



ONTARIO LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

2013 Annual Report

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Tanna Elliott

As I write this message to you, I remember where we were one year ago. At that time we knew we had a hard year ahead but were prepared to meet the challenge! And here, one year later, we are looking forward with a whole new outlook in front of us. With the support of our members, the hard work of staff and the continued dedication of OLTA's Board of Governors, we have found ourselves on a more solid footing. Admittedly, there is a lot of hard work still to do, but I know that the OLTA family will meet the challenges with strength and determination.

OLTA is only as strong as our member land trusts, so we will continue to work to assist with your needs and priorities. I know that you have heard the expression, "OLTA is land trusts and land trusts are OLTA." This statement remains central to all that we do and every decision that we make. It is what keeps us focused on the right vision for the future. That vision drives us not only to continue to provide valuable programs, but to look beyond what we know and be open to new opportunities and new ways of working to build and support our sector. To quote Barack Obama, "*Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.*"

I am very excited for the coming year as, together, we explore these new opportunities and partnerships, and work to create the conditions necessary to help drive our movement forward.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It's hard to believe that another year has flown by and I'm now two years into my tenure at OLTA. And what a difference a year makes! From a challenging end to 2012, we've emerged stronger in 2013 as a result of renewed programs and new partnerships, and are better positioned to support all that you do. Special thanks to OLTA's members, governors, partners and our small staff for their unwavering commitment during this time!

Thanks to continued support from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, OLTA moved our *Assess Your Organization* program into a new phase and began working with you to implement recommendations most important to your organizations. With support from TD Bank and Mountain Equipment Co-op, we developed new resources and visited one-on-one with many of you - at your AGMs, special events, strategy sessions and more. And thanks to Environment Canada, we continued to support your conservation efforts under OLTAP. The 2012 Gathering was a resounding success, and we had tremendous participation in our webinars and workshops. *OLTA Connect* is evolving to be a key online tool to share knowledge and experiences.

While this is all good news, it's still definitely a work in progress. OLTA's capacity remains stretched and our foundation is still built on a small number of partnerships. To realize the opportunities for partnership and profile out there, we need to take new approaches and be open to new ways of operating. This is already in the works and I'm excited for the opportunities the future holds. I look forward to working with you in 2013-14 as together we save the land we love.



Thea Silver

2012 - 2013 HIGHLIGHTS

Supporting Our Members

From training and education to outreach and communications, OLTA had a busy year delivering programs to support your efforts. Here are just some of the ways we worked with you in 2012-13.

Supported the securement of 14 properties, covering more than 1,000 acres, and the completion of 17 property management plans and/or species inventories to benefit species at risk under the **Ontario Land Trust Assistance Program**.

Hosted a successful **2012 OLTA Land Trust Gathering**, attended by over 100 passionate conservationists from more than 40 organizations across Ontario.

Provided **online training** for more than 125 people through webinar series focused on ecological gifts and species at risk conservation and management.

Hosted a full-day **Real Estate Appraisal workshop**, that brought together land trusts and real estate appraisers to learn, connect and share experiences with the Ecological Gifts Program.

Facilitated the building/revitalizing of **5 land trust websites** using the OLTA land trust template.

Introduced **OLTA Connect** as an innovative way for the land trust community to connect, share information and collaborate using this land conservation focused on-line network.

Initiated follow-up work with individual land trusts in order to support the implementation of highest priority recommendations and needs arising from previously completed **organizational assessments**.

Profiled the land trust movement at **numerous events** including The Green Living Show, Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon and the Thickson's Woods Fall Festival.

Sharing Our Success

OLTA's success is ultimately realized through that of our members. Although too numerous to mention, we are proud to provide a small snapshot here of the many successes you achieved in 2012-13. Congratulations on all that you do.

Through the facilitation of **Lake Superior Watershed Conservancy**, a total of 128 acres of 20 pristine islands were preserved through a landmark "cross border" gift to American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts.



Credit: Gary & Joanie McGuffin



Credit: FrametoFrame.ca

The **Bruce Trail Conservancy** secured 5 new nature reserves, protecting 292 acres of Niagara Escarpment land, raising \$1.3 million in less than 30 days.

