



**Annual General Meeting  
19 June 2007  
Lakeside Gardens, Britannia Park**

**Chair:**  
John Bouza

**Present:**  
John Bouza, Gordon Clifford, Debbie Ferrigan, Ole Hendrickson, Chad Nelson, Mark Patry, Colin Rennie, David Spence, Meredith Brown (staff), Delphine Hasle (staff), Katy Galvin (staff) and approximately 65 attendees.

**Regrets:**  
Nicole DesRoches, Geoff Green

**1. Opening Comments:**

Presented by John Bouza: Ottawa Riverkeeper, Director and President

Call for Quorum: Yes we have quorum

**2. Review of minutes from AGM 2006 – John Bouza**

Motion to accept minutes from last year  
moved by Colin Rennie  
seconded by Dan Brunton  
All in favour: some  
Opposed: none  
Carried: yes

**3. Board of Directors Report – Chad Nelson, Secretary**

Chad presented a summary of the major actions of the board of directors this past year  
**(See Schedule 1)**

Motion to approve the actions of the directors over the past year  
Moved by: Parham Momtahan  
Seconded by: Jennifer Goldstone  
All in favour: some  
Opposed: none  
Carried: yes

#### **4. Financial report – Mark Patry, Treasurer**

Mark presented a summary of the audited financial statements for Ottawa Riverkeeper (see **Schedule 2**). If anyone wishes to see a copy of the audited financial statements, there are a few printed copies here tonight, or you can contact Ottawa Riverkeeper with your request and we can get you a copy.

Motion to reappoint Newton & Co. as the auditors for 2007-2008.

Moved by: Mark Patry

Seconded by: Alex Cullen

Opposed: none

Carried: yes

#### **5. Election of Board of Directors – John Bouza**

John Bouza thanks all the directors for their volunteer work that is so important to guide the organization and support the staff. John notes the following directors have left the board of directors: John Almstedt (one of the founders of ORK), David Stibbe, Myles Frosst, Linda Hiles and Allan-Paul Dane. In the winter, the board of directors brought on one new director, David Spence.

The nominations committee (also the executive committee) is responsible for recruiting and nominating new directors. A call was put out to all members. This year, the recommended slate of directors is as follows:

John Bouza	Chad Nelson
Gordon Clifford	Mark Patry
Nicoles DesRoches	Colin Rennie
Debbie Ferrigan	Laurel Rosene
Geoff Green	David Spence
Ole Hendrickson	

The board of directors has approved the recommended slate and looks to our members for approval.

Motion to approve the recommended slate of directors for the upcoming year

Moved by: John Bouza

Seconded by: Dan Brunton

Opposed: none

Carried: yes

#### **6. Presentation:**

A birds-eye view of the Lower Ottawa River by Duncan Marshall of Marshall & Maruska Aerial Photography. Duncan Marshall spends quite a bit of time flying over the Ottawa River and its tributaries. He specializes in oblique aerial photography and gave the audience a fabulous and eye-opening view of the river from Ottawa to Montreal.

## **7. River Healing Journey – Ceo Gaudet**

Ceo Gaudet recently organized a voyageur paddle trip of 19 people from Ottawa to Montreal. The trip was inspired by Ottawa Riverkeeper's work and 100% of the profits for this and future trips will go to ORK. The trip highlighted the need for more camping opportunities and landing spots. Interested members can visit the ORK website for details on the 2008 trip.

Don Paskovich, a trip participant, shared their vision of public access to the river and a potential "blue route" for the Ottawa River. A meeting will be held in August at Westboro beach regarding this matter. Don's group is seeking a partnership with NCC to develop a water-way access to the Nation's capital and is working on a detailed plan to submit to the NCC. Anyone interested in this project can contact Don by email: [Paskovich.Don@ic.gc.ca](mailto:Paskovich.Don@ic.gc.ca)

## **8. Presentation by The Riverkeeper**

Meredith Brown, the Riverkeeper presents "Report on the River: Issues, Concerns and our 3-year priorities"

Meredith reminds all of the purpose and mission of Ottawa Riverkeeper and our ties to the international Waterkeeper Alliance. She gives an update on the programs ORK is delivering such as the Riverwatch program (now over 25 volunteer Riverwatchers around the watershed), and our public outreach (gave over 25 presentations this year to community groups, cottage associations, government agencies, municipal councils, etc.).

Meredith emphasized the number of issues that are being brought forward to Ottawa Riverkeeper is increasing every year. For a list of issues that have been brought forward, see **Schedule 3**.

Given that Ottawa Riverkeeper has increased our profile substantially this past year and we are busier than ever, Meredith is leading the organization in a strategic planning process. Meredith thanked all those volunteers and past directors who participated in the consultation sessions that were extremely insightful and important to help identify the organization's priorities for the next three years.

Meredith briefly presented the three-year strategic plan for Ottawa Riverkeeper (see **Schedule 4**). Copies of the plan are available at the meeting.

