

The Kensington Conservancy

ANNUAL REPORT

2013



OUR MISSION

The mission of The Kensington Conservancy is: “The establishment, development, maintenance and management of nature reserves and programs in the Desbarats area for the conservation and preservation of the natural ecosystems”.

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.



The Kensington Conservancy

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Front Cover Photo : South Ripple Rock Property

Taken by: Gerald Morris

President's Report

The Kensington Conservancy continues to make tangible progress towards fulfilling its goal of *preserving the lands and waters that define the Desbarats shore for all generations*. We work to fulfill this goal through direct land protection as well as through indirect strategies including land and water stewardship, and environmental education.

Since our inception, the lands managed by The Kensington Conservancy were donated or, in the case of the Archibald Farm, acquired. 2013 marked the first year in which The Kensington Conservancy advanced our direct land protection strategy without becoming landowners by using a Conservation Easement instead of direct acquisition.

A Conservation Easement is an agreement between a landowner and a conservation organization designed to ensure the preservation of land for the protection of habitat for fish, wildlife, or plants, and for the preservation of open space. Under a Conservation Easement, a landowner retains their rights accruing from property ownership with the exception of certain rights that they give up voluntarily for the purposes of advancing conservation.

I'm thrilled to report that the Smith family has entered into a Conservation Easement agreement with The Kensington Conservancy for the protection of the Hole in the Wall and Fishnet Island properties. Under the terms of the agreement, the Smith Family has agreed not to further develop the properties while the Conservancy has agreed to monitor and protect their conservation values. The Hole in the Wall property has been designated a Provincially Significant Wetland by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. The Conservation Easement agreement will help ensure the wetland's protection for both natural habitat and for the valuable role it plays in water quality and filtration. This transaction is a true "win-win" for conservation as it gives the Smith Family the right to continue to use and enjoy their holdings while ensuring their long-term protection.

In 2013 we also made great strides on the science and stewardship fronts by performing in-depth studies on the health of our watersheds and, perhaps more importantly, looking at how upstream impacts are affecting overall watershed health. As you know, many of the headwaters of the streams and rivers that flow into our area have been converted from forest to agricultural land. Gerald and Adam looked into the effects of this land use change and how it's impacting our watershed health.

Finally, as I've reported every year, we increased our education and outreach efforts and had more interactions with people to help educate them and engage them in conservation. We broke the Green Expo attendance record in 2013, increased the number of participants in our field trip program, and had more Sault College students doing research on our properties than in any other year in the past. Also, we had a group of Kensington Conservancy Board members and community leaders come together to catalyze a youth engagement program that we'll be rolling out in 2014 under the banner "TKC Junior Explorers".

I have a sign on my refrigerator door at my cottage that offers the simplest and most effective diet advice of all; it says, "think before you eat". In the same way, we can all take great pride in the fact we've come together as a community and that we "think before we act". We take pause to consider how what we do might impact plant and animal communities. We're recycling more. We're working proactively to ensure that our activities don't have a negative impact on water quality and we're being more mindful of how our actions may impact the environment, now and in the future.

I thank you for your support, for your participation in our field trips and outreach opportunities, and for your continued belief in the Mission of The Kensington Conservancy. Moreover, I thank you for all the daily "stop and think" actions you've taken to preserve the lands and waters that define the Desbarats shore for all generations!

Peter Welles,

President

Creating Balance

Building a conservation atmosphere of respect, acceptance and tolerance requires creating a balance that is able to move like the waves and flourish like a well-established forest. The Kensington Conservancy works hard to build relationships not only with like-minded partners, but also with those whose focus would seem so different from our own. These partnerships allow us to; build capacity in our own organization by learning from others; help to build capacity in others; share our knowledge, and our vision for a naturally healthy, strong community.

TKC works on many levels with a great many wonderful organizations and has become a valued member of the conservation community. We continue to work with many community organizations to put together the Annual Green Expo, which provides us an opportunity to help people understand what we do. We provide many learning opportunities with Sault College and the local elementary schools as we have the perfect outdoor class rooms, and are able to contribute to the development of young conservationists. We are often invited to participate in public forums to help in the growth of the community.

