

# 2001

## RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT



RVCA is a partnership of municipalities delivering watershed-based conservation programs

# OUR PRIORITIES

## UNDERSTANDING OUR WATERSHED

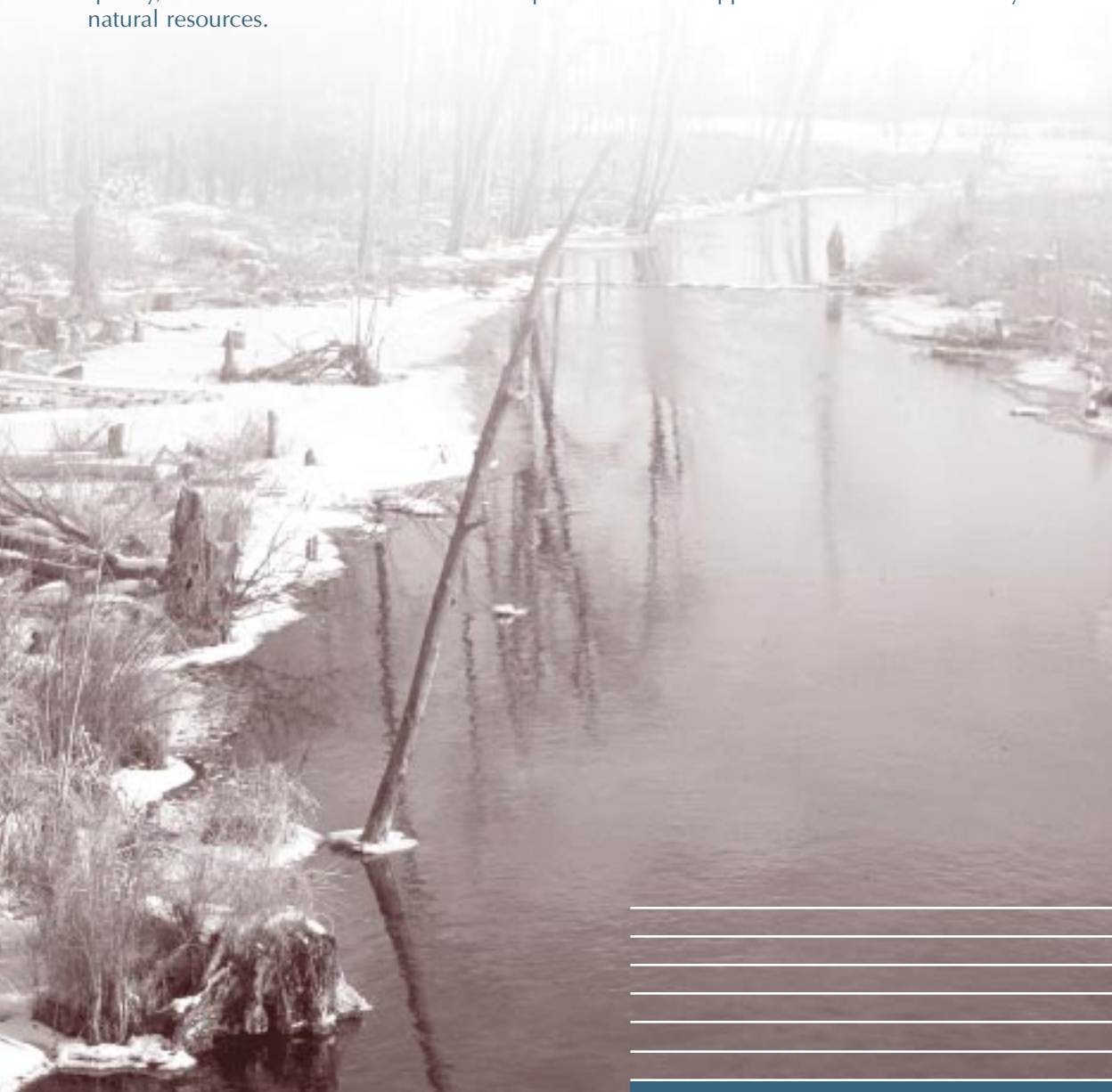
We continue to invest in developing the central, accessible, reliable store of information on how our watershed works. The emerging Watershed Information Management System (WIMS) can house and update Rideau Valley environmental data for use by ourselves, our municipalities, our colleagues and anyone with a need to know.