Ontario Farmland Trust in partnership with the **Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust** has ensured that the **Little Rock Farm** (150 acres) will be forever preserved for agricultural and conservation purposes.



Credit: Alice Lin



Credit: FrametoFrame.ca

Long Point Basin Land Trust produced a video series to show local citizens how they can take action to help protect reptiles and other wildlife.

Magnetawan Watershed Land Trust completed their first land protection project - **Old Man's Creek**.



Credit: Jason Surkan

SAVE THE LAND YOU LOVE

The Ontario Land Trust Alliance is a registered charity that strengthens land conservation by building and supporting a strong land trust movement.

To realize our mission, OLTA aims to:

BUILD

skills and abilities through education and training programs

CONNECT

land trusts to resources, each other and to local communities

SUPPORT

direct conservation action through funding and partnership programs

ENGAGE

the public through outreach activities and act as a voice for the land trust movement

Land trusts are charitable organizations that conserve lands and waters of ecological, cultural and agricultural significance in their communities - forever.

As community-based organizations, land trusts are well positioned to work with private landowners and other local stakeholders to realize shared conservation objectives and to help build a legacy for current and future generations to enjoy.

Annual OLTA Awards



For OLTA's 10th Anniversary, OLTA presented awards in recognition of long-standing contributions to the land trust movement. We were proud to honour the following in 2012:

OLTA Pioneering Leaders Award

Individual - Lou and Judith Probst

Individual - Ron Reid

Organization - Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust

OLTA Board of Governors

(2012/13)

Tanna Elliott (Chair)

Mike Hendren (Vice Chair)

Jen Baker (Secretary)

Susan Ungurean-Cumming (Treasurer)

Travis Allan

Brian Banks

Mark Carabetta (to 07/13)

Peter Carson

Kim Gavine (to 03/13)

Gary Hoyer

Patricia Short-Gallé

Mary Alice Snetsinger

Angela Van Niekerk

2012 - 2013 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

For the year ended June 30, 2013

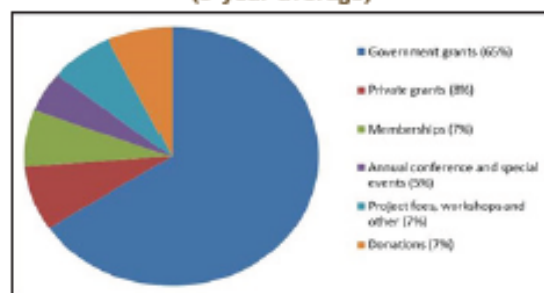
Statement of Operations

Revenues	2013	2012
Government grants	\$240,194	\$374,203
Private grants	\$7,500	\$55,625
Memberships	\$39,545	\$34,956
Annual conference (registration only)	\$35,939	\$6,041
Special events	\$2,293	\$3,100
Project fees, workshops and other	\$30,169	\$38,462
Donations	\$71,797	\$18,224
Total Revenues	\$427,437	\$530,611
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Expenses	2013	2012
Operations, communications and member services	\$47,774	\$109,938
Education, training and capacity-building	\$49,750	\$45,632
Organizational assessment program	\$60,770	\$15,572
Information and resource library	\$13,353	\$35,092
Annual conference	\$45,008	\$33,685
Stewardship fund program	\$0	\$86,329
Ontario Land Trust Assistance Program	\$156,001	\$250,000
Total Expenses	\$372,656	\$576,248
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Surplus (Deficit)	\$54,781	(\$45,637)

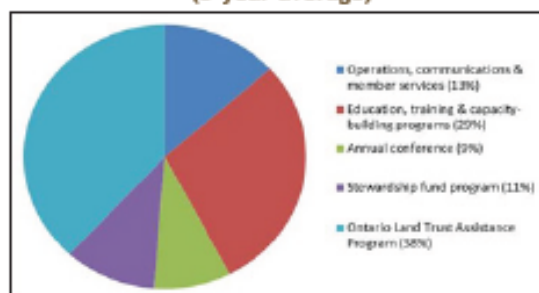
Summarized Statement of Financial Position

	2013	2012
Current assets (cash/accounts receivable/pre-paid)	\$251,831	\$131,827
Current liabilities (accounts payable/deferred revenues)	\$171,369	\$106,146
Net assets (accumulated surplus)	\$80,462	\$25,681

**Revenues
(3-year average)**



**Expenses
(3-year average)**



This is a summary of our financial statements for 2012-2013.

