



Ottawa Riverkeeper Annual Report 2008

Our Mission

Ottawa Riverkeeper brings people together to protect and promote the ecological health and diversity of the Ottawa River and its tributaries. Expert and independent, our organization advocates for responsible decision-making; advances public education and participation; and ensures compliance with protective regulations throughout the watershed.

Our 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.

Our Team

Staff: Meredith Brown, *Riverkeeper and Executive Director*
Delphine Hasle, *Director of Outreach*
Christopher Kelly, *Program Coordinator*
Tiffanie Rainville, *Summer Student*
Sarah Roslen, *Contract Researcher*

Board of Directors: John Bouza, President David Spence, VP
Mark Patry, Treasurer Chad Nelson, Secretary
Gordon Clifford Nicole DesRoches
Debbie Ferrigan Geoff Green
Dr. Ole Hendrickson Dr. Colin Rennie
Laurel Rosene

The Year in Review

If I had to describe this year in one word I would say growth. Issues aside, it takes quite a bit of work to create a reputable and sustainable organization. In my first two years at Ottawa Riverkeeper I made it a priority to increase the profile of our organization and publish the first ever River Report. Since that time I have been spending quite a bit of time and energy on organizational development. We quickly became extremely busy and our expertise was sought after for presentations, advice on issues, media interviews, participation on committees meetings with decision-makers and river advocates. Clearly if we are to make a difference on the river we need strong leadership that comes from a talented staff, committed board of directors and determined volunteers.

This year we have grown to three full-time staff which will allow us to better respond to the growing number of issues demanding our attention. It will also allow us to raise more money and build better partnerships so that we can continue to deliver our programs and ensure our governments are enforcing the environmental laws and regulations. All of these efforts protect the river for the benefit of the public.

When I spend time on issues and policy it can sometimes be challenging and often frustrating. As my father used to remind me, "you can't change Rome overnight". One thing I know for certain is that you can't change the Department of Fisheries and Oceans or Environment Canada overnight, although it is possible to dump a lot of pollution in the river overnight.

However, when the going gets tough I talk to people and I learn more about the river. I am continually encouraged by the scores of volunteers and interested community members I am fortunate enough to meet with. People are coming to us with exceptional skills and offering their time to help protect the river. The stories I hear are interesting and insightful and give me the energy to take on the challenges no matter how complicated.

It is more evident than ever before that the Ottawa River needs a Riverkeeper. Our governments are not providing the necessary leadership to protect the river. Ottawa Riverkeeper brings the public into the decision-making arena and empowers them to participate in protecting our river. We inform decision-makers about the health of the river and the problems and challenges we are facing. We are a platform for discussion, a leader on the river and a facilitator for positive change. At all times we fight for just decisions. We have come a long way but have only just begun so hold on tight...

**Meredith Brown,
Riverkeeper and Executive Director**

The Riverkeeper is...

- An informed environmental advocate,
- A consistent voice on the water,
- A flexible coalition builder,
- A thorough investigator,
- A trusted spokesperson,
- A dependable listener,
- A community servant,
- A dedicated scientist,
- A dynamic educator,
- A resolute leader,
- A trusted expert,
- A visionary.



Photo credit B. Schlumberger and The Ottawa Citizen

Events that engaged the community with the river...

Rivers Day Paddle ~ River Healing Journey ~ Riverkeeper Triathlon

www.ottawariverkeeper.ca



Pond Hockey Tournament

annual events

Annual Meeting ~ Solstice Paddle ~ Fall Paddle / Garbage Cleanup

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND BELIEVERS IN A CLEAN & HEALTHY OTTAWA

Current Supporters

(contributions \$5000 and greater)

THE ONTARIO
TRILLIUM
FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION
TRILLIUM
DE L'ONTARIO



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada



For Good. Forever. Le bien... toujours.



