

2021 Annual Report

With another strange year behind us, it is time to pause and celebrate our collective resilience, our many accomplishments and our shared passion to sustain a healthy watershed for now and the future. Despite the ongoing pandemic, we have continued to fulfill our mission to protect and conserve the lands and waters of the Rideau River watershed. Our board members, donors and many partners stepped up to lend their time, expertise and funds to the cause of conservation.

Thanks, first of all, to our Board of Directors. Your enthusiasm and leadership are greatly appreciated. Two key members who embody these qualities must especially be acknowledged: Jason Kelly and Anne Simmering. Jason has left an indelible mark on the Foundation, having served 11 years as Chair until he retired in June 2021. Over his tenure he has helped shape and guide our many programs, which continue to be warmly received and valued across our watershed. We appreciate his continued commitment as he remains an active Board member. Thank you as well to Anne who, after nine years of service, has quietly stepped down from the board. We value her guidance and commitment to the Steve Simmering Conservation Land Endowment. After 10 years, this endowment remains a very important piece of our fundraising efforts as it strives to protect vulnerable natural areas across our watershed.

2021 welcomed many new and returning donors. With generous donor support, we continued to conserve critical natural spaces, protect species at risk, plant trees, naturalize shorelines and support outdoor education for our youth. We kicked off a transformational accessibility project at Baxter Conservation Area, and thanks to ongoing donor support have initiated plans for several other accessibility projects to take shape in the coming months and years. Thank you for making your local natural environment – and residents' access to it – a priority.

I am proud to share our 2021 highlights. We appreciate your continued confidence in our conservation projects and look forward to a healthy, resilient future together.

Yours in conservation,

Andrew Harkness,
RVCF Chair

RVCF Board of Directors

- Andrew Harkness, Chair
- Allison Brown, Vice Chair
- Jason W. M. Kelly, Immediate Past Chair
- Kathy Dallaire, Secretary-Treasurer
- Allison Gibbons
- Gary Howard
- Bob Ryerson (resigned August 2021)
- Tom Scott
- Anne Simmering (retired September 2021)
- R.E. (Bob) Smith
- Kathy Thomas
- Cynthia Wagner
- Richmond Wilson





7.3 million
dollars raised
for conservation
since 1994



6,706
trees planted to
offset carbon through
2021 agreements



846 total hectares
protected for
conservation



168 acres
preserved
through new
conservation easement



78
ongoing
species at risk
restoration projects



5 years
as an
accredited member
of Imagine Canada

2021 Highlights

- Welcomed new corporate partner Modern Niagara, which will provide \$300,000 over five years to help acquire and protect vulnerable land in the watershed
- Raised \$6,880 for the Steve Simmering Conservation Land Endowment Fund during our Giving Tuesday campaign, thanks to private donors and matching funds from McCooeye Wealth Management – Mandeville Private Client Inc
- Partnered with One Tree Planted to plant 40,000 tree seedlings in spring 2021
- Celebrated 30,000 memorial trees planted by Hulse, Playfair and McGarry
- Planted 1,200 memorial and special occasion trees in tribute of loved ones
- Welcomed new and returning Carbon Neutral individuals, businesses and events including LIVE 88.5, Elephant Print, Evergreen Window Solutions, McCooeye Wealth Management – Mandeville Private Client Inc. and Somersault Events
- Supported the Nature for All Committee in its fundraising efforts to begin a transformational accessibility project at Baxter Conservation Area
- Partnered with Girl Gone Good and Fjallraven Ottawa to raise funds for the Nature for All project
- Celebrated Michel and Philip Charron’s fundraising efforts in support of the Nature for All project
- Accepted a generous donation from the Lawson Foundation in support of Foley Mountain’s Storybook Trail and other site improvements
- Welcomed a conservation land agreement of 186 hectares of wetlands and shoreline along Wolf and Green Lake
- Became the first environmental charity to partner with GiveShop to raise funds through its online community marketplace
- Helped families in need participate in Forest School programming at Baxter and Foley Mountain Conservation Areas

Thank you to all the private individuals and families who donate. Be sure to visit our virtual Donor Recognition Wall at www.rvcf.ca/supporters or in person at our RVCF headquarters.

Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation

Box 988
3889 Rideau Valley Drive
Manotick, ON K4M 1A8

613-692-3571 ext. 1126
info@rvcf.ca
www.rvcf.ca

The RVCF is proudly accredited under Imagine Canada’s Standards Program having demonstrated excellence in board governance, financial accountability and transparency, ethical fundraising, staff management and volunteer involvement



RVCF is also a proud and practicing member of both the Ontario and Canada Land Trust Alliances.