For a copy of OLTA's full audited financial statements, please visit www.olta.ca or contact admin@olta.ca.

POWER OF PARTNERSHIP

Partnership is at the very heart of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance - partnership with our members, with our program funders, with our individual donors. OLTA's ability to deliver programs and help build a strong land trust movement depends on partnerships with those who share our passion for Ontario's incredible natural heritage. We thank each and every one of you for the vital role you play.

Conservation Supporters

Through their generosity, our supporters are playing a vital role in the Ontario Land Trust Alliance's efforts to support land trusts and all that they do.

Corporations, Foundations and Governments

Cade Associates Insurance Brokers Limited
Community Foundations of Canada
Conservation Ontario
Ducks Unlimited Canada
Environment Canada
Mountain Equipment Co-op
Nature Conservancy of Canada
Ontario Heritage Trust
Ontario Ministry of Economic Development,
Trade and Employment
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Peelee Island Winery
TD Bank Financial Group
TD Friends of the Environment Foundation
Toronto & Region Conservation Authority
Trees Ontario
Wellington Brewery

Individuals

Thank you to those individuals who donated \$50 or more in 2012/13.

Ian Attridge	Bruce Glawson	Jane Ross
Jen Baker	Gary Goodwin	Kathryn Ross
Chris Baines	Mike Hendren	Christopher Scammell
Brian Banks	Aimee Israel	Vicki Schmolka
Mark Carabetta	Duncan & Robyn Jones	Patricia Short-Gallé
Howard Clifford	Carolyn & Bryan Kerdman	Art & Ellie Silver
Tom Deacon	Simao Louzeiro	Jeffrey Silver
Sandra Dow	Ian Macnab	Thea Silver
Tanna Elliott	Angus McLeod	Mary Alice Snetsinger
Steve Essam	Marc Michell	Malcolm Syme
Robert Frank	Peter & Violet Mizzoni	Nicole Thanasoulis
Kim Gavine	Bruce Moore	Angela Van Niekerk
Judy Gilchrist	Julie Morton	Ellie Wasserman
Andrea & Sheldon Glassman-Bell	Barbara Palter	Marty Wasserman
	Lou and Judith Probst	

Our sincere thanks to those who wish to remain anonymous or who have supported our efforts with smaller donations.

OLTA Members

The strength of our alliance comes from our members. We thank the many organizations who were members in 2012/13:

Land Trust Members

The Bruce Trail Conservancy
Canada South Land Trust
The Couchiching Conservancy
Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy
Georgian Bay Land Trust
Haliburton Highlands Land Trust
Hamilton Naturalists' Club
Hastings Prince Edward Land Trust
Huron Tract Land Trust Conservancy
Huronian Land Conservancy
Kawartha Land Trust
The Kensington Conservancy
Lake Clear Conservancy Inc.
Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation
Lake Superior Watershed Conservancy
Lambton Wildlife Incorporated
Land Conservancy for Kingston,
Frontenac, Lennox & Addington

Lone Pine Marsh Sanctuary Inc.
Long Point Basin Land Trust
Lower Grand River Land Trust Inc.
Magnetawan Watershed Land Trust
Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust Conservancy
Muskoka Conservancy
Niagara Land Trust Foundation
Northumberland Land Trust
Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust
Ontario Farmland Trust
Ontario Nature
Rainy Lake Conservancy
rare Charitable Research Reserve
Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation
Thames Talbot Land Trust
Thickson's Woods Land Trust
Thousand Islands Watershed Land Trust
Thunder Bay Field Naturalists

Associate Members

Conservation Ontario
Ducks Unlimited Canada
Nature Conservancy of Canada
- Ontario Region
Ontario Heritage Trust

Conservation Authorities

Credit Valley Conservation
Essex Region Conservation Authority
Hamilton Conservation Authority
Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
Toronto & Region Conservation Authority
South Nation Conservation Authority