



ANNUAL REPORT 2011

Your Moraine - protect water, land and life for tomorrow



OAK RIDGES MORaine LAND TRUST



Teachers Take a Hike



Henry Pellatt Barn, Marylake



Rooke Celebration

The ORMLT Vision

The Oak Ridges Moraine is a vibrant, healthy, sustainable ecosystem within which the Trust and partners including private landowners are actively cooperating in conservation and protection of the Moraine and connected areas.

The ORMLT Mission

The Land Trust will ensure that significant Moraine properties are protected for future generations through agreements with landowners, acquisition of lands and on-going stewardship.

2011 ORMLT Board of Directors

Andrew Armstrong
 Mary Dubé
 Janet Fayle
 Ralph Fernando
 David Finnie
 (appointed Dec 2011)
 John King
 (appointed July 2011)
 Abhi Mukherjee
 Ann Rexe
 Frank Shaw
 Bob Shepherd
 Patricia Short-Gallé
 Tracy Smith

2011 ORMLT Staff

Sue Walmer
 Executive Director
 Don Prince
 Senior Land Securement Officer
 Bill McMartin
 Stewardship Manager
 Judy Gilchrist
 Resource Development Officer
 Lissa Dwyer
 Administrative Support
 Suzanne Reiner
 Administrative Support
 Nancee Webb
 Volunteer Co-ordinator (Volunteer)



**OAK RIDGES MORAINE
 LAND TRUST**

13990 Dufferin Street North,
 King City, Ontario L7B 1B3

Telephone: 905-833-3171
 E-mail: landtrust@bellnet.ca
www.oakridgesmoraine.org

Front cover and page 8 photos: Judy Gilchrist

The Hope of Generations to Come

In reviewing our accomplishments for 2011 it is apparent that the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust has gone through a significant growing period that will support our planning now and well into the future. Our success thus far is a credit to our many supporters and volunteers.

Results from the initial full year of our \$1M Stewardship Campaign saw the largest annual net funds raised for the Trust.

Contributions both large and small are evidence that the Trust's work continues to strike a chord with "grassroots" individuals and is increasingly garnering the interest of private foundations, large donors and corporations. Without having undertaken a major membership campaign, our 75 Voting Members are proof that there is a growing interest in Moraine protection over the long term. Our circle of friends is growing.

With the assistance of willing land donors we embarked on an innovative "Neighbour to Neighbour" program that gives a forum for those who have undertaken protection efforts, to talk about their own interests and values on the Moraine. When protection becomes the "normal" thing to do, our time will have been well spent. We speak for ourselves, and our actions are speaking for us.

During our review of the Trust's strategic direction in 2011, Directors, staff and supporters recommitted to further strengthening our position on Moraine protection. We know what we want to be.

A planned and thoughtful approach to the Trust's work will be implemented throughout 2012 to ensure that ambitious targets for protection, stewardship, outreach and

fundraising continue to be met while we maintain and expand partnerships with individual landowners and other partners in protecting the Moraine.

Our energy, enthusiasm, skills and ability to reach our goals, like that of a young teen, are at a critical stage, tested and ready to be further proven. There are many who believed in the Trust's early tentative steps. We look forward to working together as we mature to become the backbone of a well protected future generation.

Patricia Short-Gallé,
President, Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust



Board Orientation

Finance and Audit Committee

This committee was established towards the end of 2011 to assist the Board in monitoring financial activity and reporting.

The committee had a pre-audit meeting with the Auditors and have reviewed the 2011 audited financial statements with the Auditors and the Executive Director before presentation to the Board.

OAK RIDGES MORaine LAND TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2011