## HEALTHY RIVER ENVIRONMENTS

Our ultimate goal remains the protection and improvement of the natural functions of all watercourses in the valley. We enable healthy rivers to be through proper planning and management of the “Ribbon of Life” (the vulnerable area where the water meets the shore) and through helping landowners make the right choices for the environment in their home, cottage and business lives.

## MUNICIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

We assist our member municipalities through the provision of environmental services such as septic system approvals, flood forecasting and warning, reforestation, conservation information, plan review, protection of fish and wildlife habitat, improved surface water quality, access to conservation land and improved business opportunities based on healthy natural resources.



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Charles Long, Chair
- John Miller, Vice-Chair
- Stephen Bird
- Mary Bryden
- David Crowley
- Gerry Furlong
- Jan Harder
- Allan McCallum
- Janet Stavinga
- Bill Stevenson
- Wendy Stewart
- Cathy Willoughby

## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

People make Conservation Authorities work. The hundreds of people who have spent thousands of hours on our Boards, committees and conservation working groups over the past 35 years have earned a place of pride in the community as well as the personal satisfaction of seeing the difference their efforts have made. The current crop of conservationists appointed by their municipalities continue to play a vital role in ensuring cost-effective, healthy local environments for everyone to use and enjoy in their turn. Ordinary working citizens doing absolutely extraordinary things for future generations. Their successes give us every reason to believe that the next wave of grass roots enthusiasm and commitment will be just as effective for much the same reason: it's the right thing to do.

We have come a long way. After 35 years we are still dedicated to conservation and the natural resources of the watershed, but we've added a few new tools to the quiver. Watershed planning, groundwater mapping, watershed information management and shoreline classification join the old standards of forest management, erosion control and flood control structures. But the goal remains the same: a legacy of clean water, natural shorelines and sustainable land use for future generations to enjoy.

Much remains to be done. It was an honour to participate in the conservation journey with so many thoughtful citizens from all walks of life. Conservation by the people indeed!

Charles Long, Chair

## GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to present the 2001 Annual Report for the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority to the Board, the member municipalities and the public. I believe it sends an unequivocal message of serious, cost-effective resource protection by conservation professionals. To succeed with the quantity and quality of watershed work reported in these pages is a success story that the Conservation Authority and every municipality can be proud of.

We are honoured to be a part of a responsible, proactive corps of people who get things done. I am very impressed with the members and staff of this Authority who take diverse points of view and disparate sources of funding and turn them into rock-solid, community-valued conservation projects. I invite you to read the results in this Annual Report.

Dell Hallett, P.Eng., General Manager

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# HEALTHY RIVERS & SHORES

RVCA is a leader in the promotion, monitoring and encouragement of healthy watercourses throughout the valley using a variety of methods including:

