

ANNUAL REPORT | 2018



OUR VISION

The Kensington Conservancy will work to inspire all members of the St. Joseph Channel community to embrace positive conservation values that will promote the protection and preservation of natural ecosystems for all generations.

OUR MISSION

The mission of The Kensington Conservancy is the establishment, development, maintenance and management of nature reserves and programs in the St. Joseph Channel for the conservation and preservation of the natural ecosystems.



ABOUT US

The Kensington Conservancy is a land trust that works to protect lands and waters by purchasing property, accepting donations of land, and through voluntary conservation agreements. These protection methods are all aimed at protecting our precious landscape in perpetuity.

The Kensington Conservancy believes that conservation and preservation can be achieved through the good stewardship practices of all property owners. We work with local landowners, farmers, governments, schools and other organizations to develop programs that will promote greener and less intensive development, best land and water management practices, invasive species control, and low impact recreational activities.

Our membership includes residents of Canada and the United States who represent various interests including permanent and seasonal residents, government, business and the scientific and academic communities. As one of North America’s few bi-national land trusts, The Kensington Conservancy is a registered charity in both Canada and the United States. The conservancy received Canadian charitable status in 2006, making 2018 our twelfth year of operation.

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BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

I felt the conservancy came into a new phase of maturity this past year, and with this change came a great deal of opportunity for us to strengthen what we currently do and look to expand our horizons and vision. The TKC community was hard at work last year, working more strongly and effectively together than ever. As a result, we were able to act on the opportunities that kept coming our way, while producing outcomes that left everyone feeling good.

Last August, TKC held a book education evening around Dan Egan's very compelling book, "The Death and Life of the Great Lakes." Deke Welles, a TKC Legacy Circle member, led the event and was supported by Corrina Barrett of the Invasive Species Centre. It served as a wonderful example of our community coming together, learning some new things, and engaging in a robust and fascinating discussion about a challenging environmental situation.

We are tickled that indoor summer events at the centre will be more comfortable this year thanks to a soon to be installed, sustainable, green, geothermal air-conditioning and heating system. All of this will be entirely funded by a capital grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. We also have a new outdoor deck with beautiful views of the Boyer meadow to the south. And, if you're coming by foot from town or the Desbarats dock, you can now cross over our new footbridge and take a shorter route to our front door.

Stage two of our trail system that had been started last year on the Boyer Preserve is now fully complete and joined with the adjacent Foster Parkland and Walking Trails. We are very grateful to Dave Moule for his superb work building the trails for us. We're also blessed that he's returning this year to complete stage three of the trails which will connect the whole trail system to the centre.

We're also invigorated this year after following through on something we planned diligently for last year, which was to have another strategic planning retreat so we could evolve our mission in light of our changed (for the better!) circumstances. Our goal was to realign TKC based on our stronger foundations and look to expand our mission in an appropriately and reasonably thought-out way. As a result, our primary service area has expanded further to the west and south of our past boundaries. We welcome all the residents of these areas to our community and are excited that we'll be working with them to protect land and waters and foster good stewardship practices.

Myself and all of us on the TKC board of directors wish to thank our members, donors and partners for a year of much accomplishment. We look forward to another year of progress and the satisfaction that comes with being a part of the crucially important work we do.

See you on the trails!

DAVID **HOFMANN**, TKC BOARD **CHAIR**



A MESSAGE FROM OUR **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

There was a time when Desbarats and other local villages and towns were all very independent. People didn't often travel away from them. Given the beauty, the ability to work where you live, shop locally, and the fact that your family was just around the corner, why would you leave? Those days are gone. Families are spread far and wide, work is harder to find locally, and we no longer can get away with only buying what we need from local shopkeepers; we expect and want more. We now live in a much larger, often global community. We can choose to work remotely, travel far and wide easily, while our electronic devices keep us connected to family near and far.

How does all of this change Desbarats and the area surrounding it? We continue to have summer residents whose families have come for most of the last century. Larger branches of local families are returning home. We also welcome those who come from around the world, finding and making this their new home. All of these things allow us to have a very diverse and even global community.