	General	Land	Stewardship	Total fund	
	Fund	Fund	Fund	2011	2010
Current assets:					
Cash	\$ 55,089	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55,089	\$ 34,579
Investments (note 10)	90,887	-	130,000	220,887	232,099
Accounts receivable	12,703	-	-	12,703	130,414
HST receivable	21,551	-	-	21,551	13,398
Prepaid expenses and deposits	6,470	-	-	6,470	9,060
	<u>186,700</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>130,000</u>	<u>316,700</u>	<u>419,550</u>
Capital assets:					
Office equipment	13,780	-	-	13,780	13,780
Less: accumulated amortization	<u>13,780</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,780</u>	<u>13,780</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Land trust assets (note 3)	<u>-</u>	<u>15,076,430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,076,430</u>	<u>15,082,030</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 186,700</u>	<u>\$ 15,076,430</u>	<u>\$ 130,000</u>	<u>\$ 15,393,130</u>	<u>\$ 15,501,580</u>
Current liabilities:					
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 8)	\$ 15,203	\$ 23,763	\$ -	\$ 38,966	\$ 72,607
Deferred contributions (note 5)	-	-	-	-	159,678
Current portion of mortgage payable (Note 4)	-	-	-	-	3,627
	<u>15,203</u>	<u>23,763</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,966</u>	<u>235,912</u>
Long-term liabilities:					
Mortgage payable (note 4)	-	-	-	-	80,486
Net assets	<u>171,497</u>	<u>15,052,667</u>	<u>130,000</u>	<u>15,354,164</u>	<u>15,185,182</u>
	<u>\$ 186,700</u>	<u>\$ 15,076,430</u>	<u>\$ 130,000</u>	<u>\$ 15,393,130</u>	<u>\$ 15,501,580</u>
Approved on behalf of the board			_____	Director	
			_____	Director	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

OAK RIDGES MORAINÉ LAND TRUST
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Land Fund</u>	<u>Stewardship Fund</u>	<u>Total fund</u>	
				2011	2010
Revenue:					
Grants and subsidies	\$ 286,230	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 286,230	\$ 294,129
Donations	168,558			168,558	54,104
Fundraising events	32,592	-	-	32,592	45,285
Rental income	16,800	-	-	16,800	18,200
Investment and other	5,802	-	-	5,802	2,197
	<u>509,982</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>509,982</u>	<u>413,915</u>
Total revenue					
Expenses:					
Land securement	140,263	-	-	140,263	172,342
Administrative salaries	53,078	-	-	53,078	40,687
Fundraising expenses	45,510	-	-	45,510	50,850
Office and administration	27,980	-	-	27,980	27,952
Events, outreach and education	35,476	-	-	35,476	25,316
Stewardship and monitoring	27,422	-	-	27,422	17,286
Amortization	5,600	-	-	5,600	5,600
Interest on long-term debt	2,995	-	-	2,995	5,305
Rental expenses	2,676	-	-	2,676	3,091
	<u>341,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>341,000</u>	<u>348,429</u>
Excess of (expenses over revenues) revenue over expenses					
	168,982	-	-	168,982	65,486
Net assets, beginning of year	171,296	14,953,886	60,000	15,185,182	14,108,476
Internally restricted (note 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Endowments	-	-	-	-	1,011,220
Interfund transfers (note 6)	<u>(168,781)</u>	<u>98,781</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 171,497</u>	<u>\$ 15,052,667</u>	<u>\$ 130,000</u>	<u>\$ 15,354,164</u>	<u>\$ 15,185,182</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Land and Stewardship Program

The Land and Stewardship Committee identifies, reviews and recommends significant moraine properties for securement. Additionally we ensure annual stewardship is in place for all protected properties held by the Trust and overview annual monitoring schedules.

The Land Trust's 37 properties amount to 3,317 acres under protection. At close of 2011, there were eight Trust owned nature reserves and 29 registered conservation agreements on other lands. Many are acquired under the Canada Ecological Gifts Program – some jointly with moraine partners. Our Strategic Plan goal is to acquire another 20 significant properties from 2012 to 2016.

The Land and Stewardship Committee, a mix of Directors and volunteer experts, met formally five times. Informal discussions, site visits and participation in both securement and stewardship projects round out the “other” involvement of our active committee.

Our Land Stewardship activities included the following in 2011:

- Conducted and prepared monitoring reports for 30 properties, the most in a single year since our first property was secured in 2001.
- Trust Directors attended annual property monitoring site visits with the Stewardship Manager and volunteer property stewards.
- Property Stewards were added to the Trust volunteer roster.
- Five Management Plans were prepared, updated or reviewed.
- A Rocha Canada and the Land Trust undertook projects at StarCliff Nature Reserve.
- Monitoring of Protected Properties policy was developed, and received Board approval.
- Work was initiated on a “Statement of Stewardship Principles for Nature Reserves”.
- Advice was provided to easement partners on stewardship projects.

