



Bancroft Area Stewardship Council

ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009

Community members and partners in the Bancroft area working together to support responsible natural resource use and land management





Bancroft Area Stewardship Council

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Message From The Chair

As I write this year's message much has and is still changing on this earth that we call home. We are in the midst of a severe recession, how severe nobody knows, the auto makers watching as the once all powerful industry is collapsing around them, huge masses of ice melting in the arctic, hints of a pandemic swine flu and on and on. While, on the surface, it appears that it is really hard to see a light at the end of the tunnel that is not a train. But then what about the history making election in the US and the discovery of a fossil that looks to be a missing link between land animals like otters and their sea going cousins the seal, breakthroughs in medical science and on and on. Not all that bad eh. The world situation and events, has offered us challenges, and has also offered us, and will continue to offer us, great opportunities.

I am sure that regardless of what is happening around us we as a Council will press on planting trees, protecting our endangered species, educating private landowners on good stewardship initiatives, supporting children's outdoor education, continuing with our lake and fisheries assessments and continuing to form key partnerships to identify and develop new initiatives. The major industry in our catchment area is the forest industry which has been in a major decline over the last couple of years and will likely see continuing tough times. We will continue, as in the past, to work with local forest related businesses to provide whatever assistance we can in helping them through the tough times. While last year was a challenge so it will be this coming year.

Our local MNR District Office will be saying good bye to Bob Walroth, Area Supervisor, our helper and friend. Bob has decided to take a well deserved rest called retirement. Knowing Bob he will remain active in the things he enjoys and hopefully will forget about most of the things he doesn't but of course not the BASC. Suzy Shalla our Acting Stewardship co-ordinator will be leaving us for a short while to be a mom for the second time. Suzy will be missed by all council members. She is always cheerful, hardworking and loves the Stewardship program. We all are proud of the way she has represented the Council at various functions and on a day to day basis. Great job Suzy and hurry back.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention our Council members. Our members were well chosen as they represent a host of stakeholder groups and organizations. Their enthusiasm and dedication to the program is witnessed in our achievements. I know there have been many frustrations along the way including dealing with the bureaucracy but they have persevered and found a way to make it happen. Thank you all for making our efforts worthwhile.

The Chair's message is usually about all of the wonderful things we did in the last 12 months but this year I wanted to leave it to you to review our Annual Report and see what accomplishments we have made and are very proud of. I'm sure you will be pleased.

In closing I would like to suggest that if you are at end of the tunnel and the light is really a train, step aside and jump on, it will likely be an exciting ride with tremendous opportunities at the next stop.

Dennis Le Feuvre, Chair BASC

OUR STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Objectives and Guiding Principles

The mandate of the Bancroft Area Stewardship Council is to promote and support private land stewardship and the wise management and use of natural resources in the Bancroft area.

Our goals are to:

- Respond to community issues and concerns related to natural resources
- Provide a forum for discussion and investigation of issues relating to private land stewardship
- Provide education and information to landowners through an influence approach
- Promote resource sustainability and a healthy environment for present and future generations
- Promote and initiate natural resource based projects through community partnerships
- Support a balance between socio-economic values and natural resource based industries



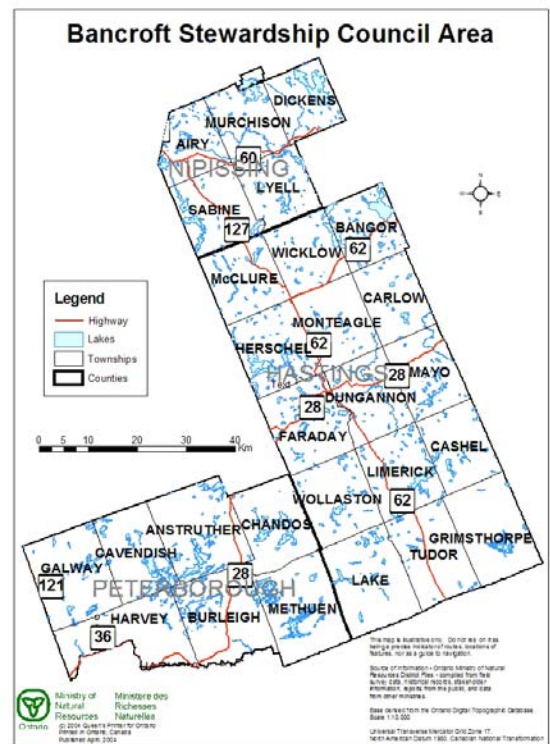
A typical scene in the Bancroft area.

