



review

Celebrating 10 Years!

Spring 2011

Parallel Visions: revisiting the beginnings of *rare* Charitable Research Reserve

This year, we celebrate ten years of progress since the charity's inception. In this issue of the *rare review* we aim to provide a look at the organization from a big picture perspective – who we are, where we have been and looking ahead. In the next issue, we will take a closer look at the priority and programs of *rare* and summarize the work of ten years. We would be remiss, however, not to start with a short history.

The incorporation of *rare* Charitable Research Reserve took place December 6, 2001. Within a matter of weeks, the charity - a sizable piece of Waterloo Region, approaching 1000 acres on the banks of the Grand River - unveiled its vision to the public, a vision to preserve the landscape for its ecological value. The specific objectives of this vision were a

year in the making: while the Board of Directors established the charitable status and financial commitments, an Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) undertook a four-season inventory of the property, listing species occurrence and habitat types. The result of their work was an Environment Management Plan to help guide decisions on restoration and programs.

The inventory of the property highlights a story which is told by the landscape that is now *rare*, and it's a history that dates back much further than ten years. In fact, the history of *rare* goes back many thousands of years, millions if you consider the geology. The dolomitic limestone cliffs along *rare's* River Trail and the 420-million-year-old fossils in the stone walls of the Slit Barn are wonderful reminders of this history.

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Masthead Photo and Inside This Issue Photo by: Peter Kelly



Let's jump ahead to the time aboriginal nomadic hunters and gatherers who established seasonal campsites on the uplands and lowlands, and floodplain agriculturalists living in villages on the lowlands around the confluence of the Grand and Speed Rivers and a trail along what is now Blair Road. Because **rare** is set aside as a site for research and education, the account of human occupancy and use of the landscape is available to us, providing extremely interesting and important cultural history.

As written in the history section of the **rare** website at www.raresites.org, "Archaeology is inherently a sampling process of past human behaviour.



Blair Cemetery provides reminders of the past.
Photo by Peter Kelly.

Archaeological sites not only distill the length of human occupation and the various adaptations made to the changing environment (e.g., hunting/gathering to semi-permanent horticulture) through the artefacts recovered and their settlement patterns, but also can yield ecofacts that inform us of the various plant and animal species that were present and exploited at any given time through the past. As such, archaeological sites not only can inform us of how

people adapted to a changing environment, but also give evidence of how the environment was changing during those times." To date, artefacts recovered at **rare** date from 10,500 years ago through to the earliest pioneer settlers.

Early European contact in the area in the late 1700s was by transient fur traders. Prior to 1800, one of the first settlers in the region, fur trader Nathaniel Dodge built a cabin on what is now the **rare** Charitable Research Reserve. He and his wife are reported to be buried on their homestead. Our Slit Barn and companion farmhouse homestead is an important reminder of the Mennonite families that settled in this area, along the banks in the Grand River Valley, beginning in about 1800.

The 1817 survey notes of land surveyor, Adrian Marlet who surveyed Dumfries township, describe the forest in what is now **rare** Charitable Research Reserve as consisting of "maple and beech and elm." Dutch elm disease has eliminated all of the large elms; however, the existing upland woods are still dominated by sizeable sugar maple and American beech, demonstrating

the long-term ecological stability of the remaining upland forests.

In 1837, The Lamb's Inn was built in Blair, the oldest village in Upper Canada as a stage coach inn. The charity's administration has operated out of the Lamb's Inn since 2005.

In 1853, William Ashton purchased about 230 acres of land along the Galt-Blair Road. Because of the booming local economy, Ashton believed that he would be raising cattle, operating a brewery (the foundation of which is still visible today) and constructing a mansion. He is said to have named his property, Cruickston Park in honour of the Cruickston Castle, the ship that brought him from England. Within a few years, unfortunately, a downturn in the economy left Ashton financially overextended.

