



ONTARIO LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

2012 Annual Report

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Tanna Elliott

Wilson Island, Rockway Falls, Archibald Homestead, McTavish Track. These are just a few of the special places I think of with pride, as they are the legacy we are leaving for future generations. Across Ontario, we can all repeat the names of the many properties that will be forever conserved thanks to Ontario's land trusts. Whether we visit them in person or experience them virtually through our websites, we can all, through these places, feel the pride and passion of land trusts at work.

For ten years, OLTA has been working with our members to strengthen our vision of protecting and preserving treasured places across Ontario. It is through the strength of local land trusts, hard work of volunteers and staff, and the generosity of donors that our partnership has been successful.

And now we face a new chapter in OLTA's evolution. This year represented the conclusion of several multi-year projects that have supported our efforts over the past few years. Combined with today's economy and our own transition, this has resulted in some daunting financial challenges. But with challenge comes opportunity and I believe, with our strong membership, collective hard work and willingness to innovate, we will emerge stronger and better able to advance the critical work we all do. The signs are already there.

As OLTA looks to its 10th anniversary, I would like to thank everyone who has worked to build OLTA to what it is today - and who will help shape it in the future. I am honoured to be part of our movement and excited about where we might go. Thank you for your continued support.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Commitment and passion. For me, these words define Ontario's land trust movement and the people working in it. I've been constantly reminded of this over the past year as I've stepped into my role at OLTA and had the pleasure of meeting - and reconnecting with - many of the people who are working tirelessly to conserve Ontario's incredible natural heritage.

Throughout 2011-12, OLTA worked hard to support this commitment and passion, and help our members accomplish their mission. As highlighted in this report, we continued to deliver education and training programs, launched a new Information Library, supported conservation projects through OLTAP, and developed a website template for our members. We reached out to the public through events like the Green Living Show and Slow Food Toronto, and joined many of you for your local events and AGMs.

But while successful, 2011-12 also saw its share of challenges, as we concluded core programs and transitioned staff and leadership. My first year was not always easy, but I'm confident that, with patience and creativity, we'll emerge stronger as a result. Renewal is already underway with new investments from some long-time partners, first-time support from others, and exciting discussions underway regarding new partnerships and approaches to support the land trust movement. I know that with the commitment and passion of all involved, we have the right ingredients for success. I look forward to your input and to working with you in 2012-13 and beyond.



Thea Silver

2011 - 2012 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 2011-12.

Completed our **Assess Your Organization** program, a three-year initiative that provided 22 members with a road map to help strengthen their practices and enhance their abilities.

Supported the securement of more than **3,000 acres** of habitat on 38 properties under the **Ontario Land Trust Assistance Program**.

Provided **on-line training** for more than 125 people through more than **10 webinars**.

Created a new **Information Library**, a searchable, online resource where OLTA members can access documents to guide their operations and programs.

Created a **land trust website template** to help our members advance their communications.

Joined the Canadian Land Trust Alliance as a co-host of the **2011 Canadian Land Trust Conference**.

Hosted an **Executive Director workshop** that brought land trust senior staff together to learn, connect and share experiences.

Profiled the land trust movement at **numerous events** including The Green Living Show, Slow Food Toronto and Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon.

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 2011-12. Congratulations on all that you do.

The **Niagara Land Trust** secured its first conservation easement agreement to conserve the Smiths' Christmas Tree Farm. The property hosts a rich abundance of plant and wildlife species.