Land Securement continued in 2011 with the following outcomes:

- Obtained final approvals from Eco-Gifts Canada for the Emery donation.
- Discharged the StarCliff Nature Reserve mortgage (acquired in 2005).
- Undertook a volunteer supported archiving of all property documents.
- Reviewed and supported updating of all property negotiations underway.
- Identified priorities for update of the Land Securement and Disposition Policy.
- Worked closely with other Committees and Staff to support new funding and outreach including Neighbour to Neighbour events which enrich our securement network.

Among Ontario Land Trust Alliance members, ORMLT now holds the most conservation easements. The Committee recognizes the continual need for annual infusion of new files and active negotiations in order to successfully secure more property agreements and meet Strategic Plan targets.

Communications and Outreach Committee

The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust has a number of key stakeholders who need to be reached with clear and compelling communications about the importance of the Oak Ridges Moraine and the value that the Trust provides in conserving this critical natural resource. ORMLT develops and implements communication and public outreach activities that support the key stewardship and securement activities of the Trust as well as the ongoing fundraising efforts.

To this end, the Communications and Outreach Committee was reconstituted in September 2011. Despite the Committee's three year hiatus, the Trust's communication and outreach efforts continued unabated over the intervening years due to the efforts of staff and volunteers.

While the Committee spent its first few months of re-emergence establishing priorities and developing its 2012 Work Plan, the Trust did complete several key activities in 2011 including:

- An update, redesign and re-launch of the Trust's web site.
- Publication of the 2011 Spring and Fall newsletters.
- The development of program overviews, fact sheets and promotional materials to aid in Trust outreach, including the Stewardship Campaign.
- Two successful Neighbour to Neighbour events.
- A recognition ceremony celebrating the securement and protection of the Rooke Property, and
- A number of special events designed to reach out to municipalities, special interest clubs and associations, and educators.

The responses to our outreach activities have clearly demonstrated that we are successfully reaching our key audiences. Our presence at networking events has resulted in adding further support from local landowners and our many partners in protecting the Moraine. The Committee members, and the Trust's staff and many volunteers, are committed to continuing this work and completing a very active and successful 2012.



Gerri Lynn O'Connor, Mayor of Uxbridge, and Frank Shaw



Helena Jaczek, MPP Oak Ridges/Markham and Gwynneth Rooke, Land Donor

2011 Fundraising Program

This was the biggest year ever for fundraising of the Trust! The \$1 Million Stewardship Campaign continued throughout 2011, capitalizing on the connections of the Hon. H.N. (Hal) Jackman as Campaign Chair.

Notable fundraising activity in 2011:

- Prospecting work for major gifts, corporate donations and foundations amounted to \$2.7 million in requests.
- Over \$200,000 has been received or committed (two multi-year grants were received).
- The Trust was accepted for participation in a mentoring program with Give Green Canada with a focus on refinement of the planned giving program.
- New techniques were used in the year-end appeal netting higher than usual returns.
- The York Community Foundation Stewardship Endowment Fund, matching contributions 1:1 up to \$20,000, remains in place to “double” giving until the end of 2012.
- The “Ride for the Moraine” fundraising event raised both funds and awareness about the Moraine from a motorcycle perspective.
- Donations by 100% of staff and board illustrate support for and belief in the work of the Trust.

A 10 year partnership with the Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto and the Charles Sauriol Conservation Dinner ended in 2011. The Trust has been an active partner in this dinner with \$400,000 in profits. A key challenge for the Trust will be finding a signature event to replace this unfettered revenue, used largely to support operational expenses.



As has been referenced in many of our fundraising materials, only 2% of charitable giving by Canadians is directed to environmental causes. It is our hope that supporters of the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust will continue to give generously to support our work into the future.

There is a Will, And a Way

“Every year I sit down with my kids and we decide jointly which charities we will support,” says Susan Walmer, known to most as the Executive Director of the Trust since 2009. Before that however she was a volunteer and Board member.

And when it came to estate planning, as part of their family discussions, Susan, Mark and Janine agreed the Land Trust would be named as a beneficiary in her will.