In 2013 we provided training to several board members and volunteers as we attended the Ontario Land Trust Alliance's Annual Gathering Conference. It was rewarding to have such a strong group attend Orillia last October.

As the Chair of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance, I am able to contribute at both the provincial and federal levels as the land trust movement gets stronger

across this country. We are currently working to provide better resources to land trusts outside of Ontario who lack the support that we are lucky to have with the Ontario Land Trust Alliance.

Each year as we develop and implement our annual work plans, we strive to keep a working balance between direct land protection, education, stewardship, and community projects.

I am very excited to report that in 2013 we completed our first Voluntary Conservation Agreements (Conservation Easements). These agreements will protect, in perpetuity, Fishnet Island, and one of the most noteworthy properties in the St. Joseph Channel, known to most of us as The Hole in the Wall. These properties were a wonderful gift for future generations along the North Channel gifted by the Smith family, who have set a wonderful example we hope others will follow.

As our dedicated staff grows from 2.5 to five over the summer months, we have the opportunity to implement interesting projects that help to educate and inspire the general public, members, and children, which go a long way in the development of strong connections with these precious lands and waters.

On behalf of the Kensington Conservancy I would like to thank you for your continued support and I look forward to continuing to work in the natural balance that is this wonderful, vibrant community.

Sincerely, Tanna Elliott

Executive Director





“Conservation is a
state of harmony
between men and
land”

Aldo Leopold



2013 FINANCIAL REPORT

2013 Financial Analysis

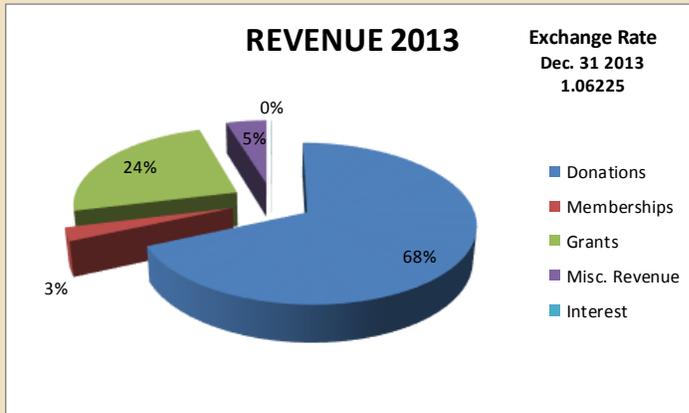
The Kensington Conservancy's main sources of revenue are member donations and grants. During the economic downturn experienced in both the United States and Canada, obtaining government grant funds was very difficult. In 2013 the revenue received from grants was down 30% from 2012 levels. Due to your wonderful support donations, membership fees and miscellaneous income were all significantly above 2012 levels. Total revenues were only down slightly, which is notable in light of the decline in grant funding. Please note that all revenue is shown in Canadian dollars, converting US dollars to Canadian dollars utilizing the 12/31/13 exchange rate.

We have revised our accounting method for allocating expense to each of the broad categories we have historically used for reporting, in order to more accurately track our expenses by activity. Thus, year to year comparisons are not accurate for 2013. Total expenses are up 12% or \$18,412. Even though grant revenue was down from 2012, the majority of the increase is attributable to increased wage expense specific to the grants received for 2013.

Revenues exceeded expenses creating a positive cash flow for 2013. Our balance sheet is healthy and available cash has increased year to year. We established a secured line of credit with The Northern Credit Union in order to provide flexibility to pay expenses when revenue flow does not match the timing of those budgeted expenses. This has greatly assisted our staff in the performance of their jobs.

On behalf of the Board of Directors we again thank you for your support and look forward to another successful year ahead.

