



CARETAKERS

YOUR OAK RIDGES MORAINE LAND TRUST
GRATITUDE REPORT 2015



THANK YOU!

Together with amazing supporters like you, the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust secures stunning victories for wild, natural areas and species we love. In this year's Gratitude Report, we are delighted to share a spectacular map of our Moraine, and we hope you'll take a moment to reflect on the places and spaces that matter most to you. Where are your Moraine footprints?

Your stories about exploring our Moraine inspire us every single day, and we are gathering that energy into a project called "150 Acts of Green", sharing plans and promises made by supporters just like you. Let's go!

Thank you again for your vital and vibrant support of your Land Trust.

Yours for our Moraine,

Susan Walmer, Executive Director



THIS IS YOUR LAND TRUST

Our Board is a group of passionate and caring volunteers who love and cherish the Moraine. I am honoured to be the Chair and to work with these amazing people, along with staff, volunteers, and donors like you. I'm grateful for the leadership, vision and commitment to collaboration of every member of our Board:

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| David Atkinson | Patricia Short-Gallé |
| Sarah Chiasserini | Leanne Stevens |
| Mary Dubé | David Swail |
| Brent Elson | Angela Taylor |
| Chris Norris | Nicholas Trevisan |
| Nicholas Schulz | Jamie Windle |
| Frank Shaw | |

Your support helps your Land Trust realize our shared vision of a healthy and vibrant Moraine and Greenbelt. Thank you!

Chris Norris, Board Chair

YOUR VOICES: 150 ACTS OF GREEN

"I composed a song called *'The Thought of Losing You'* about my lifelong love of our Moraine. My goal is to hear the song played around our community 150 times!" – Mary Dubé, Founding Board Member

"Attending a Land Trust event, I was so inspired to hear that when we protect land on the Moraine, not only are we saving precious watersheds but also many species like Monarch butterflies that are at risk. From that moment on, I decided to donate my 25 acre farm and heritage farm house to the Land Trust." – Lynn, Land Forever Donor

The generosity of Lynn and other donors inspired a new Land Trust goal: to speak to 150 potential donors about donating to us as part of their bequest planning!



"I'm going to find 150 species at our Spring BioBlitz event!" – Kristie Virgoe, Staff Program Manager

What can you do? Hike 150 times? Or 150 kilometers? Volunteer 150 hours? Share your "Act of Green" by sending an email to landtrust@oakridgesmoraine.org or calling us at **905-853-3171**.



NEW PROPERTY SPOTLIGHT: BISHOP'S WILD

Kate Bishop's face lights up when she shares stories about taking the train from Toronto on weekends to visit her family's property on the Moraine. She remembers exploring the forests and splashing in Cavan Creek.

Late last year, Kate and her brother Alexander donated a portion of their property to our Land Trust in memory of their father. "Bishop's Wild Nature Reserve" is a beautiful forested property that borders the Ganaraska Hiking Trail. The property is a Natural Core area on the Moraine, completely forested and part of the headwaters of the Cavan Creek watershed. Bishop's Wild is a treasure, filled with nests for birds of prey, beautiful wildflowers, frogs and deer.

Thank you to the Bishop family for leaving such a lovely legacy for everyone in Ontario to enjoy forever.

OUR LAND FOREVER CIRCLE

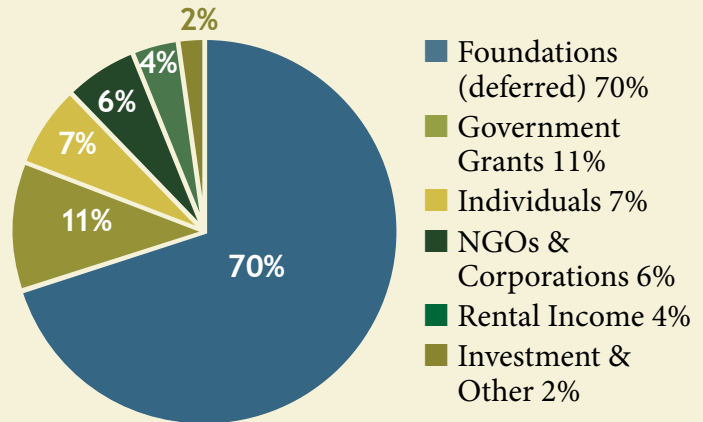
Stories like Bishop's Wild move us deeply. It is truly an honour to help individuals and families ensure that what they value most—a love of nature—lives on forever on our Moraine.