Ottawa Riverkeeper Patron Members:

David Spence ** Helen Hirsh Spence ** John Booth ** CanFund ** Christopher Paci

Guardian Members:

Kenneth Abraham ** Sarah Jane Fraser ** Daniel F. Brunton ** Ole Hendrickson ** Mark Kepkay and Jimena Eyzaguirre

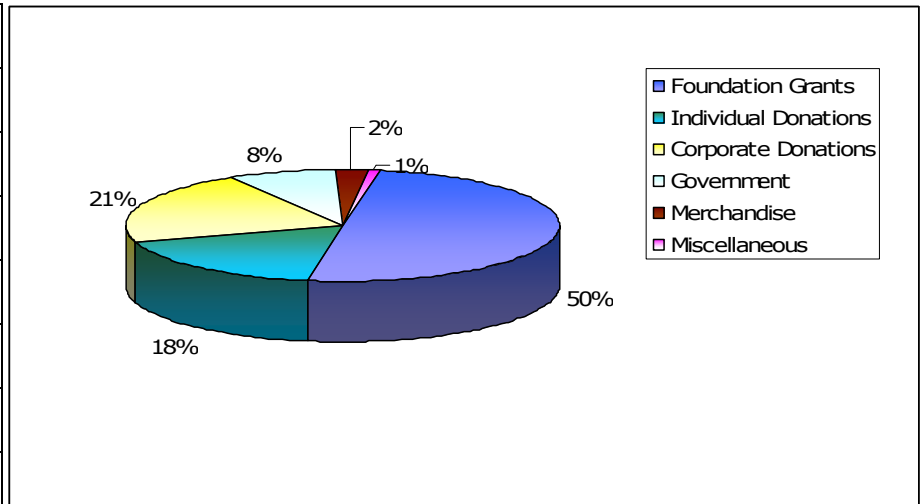
Thanks to our Stellar Volunteers:

Jon Andrews ** Diane Ashby-Noel ** John Bouza ** Katherine Balpatak
Phillipe Brennan ** Peter Brown ** Bruce Burwell ** Andrew Buzzell
Hope Cadieux-Ledoux ** Catherine Calligan ** Gordon Clifford ** Steven Cooke Veen
Cooper ** Marie-Josée Cusson ** Bertrand Daoust ** Nicole DesRoches
Barc Dowden ** Ronnie Drever ** Peter Dudley ** Debbie Ferrigan
Nathalie Ferron ** Jennifer Goldstone ** Chris Graham ** Geoff Green
Fred Hasle ** Donna Harris ** Peter Haughton ** Jennifer Haughton
Fanny Havel ** Ole Hendrickson ** Chris Hughes ** Rob Huntley ** Lea Kane
Peter Karwacki ** Rob Kent ** Lisa Kiss ** David Lee ** Sharon Locke
Dan Lussier ** Pauline Lynch-Steward ** Virginia Maclatchy ** Kim Mann
Duncan Marshall ** Kim Mann ** Karen Maw ** Joann McCann ** Dan McPhee
John Meadows ** Chad Nelson ** David Nogas ** Reid Parker ** Mark Patry
Irene Pestov ** Alain Piche ** Allison Prindinville ** Chris Pullen ** Colin Rennie Andy
Roach ** Sarah Rosolen ** Laurel Rosene ** Mike Ryan ** David Spence
Ev St. Amour ** Leigh Stewart ** Catherine Stewart ** Chris Stone ** Pat Tait
Alan Todd ** Mary Trudeau ** Al Twedde

Financial Information

Revenue (April 1 2007- March 21 2008)

Revenue Source	Amount (\$)
Foundation Grants	79,782
Corporate Donations	33,634
Individual Donations	28,743
Government	13,210
Merchandise	3,886
Miscellaneous	1,268
TOTAL REVENUE:	160,522



Expenses (April 1 2007- March 21 2008)

Expenses	Amount (\$)
Wages, Benefits and Consulting	121,743
Advertising and promotion	9,348
Office & Administration	7,041
Travel	4,000
Meetings, Workshops & Conferences	8,946
Bank charges & Interest	1,048
Amortization of Capital Assets	1,748
TOTAL EXPENSES	153,872

Hard copies of our complete audited statements are available upon request. Please email your request to us at Christopher@ottawariverkeeper.ca or call 613-321-1120.