Council Area

The Bancroft Area Stewardship Council services the southern half of Nipissing District (Township of South Algonquin), the northern portion of Hastings County, and the northern portion of Peterborough County (focusing mainly on the Township of North Kawartha) which is shared with the Peterborough County Stewardship Council.

Encompassing roughly 635,000 hectares, this area is characterized by many pristine cold-water lakes and rivers, forests and mineral deposits. Rough topography, abundant water and poorly drained organic soils limit access to many areas. Land ownership is mixed with roughly 60% Crown land and 40% private.

The settlement of the region was based on the logging industry, which continues to be the primary basis of the local economy. The unique area geology supports a cyclical mining industry, while agricultural and industrial sectors are very limited. Tourism and recreation has become an important four-season industry that has the potential for widespread expansion.



Bancroft Area Stewardship Council

Council Member Profiles

Dennis LeFeuvre (Chair)

President of North Hastings Community Fish Hatchery; President of the Ontario Deer Hound Association; Board of Directors at CFDC North & Centre Hastings & South Algonquin; committee Member of Ducks Unlimited Canada—Bancroft Chapter.

Doug Wellman (Vice-Chair)

Businessman and longtime waterfront property landowner; Past President of Anstruther Lake Cottagers Association Inc.; Lake Steward on Anstruther Lake.

Terry Campbell (Past-Chair)

Executive member of Bancroft District Fish & Game Protective Association; member of the North Hastings Community Fish Hatchery; Forest landowner and member of Bancroft Area Forest Industry Association; avid fisherman and conservationist

Gordon Mackey (Financial Officer)

Holds Certified Association Executive (CAE) and Certified Sales Professional designations with over 20 years experience in association management; member of the Tourism Association and Not for Profit Management/ Tourism; has extensive experience in destination and tourism marketing, event planning and the agricultural sector

King Baker

Retired teacher; member of Ontario Nature, Bird Studies Canada, Ontario Field Ornithologists, Wilderness Canoe Association, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Peterborough Naturalists Club and Kawartha Nordic Ski Club; waterfront property owner, and Lake Steward on Chandos Lake

Cathy Best

Public Health Nurse; operates family-owned beef farm and representative for local agricultural community

Denis Brown

BASC Youth Representative; Director with the North Hastings Community Fish Hatchery; avid fisherman and conservationist.

Betty Coutu

Retired college professor and registered nurse; President of Bancroft Field Naturalist Club; Recording secretary for North Hastings Interagency Group; Board member of Hospice North Hastings and Algonquin Forest Local Citizen Committee

Robert Craftchick

ANR Representative for Algonquins of Whitney & Area; Registered Professional Forester

Colleen Drew-Baehre

Educational advisor to the Council; High school teacher; member of Bancroft Fish & Wildlife Advisory Committee, North Hastings Community Fish Hatchery Education Committee, and Ontario Woodlot Association

Dan Freymond

Co-owner/operator of Freymond Lumber Ltd., member of Bancroft Area Forest Industry Association and Bancroft Minden Forest Co. Inc. (SFL); member of Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters, Bancroft District Fish & Game Protective Association, and Old Hastings Snow Riders; waterfront property owner

Kevin Hockley

Museum exhibit specialist with extensive knowledge of fish and wildlife; member of RMEF, Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters and the Canadian Taxidermist Association

Fred Werner

Consulting forester and member of the Ontario Professional Foresters Association; Chair of Bancroft Chapter of Ontario Woodlot Association; volunteer forest manager at Vance Farm Park

OUR 2008-09 PROJECTS

The following categories are used to summarize details of each project:

Partners = Total number of partners involved in the project, including the Stewardship Council

In-Kind Contribution = A dollar value quantifying the voluntary contributions (both material and time) contributed by partners. Time is calculated at \$9 / hour for students, \$15 / hour for adults, and \$25 / hour for professional services.

