

# SAVE THE LAND YOU LOVE



ANNUAL REPORT  
2019-2020







## MISSION

To strengthen land conservation in Ontario by building and supporting a strong land trust movement.

## VISION

OLTA works to advance overall excellence in community land conservation in Ontario as a non-partisan and independent organization that promotes best practices and organizational excellence. It aggregates and shares land trust data and partners in research and education to contribute conservation planning expertise. It also continues to operate and expand as a trusted funding program administrator to support the sector.

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Gayle Wood, *Chair*  
Caroline Schultz, *Vice Chair*  
George Gordon, *Secretary*  
Beth Gilhespy, *Treasurer*  
Kristie Virgoe, *Past Chair*  
Ian Attridge  
Kathryn Enders  
Barbara Heidenreich  
Sara Kelly  
Kimberley Mackenzie  
Frank Shaw  
Stephanie Sobek-Swant (retired May 2020)

## STAFF

Alison Howson, *Executive Director*  
Morgan Roblin, *Conservation Science Manager*  
Phyllis Lee, *Member Services Coordinator*  
Jeffrey Driscoll, *Program and Communications Coordinator*  
Mikayla Johnston-Clayton, *Program Assistant*  
Jean Labrecque, *Bookkeeper*

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Well this has been a different year for us all.

Despite the challenges, we are continuing to inspire others with amazing commitment and dedication to protecting nature. We are inspired and emboldened every time we see a new member project, securement or campaign.

This year land conservation and climate action has not been front and centre, as it was last year, but it is still front and centre in all our minds and hearts. We cannot be distracted by world pandemics when climate action and protection of biodiversity are as critical as ever. The role land trusts play is essential to the future of our children and grandchildren. Let us use our strength now to support and nurture our community.

We are incredibly grateful to our funding supporters who value the work we do to conserve Ontario's natural heritage. With this support, this year OLTA has advanced research and training programs to build land trust strength and capacity. We have continued our climate action project, and developed new programming to engage new Canadians.

We have also continued to progress our dialogue with Indigenous leaders and keepers of the land to advance our efforts towards reconciliation.

We are also working with partners nationally to grow our voice and to develop tools and a platform for sharing best practices in implementing our Standards and Practices. This will build on our success from this year, knowledge sharing with individuals from 72 organizations.

"Treat the earth well: it was not given to you by your parents, it was loaned to you by your children" -  
Unknown origin

With warm regards,



Gayle Wood  
Chair, Board of Governors



Alison Howson  
Executive Director



## OUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

OLTA's incredible members have saved over **108,000 acres** of conservation land since 2002



Workshop and webinar training organized for **72 organizations** and many more individuals in 2019/20



Over **1,200 acres** of new cross-border conservation since 2016



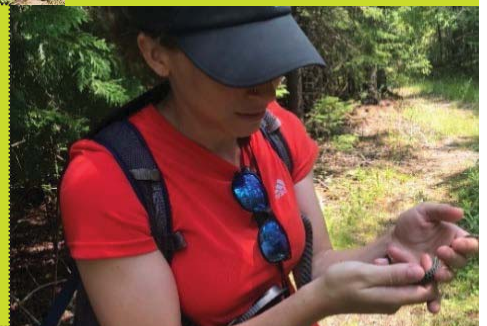
**76** amazing volunteers contributed more than **1,000** hours in 2019



Developing **climate tools** with land trusts



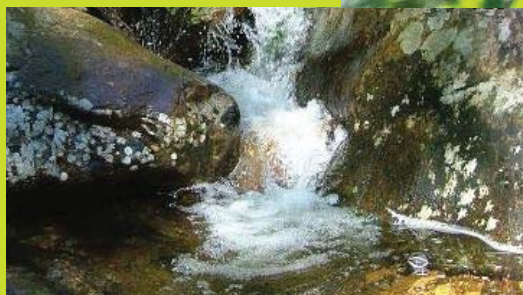
OLTA helped protect conservation lands valued at **\$98.1 million**



Developing training and tools to strengthen **conservation easements**



Building **land trust excellence**, promoting best practices, partnering in research, sharing knowledge



With support from OLTA, recovery actions have been carried out for **72 species at risk**

# MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Here is a small snapshot of the many successes of our members.

Land Conservancy of Kingston, Lennox, Frontenac and Addington is now protecting two nature reserves within the Frontenac Biosphere Reserve. Rock Ridge Nature Reserve is 3.4ha which provides a bridge between Queen's University Biological Station and Frontenac Provincial Park. Mast van Dongen Nature Reserve is 5ha of waterfront property.