In 1858, he sold his property and dream to Matthew Wilks. From New York, Wilks bought the estate, intending to use it as a summer residence. He eventually completed the building of the mansion (now in private hands) and accumulated lands for farming totalling about a thousand acres.

The estate remained in the family until Matthew Wilks' grandson, Matthew Wilks Keefer, gifted the estate to the University of Guelph, which took possession of it



This man looks like he's trying to get away from it all but in actual fact he's a lineman repairing a telephone line. The photo was taken in Blair Feb. 13, 1898. The line is on the George Tilt farm near the old Blair Bridge.

Photo from the Greg Pautler Blair Collection of Historical Photos.

on his death in 1973. Later in this article, you will read more about this gift and of Keefer's intentions.

In 1996, the University of Guelph severed 53 acres of the Cruickston Park estate which included the manor house and sold it to private owners for their personal use.

In 2000, with funding from concerned citizens, the remaining 913 acres of Cruickston Park was purchased as part of a conservation strategy. In December 2001, the Cruickston Charitable Research Reserve was incorporated as a charity, and by February 2002 the land transfer was completed, allowing the 913 acres to be preserved in perpetuity.

In October 2004, the Cruickston Charitable Research Reserve was renamed **rare**. Its bold new name and accompanying graphic logo has helped to end the confusion between the private 53-acre Cruickston Park and the newly formed charity. It also signalled an acknowledgement of the property's history beyond that of the colonial time of the Cruickston Manor, highlighting both the past and the future.

During this past decade, management needs and actions continue to be updated through ongoing ecological monitoring, brainstorming and consultations guided by ecosystem thinking – namely the dynamic interrelationships among organisms and their physical environment. Ten years later, the Board and EAC can look back at **rare's** modest beginnings of a “handful of people” to an organization currently supported by a robust staff, a committed Board, an Executive Director, a Campaign Cabinet, International Ambassadors and an Environmental Advisory Committee that is augmented immensely by committees of education, research and archaeology. “Friends of **rare**” from communities throughout the Region of Waterloo provide invaluable support and service through their volunteer efforts.

The vision of **rare** embraces elements of land stewardship, environmental and natural history education and peer-reviewed research that are all possible in the context of **rare's** landscape. Imagine the pride and satisfaction of **rare's** stewards as the landscape and habitats continue to surprise us with their diversity and species richness. Imagine the joy of students who visit **rare** to experience and shape their attitude toward nature. Imagine the attraction of **rare's** landscape to both university and government researchers who are provided with the opportunity for long-term, uninterrupted field studies. Imagine the



A beam of light streams through a slit in the 1840s stone barn. Photo by: Amanda Newell

potential interactions between steward, student, researcher, volunteer and Friends of **rare** - interactions that foster the understanding and appreciation of the natural world and our relationship to it.

In July 2002, while reviewing background materials concerning Environmentally Sensitive Policy Areas within [**rare**], the [**rare**] Ecological [Environmental] Advisory Team discovered an abstract in a 1968 volume of The Canadian Field-Naturalist that outlined the vision Matthew Wilks Keefer had for his property” ([**rare**] Newsletter, Vol. 1, No. 4). His bequest to the University of Guelph was well-known in the community but his stated “vision” was not. Consider these excerpts from Keefer’s vision that speak to the

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10 Years of *rare* by Keith Ainsworth



Keith Ainsworth, Chair of the Board, *rare*

Looking back on the 10 years since the creation of the *rare* Charitable Research Reserve, I am amazed at where the time has gone. What started as a quest to protect this land and save it from development or exploitation for gravel extraction quickly evolved into an ambitious plan to restore and rehabilitate the entire property to its natural state and use it as a site for research, education, and public enlightenment and enjoyment. That plan formed the blueprint for everything that has been undertaken since the foundation of the charity.

