A Message From Lou Rinaldi, M.P.P.
Northumberland-Quinte West

I think renowned author Henry David Thoreau said it best when he stated “In wilderness is the preservation of the world.” He also said “Water is the only drink for a wise man.” Those two quotes encapsulate for me the amazing work undertaken by a team of dedicated individuals, who have embarked on the extremely important task of restoring the beautiful Bay of Quinte to a haven of natural wonder for generations to enjoy.

The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan is currently responsible for a multi-year effort to restore, protect, and preserve the delicate ecosystem of the Bay of Quinte. Almost two decades ago, this area was sited as being at serious risk of ecological damage because of a variety of pollutants.

Now, we are well into a plan of action to recover what at one time seemed to be almost lost. A Bay of Quinte safe from the ravages of pollutants that were a threat to both wildlife habitat and those who call the Bay home.

The tireless efforts of a core team of individuals in concert with myriad partnerships, known as the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan (known locally as “The Big Cleanup”), are a standard-bearer, a shining example of an environmental plan of action that works.

Efforts of this magnitude are never easy. They take perseverance and patience, fortitude and strength of purpose. All of these noble attributes are found in our own world-class efforts, requiring years of hard work, to get to where the Bay of Quinte is today. A wonder of unsurpassed natural beauty, an ecosystem made up of countless plants and animals that co-exist in a tapestry strung together by the web of life itself.

As M.P.P. I could not be more proud of this project, its team and partners, as they continue to facilitate their Master Work Plan. This is one of Quinte’s greatest success stories, as 482 hectares of wetland has been protected and 354 hectares rehabilitated.

The philosopher Aristotle said “In all things of nature there is something of the marvellous.” The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan strives every day to make sure the marvel that is our Bay of Quinte is something that all can take pleasure in for decades to come.

Sincerely,

Lou Rinaldi, M.P.P.,
Northumberland - Quinte West
**Community Spotlight**

*Stewart Murray is not the spotlight type. But if anyone deserves a spot in the light, it’s him. Stewart is one of those quiet, self-contained gentlemen who has been involved in environmental work all his life, but neither seeks nor wants the recognition and applause so many crave. What interests him is giving back to his community and seeing the results.*

Stewart Murray was born, raised, and educated in Belleville. He took his BA Geography at Queen’s and became a Municipal Planner for the City of Belleville, retiring as Director of Planning in the mid-90s when development usually trumped environment. His interest in wildlife and conservation was nourished by a father, grandfather, and uncles to whom hunting, fishing, camping and hiking were as natural as breathing. In fact, volunteer colleague Olive Root says, “I believe Stewart to be a true lover of nature. He seems to inhale it.” Stewart says that growing up on the Bay of Quinte meant “everything in the natural world was at your doorstep, including Algonquin Park.”

He came into direct contact with Quinte RAP when he was Vice-President and then President of Quinte Watershed Cleanup (QWC). He is well-versed in the issues that plague the Bay, having watched environmental problems evolve since childhood. Stewart left QWC several years ago, and has since devoted himself to The Hastings-Prince Edward Land Trust (HPELT), an organization he helped found and for which he sits as President.

Land Trusts protect land from development, and HPELT has been involved in over 30 projects to date. At the moment, and with the help of the Ontario Heritage Trust, they’re working on acquiring what Stewart calls “the scenic gem of Prince Edward County – it hasn’t been disturbed.” Protecting land from development has become a significant component in protecting the watershed, which in turn, protects the Bay of Quinte.

Stewart Murray says that to him, “Volunteering is all about giving back and making use of what you’ve learned in life. Besides, it’s fun and it’s interesting to work with like-minded individuals.”

One of those like-minded individuals is Andy Margetson, Hastings-Prince Edward Stewardship Co-ordinator. “I have worked with Stewart Murray both professionally and as a volunteer for the last 14 years. As a Planner, his approach was balanced and extremely thoughtful with respect to the environmental implications of development. As a volunteer, he was a founding member of the Hastings-Prince Edward Land Trust, and remains actively involved because of his personal commitment to protect our natural heritage.”

**UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY WILDLIFE MONITORING PROGRAM**

*by Terry Sprague, Co-ordinator*

Good things come to those who wait. That’s what happened to the Community Wildlife Monitoring Program (CWMP), which last year enjoyed record participation in the Marsh Monitoring Program. Over 30 new volunteers adopted routes within the Bay of Quinte AOC, in addition to those who’ve been active in the program for several years. What are they monitoring? Frogs and birds, which are the prime indicators as to the health of the Bay. Participants have a choice of monitoring either frogs or birds or both. Another program, FrogWatch Ontario, is very popular with family members who enjoy involving their kids. Despite its obvious success last year, we can never have enough volunteers. More are needed to get an even clearer picture of the Bay’s health. If you want to volunteer for either of these programs, please contact me.

*Terry Sprague Co-ordinator*

613-476-5072
tsprague@kos.net
Quinte RAP Stepped Up Monitoring Last Summer
With Lots Of Help From Our Friends

Jillian Lawlor and Jennifer Sergeant, MOE Kingston summer staff, Sawguin Marsh.
*J. White photo*

Sharlene Polman, LTC Environmental Planning Assistant, Sawguin Marsh.
*J. White photo*

Angela Darwin, Canadian Wildlife Service, Blessington Creek.
*BQRAP photo*

Diver sets sediment traps, mouth of Trent River.
*D. Gilroy photo, Technical Ops, Environment Canada*

Jeff Borisko (l) BQRAP, and Paul Watton (r), Canadian Wildlife Service, Robinson Cove, PEC.
*J. White photo*

Justin White, BQRAP Monitoring Technician, Sawguin Marsh.
*J. Sergeant photo*

Ian Kelsey, Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority and Justin White, BQRAP Monitoring Technician, Hay Bay. *CLOCA photo*

(l-r) Justin White BQRAP, Angela Darwin CWS, Paul Watton CWS, Jeff Borisko BQRAP, Blessington Creek. *BQRAP photo*

Sharlene Polman, LTC Environmental Planning Assistant, Sawguin Marsh. *J. White photo*
A hiker walks along the shoreline of the Moira River in Belleville, at the site of the McLeod Dam project.

The McLeod Dam, Quinte Conservation’s green hydro project, began producing electricity for sale last September. The cash it generates will help the CA fund green initiatives that cannot be included in its budget. The project took 5 years in the planning before construction started in 2007. The McLeod Dam will be officially opened this spring.

North Shoreline Survey Encouraging

BQRAP conducted a survey last summer of north shoreline property owners from Carrying Point in the west to Pt. Anne in the east. The survey indicated that most landowners are quite receptive to ideas of a more natural shoreline. The survey was a component of the Habitat Enhancement Program (HEP), and more work of this kind is in the works. Healthy, natural shorelines promote healthy habitat, and healthy, natural habitat promotes the restoration of fish and wildlife populations.

First Ever Canada/US Fish Habitat Restoration Project

Close to 1 acre of spawning habitat has been placed on the bed of the Detroit River to benefit lake sturgeon and other desirable fish species. It’s the first-ever Canada-US fish habitat restoration project on the Great Lakes. The public and private sector project was undertaken as part of the Detroit River RAP and International Wildlife Refuge, and the Canadian/American Heritage River Initiatives. It demonstrates that more can be achieved when working together than when working alone. Partners included Environment Canada, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Geological Survey, Ontario Great Lakes Renewal Foundation, Essex Region Conservation Authority, BASF Corporation, DTE Energy, Landmark Engineers Inc., Intl. Wildlife Refuge Alliance, Michigan Wildlife Conservancy, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Detroit River Canadian Cleanup, Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources, Michigan Sea Grant, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

New Rap Staff Member Anne Everhardus

Anne Everhardus, B.A. Hons., joined Quinte RAP in November. Anne will work on various aspects of habitat naturalization. She was born and raised a 1-minute walk from the Bay of Quinte shoreline and says, “I’ve lived on the Bay of Quinte my entire life and feel a sense of responsibility toward it. I’m excited to do my part in tackling the challenges involved in The Big Cleanup.”
**Deloro Mine Site Tour**

(i-r) Andrew Morley MOE, Jeff Borisko BQRAP, Jim Hoyle MNR, Kara Smith MOE Project Engineer, Bob Putzlocher Assistant Engineer, Rimi Kalinauskas EC, Eldon Burchart QWC, Eric Lawlor OMAFRA, Terry Murphy BQRAP Restoration Council Co-chair. *A. Everhardus photo*

Members of the Restoration Council toured the Deloro Mine Site in late November. Almost 100 years of mining, refining, and manufacturing was conducted at the site. The primary contaminant is arsenic; pumping and treatment of the Moira River which flows through Deloro will be required in perpetuity. The MOE became remediator of last resort in 1979; the clean-up is administered by a project team from Eastern Region headquarters in Kingston.