Funding = total dollars allocated to the project, including leveraged funds and contributions from the MNR and Stewardship Council



Moose

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Ontario Stewardship Rangers:

This 8-week summer employment program, sponsored by the OMNR, continues to be a popular program for area youth and community partners. The team of four 17-year-olds and a Crew Lead completed a variety of projects that included forest management, tree planting assessments, trail maintenance, GPS mapping, frog survey, fisheries assessments, trail mapping, and an overnight canoe trip. The Crew also participated in various training and educational initiatives, including First Aid, ORCA Level 1 Canoe certification, and job shadowing with a Conservation Officer.

Partners: 14 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$6,445 **Funding:** \$30,000 (all MNR)

Envirothon:

BASC and North Hastings High School provided a local training event to prepare students for regional and provincial Envirothon competitions. 30 students from North Hastings High School participated in a full day of training at High Falls dam on Baptiste lake, learning about soils, forestry, aquatics, and wildlife. One team from NHHS went on to participate in the regional competition in Renfrew, and then on to the provincial competition in St. George (Tim Horton's Onondaga Farms).

Partners: 5 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$1,900 **Funding:** \$250



Outdoor Education Programs at North Hastings High School:

Support for high school outdoor education classes continues to be a strong focal point of the BASC. The Stewardship Council acts as a liaison for these programs providing input to course activities and work plans, monetary contributions and sponsors a youth achievement award for the top student in each program

Partners: 4 (main) **In-Kind Contributions:** \$11,750 **Funding:** \$2,000

Bancroft Area Stewardship Council

NWTF Jakes Youth Hunting Day:

A provincial event offered annually by the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) was hosted in Bancroft in the summer of 2008 in partnership between the NWTF and the BASC. The Stewardship Council brought together several local organizations to partner in this initiative, and were able to offer a wide variety of conservation based, hands on activities for the youth to participate in. There were several partners involved in making the day a huge success, 50 youth from central and southern Ontario attended the event.

Partners: 17 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$11,810 **Funding:** \$4,950



FORESTRY

Tree & Shrub Planting Program:

The Tree & Shrub Planting Program continues to provide low-cost seedlings to private landowners for a variety of applications, including wildlife habitat rehabilitation and shoreline applications. Seedlings are provided at a reduced cost or subsidized rate due to monetary contributions from forest industry partners. In 2008, 50 landowners planted 20,760 seedlings.

Partners: 10 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$4,600 **Funding:** \$2,010

Saw Tech Log Expo:

The Stewardship Council continues to support this popular trade show which took place from May 2-3, 2008. This show is Ontario's largest forestry and woodlot event showcasing the forest industry in southern Ontario which included 200 indoor and outdoor displays and live demonstrations. The Stewardship Council coordinated an indoor booth spaces and partnered with the Bancroft Area Forest Industry Association to deliver guided woodlot tours which provided an overview of sustainable forest management including live harvesting demonstrations.

Partners: 7 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$6,400 **Funding:** \$0



Tornado Recovery Tree Plant:

The Stewardship Council in partnership with Trees Ontario and BAFIA has worked toward the reforestation of private properties impacted by significant wind storm events in the summer of 2006. BAFIA volunteers identified willing landowners in areas of greatest impact with the most suitable planting conditions. Landowners covered the cost of site cleanup and preparation, while funds provided Trees Ontario covered the cost of the seedling purchase and planting. Sixty four thousand seedlings were planted on ten properties.

Partners: 5 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$15,700 **Funding:** \$32,000

Bancroft Area Forest Industry Association:

The Stewardship Council continued to play a pivotal role in the functioning of BAFIA, a local organization of forestry professionals dedicated to promoting and sustaining the forest industry in the Bancroft area. With administrative support from the Stewardship Council and financial support from CFDC and Hastings County, BAFIA was able to implement a training program for its membership, implementing a local promotional campaign for the forest industry and a website for their group. BAFIA continues to have strong community outreach and is committed to working with youth in the community

Partners: 5 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$13,750 **Funding:** \$5,000



Trenton Woodlot Conference:

The Trenton Woodlot Conference is an annual event co-hosted by the six Stewardship Councils covering the greater Quinte area that aims to raise awareness and promote wise woodlot management practices. This one day conference consists of indoor presentations, an exhibitors room for displaying woodlot management information and products, outdoor demonstrations and tours, and updates from various partner associations. In November of 2008, approximately 175 people attended this event.