In line with that plan, so much has been accomplished in the first 10 years, all of it due to the hard work and dedication of the many staff and volunteers, past and present, who have chosen to make the goals and aspirations of *rare* their own. Of course, nothing happens without the funds necessary to turn dreams into reality and

so I extend my sincere thanks to our many donors who have generously supported the charity through these first 10 years. My thanks also go to my fellow Board members who have guided the charity through the many challenges of these formative years.

Looking to the future, *rare* will, I believe, continue to become more relevant and important to the inhabitants of Waterloo Region as new growth and urban development ultimately encircle the property. Much work still needs to be done to maximize the potential for research and education: buildings need further restoration to provide suitable classroom and meeting spaces, trails and boardwalks need extending, and programs must evolve to better capture the interest of a larger segment of the population.

To guide the future of the organization, I'm pleased to welcome Susan Whelan to the position of Executive Director. Susan brings a wealth of experience in both private and public sectors and a passion for the environment to the role. I encourage you to meet her and perhaps explore ways that, in the future, *rare* can become more important to you and your family.



Susan Whelan, Executive Director, *rare*. Photo by: Peter Kelly



Come visit the Community Gardens at Springbank.

A new native tree and shrub trail is underway and there may be a few garden plots left! Local, home-grown veggies... YUM! Just \$25 per 10 x 20 ft plot for the season.

A Natural Investment for so many of you

More than 900 supporters have already elected to make an investment in **rare** – an outpouring of support that demonstrates the commitment behind this project and the public will to make our vision a reality. Those donors are now members of our Founding Donors and will have their support recognized by a listing of all donors to our capital campaign on the Founders Wall, at the end of the campaign, regardless of the amount, every gift counts and makes a big difference.

A Natural Investment is the name of **rare's** current capital campaign. We aim to raise the \$17 million which is needed to preserve the 900+acre Nature Reserve, protected intact and in perpetuity. To date, \$10.5 million has already been raised from gifts of all sizes, funding our priority needs.

Every year, a set of priorities is established which determines our priority funding needs for that year. Last year, for example, **rare** had the opportunity to acquire an additional 93 acres of land adjacent to the Reserve, right up against Indian Woods. It is ecologically significant for many reasons; it hosts the headwaters of a cold-water stream that feeds the Grand River and is part of a Provincially Significant Wetland. The community came together and in the end raised over \$900,000 to make this purchase a reality, covering the purchase price, land appraisal, closing costs, etc. Another protected natural area with public access and community trails saved for future generations.

Other accomplishments include:

- The purchase of the historic Lamb's Inn, preserving a cultural landmark and creating a home for **rare** administration;
- paying down \$1.4 million of the original \$5.4 million mortgage plus closing costs;
- developing and offering education programs to the public and school groups on an ongoing basis (over 2500 school children in 2010 alone);
- fostering the beginnings of a what will surely be a thriving institute for research;
- supporting a developing agenda on sustainable agriculture from large scale growing to backyard gardening; and so on.

This year, we are focused on 'Opening the Door to Environmental Education.' Our priority is to ensure that **rare** will be able to fulfill its promise of Every Child Outdoors – so that all children have outdoor education opportunities each and every year. Through this program kids are encouraged to reconnect with nature, something that provides so many health and developmental benefits.

It means we will also have a better educated group of young people who are prepared to tackle the challenges of our changing environment. This is a snap shot of what we can do, with your help.

Get your name on our Founders Wall – please make a



An image from the Thompson Tract; our newly acquired 93 acres. Photo by: Amanda Newell

gift today, helping to Open the Door to Environmental Education. Visit www.raresites.org. Regardless of size, every gift counts and we want to thank and honour those you have made an investment in **rare** – in our environment, and in our future.

Maybe you'd like to join a new club? Our Bedrock Donors club appeals to those who understand the importance of this project and want to help us plan for the future. Information can be found at www.raresites.org/Donate.

When you make a donation to **rare's** priority needs, it is not just a one-time gift. It is an investment in our future, and in our children's future.

From days of old...

