

# Annual Report 2011



## The Kensington Conservancy



# OUR MISSION

“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.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011

### Executive Committee

Peter Welles, President  
Terry Haight, Secretary  
Hugh MacDonald, Vice-President  
Robert Palumbo, Treasurer

### Directors

Alice Hill	Sarah Vincenzo
Mason Phelps, Jr.	Richard Warren
David Hoffman	Jesse Dann
Bebe Bullock	Libby Ellis

## Staff

Tanna Elliott, Executive Director

Mary Cain, Office Administrator

Adam Jones, Land Protection Coordinator

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# Annual Report 2011

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2011 marked the 5<sup>th</sup> year for The Kensington Conservancy as a Registered Charity in Canada. While we will always view ourselves as a **“learning organization”**, with a number of land protection projects completed and sound strategic alliances and partnerships, I can say with confidence that we've become much better at what we do. This is embodied in one of our guiding principles which is to **“Preserve the Lands and Waters That Define the Desbarats Shore for All Generations”**. I think the biggest tribute to our organizational success comes from outside The Kensington Conservancy. We continue to be approached by property owners and potential partners about projects and alliances. These inquiries from the outside are good in that they help keep us focused on those opportunities to best advance our Mission, given our small size and limited resources.



In the end, the work of The Kensington Conservancy will be about our ability as a community to protect a natural resource and priceless legacy so that our children and grandchildren will be left with a legacy at least as wonderful. Our accomplishments will be measured in breathtaking views, clean water, or by the excitement of a grandchild's witnessing an Osprey catching a fish. Our work is neither about dollars raised or acres preserved. That said, “bucks and acres” are still useful benchmarks for what we've achieved as an organization and I'm going to give an example of each to highlight significant achievements of the last year.

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First, on the “bucks” front... we retired the last of our debt to the Conservation Fund and the Charles Stuart Mott Foundation for the acquisition of the Archibald Farm. This exemplifies for me the “can do” spirit of The Kensington Conservancy community. We came together as a young organization and family of supporters around a shared vision of protecting 160 acres threatened by development. More significantly, we took on one of the largest environmental cleanup projects in the region. My heartfelt thanks to all who helped support this effort.

On to “acres”... in 2011 we closed on the 220-acre Black Hole project. The catalyst for this project was the Smith and Haight families who acquired it years ago with the long-term goal of preserving these lands and waters in perpetuity. I'm honored that they partnered with The Kensington Conservancy to fulfill this vision and that we, as a 5 year old non-profit, had the ability to take on our largest project to date. Moreover, I'm giddy with excitement every time Adam retrieves one of his remote “critter cams” from the Black Hole preserve as the significance of this project isn't measured by its size, but rather by the numbers and diversity of species who call it home.

Help us celebrate our 5<sup>th</sup> year by paddling or hiking into the Black Hole, hiking the interpretive trail on our Foster Parkland and Walking Trails project, or by paddling up Stobie Creek into the Provincially Significant Wetland. In doing so, I hope you'll be as proud as we are in what we've ALL collectively achieved in our short history as an organization.

Peter Welles





# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This report is always difficult for me to do. Thinking backwards goes against my nature of always looking forward with renewed anticipation and excitement. But it is a review that will remind us of what a difference a year can make.

Land protection remains our core focus, and in 2011 we had major accomplishments, the biggest of which was the elimination of the Archibald Farm acquisition debt! While many of you supported this project in 2010, we officially retired our loan in January of 2011. Thank you to all who have made this possible. The amount paid in 2011 was a huge \$204,712!

Prior to 2011 we had been allowed by the very generous owners of the Black Hole (Porcupine Point Club/Thorncamp Group) to treat it as our own while we waited for the legal work to be completed that would allow for the donation of title. I am very happy to report that the transfer of title has been completed and TKC is the very proud owner of this amazing Heaven on Earth. In July it provided a wonderful backdrop as we welcomed our then current Member of Parliament, Mike Brown, M.P.P who announced our successful application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The grant we received from Trillium allowed us to rehire Adam Jones (whose previous contract was completed in January) to work on our trail systems as well as conduct more guided tours to bring about more public awareness of our natural world for 12 more months. Adam came back on the payroll in August!