Richard G. Sipe
Treasurer

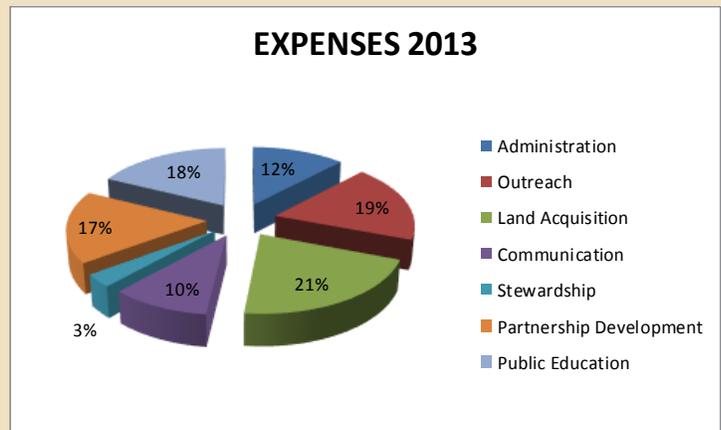


Revenue

Donations	\$	137,741	68%
Memberships	\$	5,485	3%
Grants	\$	48,707	24%
Misc. Revenue	\$	9,346	5%
Interest	\$	100	<1%
Total Revenue	\$	201,379	100%

Expenses

Administration	\$	22,198	12%
Outreach	\$	32,406	19%
Land Acquisition	\$	38,264	21%
Communication	\$	18,304	10%
Stewardship	\$	5,568	3%
Partnership Development	\$	32,191	18%
Public Education	\$	32,082	17%
Total Expenses	\$	181,014	100%





Directors and Officers 2012/2013

Peter Welles, President

Hugh MacDonald, Vice President

Alice Hill, Vice President

Terry Haight, Secretary

Richard Sipe, Treasurer



Peggy Foster

Mason Phelps

John Hollingsworth

David Hofmann

Merrill Warren

Richard Warren

Bebe Bullock

Valerie Walker

Libby Ellis

Sarah Vincenzo

Jessie Dann



Staff

Tanna Elliott, Executive Director

Adam Jones, Land Protection Coordinator

Mary Cain, Admin Assistant

Judy Brennen, Bookkeeper

Summer Staff 2013

Gerald Morris

Reilly Evoy



THANK YOU TO OUR MANY SUPPORTERS

OSPREY (>10,000)

Welles, Dawn & Peter
Welles, Georgia

Deer (1,000-2,499)

Celio, Bess & Candelario
Hodgkins, Bondy & Tom
Hollingsworth, John
Marsters, Courtney & Steve
Olson, Marilyn
Phelps, Mason & Ron Neal
Simmons, Liesel & Ian
Taylor, Moses
Welles, Maud & Jeff
Welles, Andrew
Welles, Hope & David
Welles, Gerry

LOON (5,000-9,999)

Bent, Pamela
Boden, Linda
Dann, Marion (Taddy)
Jordan, Ginny (Welles)
Welles, Emilie

OTTER (500-999)

Bowen, Calvine & Charles
Evans, Carolyn & Ray
Hall, Janet
Hill, Alice & James
Montgomery, Rowena
Morrison, Antoinette & Holmes
Sanders, Gary
Vincenzo, Sarah (Petty) & John

BEAR (2,500-4,999)

Bruckman, Laurie (Ellis) & Bruce
Donnelley, Family Foundation
Douglas, Foundation
Haight, Tina & Terry
O'Connell, Libby & Matthew
Simmons, Adele & John

Legacy Circle

The Kensington Conservancy's planned giving program helps you create a conservation legacy today.

The Legacy Circle is a special group of people who have included The Kensington Conservancy in their financial and estate planning

Planned giving is a thoughtful approach to giving that will help you achieve your philanthropic, financial and estate planning goals while maximizing tax and other benefits.

Legacy Circle

Deplonty, Mary and Donna
Phelps, Mason
Welles, Peter
Welles, David Jr.