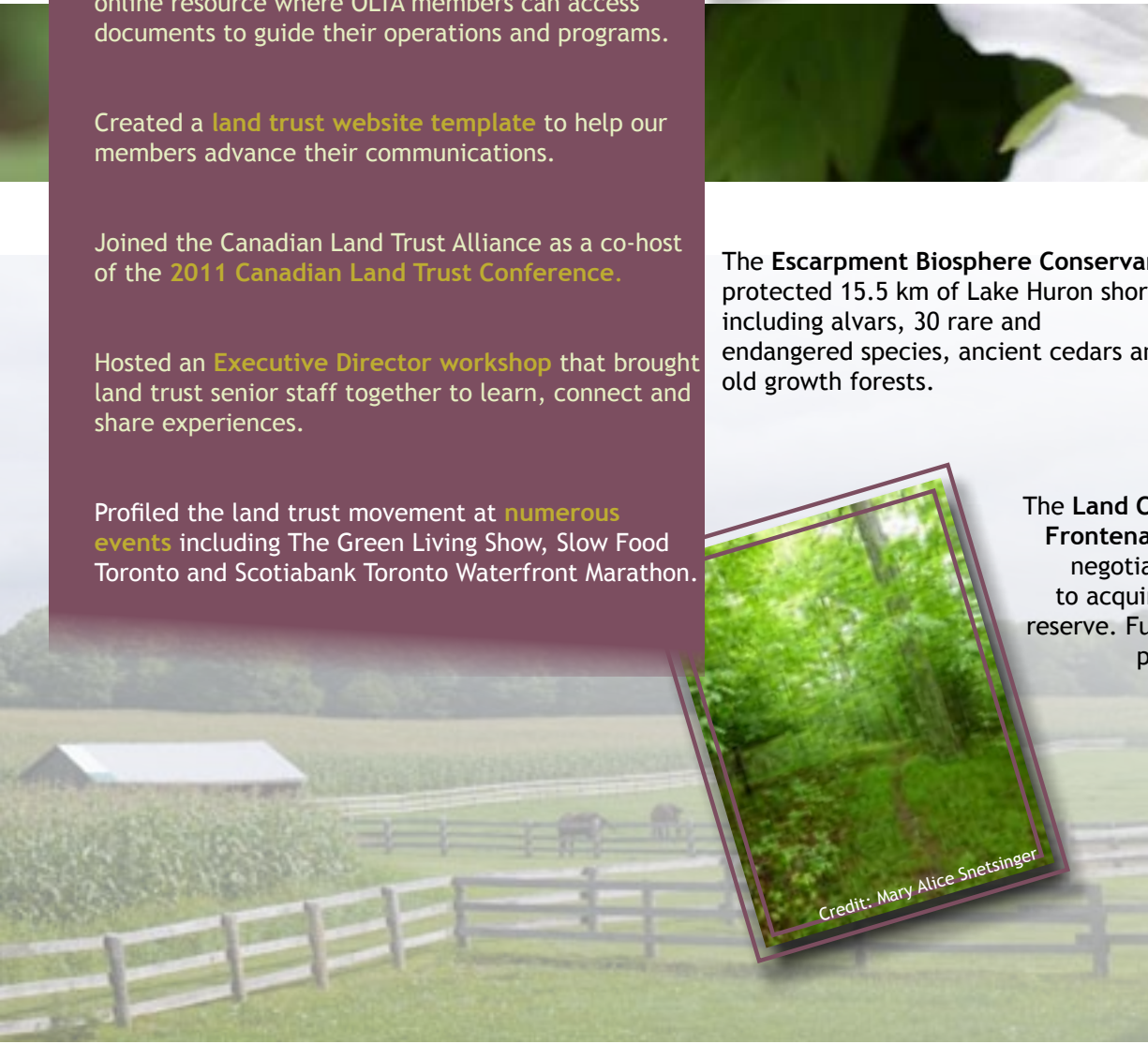
The **Haliburton Highlands Land Trust** produced *reflections* - a video series of compelling stories. *reflections* increases awareness of Species At Risk and biodiversity in the Haliburton Highlands.



The **Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy** protected 15.5 km of Lake Huron shore, including alvars, 30 rare and endangered species, ancient cedars and old growth forests.



The **Land Conservancy for Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington** negotiated its first land purchase to acquire the Depot Creek nature reserve. Fundraising to complete the purchase is well underway!



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



OLTA's annual awards recognize outstanding contributions to the land trust movement. We were proud to recognize the following in 2011:

OLTA Land Trust Achievement Award

Community Achievement - Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy
Provincial Achievement - Ontario Farmland Trust

OLTA Vision Award

Professional - Don Gordon
Volunteer - Anne Robertson

OLTA Board of Governors

(2011/12)

Tanna Elliott (Chair)
Wendy Cooper (Past Chair)
Jen Baker (Secretary)
Susan Ungurean-Cumming (Treasurer)
Brian Banks
Gregor Beck
Mark Carabetta
Peter Carson
Kim Gavine
Mike Hendren
Gary Hoyer
Patricia Short-Gallé
Mary Alice Snetsinger
Angela Van Niekirk