Photo: Janet Elliott

With support from Canada's Nature Fund, Georgian Bay Land Trust is delighted to be in the final stages of a campaign to protect 286 acres old-growth deciduous forests and wetlands on a Georgian Bay island.

Long Point Basin Land Trust spent essential hours on key S&P activities, updating committees, developing a new land securement strategy and planning for their upcoming Strategic Plan.



The Couchiching Conservancy protected over 360 new acres including the 175 acre Taylor Nature Reserve.

We are very proud of the accomplishments of our Members and Associates who work tirelessly throughout the year to advance land conservation in our communities.

## 2019 OLTA AWARDS

David Wake was recognized with the Angus McLeod Vision Award. David made exceptional contributions to Thames Talbot Land Trust (TTLT) and its community. Under David's leadership, TTLT served as the incubator for two new environmental groups in London.

Valerie Fieldwebster has made an outstanding personal contribution to Magnetawan Watershed Land Trust (MWLT) and local communities in her role as MWLT Coordinator. Valerie received the OLTA Vision Award (Professional).

For The Couchiching Conservancy, Tanya Clark organizes events, manages their membership, handles their biggest fundraisers and campaigns. This included pioneering their Passport to Nature program and sharing this program with other land trusts across Canada. Tanya was recognized with the Emerging Land Trust Leader Award.

# Thank you to our partners for their commitment to strengthening land conservation in Ontario

Echo Foundation  
McLean Foundation  
Nature Conservancy of Canada  
Greenbelt Foundation  
Ontario Trillium Foundation  
TD Friends of the Environment Foundation  
Conservation Ontario  
Long Point Honey Company  
Cade Associates Insurance Brokers Limited  
Forests Ontario  
Sandbanks Estate Winery Inc.

## INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Thank you for protecting natural landscapes in Ontario for generations to come

Bethany Armstrong  
Ian Attridge  
Mark Bisset  
Susan Bryan  
Phyllis & Dale Callaghan  
Rob Davis  
Shane Davis  
Alexandra Dorison  
Deborah Duffy  
Tanna Elliott  
Kathryn Enders  
Give Foundation  
Beth Gilhespy  
George Gordon  
Barry Graham  
Peter Hannah  
Barbara Heidenreich  
Thomas Hurst  
Jim Johnston  
Duncan & Robyn Jones  
Sara Kelly  
Daria Koscinski

Kimberley MacKenzie  
Paul Mackenzie  
Bruce MacLellan  
Gordon Marjerrison  
Mark McLean  
Orland Conservation  
Brian & Mary Roblin  
Courtney Roblin  
Vicki Schmolka  
Caroline Schultz  
Frank Shaw  
Mary Alice Snetsinger  
Stephanie Sobek-Swant  
tentree international  
Susan Walmer  
Dave Winkle  
Gayle Wood  
Sheila Ziman

In honour of Jennifer Ahr's milestone birthday  
In memory of Dan King, a founder of EBC  
In honour of Edythe and Maurice Hall