Partners: 8 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$2,700 **Funding:** \$1,800

FISH & WILDLIFE

Partnership Projects with DUC and NWTF:

The Stewardship Council continues to partner with the local chapters of Ducks Unlimited Canada and the National Wild Turkey Federation (Timberline Strutters) to improve wildlife habitat in the greater Bancroft area. The Council provided a financial contribution to both organizations to assist with habitat enhancement projects and supported local fundraising efforts and events.

Partners: 3 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$500 **Funding:** \$500

Take A Kid Fishing:

This annual event, co-hosted by the Stewardship Council and Bancroft MNR Enforcement Team, aims to introduce youth to recreational angling as a fun outdoor activity. Following a presentation by Conservation Officer Mike Ladouceur, students from Our Lady of Mercy School were judged in a poster contest illustrating their interpretation of fish habitat. Six lucky students were selected to participate in a fishing trip on Paudash Lake; each received a rod, reel and tackle box.

Partners: 7 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$5,185 **Funding:** \$250



Community Fisheries Assessment Program:

The Stewardship Council works in partnership with the Bancroft District MNR and the North Hastings Community Fish Hatchery to assess native (un-stocked) lake trout lakes. A number of trained volunteers, as well as additional observers, participated as crew members with a hired contractor to complete assessments on ten lakes. The results will be used by MNR to determine the status of the lake trout population and identify potential donor or recipient lakes for a local rehabilitative stocking program. Financial support for this program was provided by the Ontario Stewardship Opportunity Fund, MNR CFWIP program and the North Hastings Community Fish Hatchery.

Partners: 4 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$8,060 **Funding:** \$6,000

North Hastings Community Fish Hatchery:

This community-based hatchery is raising a unique, locally adapted strain of lake trout for stocking back into local, public lakes. This incorporated, charitable organization was able to secure two significant government grants, build many local partnerships, secure water resources, and implement various fundraising initiatives. Construction of this 5,000 square foot facility is completed and fish are now being raised in the facility.

Partners: 3 (main) **In-Kind Contributions:** \$500 **Funding:** \$0



Nesting Box Program:

This partnership between the Bancroft Field Naturalist Club and the Stewardship Council supplies low-cost bluebird boxes and bat houses to landowners. All the materials and labour for this project are donated by generous local partners, with the proceeds from sales being split between the Naturalist Club and BASC.

Partners: 6 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$10,000 **Funding:** \$0

Bancroft Area Stewardship Council

SAR Trail Re-routing Project:

This collaborative project brings together many partners to re-route a section of a multi-use trail to avoid critical nesting habitat for a species at risk. Several partners were involved in multiple sight visits to determine the placement for the new trail which will be relocated from within Algonquin Park to adjacent Crown land. With financial support from the provincial SAR Stewardship Fund and Algonquin Provincial Park the trail is now cleared and ready for final construction. It is anticipated that the construction and decommissioning phases of this project will be completed in the fall of 2009.

Partners: 9 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$6,120 **Funding:** \$25,500

WATER AND WETLANDS

Lakeland Alliance:

The Stewardship Council remains a contributing partner in this regional collaborative of government agencies, NGOs, and community organizations working together to promote the stewardship of water resources in the greater Kawartha Lakes watershed. With the assistance of a Project Coordinator, made possible through an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, the Alliance was able to secure funds for a Lake Advisors Program as well as offer workshops throughout the year to targeted waterfront organizations.

Partners: 12 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$20,000 **Funding:** \$11,000

Lakeland Conference:

The Stewardship Council was a supporter of the seventh annual Lakeland Conference held in Buckhorn in August. A strong organizing committee, led this year by the Lakeland Alliance Project Coordinator, delivered an informative one-day program themed 'Climate Change: Our Choices Matter'. Approximately 60 waterfront property owners, cottage association and municipal representatives attended the conference, which included 9 guest speakers, 13 exhibitors and a lively silent auction.