Although we don't boast or brag often at **rare**, this issue is about celebrating all that has been accomplished in the last 10 years. Countless people have been part of growing this optimistic, enthusiastic and forward-thinking organization into the vibrant community of caring, learning and exploring it has become. The opportunities created here allow people to have a personal relationship with stewardship and nature, whether it be through strolling the trails, tending the gardens, studying the environment, or learning through our school programming and events. This could not be accomplished without some amount of infrastructure, which is made up of Lamb's Inn, the Resource House and Slit Barn complex, and Springbank, which will soon include solar-powered North House.

Lamb's Inn

Built in 1837 and known to be Upper Canada's first stagecoach, Lamb's Inn has played a lot of roles in the history of the Village of Blair. As a designated Heritage Building, it now serves as the nerve centre of **rare**. Here, along with carrying out the many essential tasks that keep **rare** functioning on a daily basis, staff members collaborate, brainstorm, and build partnerships that will carry the organization and land into the future. Advisors meet to consult, volunteers come together to lend a much-needed hand, and events are held to educate, coordinate, and celebrate. Here, problems are solved and real positive action takes place.

Today, Lamb's Inn continues to play a role as a gathering place in the Blair community.



Photo by: Peter Kelly



Resource House and Slit Barn

If you've driven past our unique Slit Barn and Resource House, you may have noticed our efforts to preserve and renovate these two buildings that hosted an early farm. The Reserve has incredible natural education venues in the form of forest, fields, cliffs and watercourses, and a history of offering quality education to thousands. But we need the right facilities to move towards opening the door to education as we move to get every child outdoors in the Region of Waterloo. The barn and house will have all the basic necessities for educating over four seasons, as well as offering a venue for fundraising and community events. The house will even have space for researchers and other associates to work and stay while participating in activities that all relate back to conservation and responsible land stewardship.

Photo by: Greg Pautler

To modern times.



Architect rendering of Springbank Pavilion

Springbank

Named for the fresh water seeping down its hills, Springbank's landscape has supported farming for at least 150 years. The house has sheltered agricultural workers for generations; although the quirky stone building still houses staff that help steward the land, management goals have shifted slightly. Springbank is now an outdoor hub of community, growth, research and education. Dozens of neighbours tend their plots in the community gardens, school children learn about sustainable food systems and agriculture, and volunteers get their hands dirty. It's also a place where we demonstrate responsible land stewardship choices. The gardens, trails, and, soon-to-be new pavilion of Springbank exist in the centre of **rare** to provide visitors the chance to experience the land first-hand, and perhaps take some ownership over this special place.



North House

This innovative solar-powered building was designed by a group of architecture students and will act as a unique addition to Springbank's public demonstration and education opportunities. It has the capability of producing more electricity than it consumes, and demonstrates alternatives to mainstream historic and present-day construction as the world's energy sector changes. North House is just one example of **rare's** support for out-of-the-box thinking.

Architect rendering

Our structure and guiding principles

It should not come as a shock to readers of the **rare review** to hear that our vision is about preserving, in perpetuity, a particular 900+ acre natural landscape that exists here in Waterloo Region, in the Grand River Valley, of southern Ontario. That's our highest purpose. It has always been conservation first.

Founded in 2001 as a registered charity accountable to the Ontario Public Guardian and Trustee, **rare** is governed by a Board of Directors. The Directors have diverse skills and expertise in a variety of sectors.

As with any charity, our by-laws are written to guide the activities of the charity. The Board provides oversight and support to the organization's management and staff team to help them fulfill the mandate and vision.

As introduced earlier in this newsletter by Board Chair Keith Ainsworth, Susan Whelan has recently been hired as Executive Director. Susan is now at the helm, working with a team of dedicated staff who are each educated and experienced in their area of work and have expertise to perform their specific role.