**Quinte Summer 2008 Much Wetter And Cooler Than Previous Two**

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<th></th>
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<th>Days Above 30C</th>
<th>Maximum Daily Temp. (°C)</th>
<th>Rainfall (mm)</th>
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<td>June – 3</td>
<td>June – 30.4</td>
<td>June – 90.8</td>
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<td>August – 4</td>
<td>August – 6</td>
<td>August – 34.4</td>
<td>August – 19</td>
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<td><strong>Total 57</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total 13</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total 16</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total 174.9</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total 148.3</strong></td>
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<td>June – 3</td>
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<td><strong>Total 148.3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total 148.3</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>June – 30.5</td>
<td>June – 82.5</td>
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<td>July – 29.8</td>
<td>July – 100.7</td>
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<td>August – 27.6</td>
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<td><strong>Total 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total 148.3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total 256.4</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source CFB Trenton Weather Centre

**Update On The Bakelite Case**

The decision handed down last June in the Quinte Conservation/DFO court case resulted in a $235,000 fine and an order to work with the CA to clean up damage to the property. The developer immediately appealed, but dropped the appeal last fall and agreed to carry out the work order which includes removal of fill in the flood plain (including the rock berm), restoration of the natural drainage on the site, and restoration of the original shoreline. A decision in the MOE’s case was reached in early December. The developer was fined $690,000 and given 4 months in jail. Stay tuned.

**International Guest Presenter**

Dr. Yuan Lin, State Key Laboratory of Estuary and Coastal Research, East China Normal University, Shanghai, was an international guest presenter at BQRAP’s Restoration Council September meeting. Dr. Lin’s presentation, Remote Sensing Monitoring of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Coverage on a Large Spatial Scale, showed how advanced techniques can be used to restore and protect coastal wetlands.
Jane Tymoshuk always knew she’d end up working with water in some way. She started life across the big pond in Corbridge, England, but grew up in Deep River on the Ottawa River, where her father was a research scientist with AECL. Jane discovered the many pleasures of living and playing on water while growing up. So, since science and water were integral parts of family life, “it just seemed the natural course to take.”

Jane attended Wilfrid Laurier in Waterloo for her BSc, and Trent in Peterborough for her MSc – Watershed Ecosystem Graduate Program. She had already done work with the DFO in ’95, and joined the Peterborough office in 2000 as a Fish Habitat Biologist and Consultant.

One of her most satisfying assignments was organizing 5 interagency workshops on highway crossings (DFO, MNR, MTO), at various locations around the province. She helped the facilitator, recorded information from all discussions, and produced a summary report of the issues and challenges raised. Jane received an Ontario-

Great Lakes Area Recognition Award for this work, which led to the development of the MTO/DFO/MNR Protocol implemented in the fall of 2006.

Science-based remediation drives the RAP process. Jane thinks the best way to make the right environmental decisions is to have data collected and analyzed in a timely manner. This ensures that if and when changes (positive or negative) occur, impacts above or below baseline conditions can be identified and addressed. “It shows we are moving in the right direction.” Jane also thinks that BQRAP’s aim for amended status by 2011/12 is realistic, “provided that all stakeholders have a common goal to see the Bay of Quinte restored and a real desire to keep it that way.”

Jane and her husband have two young daughters. They spend a lot of time outdoors hiking, biking, skiing, swimming, camping, and staying at the cottage. Her daughters have a heightened sense of and a great love for the natural world around them. “They are quite aware of the impact development has on the environment.” Her eldest is trying to enlist Jane’s help in saving a small pond on a farm at the end of their street which is slated for development. She doesn’t want to lose the wonderful chorus of spring peepers each year.

Jane says that one of the most gratifying aspects of her work is “seeing a site that has been impacted by human activity restored to allow spawning again.” This is a perfect fit with the goals of the BQRAP.