As I reflect upon another successful year, I think of my family, both past and future, that are blessed to have this wonderful place as a part of their lives. **Just today I spoke with someone whom I haven't seen in over 30 years, but it is the connection of this place that keeps us friends!**

**Just recently I attending the Green Expo's local dinner where they had a showing of the film Green Fire that traces the extraordinary legacy of legendary environmentalist Aldo Leopold, documenting how he shaped and influenced the modern environmental movement. As I watched I had two thoughts; it was amazing that it was brought forward by a community that not so very long ago would not have know who he was, and that it reminded me of the family values that we were brought up with. If you have a chance to view it please do! It truly makes you understand the importance of balance and what happens when we upset that balance regardless of how good our intentions are.**

Thank you for your continued support of our very important mission.

Respectfully,

Tanna Elliott



# The Kensington Conservancy in 2011





# Highlights from 2011

- Finalized the Acquisition of the Black Hole Preserve
- Retired Archibald Homestead Acquisition Debt
- Conducted over 20 guided trips
- Hosted 1st Lake Huron Framework for Community Action Meeting held in Algoma
- Attended Biodiversity Lake Huron Workshop
- Earth Day Presentations in Sault Ste. Marie at the request of the Toronto Dominion Bank as recipients of their Friends of the Environment Fund
- Partnered on the Green Expo
- Tanna Elliott named Chair of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance
- Received funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation

## A Special Gift

The Black Hole

by Terry Haight

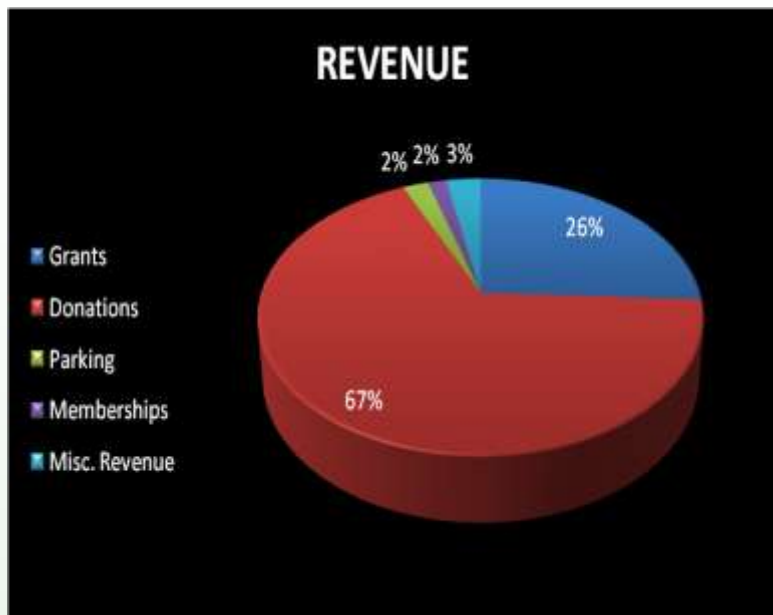
The area known as the Black Hole was purchased by Killaly Point and Thornecamp. The objective was to keep the land as close to its original "wild" state as possible.



Both families enjoyed hiking and canoeing in the Black Hole. Jack Haight particularly loved the land and regularly led trail blazing expeditions and other hikes into the Black Hole. It was fitting that we purchased the property shortly after his death. The land was gifted to The Kensington Conservancy so that the Black Hole would remain for people to enjoy in perpetuity.

Jack and Debby Haight

# FINANCIAL REPORT 2011

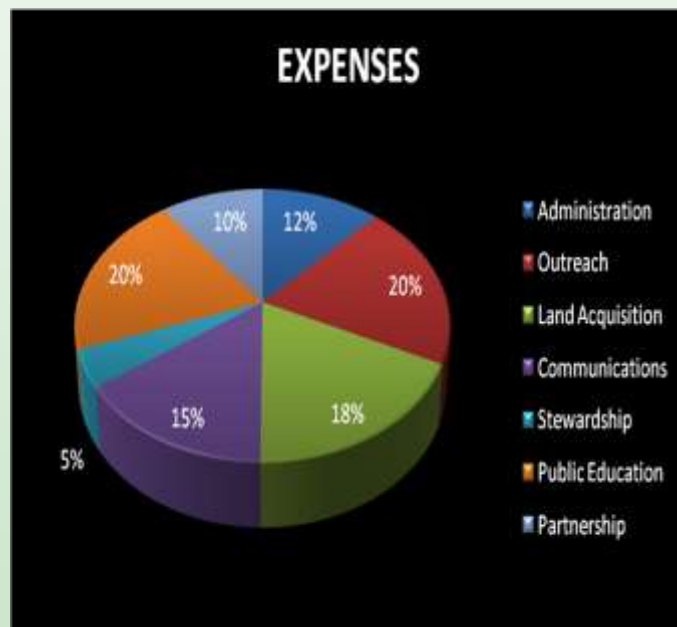


## OPERATING SUPPORT

Grants	\$ 42,551.00	26%
Donations	\$ 111,344.00	67%
Parking	\$ 3,589.00	2%
Memberships	\$ 2,624.00	2%
Misc. Revenue	\$ 4,909.00	3%
	\$165,017.00	100%