To its credit, the organization has always attracted the best minds and we are quite fortunate to have many, many volunteers and expert advisors who lend their time and knowledge to the staff. What follows this narrative is an article written by one of those advisors, Dr. Stephen Murphy. To hammer the point of the talent we attract, Steve is Professor and Chair of the Department of Environment and Resource Studies (ERS) at the University of Waterloo, Director of the Centre for Ecosystem Resilience & Adaptation (ERA), Chair of the Centre for Applied Science in Ontario Protected Areas (CASIOPA), and Associate Editor for Restoration Ecology & Associate Editor for Weed Science.

Steve's article provides an example of the intense thought that goes into every decision and leads to the development of our programs and your involvement. If conservation is our vision, our priority program at **rare** is research. We are pleased to have Steve's column in this issue to provide some of the behind-the-scenes thinking that guides that priority.

Before hearing from Dr. Murphy, some context is important. Essentially, **rare** is a science-based, community-owned land trust that is custodian of a physically diverse landscape with a myriad of species of ranked significance. Why science-based? Because **rare** is ideal for research – it's size and variety of habitats, the diversity of flora and fauna found here, its urban surroundings, long-term vision, climate of cooperation, restoration plans and its proximity to three leading Canadian universities and research institutes, all set the perfect backdrop for learning in a variety of disciplines at every level. At **rare**, research not only forms the basis of our land



Students participating in hedgerow enhancement. Photo by: Peter Kelly

management decisions, but it also feeds a Chain of Learning that extends all the way to our youngest citizens from some of the brightest minds in restoration ecology and related fields. We are constantly striving to offer more meaningful ways that the public can be involved at **rare**, and to better the understanding of how the research done on **rare** is relevant to each of us.

As Steve points out, "Restoration Ecology may lead to ecological restoration but the real goal is to test, using best scientific practices, innovative and quantifiable approaches." Not only do we have to find answers to existing questions, but we have to develop the next set of questions and we have to play a role in developing the next generation who will understand these issues and advance them – another reason our Open the Door to Environmental Education effort is so critical.

All food for thought. All important to our ability to guide the stewardship of this amazing property entrusted to our care on your behalf and the generations that will follow.

Restoration Ecology versus Ecological Restoration. *By Dr. Stephen D. Murphy*



Restoration Ecology. Ecological Restoration. There is a difference between these similar sounding terms and that difference is important to **rare**. A good portion of **rare** is to be “conserved” or “repaired”. This means we need to do ecological restoration. The goal would be an ecological state – species with viable populations and intended ecological communities so that eventually **rare’s**

ecosystems are more or less able to self-maintain. Research can be involved but that function is secondary to the main purpose of conservation. A controversy may erupt because what is the ideal state that should be our goal? Should we restore and conserve a site to its state in the pre-sprawl era? Should it be earlier – around the time the European immigrants arrived in great numbers? Should be it even earlier – when various groups of First Nations made **rare** and environs their home? Or should we go back to before the last Ice Age (or is that the cut-off)? These are not easy decisions because the choice of a “reference state” (the ecological state you want to achieve) is ultimately arbitrary.

However, a given reference state can be defensible as long as you have evidence that a type of ecological community existed at one time, that it is still viable under current environmental conditions (climate, surrounding land scape), and you have some social consensus on that reference state. All three are tricky to achieve.

Evidence is very sporadic unless you have impeccable surveyors’ or other records and, ideally, some paleoecological evidence. Photographic evidence is often poor quality (and not really available until the mid 1800s).

Viability is difficult because, as with **rare**, the surrounding landscape has been so altered that the former groundwater flows,

overland flows, or habitats that sustained large populations of certain species are gone. What’s left at **rare** can quickly turn into an artifice – an ecological zoo or, worse, an ecological trap where some organisms can get in but they can never get out and die off. This is why the designation of the Ecologically Sensitive Landscape around (and including) **rare** was so important – we do not control what goes on off-site but now there is a large “greater protected area ecosystem” that rare will be part of and sustain. Similarly, the reason why roads and houses are problematic is because too many “incisions” into the landscape fragments it beyond repair. In addition, we have the problem of a changing climate that may alter rare’s ability to sustain certain species or ecological functions. It is possible that with climate change the Carolinian Zone may actually expand to envelop **rare** and points north, supposing that the species will be able to cope and follow more rapid changes in precipitation and temperature and, unfortunately, the pace and scale of abiotic change is likely to be far ahead of biotic survival. Genetic drift and natural selection (augmented by human caused disturbances) may not yield ecological communities with much diversity or resilience.