Partners: 12 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$10,230 **Funding:** \$0

Waterfront Programs Committee / Support for Cottage Associations:

This committee, comprised of Stewardship Council and local Cottage Association representatives, advises on matters and issues affecting waterfront property owners, and addresses requests for support from cottage associations. Requests include support for lake planning processes and shoreline visit programs, information for distribution and items for prizes at association events. While there was no specific operating budget assigned to the committee, it is hoped that funds will be accessible for specific projects through the Lakeland Alliance.

Partners: 4 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$2,000 **Funding:** \$0

'Wonders of Wetlands' Field Day:

The fourth annual 'Wonders of Wetlands' Field Day was deferred from fall 2008 to spring of 2009. The event will be held on May 14th, 2009 at Joy Bible Camp. Eight (8) schools will be participating in the event again.

AGRICULTURE

Hastings County Farm Show:

The BASC joined the other Quinte Area Stewardship Councils to offer a Woodlot Demonstration Area at the annual Hastings County Farm Show held in August. Scheduled events included demonstrations in sawmilling, tree planting, horse logging, timbersports demonstrations, as well as an exhibit area with free information and resources for landowners.

Partners: 6 **In-Kind Contributions:** \$3,340 **Funding:** \$1,200



COMMUNITY

Nurture Nature Series:

This is a series of fun, family-oriented demonstrations focusing on fish and wildlife themes that aims to enhance appreciation and understanding of nature and the outdoors. Seven sessions were held in 2008 — MFTIP, Owls, Earth Walk, Vernal Pools, Wildlife Feeding, Wildlife CSI, and GPS Introduction. At all sessions, participants learned from expert guest speakers and were provided with hands-on learning opportunities. A total of 168 people participated in the sessions.

Partners: 4

In-Kind Contributions: \$3,200

Funding: \$450



Community Events:

The Stewardship Council continued to support various community events in 2008, including the Rockhound Gemboree, Youth March Break event, and Apsley Winter Carnival. Council members manned exhibits and distributed resources and information. These efforts enhanced awareness of the local Stewardship program and support for stewardship activities and action in the community.

Partners: 5

In-Kind Contributions: \$1,500

Funding: \$0

BASC Community Stewardship Award:

The Community Stewardship Award recognizes individuals and businesses/ partners that support and promote resource stewardship in our community. This was the third year for the award, which was presented to Barb Gillis and Demuth Forestry Services. Each recipient received a \$250 donation in their name to a local project or program of their selection. Ms. Gillis donated his to the Northern Outdoors Studies program, and Ernie Demuth donated his towards the Bancroft Area Forest Industry Association.

Partners: 4

In-Kind Contributions: \$500

Funding: \$500

Spring Fishing News and Fall Hunt Camp News:

This is the third year for the Fall Hunt Camp News and the second year for the Spring Fishing edition of this 12-page feature publication produced by the Bancroft This Week newspaper. This project and partnership was facilitated by the Stewardship Council, with content on a variety of fish and wildlife management themes provided by Bancroft District MNR. Bancroft This Week coordinated the sale of advertising to cover the majority of publication and printing costs for both publications. 8,000 copies of each publication were distributed to households and businesses in the greater Bancroft area.

Partners: 4

In-Kind Contributions: \$11,450

Funding: \$1,000

FireSmart Community Extension Program:

The Stewardship Council is working with a committee comprised of central Ontario stewardship councils, FOCA and MNR Fire Program representatives to integrate wildfire safety considerations into community stewardship agendas. Funding provided by the Fire Program will be used to produce joint promotional and educational materials, including a kids activity booklet and fact sheets.

Partners: 9

In-Kind Contributions: \$9,000

Funding: \$0

BE FireSmart®

State of the Resources Report:

The Stewardship Council secured funding and support from 8 organizations and agencies in 2007 to develop a State of the Resources report for the greater Bancroft area. A consultant has been hired, and a completed report is targeted for spring 2009. This comprehensive analysis and summary of the status of various natural resources will provide the basis for the development of a longer term strategic plan for the Stewardship Council, and will be shared for use by the project partners and other local organizations.

