



— NIAGARA PENINSULA —
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

CONNECT | CONTRIBUTE | CONSERVE

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Foundation made several strides during 2017. The Foundation Board increased in size from three to six members, and our Foundation benefitted greatly from the valued input and review by consultant Liz Palmieri.

At the staffing level, we applaud the decision of the NPCA board to engage Renee Bisson as Community Engagement Manager, and the acquisition of Andrea Crosby as Foundation Coordinator. Both individuals have displayed creativity, tenacity and a strong work ethic in their respective roles.

Our signature events, the Rt. Hon. John Turner Water & Environmental Leadership Award Gala and the Authentic Wild Game Dinner have met or exceeded expectations over the past year. We are pleased to celebrate the recognition of leaders in our community for their contributions to conservation through the Rt. Hon. John Turner Award and of future leaders through our scholarship and bursary programs at Brock University and Niagara College.

It is our intent to transform our organization during the upcoming year by engaging key members from within the community, volunteer organizations and the corporate world. It is our goal to move towards a modernized Foundation and as such, we have been working to update Foundation documents that include letters patent, bylaws and policies.

We are keen on supporting the conservation interests of local registered charities and organizations as well as those of the NPCA. We recognize the ongoing contributions of our Nevada ticket sponsors, and significant voluntary efforts by local wood turner, Marv Ens in the production of the Comfort Maple pens.

Appreciation is expressed to those who continue to support our foundation, for our success in 2017 would be not without you and we welcome future partners, sponsors and contributors in 2018 to move our Foundation forward in a positive and productive manner.

Sincerely,


Brian Baty
Foundation Chair

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Brian Baty
Chair

James Kaspersetz
Vice-Chair

Tony Quirk
Director

Bruce Timms
Director

Sandy Annunziata
Director

Mickey DiFruscio
Director



ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

Founded in 1969, the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation (NPCF) is a registered charity dedicated to raising funds that aid in the conservation of our natural environment for present & future generations.

Governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, its mission is to support and raise funds for other local registered environmental charities in the NPCA watershed, as well as projects of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) that are not eligible for traditional government funding, or funding that may not be sufficient or available.

When you donate to the Foundation (NPCF), you help support conservation projects and programs that contribute to improving our water quality, increasing green spaces, wetland and habitat restoration, and environmental research and education.

MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation raises awareness and resources supporting environmental initiatives that enhance, protect, restore and conserve water and land within the Niagara Peninsula.

We aim to be a leader in providing resources to support conservation work throughout the Niagara Peninsula.

We are trustworthy and transparent by engaging in practices with our donors and partners that are accessible, accountable, fair, professional and timely and that are built on a foundation of respect, integrity and honesty.

We are responsible stewards through our communication to and relationships with our donors, and through our stewardship of the financial support directed to environmental initiatives.

We enable, engage and collaborate by funding environmental initiatives and bringing community organizations together to consult and form partnerships based on the respective strengths of each organization to focus on key environmental initiatives.