And while gifts of property are a crucial resource for us, we also have a growing group of people who have remembered our Land Trust in their Will. These gifts ensure we can confront urgent conservation priorities today and protect more land for tomorrow.

Do you share our will to protect nature? Would you like to know more about our Land Forever Circle and consider joining me as a member? If so, I would love to talk to you. -Susan

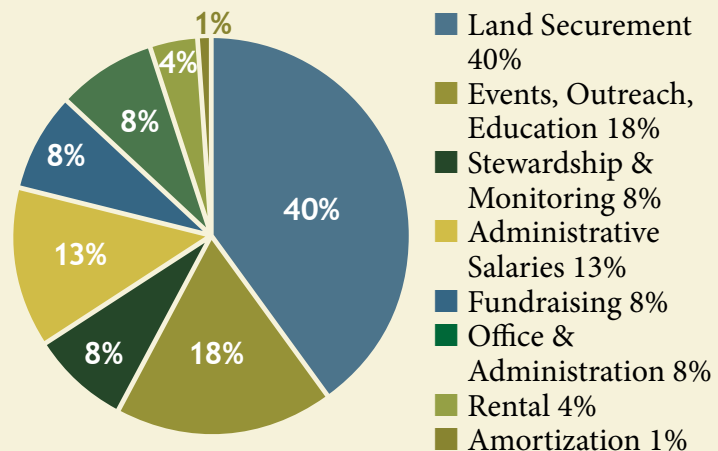
OUR REVENUE

Thank you! We cherish every single gift we receive. Your gift is combined with the support of other donors, as well as foundations, corporations and government. Here is where our money comes from.



OUR EXPENSES

Thank you for supporting our Land Trust. We value your investment in our mission, and we ensure that every gift we receive helps protect more land and save more species on our Moraine. Here's where your money goes.



We would be pleased to share our complete financial statements with you. Please contact our office anytime to receive your copy.

CELEBRATING OUR 50TH PROPERTY PROTECTED FOREVER!

With your support, we were able to protect our 50th property. This beautiful piece of Simcoe County has 2 lovely ridges of hardwood forest, spectacular meadows, and a cold water stream that runs into the Bailey Swamp Wetland. Thank you for helping save another stunning piece of our Moraine!



FOREST BATH, ANYONE?

A recent study proved that a 20 minute walk in the forest can improve the functioning of your immune system by up to 54%! The science shared at our health benefits workshop confirmed what we already knew in our hearts: nature is good for you!



CHIRP! CROAK! FLUTTER! SLITHER... IDENTIFYING SPECIES AT RISK

Together with landowners, volunteers and specialists, we explored all our protected properties, and found that 60% provide habitat for Species At Risk! And in our BioBlitz events, we'll be looking for mammals, birds, plants, reptiles, amphibians, insects and fungi!



WHAT'S THE BUZZ ON POLLINATORS?

You packed the hall to hear a local expert talk about our friendly pollinators, the bees. This inspiring talk helped us understand the importance of these pollinators within the natural world but also within the farming world!



NO HIGHWAY HERE!