Charitable Registration #86943 7517 RR0001

2012 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

For the year ended June 30, 2012

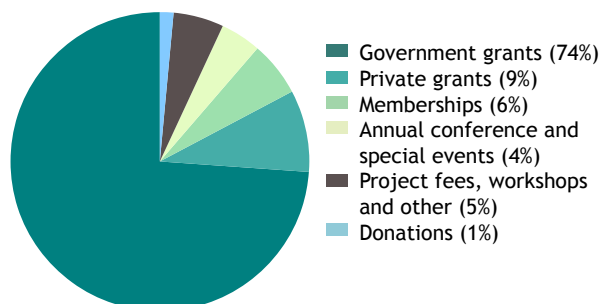
Statement of Operations

Revenues	2012	2011
Government grants	\$374,203	\$371,690
Private grants	\$55,625	\$66,603
Memberships	\$34,956	\$33,327
Special events	\$3,100	\$3,472
Annual conference	\$6,041	\$24,689
Project fees, workshops and other	\$38,462	\$34,379
Donations	\$18,224	\$3,879
Total Revenues	\$530,611	\$538,039
Expenses	2012	2011
Operations, communications and member services	\$109,938	\$42,960
Education, training and capacity-building	\$45,632	\$29,145
Organizational assessment program	\$15,572	\$116,671
Information and resource library	\$35,092	\$45,680
Annual conference	\$33,685	\$44,939
Stewardship fund program	\$86,329	\$85,856
Ontario Land Trust Assistance Program	\$250,000	\$151,663
Total Expenses	\$576,248	\$516,914
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$45,637)	\$21,125

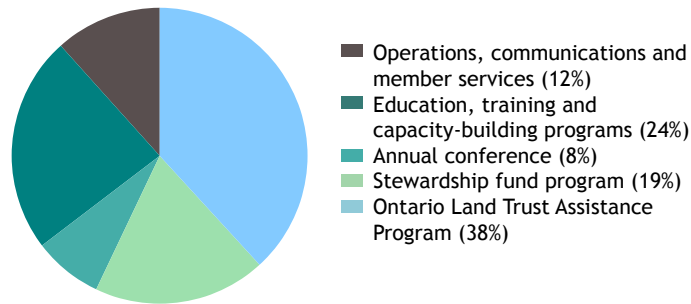
Summarized Statement of Financial Position

	2012	2011
Current assets (cash/accounts receivable/pre-paid)	\$131,827	\$136,972
Current liabilities (accounts payable/deferred revenues)	\$106,146	\$65,664
Net assets (accumulated surplus)	\$25,681	\$71,318
	\$131,827	\$136,972

Revenues
(3-year average)



Expenses
(3-year average)



This is a summary of our financial statements for 2011-2012.

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

Ontario Trillium Foundation
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Environment Canada
George Cedric Metcalf Foundation
Gosling Foundation
TD Bank Financial Group
Mountain Equipment Co-op

Individuals

Thank you to those individuals who donated \$50 or more in 2011/12.

Paul Abell
Jen Baker
Brian Banks
Gregor Beck
Anthony Belcher
Archana & Vijay Bhardwaj

Thane Calder
Dale & Phyllis Callaghan
Mark Carabetta
Wendy Cooper
Mary Denington
Tanna Elliott
Kim Gavine
Andrea & Sheldon Glassman-Bell
Bruce Glawson
Mike Hendren
Sarah Hodgkiss
Carolyn & Bryan Kerdman
Jean Labrecque
Cindy Lindsay
Simao Louzeiro
Dean McCabe
Peter & Violet Mizzoni
Roslyn Moore
Barbara Palter
Victor Reyes

Jane Ross
Kathryn Ross
Sarah-Grace Ross
Art & Ellie Silver
Jeffrey Silver
Thea Silver & Randy Mizzoni
Debbie Adjei Simone
Margo Sheppard
Mary Alice Snetsinger
Lisa Turnbull
Angela Van Niekerk
Kristie Virgoe
Ellie Wasserman
Marty Wasserman
Peter Welles
Aron West

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 2011/12:

Land Trust Members

Algoma Highlands Conservancy
The Bruce Trail Conservancy
Canada South Land Trust
Couchiching Conservancy
Escarpment Biosphere
Conservancy
Georgian Bay Land Trust
Haliburton Highlands Land Trust
Hastings Prince Edward Land Trust
Head-of-the-Lake Land Trust
Kawartha Heritage Conservancy
The Kensington Conservancy
Lake Clear Conservancy Inc.
Lake Superior Watershed
Conservancy
Lambton Wildlife Inc.
Land Conservancy for Kingston,
Frontenac, Lennox & Addington
Lone Pine Marsh Sanctuary Inc.
Long Point Basin Land Trust

Lower Grand River Land Trust
Magnetawan Watershed Land Trust
Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust Conservancy
The Muskoka Heritage Trust
Niagara Land Trust Foundation
Northumberland Land Trust
Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust
Ontario Farmland Trust
Ontario Nature
Rainy Lake Conservancy
rare Charitable Research Reserve
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
Ontario Heritage Trust
Nature Conservancy of Canada-Ontario
Region

Conservation Authorities

Credit Valley Conservation
Essex Region Conservation Authority
Hamilton Conservation Authority
Maitland Valley Conservation Authority
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority
Toronto Region Conservation Authority