Being a more global community brings different views and global sized concerns. We get first-hand accounts of political unrest from around the world, harsh climate events, famine, and of lives lived in cities where populations get caught up in mounting urban sprawl. These

things remind us that our humble home here is a sacred and special place, something we need to vigilantly cherish and protect. We here at The Kensington Conservancy, with your help, are working hard to do just that!

And we don't do it alone. We work with you, our members and supporters, along with other organizations who share our mission, as well as with others whose purpose is very different. By working together, we increase our success, their success, and in the process make a community that can handle change and celebrate diversity. The creation of great partnerships has always been a big part of what TKC has been so successful at doing and our door is always open.

To all our members, when you are here in the area, talk to our partners and make sure they know how grateful we all are for their

partnership and openness to work with us. Let them know how much we appreciate their commitment to keeping this an extraordinary place for all.

Our Partners

Johnson Township, Remember When Algoma, Bruce Mines and District Museum, St. Joseph Island Hunters and Anglers Association, Township of St. Joseph, Manitoulin Streams, Algoma Highlands Conservancy, Ontario Land Trust Alliance, Clean North, Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry, Sault Ste. Marie Field Naturalists, Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology, Algoma University, Lake Superior Watershed Conservancy, Algoma District Birding

TANNA ELLIOTT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



TREASURER'S REPORT

2018 was another excellent year for the financial strength of The Kensington Conservancy. Your donations and support for our organization enabled us to meet all of our financial goals and operating objectives. Additionally, the exchange rate for US to Canadian funds continued to be very advantageous.

In 2017, we established several investment funds to assure that we would be able to meet our property stewardship requirements and to promote the future financial stability of The Kensington Conservancy. Our Endowment Fund is now fully invested in the US through Charles Schwab. This fund is allocated with an 80/20 split between US Treasuries and equity funds. Our Stewardship Fund is fully invested in Canada

through the RBC Investment Group and the Northern Credit Union. This fund is fully invested in Guaranteed Investment Certificates (GICs) and is laddered over five years to provide the greatest return. Our investments are reviewed by the investment committee on a semi-annual basis and revisions are made as needed.

In April of 2019, a strategic planning meeting was held in Toronto. Board, staff and consultants worked together over three days to develop a plan for the next five years. Goals were set and work plans established. The meeting cost was fully funded by income derived from our Endowment Fund. No member donations were used to pay for any expenses associated with this meeting.

Although we have made major strides in strengthening our financial future, please remember that The Kensington Conservancy's annual operating budget is funded primarily by member donations. Our annual budget covers staff payroll, administrative costs, program development/monitoring, and basic operating expenses. Our annual appeal, which takes place in the fall of each year, funds the operating budget for the following year. Please note that endowment fund and stewardship fund income may be used to cover basic operating expenses, however the principal in each case is restricted and cannot be accessed for this purpose.

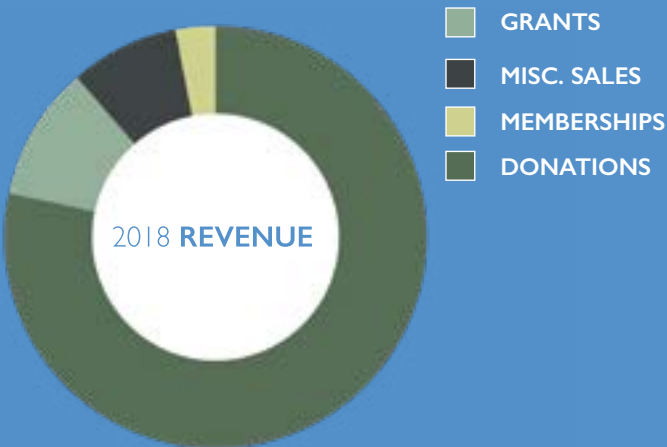
Grants are specific in nature and cannot be used to fund our annual operating budget. Funds from a grant may be used only for the project for which the grant was given. Grants assist The Kensington Conservancy in achieving its primary goals, but do not add to our economic stability.

Thus, as you can see, your individual donations continue to be the life's blood of the conservancy. Without your financial support we would not be able to continue our activities to conserve and protect the lands and water of the St. Joseph Channel for future generations. Thank you for your past generosity and with your continued support we look forward to serving the needs of this wonderful area for years to come.