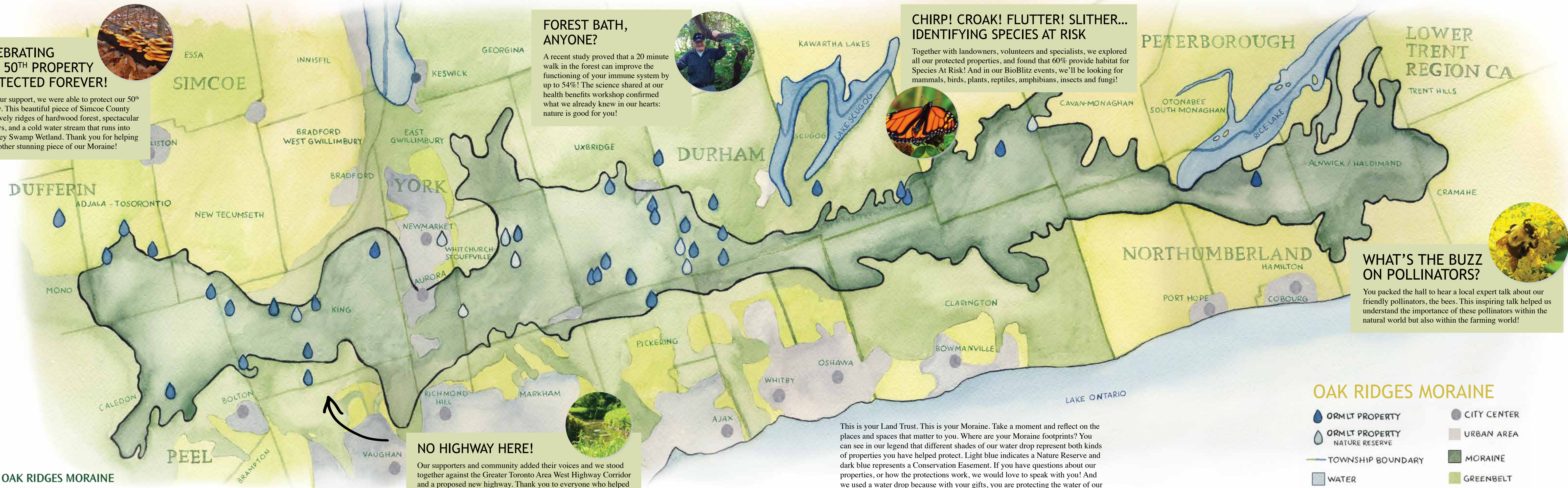
Our supporters and community added their voices and we stood together against the Greater Toronto Area West Highway Corridor and a proposed new highway. Thank you to everyone who helped convince our leaders that our Greenbelt is no place for a highway!



This is your Land Trust. This is your Moraine. Take a moment and reflect on the places and spaces that matter to you. Where are your Moraine footprints? You can see in our legend that different shades of our water drop represent both kinds of properties you have helped protect. Light blue indicates a Nature Reserve and dark blue represents a Conservation Easement. If you have questions about our properties, or how the protections work, we would love to speak with you! And we used a water drop because with your gifts, you are protecting the water of our Moraine and Greenbelt, our most treasured resource! *Thank you!*

OAK RIDGES MORAINE

- ORMLT PROPERTY
- ORMLT PROPERTY NATURE RESERVE
- TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY
- WATER
- CITY CENTER
- URBAN AREA
- MORAINE
- GREENBELT



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR 2015 SUPPORTERS

Welcome New Donors

David Atkinson
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Susan Cosburn
Wendy Creasey
Aaron Fenton
Allan Gibbins
Alex Hill
Pete MacEwen
Kevin McGaffey
Eleanor McLaughlin
Hilary Pryce
Isobel Ralston
Ann Schmid
Nick Skrypek
Leanne Stevens
Nancee Webb

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Bob Shepherd
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Douglas Shrigley
Nick Skrypek
Denny & Dennis Starritt
David Swail
Tom Taylor
Angela Taylor
Nicholas Trevisan
Brian & Carol Wagner
Susan Walmer
Alan Wells
Thomas Wells



The Humbles joined our Land Trust Family this year! 2 of their kids are featured on this year's cover, heading out for a grand adventure on the Moraine. Thank you to the Humble family and all our amazing supporters!

Andrew Wilton
Jamie Windle
Paula Wojcik

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Donations In Honour

David McQueen
Gary Collins
Ernie Baltz
Brenda Skerrat & Chris McGaffey
Carol Pryce
Chris Norris & Julie Schmidt

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT.



OAK RIDGES MORaine
LAND TRUST

www.oakridgesmoraine.org

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Possibility grows here.



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