MALLARD (<500)

Bell,	Cici & Jim	Foster,	Sheila (Petzold) & Peter	Oatis,	Paul
Bennett,	Marcia & Ted	Foster,	Janet	Oatis,	Katie
Bloomer,	Kimmy	Freeman,	Marion & Corson	Oatis,	Deborah
Bondar,	Aldona & Arthur	Gawthrop,	Janice & Alfred III	Oatis-Virtue,	Judy
Bouck,	Lynn & Craig	Gjos,	Marie & Gary	Palaszewski,	Pat & Dan
Bouffard,	Diane & Michel	Gjos,	Patti & David	Peabody,	Carey & Edward
Buchen,	Wendy	Gjos,	Barb & Tim	Pellerin,	Jane & Paul
Buchen,	Shelley & Chris	Grannis,	Balky & Pat	Petty,	Catherine
Bumbaco,	Carla & Phil	Grannis,	Jane	Pook & Pook Inc.	
Caldwell,	Helene & Errol	Harry,	Shirley & Alex	Pook,	Debra & Ron
Carper,	Barbara & Nicholas	Hershey,	Harriett & John	Precision	Certified Welding Inc.
Chamberlin,	Ann	Heyworth,	Chrissy & James	Rilett,	John
Clark,	Jennifer	Hofmann,	David	Robertson,	Linda & John
Clark,	Kit	Hoyt,	Freddie	Schendel,	Sally & Logan
Clark,	Deborah	Ingabrand,	Lily & Ken	Shewfelt,	Gerry & Milton
Clement,	Sheila & Larry	Irwin,	Marg & Ronald	Simmons,	Erica & John
Cohen,	Joyce & Robert	Irwin,	Marg & Ronald	Sipe,	Debbie & Richard
Cook,	Beth & Graham	Jewett,	Ellen & Richard	Sipe,	Carles III
Cook,	Joan & Granger	Johnson,	Tom	Sipe,	Alison & Chris
Cosbey,	Ginny (Marshall) & Jim	Johnson,	Eda & Greg	St. John,	Jane & Ray
Cross,	Lucia	Kessler,	Jordan	Strothman,	Leah & Carter
Dalton,	Martha & Tom	King,	Elma & Joseph	Strothman,	Dana & John
Dann,	Jesse	Kite,	Peggy	Swift,	Martin
Dann,	Donna & Jake	Kite,	Suzanne & Tiger	Sylvester,	Katharine & Edmund Q
Dann,	Mike	Kite,	Suzanne & Tiger	Sylvester,	Elizabeth
Doering,	Sarah (Elting) & Fred	Ladell,	Mary Therese & Thomas	Sylvester,	Ann
Donnelley,	Barbi & Tom	Lagerholm,	Erling	Taylor,	Fred
Douglas,	Rita & Keith	Lang,	Susan & Patrick Lesage	Tebbetts,	Charis & Edwin
Duckstein,	Heidemarie	Lee,	Emilie	Tisdall,	Gayle & Robert
Dunnan,	Calvine & Doug	Lovgren,	Claudia	Vail,	Gail (Forsyth) & Stephen
Elliott,	Tanna & Lynn	Lumpkin,	Ravi & Ben	Vanhouten,	Carol & Donald
Ellis,	Titia & Bill	MacDonald,	Kim & Hugh	Waddell,	Sophia & Matt
Ellis,	Libby & Stuart Ruckman	MacDonald,	Linda & Eric Kirby	Warren,	Richard
Ellis,	Bill Jr.	MacDougall,	Charlotte & Hugh	Warren,	Anita
Elting,	Jody & Alan	Marquardt,	Martica	Warren,	Merrill
Elting,	Maria & Victor IV	McKay,	Jordan	Watson,	Anne & Charles
Ervick,	Elizabeth & Russ	McKay,	Diena & Laurence	Welles,	Damaris
Evans,	Amy & Quincy	Meyer,	Jane	Welles,	Bo
Evans,	Claire & Marshall	Meyer,	Connie & Alden	Wheeler,	Joan & Wells
Faganely,	Lori & Robert	Miller,	Blair & Chris		
Feder,	Judson	Miller,	Joanne & Kevin		
Fort,	Debby	Murray,	Kathleen		

Kensington Conservancy

