



Special points of interest:

- Over 500 acres of land under conservation agreements through the KHC
- 700 acres of contiguous significant wetlands and 100 acres of managed forests to be acquired by end of 2010
- More than 500 trees planted this spring
- Building heritage networks and organizational, data and mapping capacity in the Kawarthas

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The Newsletter of the

Kawartha Heritage Conservancy

Issue 2

July 2010

Who We Are and What We Do

At the Kawartha Heritage Conservancy (KHC) "our mission is to conserve the natural and cultural heritage and distinctive landscapes of the Kawartha bioregion." To this end, we offer the following services. We encourage you to browse our website to get more information and feel free to give us a call if you have particular questions.

Not-for-Profit Community-Based Charity

KHC is a non-government, not-for-profit community-based charity that is dedicated to the mission of protecting and enhancing the natural and cultural heritage features of the Kawarthas. Governed by a Board of Directors, we receive financial support via charitable foundations, government and the public, with community support through volunteers.

Land Trust, Easement, Conservation, Tax Benefits Consultations, and Resources

Significant and sensitive natural and cultural properties are at risk in the Kawarthas. KHC works with interested landowners to assist in conserving these assets on a volunteer basis. As a land trust and member of the Ontario and Canadian Land Trust Alliances respectively, KHC provides:

- Free consultation and advice on conservation and land trust options, tax benefits and stewardship incentives;
- Long term management and succession planning;
- Overall information required to understand the different options available for conservation and;
- Assistance in understanding and meeting government requirements and processes for executing these options.

Research

KHC is engaged with organizations, academic institutions and various levels of government in research pertaining to the cultural heritage and the natural environ-

ment. Our current work includes partnerships with Trent University, Fleming College, private volunteers and the Ontario Land Trust Alliance. Please contact us with interest surrounding research ideas and initiatives – we'd be glad to explore a partnership with you!

Cultural Heritage, Data Management, and Mapping

Cultural heritage is an integral part of the ecological, social, and economic fabric of the landscape. At KHC, we are building networks to help document and conserve the rich heritage of the Kawarthas. As well, we can leverage our human and technological resource capacity to assist heritage organizations with their data collection, organization, management, presentation, and mapping needs.

Capacity Building Workshops

We will be conducting various capacity building workshops throughout the year. Upcoming workshops will be posted on our website as they become available.

Growing the Conservation Movement and Awareness through our Website

In our effort to coordinate and promote the initiatives of various heritage organizations in the area, KHC is launching an online, one-stop-shop for those interested in heritage issues. We are constantly updating our links and resources. If you would like to share information about your natural or cultural heritage organization, events, activities, resources or articles, please send it to us and we will post it on our site!

Greetings from the Board and Executive Director

The articles in this issue of *Legacy* are geared towards familiarizing the Kawartha community with the services KHC offers and the partnerships that we continue to build.

It has been six months since Mike Hendren formally took over as Executive Director at the KHC and it has been a period of great challenges and rewards. We have connected and worked with many different partners (on both the cultural and natural heritage side of our work), negotiated, advanced and visited our land portfolio and successfully hired a program manager, Suresh Kandaswamy, who has been with us since early April. We are very glad to have him! We were also very fortunate to

have had Lawrie Keillor-Faulkner, on sabbatical from Fleming College, work with us from September 2009 until June of this year. Lawrie was engaged on a number of levels, most notably with the Species at Risk Project for Environment Canada (see article on p.4). Lawrie has been a real asset, both in terms of her technical skill set and interpersonal skills. In addition, we are encouraged by the involvement of a number of volunteers who are assisting us with program work. They are involved in a variety of program areas including communications (newsletter), lands, cultural heritage, fundraising, GIS and land management. We are thankful for their assistance – **please see their biographies on our website.**

(Continued on page 2)



One of the many barns that dot the Kawartha landscape. Barns add character to the rural farming landscape, however they are fast becoming an endangered heritage feature!

KHC is currently focusing on developing a cultural heritage database and documenting rural heritage, conducting community-based research, building networks, and acting as a mapping and information clearinghouse for heritage data.