Thank you to all the donors who wish to remain anonymous.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Revenues	2019/20	2018/19
Government Grants	\$119,596	\$266,293
Private Grants	\$72,876	\$33,461
Wage Subsidies	\$20,235	
Memberships	\$58,535	\$54,753
Annual Conference (registration only)	\$47,168	\$49,115
Special Events	\$6,381	\$6,743
Project fees, workshops and other revenue	\$7,510	\$9,297
Donations	\$9,884	\$5,324
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$342,185</b>	<b>\$424,986</b>
Expenses	2019/20	2018/19
Operations, communications and member services	\$64,854	\$106,358
Education, training and capacity- building	\$184,081	\$212,248
Annual Conference	\$48,498	\$50,645
Ontario Land Trust Assistance Program (OLTAP)		\$85,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$297,433</b>	<b>\$454,251</b>

## SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2020	2019
Current Assets (Cash/accounts receivable/pre-paid)	\$364,185	\$327,911
Current Liabilities (accounts payable/deferred revenues)	\$72,938	\$81,416
<b>Net Assets (Accumulated surplus)</b>	<b>\$291,247</b>	<b>\$246,495</b>

# OLTA MEMBERS

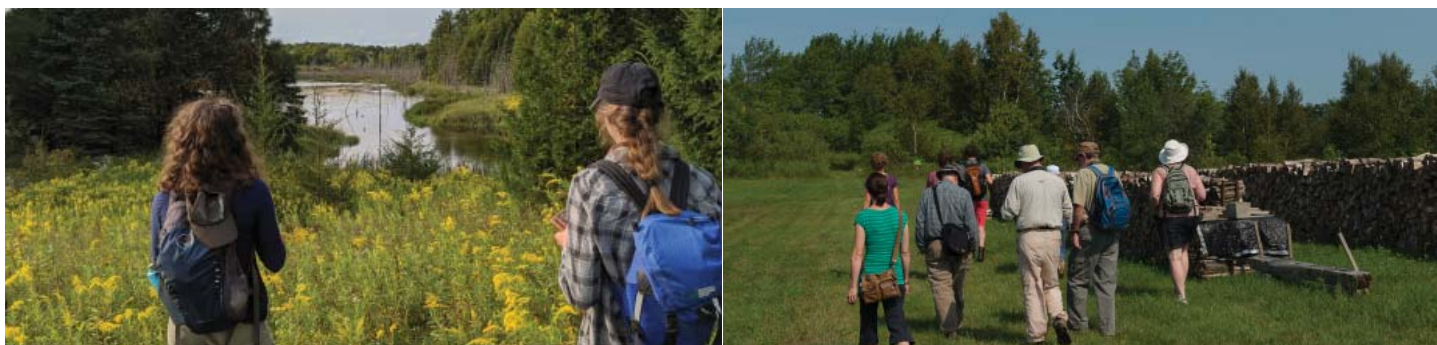
American Friends of Canadian Conservation  
Brant Land Trust  
The Bruce Trail Conservancy  
Canada South Land Trust  
The Couchiching Conservancy  
Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy  
Georgian Bay Land Trust  
Haliburton Highlands Land Trust  
Hastings Prince Edward Land Trust  
Huron Tract Land Trust Conservancy  
Huron Land Conservancy  
Kawartha Land Trust  
The Kensington Conservancy  
Lake Clear Conservancy  
Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation  
Lake Superior Watershed Conservancy  
Lambton Wildlife Incorporated  
Land Conservancy for Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox  
& Addington

Lone Pine Land Trust  
Long Point Basin Land Trust  
Lower Grand River Land Trust  
Magnetawan Watershed Land Trust  
Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust  
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 Waterway Land Trust  
Thames Talbot Land Trust  
Thickson's Woods Land Trust  
Thousand Islands Watershed Land Trust  
Thunder Bay Field Naturalists

# OLTA ASSOCIATES

Nature Conservancy of Canada - Ontario Region  
Ontario Heritage Trust  
Carolinian Canada Coalition  
Conservation Ontario  
Essex Region Conservation Authority  
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority  
Nickel District Conservation Authority

Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation  
St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation  
South Nation Conservation Authority  
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority  
Upper Thames River Conservation Authority  
Wildlands League  
Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq



416-588-6582

[admin@olta.ca](mailto:admin@olta.ca)

[www.olta.ca](http://www.olta.ca)

Help us to save the land you love!