- promoting safe and sustainable development on and near flood plains through plan review services to municipalities, and enforcement of flood plain regulations; during 2001, staff responded to 555 plan review applications and 143 files on flood plain regulations
- setting up the Watershed Management Information System to manage data on all aspects of the watershed such as water quality, biodiversity, wetlands, forest cover, shoreline classification, groundwater information and more
- participation in a provincial Watershed Reporting pilot project with the Ministry of the Environment and Conservation Ontario to produce a standard minimum set of watershed indicators that all CAs can monitor and report on regularly
- completing the *Jock River Watershed Management Plan* (November 2001) to provide a community roadmap to long term health of this important tributary of the Rideau; there remains the Tay (coming in early 2002), the Lower Rideau (starting in 2002), the Middle Rideau and the Rideau Lakes area to have current watershed plans in place for all six major watershed areas in the valley
- producing, in cooperation with colleagues at South Nation Conservation, a Drain Classification System whereby routine maintenance approval on drains that are not high priority fish habitat can be fast-tracked to save money, time and frustration; 234 drains have been evaluated so far with some sampling and temperature research still left to do
- working with colleagues on the Rideau River Roundtable to secure grants and report on the river's environmental health in the State of the River Report, 2001, to deliver a series of stewardship workshops, to improve turtle habitat on the river, and to increase fish habitat in the urban stretches of the river through creation of new embayments
- regular monitoring of water quality through the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network (10 river sampling sites), the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (10 instrumented well sites) and the new Watershed Watch program (intensive sampling of 35 key lakes on a regular five-year repeatable cycle) with help from the lake associations and the Ontario Trillium Foundation
- regular monitoring of water quantity (high and low) through a series of gauges to feed into the Flood Forecasting and Warning system; staff also involved in developing a Low Water Response Plan for anticipated future periods of low flow and drought
- providing the septic system inspection and approvals system in the new City of Ottawa through a three-CA partnership operating the Ottawa Septic System Office; 941 septic permits issued in 2001
- a newly-approved Rural Clean Water Program to encourage rural landowners to undertake river-friendly farm and cottage lot improvements through incentives (thanks to the financial support of the provincial Healthy Futures program and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada)
- continuing with the ice management process each spring in cooperation with the City of Ottawa and the Ministry of Natural Resources
- regular monitoring and maintenance of several small dams and other water control structures on tributaries to the Rideau
- undertaking primary responsibility for protecting watershed fish habitat against degradation through inspections and advice to landowners and developers on behalf of the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- partnering with On-Site Wastewater Industry Association and the University of Guelph (Collège d'Alfred) in bringing courses and demonstrations of wastewater technology to the Ontario Rural Wastewater Centre at Baxter Conservation Area or area farms
- producing and distributing the much-anticipated *MAPLE Shoreland Classification Manual* as a tool for lake associations in identifying areas of their shoreline which needs renaturalization with native shrubs and trees
- working closely with the Living by Water Project to bring user-friendly information and advice to Ontario's waterfront residents

# HEALTHY LANDS & FORESTS

RVCA strives to demonstrate exemplary use of riverside lands so that citizens, and especially children, can visit, enjoy and eventually protect all public lands for future generations through several different means including:

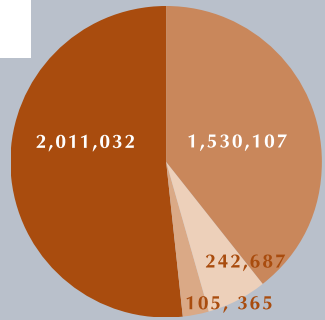
- provision of eight developed public Conservation Areas and over 5,000 acres of conservation land for the peaceful enjoyment of citizens
- acquisition of new public land by donation; in 2001, the major new gift was a lovely 204-foot piece of Upper Rideau Lake shoreline from Beverly Coon to be left in its natural state to help protect water quality and wildlife habitat
- working with partners including the City of Ottawa (Green Acres program), Eastern Ontario Model Forest and Ontario Power Generation across the valley to plant another 117,000 vigorous, native Canadian tree seedlings bringing the total number planted through our programs to 2.1 million trees
- continuing development of the beautiful new Chapman Mills Conservation Area in the City of Ottawa (land donated by the South Nepean Development Corporation with development funds from Minto Developments Inc); work includes boardwalk, picnic facilities, interpretive panels and parking area
- offering unforgettable outdoor education lessons to over 8 000 school children primarily at Baxter and Foley Mountain Conservation Areas; programming largely self-funding through user fees, sponsorships and in-kind donations
- hosting the Southeastern Ontario office of the Wetland Habitat Fund and working closely with WHF staff to provide opportunities for wetland conservation and enhancement, particularly the Constance Bay-Shirleys Bay landowner information pilot project in the City of Ottawa
- partnering with the Rideau Lakes Environmental Information Centre and Dry Dock in Portland to use the Portland Bay Conservation Area as an environmental “Welcome Centre” for travellers and summer residents in the Rideau Lakes area
- forest management and wildlife management demonstration sites to show visitors the how-to and what-to-expect aspects of environmental management at home
- the LandOwner Resource Centre as the one-stop shop for accessible, knowledgeable, objective information about natural resource conservation and incentive programs; staff also man exhibits, act as call centre for special programs and serve walk-in clients