Finally, because evidence is often sparse (unless one does research beforehand), there is often serious disagreement as to what a society wants in terms of ecological restoration and conservation. Laws and policies favour species-at-risk because they are easier to quantify than an ecological community that is never replicated exactly through succession. But species can be poor choices of reference because what favours

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A field in regeneration providing amazing habitat for grass land birds. Photo by: Peter Kelly

Restoration Ecology versus Ecological Restoration. Continued from Page 9

one species may be detrimental to many others and indeed preclude effective restoration of ecological communities. If an ecological community is indeed the goal, then we are back to the question of what era or epoch do we wish to emulate for restoration and conservation. There is a tendency to set the reference state around the time of mass European colonization and the industrial revolution as it crept into a given location. That can be justified. But it is known that peoples from the First Nations altered the landscape, on a smaller scale, for the same reasons Europeans did at first – agriculture. So is that pre-European ecological community “natural”? Should it be the reference? Arguments can only be settled with some consensus but what is needed is research to determine how to restore viable dynamic ecological processes.

Restoration Ecology may lead to ecological restoration but the real goal is to test, using best scientific practices, innovative and quantifiable approaches. Some of these will fail. Some of these will produce ecological states that do not resemble or function as what was once on the experimental site. In many cases the state an experiment in Restoration Ecology is meant to achieve is in fact something that has broad, regional ecological conformity but not likely site specific conformity. In other words, most Restoration Ecology experiments (outdoors at least) have less stringent reference state goals, again, the ecological state you want to achieve. They may lead to new ideas on how to restore oak-maple-beech forests where the site used to support a white pine-maple forest or restore alvars on compacted sites where prairies stood before parking lots intruded or perhaps restore prairies where meadows originally stood 700 years ago. These do not lead to strict ecological restoration. They do lead to good research and articles that will have an impact in the professional and scientific field of Restoration Ecology.

We are called a “Research Reserve.” We aim to attract innovative researchers. It is meant to make **rare** a magnet for world class research and attention. But, and this is important, interventionist research is restricted to degraded areas; rare allows research in the form of monitoring and modeling in most locations but the conservation management areas are off-limits to further disruption – even from research.

Save the Date!

2nd Annual **rare** Walk
Sunday, September 25th

*Help “Open the Door
to Environmental Education”*

A family-friendly 5 km walk
raising funds to support our
Every Child Outdoors
priority program.

Walkers and sponsors wanted. Watch
www.raresites.org for details.



Whooo is Odee?

Watch for announcements!



Deer in Indian Woods. Photo by: Peter Kelly

Parallel Visions: Continued from Page 3

very ecological and environmental concerns that remain with us at **rare**, today:

- “[Cruikston Park Farm] lends itself to experimental projects in conservation...what occurs to air, water, soil, vegetation, crop yields, and, indeed the total ecology of [Waterloo Region] as urban changes take place can be continuously observed.”
- “...this tract of land is unique in size, location and significance.”
- “...more specifically, kept as a single unit.”

Keefer’s vision stressed the importance and need in the future to undertake “research close to urbanization within a controlled environment....” As well as



Eastern Red-Backed Salamander, Leadback morph. Photo by: Peter Kelly

research, he advocated the need for his property to also serve as a place for meetings and conferences, study programs, environmental demonstrations and research seminars on the impact of urban development (Do you recall or did you attend the Smart

Growth Conference hosted by **rare** in 2002?).