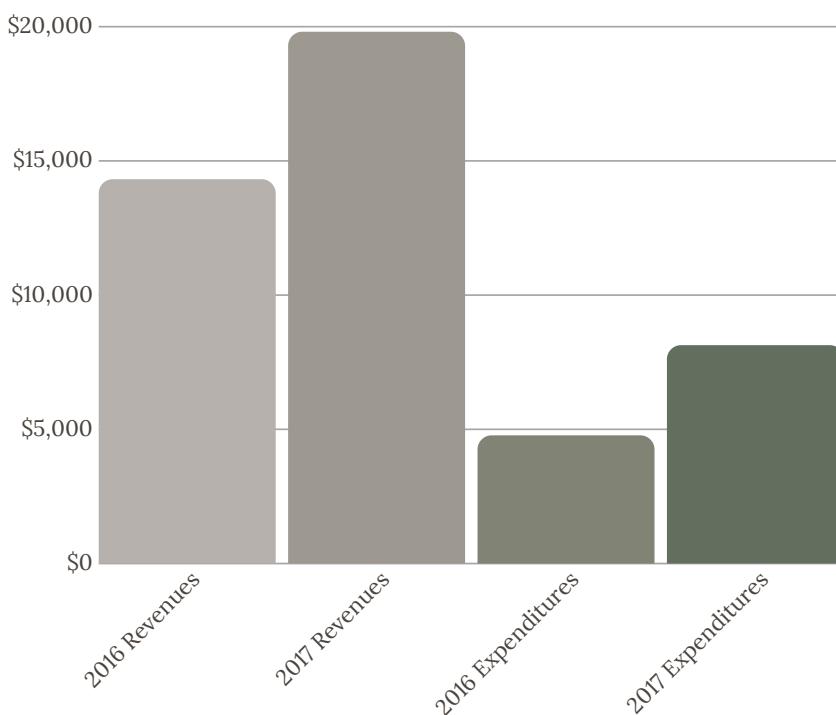
ANNUAL AUTHENTIC WILD GAME DINNER

In April, the Foundation hosted its second annual Authentic Wild Game Dinner for over 220 guests that included local hunters, trappers and fishers. The event raised \$19,480 gross and \$11,676 net income.

Mike Knapp Ford of Welland was the event's Official Sponsor for the second year in a row at \$2,500.

Over 30 volunteers lent their time to ensure the success of the event including the 79 Lynton Davies Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron who received a \$200 donation from the Foundation for their contributions and assistance during the event.

Proceeds from 2016 were used for a prototype Hunting Blind at Binbrook Conservation Area, as well as Wood Duck Boxes for both Binbrook Conservation Area and Mud Lake Conservation Area. \$3,600 from the remaining proceeds from 2016 were used towards a grant for fish habitat at Binbrook Conservation Area in partnership with the Glanbrook Conservation Committee.



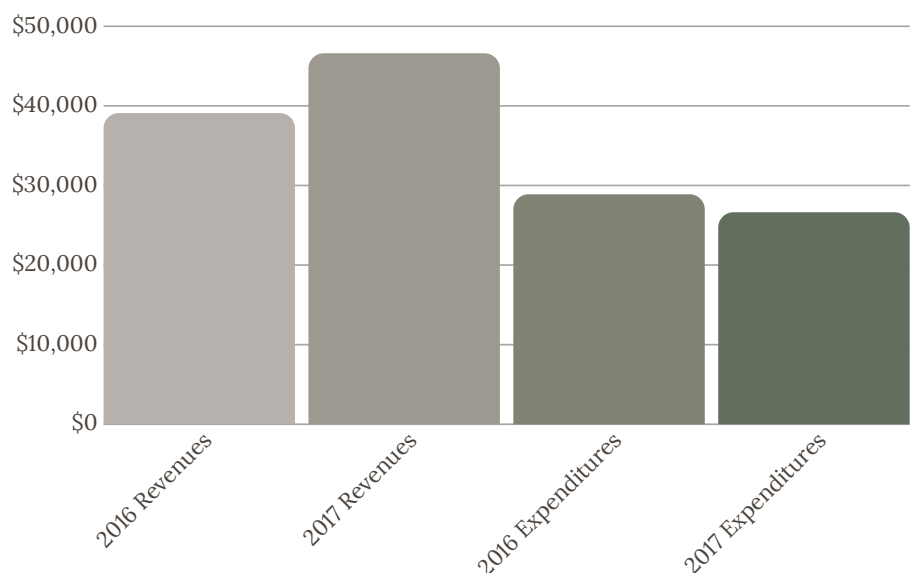
RT. HON. JOHN TURNER WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP AWARD GALA

In September, The Foundation hosted its 3rd annual Rt. Hon. John Tuner Water & Environmental Leadership Award Gala for over 140 guests, partners and sponsors at the Queen's Landing Hotel in Niagara on the Lake raising \$44,050 in gross income and \$15,850 in net income towards conservation initiatives.

Mr. Steven Renzetti was honored posthumously for the Individual Award while the Eco Defender volunteers took home the Organizational Award.