In partnership with the Greater Peterborough Area Economic Development Corporation (GPAEDC), KHC developed the base map for the Kawartha Farm Fresh Local Food Guide.

Greetings...

(Continued from page 1)

Mike Hendren feels the work so far has been very engaging with opportunities for growth. He understands that there is still a great deal to learn – a process he anticipates will continue indefinitely in such a varied and diverse field.

We are an active and diverse organization with a variety of programs, partnerships and project initiatives in the realm of natural and cultural heritage protection. A skilled team of dedicated staff, board members, volunteers and members of our steering committee provide advice and services such as consulting, GIS and mapping, research, land management, stewardship, and information and heritage data management.

In terms of our natural heritage work, the focus is on preserving significant and sensitive lands as a 'Land Trust'. We completed the Elliott Conservation Easement early this year and expect to receive full, fee-simple donations of two properties by the end of 2010 and a conservation easement in the near term. One is a partnership with Ducks Unlimited and the others exclusive to our organization. Please see our website for more information on our land securement work.

In terms of our cultural heritage work, KHC is currently focusing on developing a cultural heritage database and documenting rural heritage, conducting community-based research, building networks, and acting as a mapping and information clearinghouse for heritage data. Through our work, we hope to support and inform land use and cultural planning in the Kawarthas; support heritage related organizations; promote local tourism and agriculture production; and inform through various on-line media.

We play a valuable role in a variety of other initiatives which speaks to the need for a 'Kawartha Heritage Conservancy'-type organization in the region. As an organization with diverse professional expertise, we

have been engaged in a variety of ways, a few of these include:

- Planning with the **Ministry of Natural Resources, County of Peterborough, Parks Canada** and community-led groups towards enhanced protection of natural and cultural environments in the Kawarthas.
- Partnering with the **Community Foundation for Greater Peterborough** for a conservation land stewardship endowment fund of \$40,000 by 2012.
- Providing dynamic, **engaging volunteer experience(s)** for post-secondary students and recent graduates interested in the natural and cultural heritage field.
- Researching issues affecting the natural environment and cultural heritage in the Kawarthas including
 - Carbon off-sets in the Kawarthas with **Peterborough Green-up and Trent University**
 - Opportunities for **Municipal Cultural Planning** in the Kawarthas
 - White paper on land use planning and heritage protection and incentive measures
- Assisting with the proposal for City of Peterborough receiving the **Lieutenant-Governor's Heritage Award**.
- Weighing in on local conservation issues through avenues such as the '**value of wetlands**' newspaper article now posted on our website.
- Serving on the **Ontario Land Trust Alliance (OLTA)** board of directors, as well as the government relations committee and the annual OLTA conference committee for 2010 – **hosted this year in Peterborough!**
- Conducting workshops on topics of interest to heritage organizations, including sponsoring the 'cultural heritage stream' at the OLTA 2010 (Peterborough) conference.
- Participating in the **sustainability planning process for greater Peterborough region**.

In summary, we are a very dynamic and unique organization engaged in compelling work and initiatives. To all of our supporters, friends, partners and colleagues, we hope you enjoy this issue of *Legacy!*

Mike Hendren, Executive Director Roslyn Moore, President and Chair

SAVE THE DATES

2010 ANNUAL GATHERING

"Expanding Horizons"

October 28-30

Holiday Inn, Peterborough ON

This year's conference will have a special focus on Cultural Heritage
Register Early!



ONTARIO LAND TRUST ALLIANCE



KAWARTHA HERITAGE CONSERVANCY

Please visit the OLTA website at www.olta.ca

Special Projects at Work in the Community

Exhibit for Loan

Students from Fleming College's Museum Management and Curatorship Program, in partnership with Kawartha Heritage Conservancy, prepared a high quality exhibit titled "Local Heritage, Local Food, Local Choice". The exhibit showcased the rich history of local farming practice and industry as well as the need to support local food. Interested organizations are welcome to borrow the exhibit for display at their events or at their community centres. Please contact us for more details.



