



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Heads of Conservation Board Remain Same for 2016

The Chair and Vice Chair of the Lower Trent Conservation Board of Directors will remain unchanged for 2016 following its Annual Meeting held last night. Ray Benns, municipal councillor for the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand, and Jim Alyea, Deputy Mayor of the City of Quinte West, were both acclaimed to the positions of Chair and Vice Chair respectively.

The 2016 budget of \$2,515,117 was also unanimously approved by the Board at the meeting. Local municipalities will provide \$822,395 to support the conservation program, representing approximately 52 per cent of the funding. Remaining sources of revenue come from the provincial and federal governments, user fees, and donations.

“We continue to find creative ways to get our conservation work done,” said Glenda Rodgers, CAO. “For every \$1 we receive from local municipalities, Lower Trent Conservation is able to convert that into \$2 through grants, fundraising and unique partnerships.”

Lower Trent Conservation also closed its books on the past year with the approval of the 2015 audited financial statement. Highlights of the past year’s conservation program include:

- 940 students involved in environmental education programs
- 15,000 native tree and wildlife shrub seedlings sold
- 16 special events attended and presentations provided to community groups
- 42 kilometres of trails maintained for public use at local conservation areas
- 55 stream sites sampled to monitor water quality (biology and chemistry)
- 130 people participated in guided outdoor excursions
- 116 permits issued for work along wetlands, shorelines and waterways
- 123 *Planning Act* applications reviewed (minor variances, site plan control, subdivision applications, etc.)
- 128 site inspections conducted to assist with the environmental review of municipal planning and permit applications
- 380 general development inquiries completed regarding property specific development constraints and environmental conditions
- 235 hours donated by 25 volunteers to help with habitat restoration, environmental education and special events
- 4 water level bulletins issued

Lower Trent Conservation’s area of jurisdiction covers 2,100 square kilometres, encompassing the Trent River valley stretching from Grafton to Quinte West and from Rice Lake to Lake Ontario and the Bay of Quinte. The area includes all or portions of seven municipalities. The municipalities within this watershed region appoint members to the Board of Directors, which oversees the activities of the Conservation Authority and sets its budget.

The 10-member Board includes the following municipal representatives for 2016:

Township of Alnwick/Haldimand	Ray Bennis
Municipality of Brighton	Mary Tadman, John Martinello
Municipality of Centre Hastings	Eric Sandford
Township of Cramahe	Don Clark
City of Quinte West	Jim Alyea, Karen Sharpe
Township of Stirling - Rawdon	Bob Mullin
Municipality of Trent Hills	Bill Thompson, Rick English

In 2016, the Board of Directors will meet the second Thursday of every month. Members of the public are invited to attend the meetings of the Board. Meetings begin at 6:30 PM and are held at the Lower Trent Conservation office located just south of Wooler at 714 Murray Street, Quinte West. Meeting agendas are available at <http://www.ltc.on.ca/> in advance of each meeting.

For more information, contact:

[Glenda Rodgers](#)

Chief Administrative Officer

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