

Annual Report 2009



The Kensington Conservancy



OUR VISION

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

OUR CORE VALUES

Relationship between land and people

Healthy Ecosystems

Stewardship

Healthy Habitat for People

Community Building

Economic Vitality

The Kensington Conservancy
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2009 marked a year of continued growth and maturity for The Kensington Conservancy. As an organization, we've reached a new level of stability and proficiency in carrying out our mission of protecting the "Lands and Waters That Define the Desbarats Shore for All Generations". With a number of land protection projects now under our belt, we approach new opportunities with excitement and optimism as opposed to worrying about where we are on the "Land Trust Learning Curve". We've been asked to get involved in more potential opportunities and projects than we have time and resources to take on. We remain focused on our core land protection mission and on those projects that will maximize our conservation impact. A few highlights of the last year are worth noting.

First, the very generous gift of a 40-acre parcel by Maurice and Janet Foster. Given the parcel's location, the conservation impact of this project is far greater than its 40-acre size because its protected status has a positive impact on surrounding properties. Moreover, from both a habitat and views standpoint, this project is absolutely stunning!

Secondly, as has been previously reported, Tanna Elliott has become a member of the Board of Governors of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance ("OLTA"). The Alliance is made up of the 34 land trusts around the Province. The Kensington Conservancy had great representation at the annual "OLTA Gathering", which took place in Barrie this year. Tanna shared her experience as one of the workshop presenters and fellow director Peggy Foster gave a plenary address. I also attended the Gathering along with director's Alice Hill and Hugh MacDonald. The conference was a great learning and networking opportunity for The Kensington Conservancy attendees.

Finally, and perhaps hardest to quantify, the impact that we've had on the entire community over the last year was perhaps most heartening for me. The number of volunteer hours contributed to The Kensington Conservancy was up significantly in 2009. Over 1,000 people attended the Green Expo that we helped organize. The number of office "drop in" visits and field trip attendees rose sharply. Preeminent conservationist Aldo Leopold once said that conservation will never become real and lasting unless it becomes part of the day-to-day practice of people. I'm pleased to report that we've made significant strides fulfilling Leopold's vision and

that the entire community has begun to take the time to stop and think about how our actions impact the lands and waters that we hold so dear.

Peter Welles,
President



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

HILTON BEACH 17TH March, 1931

“The setting sun, approaching darkness, peace and solitude so marked in the late evenings at Kensington. - Listen, and you will hear the patter of feet on the winding road and presently see the picturesque, childish figures looming in the dusk, - their high-pitched voices in debate as to which story it will be tonight. Will it be “The Bears”, or “The Turtles”, or perhaps “The Big Storm”.

However that may be, there is no uncertainty as to the direction in which they are going. They know “Old Mrs. Plummer’s Cottage”, - they know she will be there and waiting, - never has she failed them. Her great love for children is proverbial, not less is her tenderness for all God’s creature, for every living thing in the woods and open spaces. Her wise knowledge of their abode and habits almost uncanny. There were never such stories so replete in kindly deeds, thrilling interest and adventure. That they may appeal with equal interest and delight to the children of to-day as they did to the Kensington youngsters in by-gone years is, I know, all the author asks.”
~GEORGE LEY KING

The wonderful stories told by Mrs. Plummer are still as wonderful as I read them to my granddaughter as when they were read to us all. We still could learn by the great respect and the honour she gave to her animal characters, beautiful flowers and special places. Have you read them lately? She speaks of the wonderful spots we still enjoy today. The question now becomes; will these places still be enjoyed by the generations yet unborn? It is sad to think that invasive species are taking hold in these sensitive places and development is forcing Mrs. **Plummer’s beloved creatures to leave their natural habitat. Kensington Conservancy’s mission** to protect the lands and waters of the Desbarats area continues to need your help if we are to control these devastating impacts.

The Kensington Conservancy in its fourth year has continued to grow at an amazing rate. Our public outreach, stewardship education, and land protection programs continue to grow as we work with members, landowners, other stakeholders and donors.

The development of the Central Algoma Freshwater Coalition has allowed us to reach not only our own membership but also landowners within the watershed whose land use and behaviours have a direct impact on the waters of Lake Huron.