## OPERATING EXPENSES

Administration:	\$ 19,616.00	12%
Outreach:	\$ 32,813.00	20%
Land Acquisition:	\$ 29,259.00	18%
Communications/ Membership:	\$ 24,304.00	15%
Stewardship:	\$ 7,225.00	5%
Public Education:	\$ 32,726.00	20%
Partnership		
Development:	\$ 16,926.00	10%
	\$162,869	100%



**“This is a consolidated report of our Canadian and USA financial picture.** The 2011 amount paid to eliminate the Archibald debt was \$ 204,712.00. To complete the debt repayment, \$35,000.00 was transferred from our reserve fund, thereby reducing it to \$ 38,000.00

With your continued support we will be able to carry on with environmental education/projects and **land protection.**”

Respectfully submitted: Rob Palumbo, Treasurer

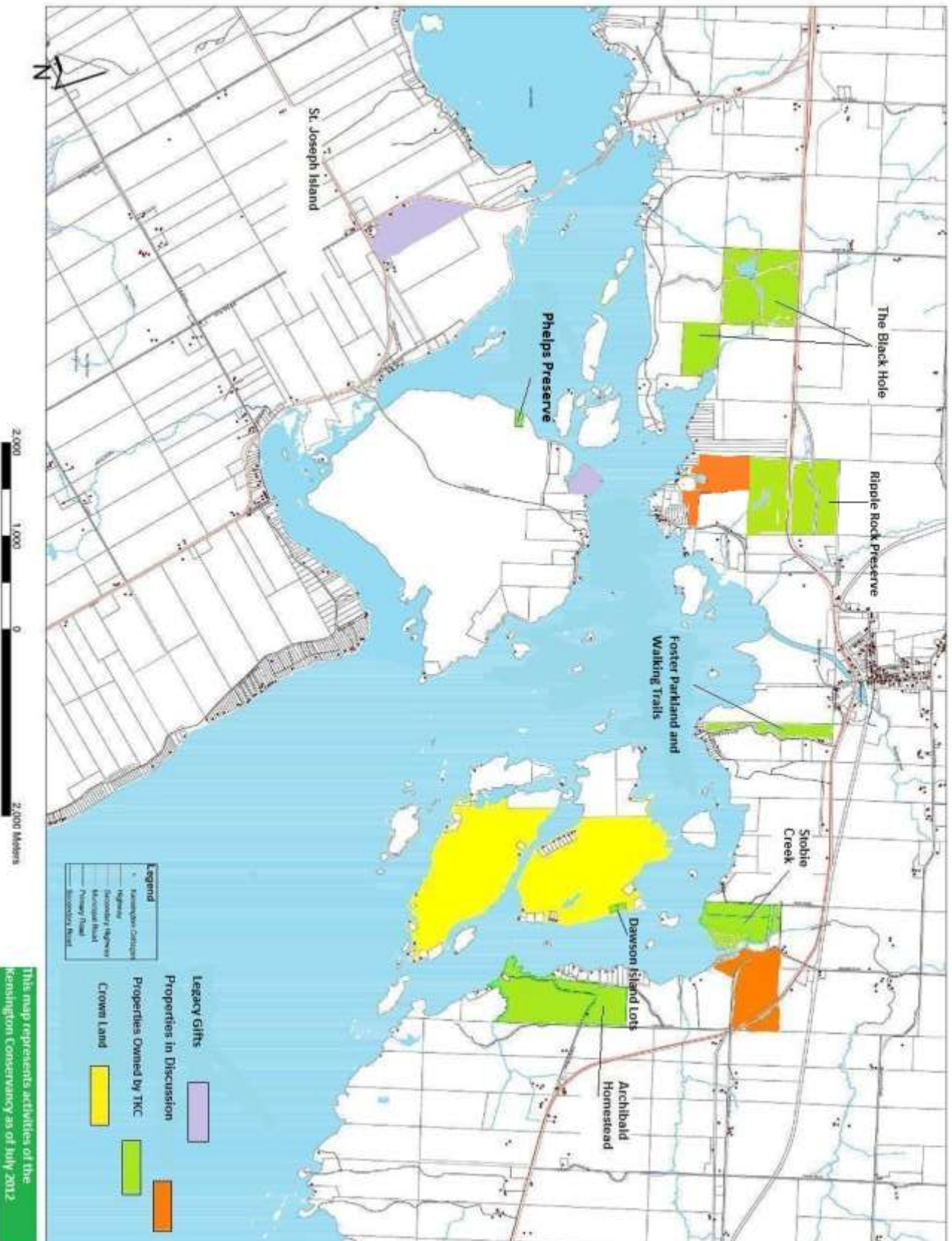


# OUR SUPPORTERS 2011

OSPREY (>10,000)		MALLARD (<500)	
Welles, Peter	Cherry, Kim & Steve	Meyer, Jane	
LOON (5,000-9,999)		Clark, Jennifer	Miller, Marjorie (Evans) & Trey
O'Connell, Libby & Mathew	Cook, Joan & Granger	Montgomery, Rowena	
Welles, Emilie	Cosbey, Ginny (Marshall) & Jim	Myers, Carol	
Welles, Georgia	Cross, Lucia & David	Oatis, Carol	
Dann, Marion (Taddy) & William	Dalton, Martha & Tom	Oatis, John E/John E III	
Bent, Pamela	Dann, Dona & Jake	Oatis, Katie	
BEAR (2,500.00-4,999)		Oatis, Paul	
Hofmann, David	Dann, Mike	Oatis-Virtue, Judy	
Bruckman, Laurie (Ellis) & Bruce	Doering, Sarah (Elting) & Fred	Palumbo, Lindsey & Robert	
Douglass Foundation	Dunnan,Calvine & Doug	Palaszewski, Pat & Dan	
Haight, Tina & Terry	Elliott, Tanna & Lynn	Pauli, Kathryn	
DEER (1,000-2,499)		Petty, Catherine (Haight)	
Donnelley Foundation (Bebe Bullock)	Ellis, Connie & Corson Jr.	Phelps, Mason Jr.	
Welles, Hope & David Jr.	Ellis, Libby & Ruckman, Stuart	Radford, Sheila (Lang) & Michael	