Janine and Mark are very supportive of the decision, *“I am so proud of Mom stating right up front how much she wants to give as a bequest through her will. Mark and I will know exactly how to respect her wishes when the time comes.”*

Doing your estate planning and including a favourite charity in your will is a relatively straightforward action. And you don't need to have a sizable estate to do so. You can also benefit from a reduction in taxes. There is a joy in knowing you have taken care of important matters ahead of time.

There are many ways to discover how to include Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust in your will. There is a lot of helpful information on our website www.oakridgesmoraine.org, or you can contact the office by telephone to find out more.

Bequests are personal matters and we always suggest you seek professional advice before completing your estate plan.



Susan Walmer and daughter Janine Photo courtesy of Jeff Young, coolgradphotos.org

Report of the Governance Committee

Created by motion of the Board of Directors on May 29 2011, the purpose of the Committee is to make recommendations to the Board on matters of board recruitment, orientation and training. The committee also addresses program and policy review. The Committee meets monthly and has undertaken the following:

- **Board Recruitment** - An interview process was undertaken resulting in four individuals being recommended for appointment in 2012.
- **Committee Recruitment** - Program Committees were established or reinvigorated in 2011 with new board members and expert volunteers.
- **Board Orientation Session** - An orientation session was held July 6th and supplemented with other learning or training activities at subsequent Board meetings.
- **2011 Work Plan and Core Staffing** - Mid-year review of 2011 Work Plan and core staffing needs was undertaken in conjunction with the 2011 budget approval.
- **Implementing AYO** - As an outcome of the 2010 “Assessing Your Organization” exercise the committee has initiated policy review and arranged for the review of the Strategic Plan.
- **Strategic Plan Review** - Conducted a facilitated Board/Staff review of the 2006 Strategic Plan. An updated Strategic Plan received Board approval on December 7.
- **2012 Work Plan** - The 2012 work plan was developed in consultation with staff and Committee Chairs, guided by the approved Strategic Plan.
- **2012 Core Staffing** - Reviewed staff workload analysis for 2012 annual work plan.
- **Meetings and Minutes** - Worked to ensure appropriate notice and advance circulation of agendas, staff reports and committee minutes.



- **Liability & Risk Insurance** - Arranged for policy review and upgrade.

The Governance Committee looks forward to further work with the Board, Committees and Staff to achieve mutual goals, building on progress and success achieved to date.

Photo: Assessing Your Organization

Without Them We Would Be Nothing

Volunteers. Like so many other organizations the Land Trust could not operate without them. Throughout 2011 the Trust's volunteers contributed over 1,319 hours – and that's just the basic recorded hours.

When standard hourly rates are calculated against the type of work taken on by volunteers the "value" of this time amounts to over \$34,330. That is time freely given by people who care about protection of the Oak Ridges Moraine, who care about ensuring that this organization runs smoothly. Volunteers care and spread the word about how land owners can ensure that everyone benefits from cleaner, abundant water and the beauty of the landscape that is home to so many diverse species. That time is freely given by choosing to become involved.

During the early part of the year the Land Trust's Volunteer program benefited from support for a Volunteer Coordinator through the Ontario Trillium Foundation's grant for the Moraine for Life Working Together project.

The Land Trust could not have made it through 2011 without input from caring volunteers. For years past, and years to come, it will remain so. To all; a heart-felt "Thank you" – without you, the Land Trust could not continue.

In addition to the Trust's Volunteer Board of Directors listed elsewhere in this report, the Trust acknowledges the support of the following individuals who graciously volunteered any amount of time in 2011:

Andrew Wilton
Audrey Fullerton
Bill McMartin
Bruce Cohen
Crystal Leung
David Fayle
Frieda Baldwin
Ildi Connor
Joan Burek
Kent Dinning
Lissa Dwyer
Mark Fernandes
Mark Williamson
Mary Asselstine
Mohammed Hussain
Nancee Webb
Paul Abell
Stefan Andic
Suzanne Reiner
Vanessa Pickett



Executive Director with Volunteers Lissa, Vanessa and Crystal

And 37 individuals who helped with a joint stewardship project on Lynde Creek through Ontario Streams!



Teachers Take a Hike

The Ontario Association for Geographic and Environmental Education held its annual provincial workshop at St. Andrew's College in Aurora in November of 2011. The Land Trust was asked to offer one of four field trips for participants.