Meredith stressed the point that many opportunities exist at this time for the organization. Clean water is on everyone's agenda. Politicians have open ears to concerns about water management. Waterkeepers in Canada are getting organized and working together more effectively.

Meredith welcomes members who would like to get involved and contribute their skills and expertise to help us reach our strategic outcomes. Interested volunteers should contact Delphine Hasle: [outreach@ottawariverkeeper.ca](mailto:outreach@ottawariverkeeper.ca)

## **9. Opportunity to raise issues or concerns about the river**

Many questions were asked and discussion entailed about numerous issues and concerns.

## **10. Presentation of the Daniel Brunton Outstanding Volunteer Award**

Award presented by Delphine Halse, the Director of Outreach. Award presented to Laurel Rosene. Laurel organizes a yearly fall paddle and shoreline cleanup event and this year played a major role in organizing the annual Canadian Rivers Day paddle.

## **11. Thank you & Appreciation**

Thank you to all our sponsors and supporters who keep Ottawa Riverkeeper working on important water issues. Thanks to the Trillium Foundation for their recent renewed support, they have been instrumental in helping to build our organization. Meredith also wants to thank the Community Foundation of Ottawa who are investing in organizations like Ottawa Riverkeeper who work on community projects that make our city a great place to live.

Meredith thanked everyone who has helped Ottawa Riverkeeper grow this year including the directors, science and outreach committee members, River Watchers, and the too numerous to name volunteers that help us protect and promote the Ottawa River. Special mention was given to Delphine Hasle who has been an exceptional person to work with.

John Bouza thanked Meredith for the leadership she has provided and the professional and passionate work she has taken on as the Riverkeeper. Audience responded with applause.

## **12. Motion for Adjournment**

John Bouza moved that the meeting be adjourned. None opposed.

## Schedule 1

### Board of Directors Report, 2006-07

Highlights of key accomplishments, decisions and responsibilities carried out by the Board of Directors over the past year:

In rough chronological order, last year the new Board jumped into fundraising in the fall, Board governance changes in the Winter and strategic planning in the Spring. This prepares us for a busy summer and a new round of fundraising work. Financial and administrative oversight and review of issues took place throughout the year.

- **Fundraising:** Last Fall, we had a fundraising committee made up of Directors that met bi-weekly to engage in fundraising work.
- **Board Governance:** Board meetings have been held monthly since the last AGM until this past spring when the Board decided to pursue a new governance model. This new model involves:
  - Monthly meetings of the Executive Committee (with an agenda shared with the full Board in advance) and reports to the full Board at its quarterly meetings. This allows the Executive Committee to more closely support day to day operations, and the Board as a whole to undertake broader discussions on the direction of ORK.
  - The Science and the Public Outreach working committees continue to meet regularly.
  - We are also seeking to develop a Patrons Council or fundraising arm.
- These changes along with increased clarity of responsibilities, communication and reporting expectations, and performance goals are proving helpful.
- **Strategic Planning:** Recently, strategic planning has been a key activity with a full day, board retreat in mid-May. More information on our new strategic plan (vision, mission, key goals and activities, and performance measures) will be presented by Meredith tonight. Strategic planning work will result in more dynamic budgeting and fundraising efforts and a better understanding by all of ORK's priorities.
- **Financial and Administrative Oversight Responsibility:** Contract negotiation with staff, decisions on partnerships, insurance coverage, replacement of vacated Directorships, and administrative matters.
- **Review of Issues:** the Board receives regular Staff updates on issues addressed by Ottawa Riverkeeper and provides its views, as appropriate.

**The convergence of work on our governance model, strategic planning and fundraising strongly position Ottawa Riverkeeper to grow significantly this year.**

## Schedule 2

### Financial Report by Treasurer, Mark Patry

#### 2006-2007 Financial Highlights

- Received \$24,500 from the Trillium Foundation. We also received confirmation that we would be receiving an additional \$16,000 over the next 24 months.
- This is the second year of our paid membership program, at year-end we had
- approximately 170 paid-up members.
- Major donations received in the year-
  - \$10,000 Ontario Field Naturalists Club:
  - \$5,000 Community Foundation of Greater Toronto:
  - \$9,832 Earthlore Communications:
  - \$10,000 Mattamy Homes:
  - \$10,000 Community Foundation of Ottawa:
  - \$10,000 Community Foundation of Ottawa:
  - \$6,000 Mountain Equipment Co-op: (plus \$6,000 owed)
  - \$10,000 Salamander Foundation:
  - \$5,000 Domtar - in kind donation of paper:
- Expenditures exceeded revenues by \$3,330. Revenues of approximately \$143,000 have been deferred until we invest the funds as the contributors intended.

#### Major Expenditures Include:

- Wages and benefits of two full time employees (the Riverkeeper and the Director of Outreach)
- River Report costs - mostly design and printing. Much of the intellectual content was donated.

#### Cash Position and Outlook

At the end of the year, we had \$48,393 in the bank. Thanks to renewed Trillium funding, and the generosity of our members and donors, we can do some of the things we want to do, but we want to do so much more.