RICK SIPE, TREASURER

TOTAL REVENUE

GRANTS	28,113
MISC. SALES	22,766
MEMBERSHIPS	7,665
DONATIONS	214,109
TOTAL	272,653

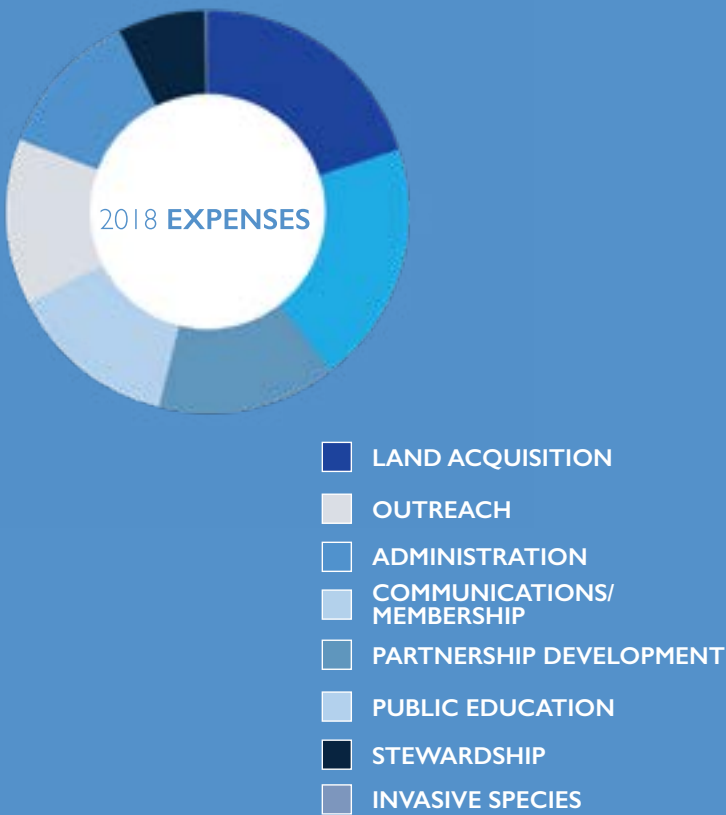


INVESTMENTS

		2018 YEAR-END BALANCE	NON-RESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS
STEWARDSHIP FUND	CAD	307,949	7,949	300,000
ENDOWMENT FUND	USD	616,380	10,820	605,560
OPERATIONAL RESERVE	CAD	42,000	42,000	