David Newland was the Gala's guest keynote speaker sponsored by Adventure Canada. The Mountsberg Birds of Prey were brought in from Conservation Halton to let guests take "Owl Selfies," an engagement exercise to connect donors and sponsors to wildlife and help them understand the importance of wildlife restoration projects.

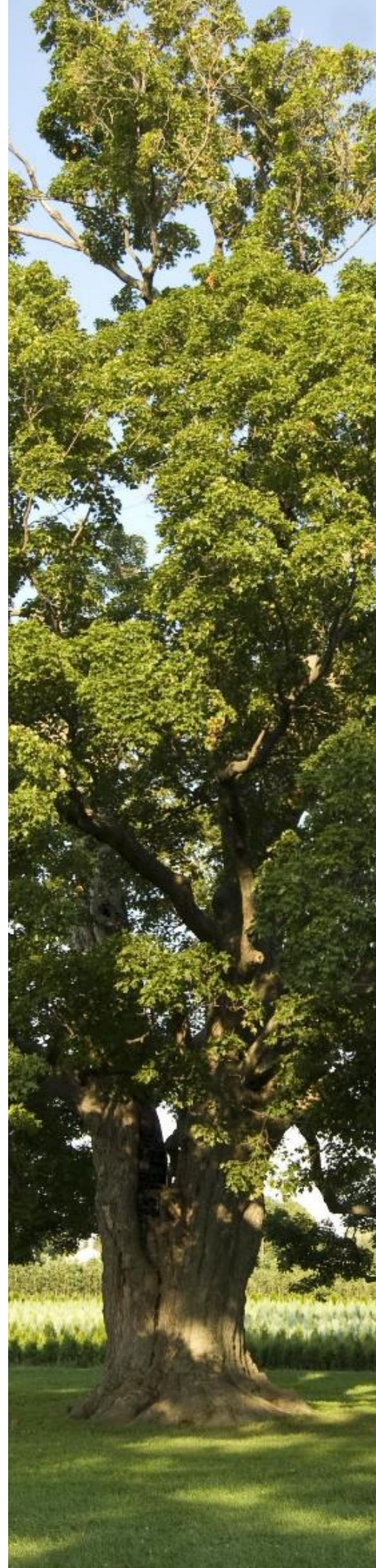
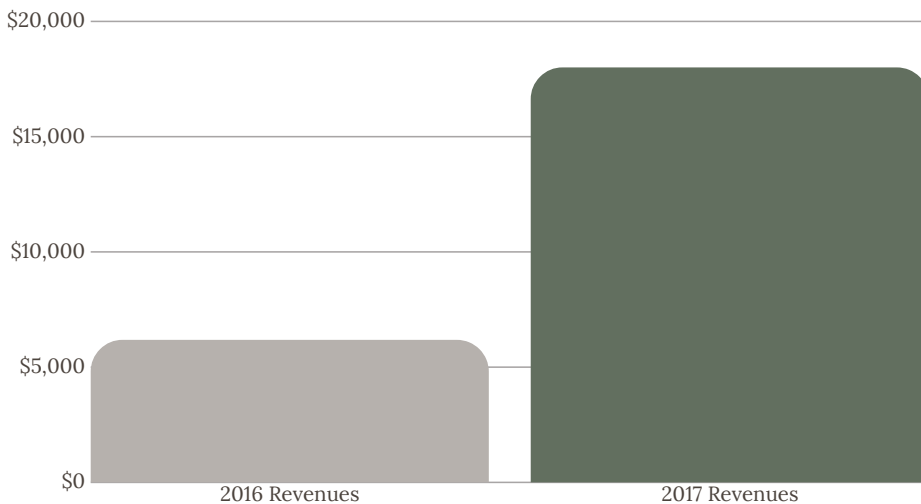
In 2015, a scholarship was started with Brock University and in 2016 a bursary was initiated with Niagara College for students pursuing environmental education.



COMFORT MAPLE PEN FUNDRAISER

In 2017, Comfort Maple pen sales were over 200 units, which raised \$17,970 gross income and \$12,599 net income towards a legacy project for the Comfort Maple tree.