## Schedule 3

### Issues brought forward to Riverkeeper



**Pollution Hotline**  
1-888-9KEEPER

Cows in the river – Jock River, Mississippi River  
Thurso Ferry Proposal  
Quyon Ferry Upgrade  
Landfills – Carp Dump, Danford Dump, Cantley Dump...  
Shoreline alterations  
Floodplain development – Carp River / Kanata  
Chats Dam Bypass – illegal instream construction  
Fish Kill  
SRB Technologies – Tritium pollution  
Pesticide use  
Chalk River Nuclear Laboratories  
Domtar Energy Project at Chaudiere



**Pollution Hotline**  
1-888-9KEEPER

Combined Sewer Overflows (untreated sewage in the river)  
Britannia Water Treatment Plant – dewatering  
Water Levels – operation of dams  
Laniel Dam Project on the Kipawa River  
Parc des Cedres – Aylmer  
Petawawa Beach Closures – beaches now open  
Kettle Island  
Safe swimming / beach closures  
Provincial Brownfield site near Hawkesbury  
City of Gatineau Environmental Policy (Green Plan)



## **Pollution Hotline**

**1-888-9KEEPER**

Blue green algae  
Gull / geese populations  
Sea-doo use  
Bridge maintenance – paint chips into river  
Chief Commanda's vision for Victoria Island  
Golf course on Jock River – zoning and riparian protection  
Bottled water  
Aylmer development – remaining natural areas  
Interprovincial Crossing



## **Pollution Hotline**

**1-888-9KEEPER**

### Legislation & Policy Reviews

- Federal Fisheries Act
- Great Lakes Annex - Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Sustainable Water Resources Agreement
- ON Species at Risk Act
- Canada-wide strategy for managing municipal wastewater
- Metal Mining Effluent Regulations
- City of Ottawa Stormwater Management Policy



# Ottawa Riverkeeper 3 Year Strategic Plan

June 2007

## Mission

Ottawa Riverkeeper protects and promotes the ecological health and diversity of the Ottawa River and its tributaries. We advocate responsible decision-making, foster education and public participation, and ensure compliance with protective regulations throughout the watershed.

## Vision

The Ottawa River is clean and healthy, its water safe for drinking and swimming, supporting a diversity of species, inviting recreation and enabling sustainable economic activity. Knowledge, shared pride and respect for the river are the foundation for its protection in perpetuity.

## Guiding Principles

**Science leads our thinking.** The decisions we make regarding the river stem from good science produced by expert, independent sources.

**Responsibility must be taken.** Polluting should have a price, just as stewardship should be rewarded.

**Participation is essential.** All citizens should have the opportunity to contribute to decisions that affect the health and future of their river.

**Every effort counts.** By taking small steps to save our river—both as individuals and collectively—we can achieve important positive change.

**Water is the thread connecting our communities and our actions.** The choices we make and steps we take have consequences for our river, our region and our health.

**Rivers reflect the places through which they flow.** Healthy rivers reveal well-informed, active and responsible communities.

## **DIRECTIONS AND OUTCOMES**

***Direction 1: Work collaboratively to establish a knowledge base to allow effective and science-based reporting on the changing health of the river and the implications of our actions***

Desired Outcomes:

- Increased level of integrated assessment and monitoring is being undertaken
- Increased ability to report on the health trends of the river and watershed
- Enhanced science-based approach to advocacy work that includes utilizing more facts and numbers

***Direction 2: Advocate for changes in practices and policies to improve the ecological health of the river and its watershed***

Desired Outcomes:

- Instrumental in creating significant change on one or more issue
- Enhanced ability to respond to a variety of issues and to review and critique relevant policy
- Recognition as a valued partner that influences decision-making on river issues and policies
- Improved engagement and action from individuals, municipalities and government

***Direction 3: Expand, strengthen and inspire the network of river stewards who act on behalf of the river and its watershed***

Desired Outcomes:

- Increased membership and volunteer base
- Expanded network throughout the watershed, in both provinces
- Increased capacity of river stewards / volunteers to work on local issues
- Increased learning opportunities among the network

***Direction 4: Increase awareness of Ottawa Riverkeeper, river-related issues and the actions being taken throughout the watershed to protect the river***

Desired Outcomes:

- Increased awareness and understanding of the river, the issues and the actions being taken
- Increased ORK name and brand recognition across the watershed
- Enhanced recognition of ORK as an expert in watershed issues
- Consistent presence in the English and French media
- More high-profile champions associated with ORK

***Direction 5: Build the organizational capacity to enable Ottawa Riverkeeper to thrive and achieve its mission.***

Desired Outcomes:

- Increased security of funding (generate a 6 month reserve fund)
- Increased level of staffing
- Reasonable workloads and expectations of Board and staff members
- Board and staff members are satisfied and feel like they are making a difference
- Increased membership base
- ORK has new office space
- ORK has a patrol boat