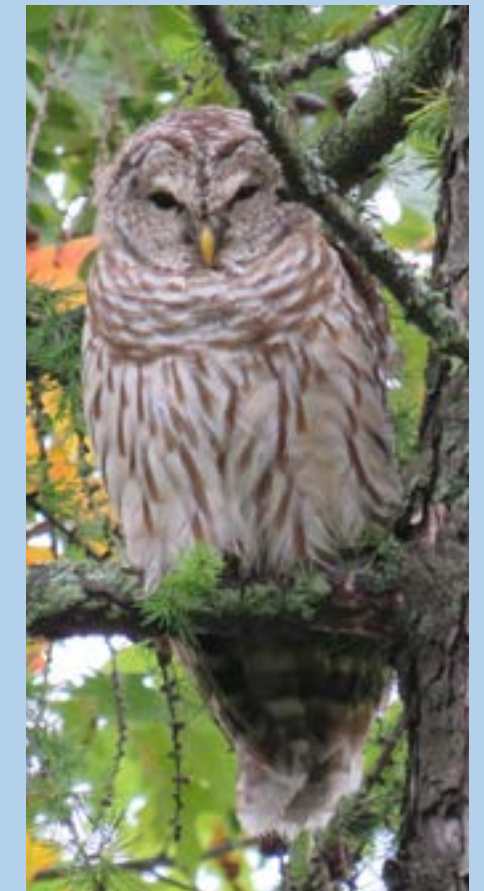
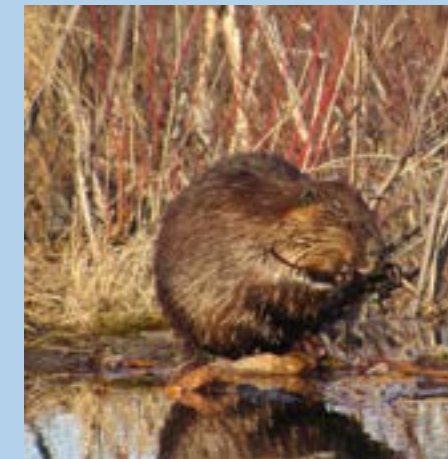
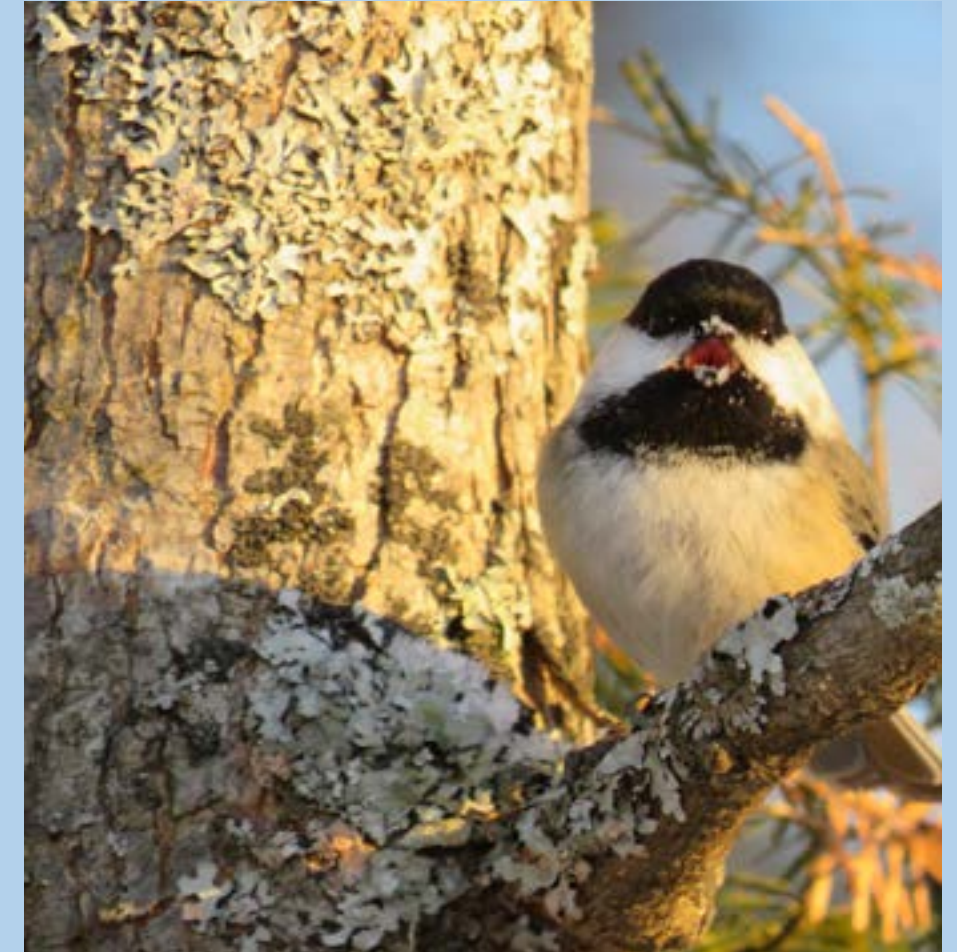
TOTAL EXPENSES

LAND ACQUISITION	52,324
OUTREACH	36,108
ADMINISTRATION	32,706
COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBERSHIP	54,587
PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	38,844
PUBLIC EDUCATION	36,908
STEWARDSHIP	18,398
INVASIVE SPECIES	466
TOTAL	270,340



“ You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of a difference you want to make. ”