"We knew the lack of leaves would be perfect for observing the Moraine's topography and features. The warm weather was a bonus." says Judy Gilchrist, ORMLT's Resource Development Officer, who led the hike but spent considerable time standing still responding to great questions about Moraine issues.

Fifteen teachers from Thunder Bay, Ottawa, London, Sudbury and throughout the Greater Toronto Area hiked the Mary Lake section of the Oak Ridges Trail. Throughout the hike, they discussed the work of the Trust, importance of Moraine protection and how they could work the knowledge into current curriculum.

Whitney Elliott, a faculty member at St. Andrew's and a member of the conference organizing committee took part in the hike and recalls, "While driving to the hike location, participants were astonished at this amazing green space, right here, so close! The relief map we saw at the beginning was really great for helping to conceptualize what we were in for. It's one thing to stand in a classroom, but for the participants to be able to place themselves on the moraine - we were really able to connect with experiencing it in context."

The phrase, *to know the Moraine is to love it*, used in many Trust materials lately, can be personified with this group of dedicated Geography teachers. This first-hand experience with the real thing will be re-communicated to their students in a much more meaningful way - because they got to know it.

2011 Donor Appreciation

Thank you to all of our generous donors of 2011 - you have made this the Trust's biggest year yet!

For general donations:

Alison Atkins
Ann Rexe
Brian Buckles
Carol Cooper
Henry N. R. Jackman
Hildegard Sperling
James Rowan
Jean Sellers
John & Rhonda Sanders
John Clarry
Judy Gilchrist
Ralph Fernando
Tony Usher
West Humber Naturalists

Those who remembered friends and loved ones:

Arthur & Judy Craig
David Dunlap
Don Prince
Ed Millar
Jane Underhill
Klaus Wehrenberg
Susan Walmer
Suzanne Reiner
Tom & Virginia Atkins

In support of the Trust's \$1 Million Stewardship Campaign:

Alastair Gillespie
Alison Atkins
Andrew Wilton
Ann Rexe
Anne Rosevear
Charles & Janet Atkinson
Charles H. Ivey Foundation
David & Janet Fayle
David MacIntosh
Don Prince
EJLB Foundation
Eleanor Kingston
Erika Ivanic

Forrest Rowden
Frank Shaw
Gary Carmichael
George Hume
J.P. Bickell Foundation
Jackman Foundation 1964
John & Pat McCutcheon
Charitable Foundation
Laura Rupprecht
Lisa Tessier
Lissa Dwyer
Mary Dubé
Patricia Short-Gallé
Patrick and Barbara Keenan
Foundation
Pilates North
Steve & Ann Herlihey
Susan Walmer
Tom Atkins
The Catherine and Maxwell
Meighen Foundation
The Dominion of Canada
General Insurance Company
The Empire Life Insurance
Company
The McLean Foundation
The W. Garfield Weston
Foundation

Ride for the Moraine Participants to the \$1 Million Stewardship Campaign:

Ashmor Yields Occupational
& H & S Inc
Charles Bennett
Chris Johnston
Corry Vanderhyden
Dan Underwood
Danielle Stockley
Dave Gibbons
Derek Cunningham
Diane Bennett-Jones
Dirk Vreugdenhil

Don Broomfield
Eleanor Todd
Fern McCoy
Gord Rolling
Ineo Studios
Jim Marshall
Jo Erickson
Joanne Raines
John Pickard
Karen Rynard
Liz Aschwanden
Mark Fernandes
Mary Dubé
Mike Denyck
Pat Molloy
Peter Doling
Reid Irwin
Rick Proteau
Rick Tacker
Roadside Auto Service Ltd.
Robert Hughes
Ryan DeMerchant
Scott Saunders
Steven Dubé
Tom Choi
Werner Rosskopf

In response to our Year End Appeal:

Ian & Wendy Sinclair
James Dillane
James Kamstra
Jennifer Lewington
John & Muriel Anderson
Judy Gilchrist
Kim Bilous
LGL Environmental
Consultants
Rein Lepik
Rett Dunham
Rodger & Nancy Cummins
Susan Low-Beer
Susan Walmer