Suresh and Lawrie show exhibit at Peterborough's Green Expo 2010

Building Networks

The key to conserving ecological and cultural diversity in the Kawarthas is to jointly engage in planning and building networks to achieve common objectives. KHC has been actively engaged in the Trent-Severn Waterway-led heritage initiative and community committee for sustainability plan for the Greater Peterborough region.

Planting Trees on Property

As part of our stewardship activities, KHC planted over 60 trees at the Alice Sharpe property and approximately 500 trees comprising of White Pine and Larch at McKim-Garsonnin property during the months of April and May.

Significant Acquisitions

The Kawartha community is becoming ever more conscious of the need to conserve significant lands. Through generous donations made by property owners, this year the KHC will acquire 700 acres of contiguous significant wetland in the Bioregion and 100 acres of managed forests in the Bioregion.

Cultural Heritage Database

Enhancing knowledge about the rich cultural heritage in the Kawartha region is an important component of the work we do. We believe it is integral to the sustainability of the landscape as a whole, whether it is ecological, social, or economic. The rich cultural heritage provides us with a glimpse of the social fabric of the region and it creates a sense of place that is intimately connected with the land and its history.

We have been fortunate, through the kind sup-

port of donors such as the Trillium Foundation and Metcalf Foundation to continue the hard work done by the many past volunteers in collecting heritage data. The purpose of the Cultural Heritage Project is to enhance cultural heritage information networks and data as well as information sharing in the Kawarthas.

We are working towards the development of a database that various heritage organizations can access and query based on their interests. We also envision having an interactive map on our website featuring the various heritage features such as barns, bridges, ruins, cemeteries etc. We will keep you informed as we work on making the database useful.

Furthermore, KHC is working with the Trent Centre for Community Based Education to develop and coordinate community-inspired projects related to cultural/heritage tourism, arts education, heritage preservation and archaeology, cultural diversity and aboriginal engagement. This initiative is funded by the Ontario Ministry of Culture's Cultural Strategic Investment Fund.

KHC to Host the OLTA Annual Gathering!

- More than 150 delegates are expected from land trusts throughout Ontario, Ducks Unlimited, Nature Conservancy of Canada, cultural heritage organizations and historical societies.
- KHC is acting as a lead participant and organizer, with KHC staff providing session instruction.
- *New this year:* a cultural heritage stream including sessions on branding/communications, project development, cultural heritage 101, Heritage Walk and Canadian Canoe Museum tour.

The OLTA gathering is designed to provide technical training to our members in areas of land securement, land management planning, tax law, and developing strategic partnerships. The overarching theme of this year's conference is "Expanding Horizons" with training program streams that will centre on six major themes: Land Acquisition; Land Stewardship and Management; Funding, Marketing and Communications; Cultural Heritage and Administration; and Land Use Planning for land trusts.

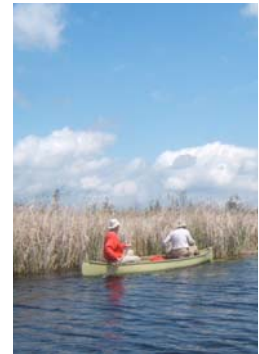


Photo: Mike Hendren's canoe partner

Community partners tour a property currently under negotiations.



Photo: Suresh Kandaswamy

Wildflowers bloom in the Carden Plain. The Carden Plain is home to rare alvar habitat and a destination for bird watchers.

CONTEST / EXHIBIT

The KHC will be hosting an art and photography contest.

The contest and exhibit will showcase natural and cultural landscapes and features of the Kawarthas. Details will be soon posted on our website.

OCTOBER 2010



Photo: Suresh Kandaswamy

KHC Volunteers spend the day planting trees on the McKim-Garsonnin property.

Meet the Board

Roslyn Moore, President & Chair
 Ralph McKim, Past President
 Garry Lean, Director
 Debbie Mack, Director
 Steven C. Bark, Director
 Diane Wolf, Director
 John Platt, Director

Visit our website for Board Profiles.