~ JANE GODDALL



A YEAR IN REVIEW 2018

- Expanded the Foster Parkland & Walking Trails to include the Boyer Preserve and 1.7 km in additional trails.
- Hosted the Sustain Algoma Expo, welcoming 35 vendors and 750+ visitors.
- Held a TKC Book Club meeting to review *The Death of the Great Lakes*, with facilitator Deke Welles and guest speaker Corrina Barrett of the Invasive Species Centre.
- Welcomed Judy Brennen to the staff complement at The Kensington Conservancy office.
- Planted hundreds of trees and shrubs along Stobie Creek as part of our Great Lake Guardian Community Fund grant through the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change.
- Hosted, in partnership with the St. Joseph Island Hunters and Anglers Association, the second annual Explorer Summer Day Camp.
- Received a Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry grant worth \$17,000 to complete our Desbarats Species at Risk Bird Inventory, Outreach, and Education Project.
- Created the first TKC Calendar, and sold over 140 copies of it.
- Increased our membership by more than 50 members.
- Spent our first full year in the Kensington Conservation Centre.
- Said our final goodbye to our long-time member, supporter, and original board member Emilie Welles.
- Enrolled 19 children in our TKC Junior Explorer Program.
- Hosted our first Birding Big Day, where we raised \$650 for a local bird conservation project.
- Welcomed Greg Goodmurphy from Central Algoma Secondary School and Curtis Belisle from Sault College as co-op students.
- Recorded 34 species and over 2200 birds during the Desbarats Christmas Bird Count.



LEGACY CIRCLE

The following individuals have identified that they've made bequests to The Kensington Conservancy in their Estate Plans:

Mary and Donna Deplonty
Tina and Terry Haight
David Hofmann
Virginia Jordan

Mason Phelps
Peggy Phelps
David Welles, Jr
Peter Welles

Is The Kensington Conservancy already in your will, trust or other estate plans? If so, thank you! Please let us know about your plans because it helps us plan for the future. Call or email Tanna Elliott, Executive Director, and she will add your name to the Legacy Circle. Your gift may remain anonymous, if you like.

Don't have a will? You're not alone! Now is a great time to start planning, and please consider including a bequest to The Kensington Conservancy in your estate plans. Contact Tanna for suggested "bequest language" and The Kensington Conservancy TAX ID for you to share with your attorney.

A legacy gift in one's estate will help sustain The Kensington Conservancy and its ability to keep its promise to preserve the land and waters of the St. Joseph Channel for all generations.

“The Kensington Conservancy's ability to preserve and protect the streams, shorelines, wetlands, habitat and species within the St. Joseph Channel is critical. It is a wonderful legacy for future generations. My mother and I have left irrevocable bequests in our wills to help foster a continued love of the area. ”

~ MASON PHELPS



WHAT YOU CAN DO

The cause of protecting plants and wildlife is not something for land trusts like The Kensington Conservancy alone. You can lend a helping hand, too. Whether as a landowner, an educator, or a citizen scientist, there is plenty the public can do. If there is anything else you are curious about, please do not hesitate to contact The Kensington Conservancy office and we will do our best to help you.

Protect Species at Risk

Many species of plants and animals are at risk in Ontario. If you have seen a species at risk, please report it! For many species listed as threatened and endangered, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has developed recovery strategies to help species recover or to mitigate further loss. The Ontario Government and other organizations have funding available that could help you protect species at risk on your property.

Become a Citizen Scientist

It can be very expensive and time consuming for scientists and technicians to collect data in order to estimate wildlife populations. Therefore, many volunteer based programs have been created so that you can contribute, such as iNaturalist, eBird, Ontario Reptile & Amphibian Atlas, and the Great Lakes Marsh Monitoring Program. Get involved in one (or more) of these programs and contribute to science!

Report Invasive Species

If you think you've seen an invasive species, make a report through EDDMapS Ontario or call the Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711. You can learn about and how to identify invasive species from our partners at the Invasive Species Centre on their website at invasivespeciescentre.ca.

Practice Sustainable Forest Management

Since wood is used so much in our daily lives, it would be impossible to halt the practice of cutting down trees. However, there are ways it can be done sustainably in order to make sure there are trees left for the future and wildlife species are affected as little as possible. As a landowner, you can develop a Forest Management Plan for your property, which will also help reduce your taxes!

For more information on each of these areas, please go to the TKC website: www.kensingtonconservancy.org.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Kensington Conservancy Board of Directors boasts a broad cross section of the local community. It has citizens from Canada and from the United States, permanent and summer residents, those with long family histories and, those with new experiences in this vibrant community. Everyone comes to the table with a genuine love of land and water and a wish for future generations to enjoy the same treasures. Listed below are the members of the board of directors.