Slit Barn, east wall. Photo by: Peter Kelly

Keefer’s language is, of course, that of the 1960s and yet his thinking is very much of the 21st Century, for he recognized the value of both the preservation of landscape – size is important – and the understanding of ecosystems. There is satisfaction in knowing that the parallel visions of Matthew Wilks Keefer, in 1968, and **rare** in 2001, continue

in 2011. The common denominator of these parallel visions is a recognition that the well-being of people and their activities are imbedded in and dependent upon ecosystems.

Board of Directors

Keith Ainsworth, Chair of the Board; retired CEO former Chairman, COM DEV International
Gerald Achtymichuk, Family Physician
Paul Koch, Marketing & Management Consultant; Civic Entrepreneur
Peter Krause, Trillium Environmental Consulting Inc.; International Director, International River Foundation
Brian McGee, Chartered Accountant; Partner, Zeifman & Company LLP
Angela Tsementzis, Architect; B.E.S, B.Arch, OAA, LEED AP

Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC)

Chris Dalton, Avocational Archaeologist, Licensed by the Province of Ontario
Doug Larson, Professor Emeritus, College of Biological Sciences, University of Guelph
John MacDonald, Archaeologist
Alan Morgan, Faculty Member, Earth Sciences, University of Waterloo
Stephen Murphy, Professor and Associate Chair, Undergraduate Studies, Environment and Resource Studies, University of Waterloo
Martin Neumann, Supervisor of Terrestrial Resources, Grand River Conservation Authority
Mark Pomeroy, Fisheries Biologist, Stantec Consulting Ltd.
Bill Wilson, retired Teacher; Naturalist; Bird Monitoring Co-ordinator, *rare*
Brett Woodman, Terrestrial and Wetland Biologist, Natural Resource Solutions Inc.

International Ambassadors

Michael Barnstijn, retired partner, RIM; Philanthropist; Musagetes Foundation
David Buckland, Founder, Cape Farewell www.capefarewell.com; director of *Art from a Changing Arctic*
Ed Burtynsky, Photographer; subject of award-winning documentary, *Manufactured Landscapes*
Severn Cullis-Suzuki, Environmental activist; speaker; television host; author
Ron Dembo, Founder, Zerofootprint www.zerofootprint.net
Louise MacCallum, retired software engineer; Philanthropist; Musagetes Foundation
R. Murray Schafer, Composer, Educator, Environmentalist
Sheila O'Donovan, Founder, Lisaard House
Jane Urquhart, Author
Morden Yolles, Multi-Award winning structural engineer; restaurateur; photographer

Archaeology Committee

Chris Dalton, (See previous)
John MacDonald, (See previous)

Education Advisory Committee (EDAC)

Jason Bracey, Teacher, Department Head of Geography Southwood Secondary School
Louise Dawe, Teacher, William G. Davis Sr. Public School, community volunteer
Christopher Giesler, Teacher, Southwood Secondary School

Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

Doug Larson, Professor Emeritus, College of Biological Sciences, University of Guelph
Stephen Murphy, Faculty Member, Environment & Resource Studies, University of Waterloo

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Sheila Ainsworth Chair, Lisaard House
John K. Bell, Chairman, The Onbelay Group
Greg Buzbuzian, Owner, Knar Jewellery
Stewart Campbell, BlackTree Capital
John English, General Editor, Dictionary of Canadian Biography
Valerie Hall, Administrator, Musagetes Foundation
Jackie Hatherly-Martin, Chartered Accountant
Keith Martin, Chartered Accountant, Community Volunteer
Doug McMullen, retired, CIBC Development Corporation
Simon Poladian, Owner, Eagle Towing Equipment
Joy Roberts, retired, Consultant and Community Volunteer
Hugh Thompson, President, Cambridge Towel; CEO, Thompson Centre for Art and Design

Volunteer and Consulting Advisors

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Brenda Pearce, Volunteer & Administrative Coordinator
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