# FINANCING CONSERVATION

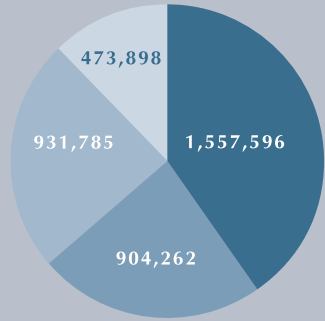
## 2001 REVENUES

Municipal Levy.....	\$1,530,107
Provincial Grant .....	\$242,687
Other Government Grants .....	\$105,365
Other Revenue.....	\$2,011,032



## 2001 EXPENDITURES

Water Resource Services.....	\$1,557,596
Stewardship Services .....	\$931,785
Conservation Land.....	\$904,262
Corporate Services.....	\$473,898



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Bryden, Chair

Stephen Simmering,  
Vice-Chair

Pat MacGregor,  
Secretary Treasurer

Mark Andrews

Bryan Baker

Lesley Cameron

Dorothy Hearty

Lynn Kaplansky

Ralph Raina

Toivo Roht

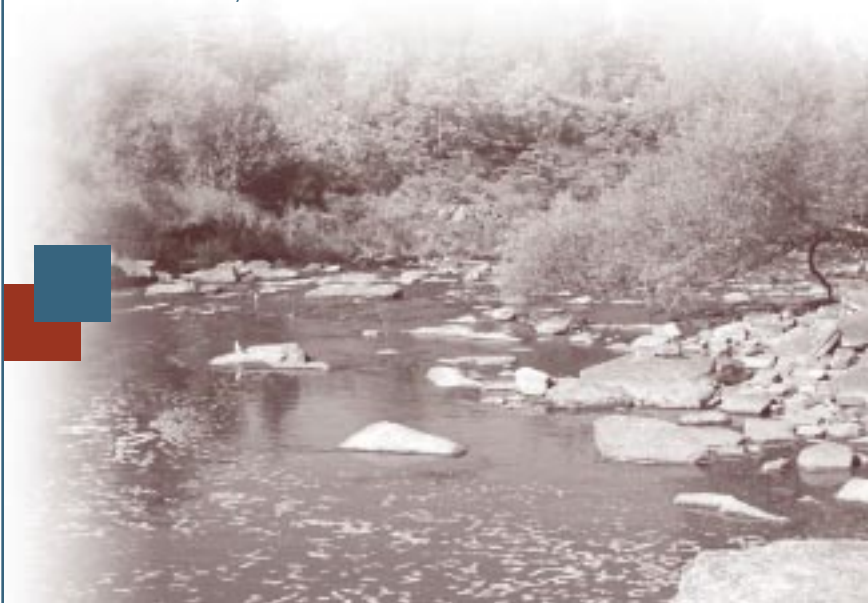
Debi Stoness

Mary Surtees

## RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

The Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation is a registered charity working to support the ongoing environmental work of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority. The Foundation was founded in 1970 and revitalized in 2001 with new updated direction, new by-laws and fresh strategy. The Conservation Foundation builds partnerships and seeks new individuals, corporations and groups wanting to get involved with the vital work of taking care of our own environment. It is run by a volunteer Board of Directors and two part-time staff.