Executive Committee

- David Hofmann
- Hugh MacDonald
- Alice Hill
- Richard Warren
- Richard Sipe
- President
- 1st Vice President
- 2nd Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Directors

- Sarah Vincenzo
- Andrew Welles
- Lisa Derickx
- Lindsey Palumbo
- Merrill Warren
- Terry Haight
- John Hollingsworth

Board of Advisors

- Holmes Morrison
- Adele Simmons
- Georgia Welles

Staff

- Tanna Elliott
- Carter Dorscht
- Judy Brennen
- Executive Director
- Project Manager
- Office Manager



ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

OSPREY	>\$10,000	Campbell, Sheila
Boden, Linda		Celio, Bess & Canderlario
Simmons, Liesel & Ian		Chamberlin, Ann
Welles, Georgia		Clark, Jennifer
Welles, Maud & Jeff		Clark, Kit
LOON	\$5,000-\$9,999	Clement, Lorn
The VIYU Foundation		Cohen, Joyce & Robert
BEAR	\$2,500-\$4,999	Corcoran, Meri & Neil
The Douglass Foundation		Corporation of the Township of St. Joseph
Haight, Tina & Terry		Cosbey, Ginny & Jim
Hofmann, David		Coventry, Susan
Hollingsworth, Laurie & John		Cross, Lucia & David
DEER	\$1,000-\$2,499	Dalton, Martha & Tom
Bowen, Calvine & Charles		Dann, Ashley
Erling Lagerholm Living Trust		Dann, Donna & Jake
Ferguson, Harwood		Dann, Jesse
Freeman, Marion & Ellis, Corson		Dann, Katie
Fort, Debby		Dann, Lindsey
Hall, Janet		Dann, Marion (Taddy)
Hodgkins, Bondy & Tom		Dann, Mike
Jordan, Ginny		Davie, Samantha & Barrett
Marsters, Courtney & Steve		Dearing, Inge
Morrison,Antoinette & Holmes		Desbarats Cottage Care Inc.
Schrank Family Fund		Doering, Sarah & Fred
Sipe, Debbie & Richard		Donohue, Patrick
The Donnelley Foundation		Dorscht, Melanie & Ron
The Lumpkin Foundation		Dowdy, Tony
Welles,Alex & Andrew		Dunnan, Calvine & Doug
Welles, Hope & David		Dunning, Paula
Welles, Peter		Dutkiewicz, David
Wulsin, Drausin		Earle, Nathan
OTTER	\$500-\$999	Elliott, Tanna & Lynn
Foster Miller, Peggy & Miller, Glenn		Ellis, Bill
Jewett, Ellen & Kauffman, Richard		Ellis, Connie & Corson
Verburg, Jill & Brad		Ellis Bruckmann, Laurie & Bruckmann, Bruce
MALLARD	<\$500	Ellis, Libby & Ruckman, Stuart
Allen, Nancy & Jerry		Elting, Jody
Arthurs, Jeanne & Ed		Elting, Maria & Victor (Tor)
Beach, Andrea & Jeff		Elting,Victor III
Bell,Alex & Wetteroth, Ron		Evans, Claire & Marshall
Bell, Cici & Buxton, Jim		Faganely, Lori & Robert
Bloomer, Kimmy		Foster, Paula & Andy
Bondar,Aldona & Arthur		Foster, Peter
Bouffard, Diane & Michel		Francis,Anthony
Brennen, Judy & Jim		Gill, James
Buchen, Elizabeth		Gjos, Marie & Gary
Buchen, Shelley		Glawson, Hillary & Dallas
Bullock, Bebe & Bill		Good, Barb
Byvank, Sandy		Good, Nigel
Caldwell, Helene & Errol		Grannis, Jane & Wetmore, Terry
Campbell, Levin		Grannis, Pat & Balky