Partners: 10

In-Kind Contributions: \$6,500

Funding: \$5,000

Bancroft Area Stewardship Council

PROJECT STATISTICS SUMMARY

Total number of projects:	26
Total number of project partners:	98
Total in-kind contributions:	\$173,140.00
Total funding:	\$100,610.00
TOTAL LEVERAGED:	\$273,750.00

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

This statement represents only cash flow through the BASC account, and does not include assets, liabilities and equity.

Revenue:

MNR Seed Funding	\$9,575.00
Granting agencies, foundations, and partners	\$34,120.00
Project generated	\$12,703.31
Other sources / miscellaneous	\$729.93
TOTAL:	\$57,128.14

Expenses:

Project expenses	\$52,052.98
Support staff	\$0
Marketing, promotion, and printing	\$392.86
Office supplies and equipment	\$0
General and administrative	\$451.46
TOTAL:	\$52,897.30

Net surplus of \$4,230.84

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Stewardship Council recognizes the support of the following partners in achieving our 2008/09 work plan:

- Algonquin Lakeshore Catholic District School Board
- Bancroft & District Chamber of Commerce
- Bancroft Area Forest Industry Association
- Bancroft District Fish & Game Protective Association
- Bancroft District MNR
- Bancroft District MNR Enforcement Team
- Bancroft Field Naturalist Club
- Bancroft Forestry Service
- Bancroft Minden Forest Co. Inc.
- Bancroft O.P.P.
- Bancroft Retriever Club
- Bancroft Rifle and Pistol Club
- Bancroft This Week
- Baptiste Lake Association
- Bass Pro Shops
- Canadian Outdoor Heritage Alliance
- Canadian Tire (Bancroft)
- Canadian Tradex
- Chandos Lake Property Owners Association
- Cheshers Outdoors
- Chisholm (Roslin) Ltd
- Community Fisheries & Wildlife Involvement Program (CFWIP)
- Community Futures Development Corporation of North & Central Hastings and South Algonquin
- County of Hastings
- Department of Fisheries & Oceans
- Domtar Forest Resources / Norampac (Trenton)
- Ducks Unlimited Canada
- Ducks Unlimited—Bancroft Chapter
- Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship
- Ellenberger Farms
- Faraday Trout Lake Cottagers Association
- Federation of Ontario Cottager’s Associations
- Ferguson Forest Center
- Flying Feathers Archery Club
- Freymond Lumber Ltd.
- Frontenac Stewardship Council
- Gagnon Sports
- Greg Balch Mobile Exhibit
- Gryphon Blooms
- Guides and Scouts Organizations
- Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association
- Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council
- Haliburton Muskoka Children’s Water Festival
- Hastings Stewardship Council
- Hastings Prince Edward District School Board
- Hillcrest Meats
- Hypoint Farm
- Joy Bible Camp
- Kawartha Region Conservation Authority
- Lennox Addington Community Stewardship Council
- Lock, Stock and Barrel
- M & M Meats (Bancroft)
- Mackey Management Inc.
- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Natural Resources
- Municipality of Hastings Highlands
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- North Hastings Community Fish Hatchery
- North Hastings High School
- Northumberland Stewardship Council
- Ontario Federation of Agriculture—Hastings County
- Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters
- Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters—Zone E, F
- Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs
- Ontario Forestry Association
- Ontario Nature
- Ontario Parks
- Ontario Stewardship
- Ontario Woodlot Association
- Ontario Woodlot Association - Bancroft Chapter
- Otonabee Region Conservation Authority
- Parks Canada (Trent Severn Waterway)
- Paudash Lake Conservation Association
- Pepin’s No Frills
- Peterborough County Stewardship Council
- Peterborough Green-up
- Prince Edward Stewardship Council
- Quinte Conservation (CA)
- R&L Bus Lines
- Rally of the Tall Pines
- Renfrew County Stewardship Council
- Richardson’s Pineneedle Farms
- Sir Sandford Fleming College
- Species at Risk Stewardship Fund (OMNR)
- The Bancroft Times
- Timberline Strutters
- Toronto Zoo
- Town of Bancroft
- Township of Carlow-Mayo
- Township of Faraday
- Township of North Kawartha
- Township of South Algonquin
- Trees Ontario
- Trillium Lakelands Catholic District School Board
- Victoria Land and Water Stewardship Council
- Wilson’s TIM-BR Mart
- Whitney and Area Algonquins





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