In 2001, the Foundation was able to contribute \$425,000 in cash and services to the Conservation Authority. Anyone wishing to make a donation or to learn more about our programs and opportunities, please visit our website at [www.rideauvalley.on.ca/foundation](http://www.rideauvalley.on.ca/foundation).



# CONSERVATION PARTNERS

With thanks to our municipal partners including elected representatives, appointees and staff of our 18 member municipalities- Athens, Augusta, Bathurst Burgess Sherbrooke, Beckwith, Central Frontenac, City of Ottawa, Clarence-Rockland, Drummond/North Elmsley, Elizabethtown-Kitley, Merrickville- Wolford, Montague, North Dundas, North Grenville, Perth, Rideau Lakes, Smiths Falls, South Frontenac and Westport.

And with special thanks to the numerous wonderful people, landowners, residents, activists and individual donors who share the vision of this beautiful watershed.

- ◆ Action Sandy Hill
- ◆ Adopt a Riverbank
- ◆ Agricultural Adaptation Council
- ◆ Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- ◆ Alliance of Rideau Lakes Associations
- ◆ Arrow and The Loon Pub and Restaurant
- ◆ Bank of Montreal
- ◆ Barker Willson, Lawyers
- ◆ Baxter Wildflower Gardeners
- ◆ Bell Baker, Barristers and Solicitors
- ◆ Big Rideau Lake Association
- ◆ Brian's Septic Service
- ◆ Canadian Biodiversity Institute
- ◆ Canadian Federation of Agriculture
- ◆ Canadian Heritage Rivers Board
- ◆ Canadian Museum of Nature
- ◆ Chawkers Foundation
- ◆ Christie Lake Association
- ◆ CH2MHILL CANADA Limited
- ◆ City of Ottawa (Development Services; Transportation, Utilities & Public Works)
- ◆ Collège d'Alfred (University of Guelph)
- ◆ Common Wonders / Pine Cone Gift Shops
- ◆ Community Foundation of Ottawa
- ◆ Conservation Ontario
- ◆ Corush Sunderland Wright Ltd
- ◆ Cove Country Inn
- ◆ Crosby and Little Crosby Lake Association
- ◆ Davern Lake Association
- ◆ Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- ◆ Ducks Unlimited
- ◆ Eagle Lake Association
- ◆ Eastern Chapter, Society of Ontario Nut Growers
- ◆ Eastern Ontario Biodiversity Museum
- ◆ Eastern Ontario Model Forest
- ◆ ECOS (Environment Committee of Ottawa South)
- ◆ Enbridge Consumers Gas Co. Ltd.
- ◆ Energy Pathways Inc. (ON-SITE Program)
- ◆ Environmental Farm Plan
- ◆ Farren Lake Association
- ◆ FENDOR Glass & Aluminum (FENDOCK)
- ◆ Friends of Baxter Conservation Area
- ◆ Friends of Foley Mountain
- ◆ Friends of the Jock River
- ◆ Friends of the Rideau
- ◆ Friends of Perth Wildlife Reserve
- ◆ Friends of the Tay Watershed
- ◆ Friends of Upper Duck Island
- ◆ General Electric Canada Inc.
- ◆ Great Lakes Aquatic Network & Fund
- ◆ Greater Bob's and Crow Lakes Association
- ◆ Harold Crabtree Foundation
- ◆ Haskins Ford Mercury
- ◆ Healthy Future for Ontario Agriculture
- ◆ Helen McCrea Peacock Foundation
- ◆ Human Resources Development Canada
- ◆ Imperial Oil Charitable Foundation
- ◆ Kinsmen Club of Manotick and District
- ◆ Kinsmen Club of Rideau Lakes
- ◆ Kudrinko's Fresh Mart
- ◆ Lanark County Federation of Agriculture
- ◆ Lanark County Community Stewardship Council
- ◆ Lanark Leeds Green Community
- ◆ Lanark Leeds Grenville Health Unit
- ◆ Leeds County Community Stewardship Council
