Elizabethtown-Kitley
Don Halpenny	.....	Merrickville-Wolford
Vince Carroll	.....	Montague
Gerry Boyce	.....	North Dundas
Barclay Cormack	.....	North Grenville
Jamie Crawford	.....	Ottawa
George Darouze		
Julie Graveline		
Pieter Leenhouts, <i>Chair</i>		
Scott Moffatt		
Anne Robinson		
Judy Brown, <i>Vice Chair</i>	.....	Perth
Carolyn Bresee	.....	Rideau Lakes
Shawn Pankow	.....	Smiths Falls
Pat Barr	.....	South Frontenac
Gene Richardson	.....	Tay Valley
Melissa Sullivan	.....	Westport



Legislative Changes Proposed for Conservation Authorities

The Provincial Government is proposing changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act* to "focus conservation authority development permits on the protection of people and property" and "modernize conservation authority operations." These changes would scope our regulatory responsibilities, define which programs are core mandatory programs for conservation authorities and

introduce measures intended to increase accountability, transparency and consistency. All partners and stakeholders are encouraged to review the Province's proposed changes and submit comments. For all the details visit www.ero.ontario.ca (postings 013-5018 and 013-4992). The comment deadline is May 20, 2019. Call SOMMER at ext. 1214 or sommer.casgrain-robertson@rvca.ca.

2018 Municipal Information Sheets

Our municipalities and their residents are our valued partners. We work hard to serve a wide range of municipal and public interests that benefit our watershed residents from lake country to farmlands to urban communities. Each year we highlight what the RVCA has done in your community. You can read them at www.rvca.ca under "publications." For more information call DIANE at ext. 1126 or diane.downey@rvca.ca.



Hot Off the Press! RVCA Annual Report

RVCA's 2018 Annual Report is now available at www.rvca.ca/rvca-publications. 2018 was a pivotal year for the RVCA. Many important strategic priorities were completed, culminating in a corporate restructuring, new Administrative Bylaw, completed regulation policies, improved financial reporting and even an updated logo. We look forward in 2019 to working closely with

our Indigenous, federal, provincial, municipal, agricultural, business, environmental, community and academic partners. RVCA's focus is to further improve client service, program effectiveness, organizational strength and watershed resiliency. For more information contact DIANE at ext. 1126 or diane.downey@rvca.ca.

New Look for Ottawa Septic System Office Website

OSSO has launched a brand new, shiny website. The new site will make things easier for property owners, realtors, construction companies, design firms, law offices, municipal staff and other regulators to find the information they need. The site is also mobile-friendly, so those on the go can access the info they need with the click of a button. If you'd like to learn more about the new website, visit www.ottawasepticssystemoffice.ca or email septic@rvca.ca.



Ministers Visit RVCA

On March 14 the Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks and the Honourable Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities visited the RVCA head office. Staff presented information on a number of RVCA programs including our flood forecasting and warning program, water quality monitoring programs and stewardship services. For more information contact SOMMER at ext. 1214 or sommer.casgrain-robertson@rvca.ca.

Left: RVCA's Sarah MacLeod-Neilson shows Ministers Fullerton and Phillips how to take snow measurements.



RVCA's Adrienne Lewis and Jennifer Lamoureux show Ministers Fullerton and Phillips water quality monitoring results.

City Stream Watch Events

Looking to help your watershed? We'd love your help at one of our upcoming events.

- April 27 — **Glad Clean up the Capital Event at Pinecrest Creek.** Connaught Park at the baseball diamond (Located at Connaught Avenue). 9:00a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- May 4 — **Glad Clean up the Capital Event at Sawmill Creek.** Towngate Shopping Plaza (Located at Bank St. and Hunt Club Rd. intersection). 9:00a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- May 11 — **Shoreline Naturalization Project at Black Rapids Creek.** Black Rapids Creek Site (near the Woodroffe Ave. and Fallowfield Rd. intersection, north of the train tracks). 9:00a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- May 25 — **Spring Orientation/Training Session at Sawmill Creek,** Rideau River Eastern Pathway — Parkland beside Sawmill Creek/Riverside Dr. 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

RSVPs are required! For more information or to register, contact citystreamwatch@rvca.ca or visit our volunteer calendar at www.rvca.ca/calendar-of-events for these and other upcoming volunteer opportunities.

Popular Day Camps Filling Up Fast!

Even though there's still some snow on the ground, summer day camps at Baxter and Foley Mountain Conservation Areas are filling up fast! Summer camps begin mid-July and run to the end of August. Baxter will host five regular camp sessions, plus three special canoe camp sessions. Foley Mountain will host three regular camp sessions. Register now to save your spot! Visit www.rvca.ca, chose "Outdoor

Education" from the top menu, then pick either Baxter or Foley Mountain from the menu on the right. For more information on Baxter's programs call MEGAN at 613-489-3592 or megan.irving@rvca.ca. To connect with Foley Mountain, call REBECCA at 613-273-3255 or rebecca.whitman@rvca.ca.

For the Birds!

In partnership with Ducks Unlimited, RVCA has installed 52 nest boxes throughout the watershed. Each year in February RVCA staff clean out and examine the nest boxes to assess their success. This year's results indicate a high rate of usage and successfully hatched eggs! For more information contact MEGAN at ext. 1179 or megan.dunster@rvca.ca.

Tree Planting's Only Weeks Away!

RVCA tree planting begins watershed-wide in just a few weeks! 195,000 healthy, native Ontario trees will be making their debut in a field near you! Of those 195,000 trees, 136,000 trees will be planted on new sites and 59,000 trees to be planted on sites as refill. Now is a great time to plan for 2020's planting season. If you have one acre or more and can plant 1,000+ trees, call RVCA's forestry department and set up a free site visit. RVCA provides professional reforestation services such as site preparation, planning and planting. And, they make it as affordable as possible with significant subsidies to cover costs! Call SCOTT at ext. 1175 or scott.danford@rvca.ca.



AROUND the Rideau is made possible thanks to our generous sponsors

Rideau Valley Conservation Authority

Box 599, 3889 Rideau Valley Drive
Manotick, ON K4M 1A5
613-692-3571 or 1-800-267-3504
www.rvca.ca

RideauValleyCA
 RideauValleyConservationAuthority

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Representing management in labour and employment law across Ontario

Ramada Ottawa on the Rideau — 613-288-3500 | www.ramadaottawa.com
Offers 87 fully renovated rooms with balconies overlooking the Rideau River, banquet facilities, full service restaurant and outdoor pool. Pet friendly.