Special Advisors

Tony Tilly, Advisor
 David Carruthers, Advisor

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On sabbatical with Kawartha Heritage Conservancy

By Lawrie Keillor-Faulkner, H.B.Sc. Geography/GIS, GIS-AS

Currently, Ontario is host to roughly 30,000 different plant and animal species. But this level of biodiversity is in danger. Of the 30,000 species in Ontario, 190 are listed as "at risk" meaning that their population is declining at such a rate that they will likely become extinct unless measures are taken to prevent this. The main cause of species population decline is loss of habitat which itself is caused by pollution, changing land use, urban sprawl, and the spread of invasive species. Recognizing the importance of maintaining a high level of biodiversity, federal and provincial governments are funding various programs to address the issue of Species at Risk. On her sabbatical, Lawrie was able to work on one of these projects and contribute to the local natural heritage knowledge base for the Kawarthas.

As a professor at Fleming College's School of Environmental and Natural Resource Sciences I teach mapping, surveying and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and have served as Coordinator of the GIS Specialist and Geomatics Technician programs. A while ago I decided to take a break, a sabbatical, to work in the 'real world'. I had recently met Ian Attridge, an environmental lawyer and then Executive Director of the Kawartha Heritage Conservancy (KHC), and as an environmentalist and naturalist myself, I appreciated the good work being done by this local land trust and charity. I wanted to make a difference while on my sabbatical and I wanted an opportunity to "do what my students do", i.e. make a map or two.

I've enjoyed acquiring Global Positioning Systems (GPS) data: photos and descriptions of heritage farms and homes for our ongoing Cultural Heritage Database; acquiring legal descriptions for land securement; meeting landowners and visiting their properties; making maps for our Bioregional Atlas; and presenting exhibits at Heritage Week in Lindsay and Peterborough's Green Expo.

I've been able to blend my connections with some shared KHC-Fleming projects, such as identifying and collating Fleming's conserved lands for KHC analysis and calculating carbon offsets for the College itself. I also helped develop GIS Co-

operative student projects for KHC and for other groups. Please note: Fleming is always looking for new Co-op projects (geocommunity.net/).

Another memorable project involved working with Fleming's Museum Management Curatorship (MMC) students who, under the tutelage of Deborah Scott, developed a travelling exhibit (see p. 3). I was pleased to supply several photos to the project and create a map for the display.

My most gratifying work however, has been completing an Environment Canada Habitat Stewardship Project for Species at Risk. Our specific interest in this project was endangered or threatened birds and reptiles such as the Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*); Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*); Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*); Five-lined skink (*Plestiodon fasciatus*); Snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*); and Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*), to name a few. I collected, collated and organized these element occurrences (EOs) for Ontario Nature's Reptile and Amphibian Atlas. I especially enjoyed doing GIS analysis and making maps with these sensitive data. Thanks to all the wonderful volunteer naturalists who reported their sightings. Please visit Ontario Nature's website at ontarionature.org/atlas to report rare species sightings.

Meet the Staff



Mike Hendren
Executive Director
 M.PL, B.B.A

Mike Hendren is the Executive Director of KHC. Mike has worked in the appraisal and consulting field and with the Ecological Gifts program.

He also has volunteer experience in land securement and stewardship. Mike comes to the Conservancy with a strong personal heritage in the region and is a member of the Appraisal Institute of Canada and the Ontario Professional Planners Institute. An outdoor enthusiast and musician, Mike's formal background includes a Masters degree in Environmental Planning from Queen's University and a degree in Business Administration from Trent University.



Suresh V. Kandaswamy
Program Manager
 PMP, MEdes, M.A (Geog), B.Comm

Suresh is the new Program Manager at Kawartha Heritage Conservancy. He brings a breadth of work and volunteer experience that includes project management, environmental consulting, GIS, natural and cultural heritage conservation, environmental education, non-profit administration, and business. He enjoys travelling, photography, spending time outdoors, and fixing computers. Suresh is a certified Project Management Professional with formal education in environmental management, geography, and business.