Harry, Shirley
Hergott, Lynne & Paul
Hershey, Harriett & John
Heyworth, Christine & Jim
Hill,Alice & Jim
Hines, Eleanor
Hines, Lucy & Paul
Hodgkins, Debbie & Tom
Hoff, Thomas
Hoyt, Freddie
Hutton, Clark
Irawan,Andri
Irwin, Marg & Ronald
Jenkins, Mark
Johnson, Tom
Kaylor, Phoebe & Tom
Kettles, Michele
Kincaid, Mary Lynn
King, Elma & Joseph
King, Joseph F
Kingery, Elizabeth & Bill
Kite, Emily & Matthew
Kite, Peggy
Kite, Suzanne & Tiger
Kresin, Jennifer
Kroetsch, Jerome
Ladell, Mary Therese & Thomas
Lambert, Suzanne & Tim
Lang, Susan & LeSage, Patrick
Lang-Weir,Andrew
Lee, Emilie
Lovgren, Claudia
Lumpkin, Chiara & Ben
MacDonald-Wilson, Jeannie
MacDonald, Kim & Hugh
MacDonald, Linda & Kirby, Eric
MacDougall, Charlotte & Murray, Hugh
Marquardt, Martica
Martin, Linda
Martin, Scott
McGorman, Don
McGuffin, Joanie
McKay, Diena & Lawrence
Meades, Bill
Meyer, Connie & Alden
Miller, Chuck
Montgomery, Rowena
Mossing, Marty
Moule, Dave
Murray, Kathleen
Navarro, Donna
Neal, Ron
Oatis, Carol

Oatis, Katie
Oatis, John
Oatis, Paul
Oien, Lindsey & Dorscht, Carter
Olmstead, Dixie & Jim
Omond, Jan
Palmer, Chuck
Paul, Jean
Peabody, Carey & Isaaks, Ed
Pen, Hooey & Ron
Perry-Kinsman, Michelle
Phelps, Mason
Phelps, Peggy
Poescht, Cornelia
Pook, Debra & Ron
Prickett, Ron
Rigters, Erik
Rilett, John
Robertson, Linda & John
Ryckman-Rooney, Donna
Sadowski, Edward
Sanders, Gary
Scallan, Pamela & Andrew
Schendel, Sally & Logan
Schneider, Mary & Steve
Schrank, Nancy & Douglas
Silverman, Ashley & Justin
Silverman, Caleb

Silverman, Jamie
Silverman, Lydia
Silverman, Ross
Simmons,Adele & John
Simmons, Erica
Sipe,Alison & Chris
Sipe, Charles G. III
Sleeper, Jenny & Mark
Smith, Jane & Lennox
Smith, Maria
St. John, Jane & Ray
St. Joseph Island Horticultural Society
Stevenson, Ginger & Dick
Strothman, Dana & John
Swift, Keith & Martin
Sylvester, Elizabeth
Sylvester, Katherine & Edmund Q.
Taylor, Fred
Taylor,Tina
Tebbetts, Chartis & Edwin
The Bruce Station Horticultural Society
Tisdall, Gayle & Robert
Tisdall-McPhee, Cindy & McPhee, Lee
Trainor, Carol
Vail, Gail & Stephen
VanHouten, Carol & Donald
Vincenzo, Sarah & John
Virtue, Judy

Waddell, Sophia & Matt
Walker,Valerie
Warren,Anita
Warren, Edward
Warren, Merrill
Warren, Peter
Warren, Richard
Warzon, Ginny & Jim
Watson,Anne & Charles
Watterworth, James
Welles, Gerry
Wheeler, Joan & Wells
White, Jamie & Roger
Willoughby, Steve
Wood, Marie
Woods, Sally
Wulsin, Jane & John Jr.
Wulsin, Rosamond
Wulsin,Victoria & Lawson
Zahn, Nora & Gregory
Zayachowski, Christopher



“ Like music and art, love of nature is a common language
that can transcend political or social boundaries. ”

~ JIMMY CARTER



The Kensington
Conservation Centre:

69 Boyer Drive
Desbarats, ON
P0R 1E0

Canada Mailing Address:

The Kensington Conservancy
P.O. Box 127
Desbarats, ON
P0R 1E0

US Mailing Address:

The Kensington Conservancy
736 North Western Avenue
PMB 346
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Phone: 705-782-2200

Email: info@kensingtonconservancy.org

Website: www.kensingtonconservancy.org