In 2009 we added a substantial 40 acre property to our list of protected land. This property will allow us to protect the neighbouring property by virtue of controlling the development within the watershed of the most easterly boundary of the Kensington Complex, a provincially significant wetland. Maurice and Janet Foster donated this property for us to not only protect but to share with the public its amazing vistas. The Ontario Land Trust Alliance provided us with a grant to assist with the costs associated with the donation of this property. **This property was also our first donation to go through the Environment Canada’s Ecological Gift Program.**

With each new year we raise awareness of the importance of our mission and I look forward to continuing our efforts towards that mission in 2010.

Tanna Elliott

COMMUNITY OUTREACH 2009

2009 saw us partnering in the community on many projects



Biodiversity Day brought elementary schools to Central Algoma Secondary School to learn about wetlands and the impact humans have

Tanna Elliott gives presentations at the Ontario Land Trust Alliance conference in October 2009



Adam Jones volunteered and was later hired to do ecological evaluations on Kensington Conservancy



Volunteer Bob Tisdall assists with a summer clean up on the shores of the Stobie Creek with summer student Rebecca MacDonald.



Tanna Elliott, Adam Jones, Hugh McDonald review boundaries of the Mink Point Project

ARCHIBALD HOMESTEAD 2009

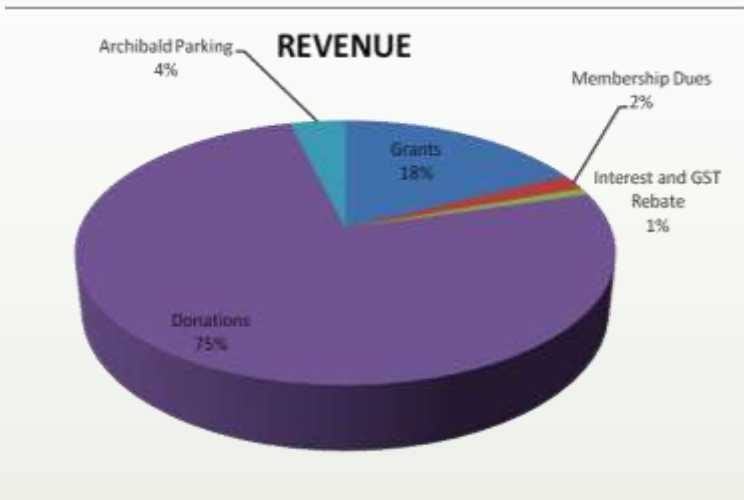
Archibald Property Financial Report

Total Acquisition Costs	\$	438,087
Debt as of December 31, 2008	\$	277,570
2009 Interest on outstanding loan	\$	9,104.00
Loan Repayment in 2009	\$	92,260
Balance owing as of December 31, 2009	\$	194,414

After an extensive environmental cleanup the property has been returned to its 170 acres of natural beauty. With 2700 ft of beautiful undeveloped shoreline, marshes, wetlands, as well as beautiful farmlands this property is a perfect place to walk and enjoy nature. It is again a safe and beautiful natural landscape for birds and wildlife. We continue to fundraise to reduce the debt. With your help the amount to be refinanced in 2011 could be substantially lower.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2009

REVENUE



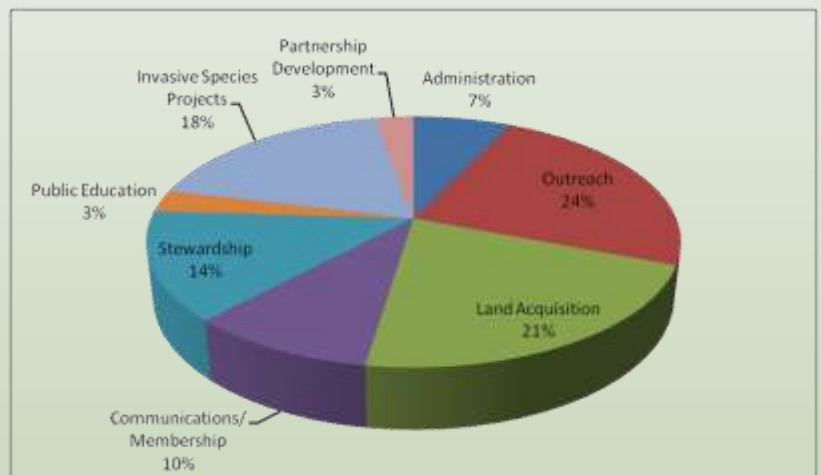
OPERATING SUPPORT

Deferred Income from 2008 :	\$ 24,887.76	20%
Membership Income:	\$ 1,965.00	2%
Donations:	\$ 76,204.75	60%
Parking:	\$ 4,000.00	3%
Grants:	\$ 17,886.00	14%
Flag/Shirt/Map sales:	<u>\$ 1,175.00</u>	1%
	\$126,119.00	100 %