SOME STEWARDSHIP SITES WORTH VISITING

- Environment Canada’s Community Programs: www.nx.ec.gc.ca/community/home.html
- Canadian Forestry Association: www.canadianforestry.com/html/home/home_e.html
- Canadian Wildlife Federation: www.cwf.fcf.org/en/
- Countryside Canada: www.countrysidecanada.com/about.html
- Ducks Unlimited: www.ducks.ca
- Forest Stewardship Council of Canada: www.fsccanada.org
- Land Stewardship Resource Centre: www.landstewardship.org/home.asp
- The Living By Water Project: www.livingbywater.ca/main.html
- Stewardship Canada: www.stewardshipcanada.ca/
- Wetkit: www.wetkit.net/modules/1/

Stream Of Dreams Flows Into Belleville

Stream of Dreams, a refreshing idea which began on Canada’s west coast, has wound its way to Belleville thanks to Quinte Conservation. Queen Victoria Elementary School was the first to receive the program in this area of Ontario. Stream of Dreams is a copyrighted ‘science to art’ watershed education program. Children learn about their watershed and every child paints a wooden ‘dream’ fish. Hundreds of dream fish on a chainlink fence create charming community art that raises environmental awareness. The program is delivered by Quinte Conservation, but it’s the kids who take ownership. And that’s the whole point. Check www.quinteconservation.ca for more details. Quinte Conservation photo
**Plowing Match In Pictures**

**Summer 2008**

Everybody helps carry water for the livestock.

The Backwoods Boys entertained in the big tent.

Mini farmer Nathan Hoftyzer of Stirling.

(l-r) Dan Orr Lower Trent Conservation, Jeff Borisko and Justin Robertson BQRAP at the solar watering display by the Conservation tent.

Lucille Fragomeni setting up Quinte Conservation’s display.

Sometimes you just have to “manhandle” them.

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**Did You Know That...**

- Between now and 2025, it is expected that the world will need 17% more water to grow food for the increasing populations in developing countries, and that total water use will increase by some 40%.

- More than half the water we use on lawns and gardens is lost to evaporation or runoff.

- You can save thousands of litres of water by filling a 4-litre bottle with water and placing it in the back of your toilet tank.

- Having a quick shower instead of a bath saves water, and using a water saving showerhead saves even more water.

- Turning off the tap while you brush your teeth saves a lot of water.

- Low flow aerators on faucets save water, as does replacing leaky or dripping washers or taps.

- If you wash clothes in cold water, you save the energy needed to heat it.

- Hot water is wasted if you pre-rinse dishes; air drying dishes saves energy as well.
The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan
hosted the two-day Bay of Quinte Science
and Monitoring Forum January 14th and
15th, 2009 at the Belleville Ramada Inn
on the Bay. The forum had over 60 key
scientists and environmental practitioners
from federal, provincial, and local gov-
ernment agencies as well as academic
and non-profit organizations. Everyone
in attendance had direct involvement in
the Bay’s cleanup efforts. There were
over 15 presentations that highlighted the
current condition or status of “Beneficial
Use Impairments (BUIs)” that have been
identified in the Bay.

The formal presentations were com-
bined with several facilitated breakout
sessions which allowed for the forum
participants to address the status of BUIs
in greater detail. Current status, current
projects, and future actions needed for
BUI assessment were all covered in the
breakout sessions. The overall scientific
consensus amongst the forum presenters
and participants was a positive one. Based
on the scientific evidence presented at the
forum, the status of many of the BUIs is
approaching “unimpaired”.

Bay Of Quinte Remedial Action Plan
Restoration Council Membership
CFB Trenton, Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Lower Trent
Conservation, Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food,
and Rural Affairs, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Ontario Ministry of Natural
Resources, Quinte Conservation, Quinte Watershed Cleanup.

BELLEVILLE WATERFRONT REDEVELOPMENT
Work began at Meyer’s Pier last summer with,
most noticeably, the removal of several large, old
trees from the immediate area. New landscaping
will be installed when the project is complete.
BQRAP photo

The Bay of Quinte Science and Monitoring Forum
Ramada Inn on the Bay, Belleville ON, January 14th and 15th, 2009

Snakes?
They’re No Big Deal At All.

Sciensational Sssnakes paid a
visit to Lower Trent
Conservation’s
Nature Camp last
summer. When
children learn to
get comfortable
with them, the
snakes seem to
get comfortable
too.
D. Orr photo

They are fascinating to hold and interact with, as this day camper at Quinte
Conservation’s Picton camp learned last summer. They make an awesome
necklace too.
M. Navrot photo

RAP ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
c/o Lower Trent Conservation
714 Murray Street, R R 1
Trenton, ONT, K8V 5P4
T: 613.394.3915 X213
F: 613.394.5226
E: jborisko@bqrap.ca
W: www.bqrap.ca