- ◆ Leeds Transit
- ◆ Little Silver Lake Property Owners Association
- ◆ Living by Water Project
- ◆ Long Lake Hunt Club
- ◆ Manotick Horticultural Society
- ◆ Manotick Kiwanis Club
- ◆ McConnell Family Foundation (Living by Water)
- ◆ Minto Developments Inc.
- ◆ Mountain Equipment Co-op
- ◆ Murphy's Bait Shop
- ◆ Muskies Canada (Ottawa Chapter)
- ◆ MAPLE (Mutual Association for the Protection of Lake Environment)
- ◆ Northern Casket
- ◆ OMYA (Canada) Inc.
- ◆ Ontario Farm Environmental Coalition
- ◆ Ontario Federation of Agriculture
- ◆ Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- ◆ Ontario Ministry of the Environment (Ottawa District, Southeast Region, Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network)
- ◆ Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- ◆ Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (Kemptville, Kingston, Peterborough; Aviation, Flood & Fire Service)
- ◆ Ontario On-Site Wastewater Association
- ◆ Ontario Rural Wastewater Centre
- ◆ Ontario Power Generation
- ◆ Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association
- ◆ Ontario Summer Experience Program
- ◆ Ottawa Stewardship Council
- ◆ Otty Lake Association
- ◆ Parks Canada, Rideau Canal Office
- ◆ Pike Lake Cottage Association
- ◆ Renfrew County Stewardship Council
- ◆ Rideau Environmental Action League (REAL)
- ◆ Rideau Lakes and District Kinsman Club
- ◆ Rideau Lakes Environment & Information Centre (Dry Dock)
- ◆ Rideau River Roundtable
- ◆ Rideau Valley Art Festival
- ◆ Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation
- ◆ Rideau Waterway Land Trust Foundation
- ◆ Riverside Park Community Association
- ◆ Robinson Consultants Inc.
- ◆ Robinson's Your Independent Grocer, Manotick
- ◆ Royal Bank of Canada
- ◆ Ruffed Grouse Society
- ◆ R.W. Tomlinson Inc.
- ◆ Shell Canada Limited
- ◆ Simmering & Associates Ltd.
- ◆ Smiths Falls Lions Club
- ◆ South Nepean Development Corporation
- ◆ Stepping Stone Bed & Breakfast
- ◆ Steve's Rideau Restaurant
- ◆ St. Joseph MOM Printing
- ◆ Summer Job Service
- ◆ Sunoco and the Suncor Energy Foundation
- ◆ Tay River Round Table
- ◆ TD Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Foundation
- ◆ Terry Bryan / Coldwell Banker Realty
- ◆ The Base Mapping Co. Ltd.
- ◆ Thomas O'Keefe Fund
- ◆ Trailhead
- ◆ TransCanada PipeLines
- ◆ Tree Canada Foundation
- ◆ Upper Rideau Lake Association
- ◆ University of Guelph
- ◆ University of Ottawa
- ◆ URBANDALE
- ◆ Village Green Originals
- ◆ Watson's Mill Manotick Inc
- ◆ Westport Esso
- ◆ Westport Hardware-Novico
- ◆ Westport Legion
- ◆ Westport Lions Club
- ◆ Westport Outdoor Association
- ◆ Westport Review-Mirror
- ◆ Wetland Habitat Fund
- ◆ Wildlife Habitat Canada
- ◆ Wordsmith Printing

# THE RIDEAU VALLEY



## HOW TO REACH US

### RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

1128 Mill Street, Box 599  
Manotick, Ontario, Canada K4M 1A5

(613) 692-3571  
1-800-267-3504 (within 613 area)  
(613) 692-0831 (fax)

e-mail: [postmaster@rideauvalley.on.ca](mailto:postmaster@rideauvalley.on.ca)  
website: [www.rideauvalley.on.ca](http://www.rideauvalley.on.ca)



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