OPERATING EXPENSES

Administration:	\$ 8,285.00	7%
Outreach:	\$ 27,835.00	24%
Land Acquisition:	\$ 25,135.00	21%
Communications/ Membership:	\$ 11,232.00	10%
Stewardship:	\$ 16,350.00	14%
Public Education:	\$ 3,303.00	3%
Invasive Species Projects:	\$ 21,471.00	18%
Partnership Development:	<u>\$ 3,303.00</u>	<u>3%</u>
	\$116,914.00	100%

EXPENSES



This report is a consolidated report of our Canadian and USA financial picture. What is not noted in the information above is that The Kensington Conservancy has a reserve fund of \$75,022 at the end of 2009. With your continued support we will be able to carry on with environmental education/projects and land protection. Respectfully submitted: Carla Bumbaco, Treasurer

The Kensington Conservancy Supporters

OSPREY

(>10,000)

Boden, Linda
Welles, Peter

LOON

(5,000.00-9,999)

Bent, Pam

BEAR

(2,500-4,999)

Ellis, Corson & Connie
Hofmann, David
Welles, Emilie

DEER

(1,000-2,499)

Vincenzo, Sarah
Welles, Deke & Hope

OTTER

(500-999)

Fort, Debbie
Jordan, Cameron
Maldonado, Fernando &
Madeleine
Phelps, Mason
Sylvester, E. Q.

MALLARD (<500)

Gawthrop, Alfred III & Janice

Gjos, David
Gjos, Gary & Marie
Grannis, Patty & Binky
Haight, Ben & Kendall
Haight, John III & Tina
Hershey, John F & Harriet
Hill, James S & Alice
Hodgkins, Tom & Bondy
Holder, Tom & Patti
Hoyt, Freddie & Tom
Irwin, Ronald
Johnson, Greg & Eda
Johnson, Tom
Jordan, Cameron
Jordan, Ginny
King, Joseph & Elma
Kirby, Eric & Linda
Kite, Peggy
Kite, Tiger & Suzanne
Kite, Tom & Catherine
Lagerholm, Erling
MacDougall, Charlotte
Marshall, John
Meyer, Alden & Connie
Meyer, Jane
Miller, Chris & Blair
Miller, Joanne & Kevin
Montgomery, Fred & Rowena
Morrison, Holmes & Antoinette

O'Connell, Mathew & Libby
Oehlschlager, Richard &
Betty
Olson, Robert & Marilyn
Palaszewski, Dan & Pat
Peabody, Carey, Isaaks, Edward
Petty, Andrew
Petty, Kitty
Phelps, Peggy
Pook, Ron & Debbie
Ransohoff, David & Pamela
Rilett, John
Robertson, John & Linda
Schendel, t. Logan & Sally
Shewfelt, Milton & Gerry
Sipe, Richard & Debbie
St. John, Ray & Jane
Strothman, Carter & Leah
Strothman, John & Dana
Strothman, John & Dana
Sylvester, Edmund Q. III &
Katharine
Sylvester, Elizabeth
Taylor, Fred
Tebbetts, Edwin & Charis
Tisdall, Robert & Gayle
VanHouten, Donald & Carol
Verburg, Brad & Jill
Vincenzo, John & Sarah
Vincenzo, Libby
Waddell, Matthew & Sophia

Warren, Anita
Warren, Richard
Welles, Andrew
Welles, Damaris
Welles, Don & Bo
Welles, Donald & Bo
Welles, Georgia
Welles, Hunter
Wood, Kim
Wood, Marie
Wulzin, Reed & Stuhay, Dennis

CAPITAL DONORS

Anonymous
Elliott, Lynn & Tanna
Ellis, Corson Jr. & Connie
Haight, Terry and Tina
Jordan, Ginny
Kauffman, Richard
MacDonald, Hugh & Kim
Petty, Catherine
Simmons, Erica
Welles, Christopher and
Katherine
Welles, David Jr. & Hope
Welles, Jeffrey & Maud
Welles, Peter

LEGACY DONORS

Welles, Deke
Lagerholm, Erling

Land Protection in 2009