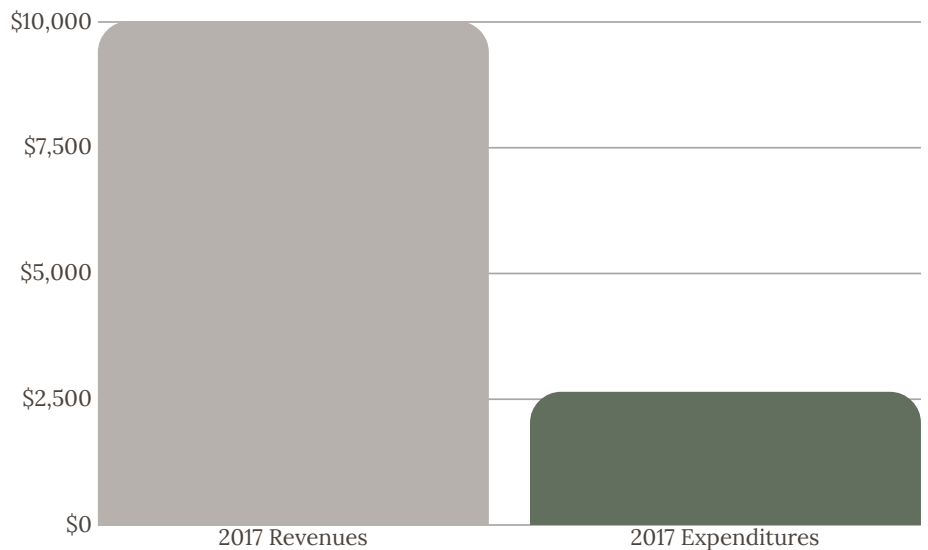
Throughout the year, both the Comfort Maple and pens were featured in a number of articles from the Welland Tribune as well as the Toronto Star. In June, Blue Ant Media Group produced a video for Cottage Life about the Comfort Maple Tree that featured the pens, entitled "*sugar maple older than Canada itself*" in honor of Canada's 150th Anniversary.



NIAGARA REGIONAL CHAIR OUTDOOR EDUCATION FUND

In April, the Foundation launched the Niagara Regional Chair Outdoor Education Fund, receiving an initial \$10,000 donation from the Niagara Regional Chairs Charity Golf Tournament in 2016. Proceeds from the fund will aim to support children and youth ages 18 and under. Some aspects of the fund intend to support camp subsidies, as well as enhance existing and future programming needs.

In August, the fund was able to provide seven children with the opportunity to attend Ball's Falls Summer Adventure Camp, and participate in various educational outdoor activities that taught them about biodiversity, history and the environment.



2017 HIGHLIGHTS

The Foundation had two cheque presentations at the Niagara Children's Water Festival in May thanking both Ontario Power Generation (OPG) for their support of \$4,000 and Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) for \$5,000 towards the educational event.

In August, the Foundation presented a \$500 award courtesy of the NPCF Grant Program, to Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch as part of their Scholarship Programme. The NPCF Grant Program was also able to provide funding to the Owl Foundation and Fort Erie Conservation Club.

The Foundation received a generous donation of \$700 from Giant FM in October raised at their booth during the Balls Falls Thanksgiving Festival. These funds were utilized to offset the cost of a Memorial Forest planting at Woodend Conservation Area completed by the Boy Scout volunteers in the Fall.



THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Our events are made possible by the helping hands and dedication of our amazing volunteers. We couldn't do it without you.

Kathy Richardson
Rene Parent
Renee Bisson
Gina Shaule
Erika Navarro
Irene Bradnam
Misti Ferrusi
Kerry Royer
Michael Reles
Adam Christie
Mich Germain

Patricia Lauzon
Cait Gardner
Antonio Sergi
Sam Janjac
Rpse Jesik
Rina Burgio
Josie Rogers
Allison Graszat
Adam Buodens
Chuck LaFleur
Brian Baty

An Additional Thank You To...

The 79 Lynton Davies Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron and
The Niagara Regional Police Chief Ceremonial Guard with
Master Piper, Peter Mackenzie



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

For your continued support and generous contributions towards our projects in conservation and environmental education.



NIAGARA *this* WEEK



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