OTTER (500-999)		Rilett, John	
Donnelley Foundation (Kit Clark)	Ellis, Titia & William	Robertson, Linda & John	
Bowen, Calvine & Charles	Evans, Claire & Marshall	Schell, Donna & Lloyd	
Donnelley Family Foundation (Barbi & Tom Donnelley)	Fort, Debby	Schmidt, Rebekah & Collin	
Hodgkins, Bondy & Tom	Foster, Janet	Schneider, Mary & Steve	
Kite, Peggy	Foster, Peggy	Shewfelt, Gerry & Milton	
Lumpkin, Dick	Gjos, Marie & Gary	Sipe, Debbie & Richard	
Morrison, Antoinette & Holmes	Gjos, Patti & David	Stewart, Edie	
Pook, Debra & Ron	Grannis, Bally & Pat	Strothman, Dana & John	
Verburg, Jill & Brad	Haight, Kendall & Ben	Sylvester, Elizabeth	
Vincenzo, Sarah (Petty) & John	Harry, Shirley & Alex	Taylor, Tina	
MALLARD (<500)		Tebbetts, Chartis & Edwin	
Batton, Linda & Larry	Hennessy, Cela	Tisdall, Gayle & Robert	
Bennett, Marcia & Ted	Hershey, Harriett & John	Vail, Anne & David	
Bondar, Aldona & Arthur	Hill, Alice & James	Vail, Gail (Forsyth) & Stephen	
Buchen, Shelley & Chris	Hines, Lucy & Paul	Vanhouten, Carol & Donald	
Caldwell, Helene & Errol	Ingabrand, Lily & Ken	Waddell, Sophia & Matt	
Carper, Barbara & Nicholas	Irwin, Marg & Ronald	Warren, Anita	
Chamberlin, Ann	Johnson, Tom	Warren, Richard	
	Kettles, Jon	Warzon, Virginia (Oatis)	
	King, Elma & Joseph	Watson, Anne & Charles	
	Kite, Suzanne & Tiger	Welles, Andrew	
	Lagerholm, Erling	Welles, Hunter	
	Lang, Lesage, Susan & Patrick	Wulsin, John Jr.	
	MacDougall, Charlotte & Murray, Hugh	Wulsin, Rosamond (Reed), Suzhay, Dennis	
	MacDonald, Kim & Hugh		
	McCall, Leilani & Gould, John		
	McKay, Laurence		



# Kensington Conservancy



This map represents activities of the Kensington Conservancy as of July 2012