



Communications Committee Meeting

March 3rd, 2022





Remarks on Virtual Meetings



Agenda Item #1



Chair's Remarks



Agenda Item #2



Approval of Communications Committee Agenda (Supplemental Agenda)

Recommendation:

The Members approve the Communications Committee agenda as submitted.



Agenda Item #3



Declaration of Conflict of Interest



Agenda Item #4



Communications Project Update PowerPoint Presentation



Project Update Communications Committee

March 3rd, 2022





The Team: Communications and Outreach



John Mesman, Team Lead, Community Lands and Outreach

- **Shannon Gutoskie**, Communications Specialist
- **Kelsey Smith**, Stewardship & Outreach Assistant
- **Shannon Murray**, Stewardship & Outreach Assistant



Update: SNC Operations and Business Continuity



Let's work together, by keeping apart.
Travaillons ensemble en gardant notre distances.

The health, safety and well-being of South Nation Conservation staff, volunteers, clients and visitors remains a top priority.



La santé, la sécurité et le bien-être du personnel, les bénévoles, les clients et les visiteurs de la Conservation de la Nation Sud demeurent une priorité absolue.

WEAR PPE WHEN NEEDED

Use a face mask when it's difficult to distance, like in vehicles, bathrooms and common areas.



PORTEZ DU EPP AU BESOIN

Utilisez un masque facial lorsqu'il est difficile de vous distancier, comme dans les véhicules, les salles de bain et les espaces communs.

WASH. YOUR. HANDS.

Wash your hands with soap and water regularly. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.



LAVEZ. VOS. MAINS.

Lavez-vous les mains régulièrement avec du savon et de l'eau. Nettoyez et désinfectez les surfaces fréquemment touchées.

Cover a cough or sneeze.

Cover with a sleeve or tissue.



Couvrez une toux ou un éternuement.

Couvrez avec une manche ou un mouchoir.

Don't touch.

Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.



Ne touchez pas.

Évitez de toucher les yeux, le nez ou la bouche avec des mains non lavées.

Keep your distance.

Avoid close contact with people. Maintain a safe distance of 2 metres.



Gardez vos distances.

Évitez les contacts étroits avec les gens. Maintenez une distance de sécurité de 2 mètres.

Stay home.

If you experience respiratory symptoms like a fever or cough, stay home and self-isolate.



Restez à la maison.

Si vous ressentez des symptômes respiratoires comme une fièvre ou une toux, rester à la maison, isolez-vous.

Get help.

If you experience symptoms of COVID-19, CALL your doctor or Telehealth Ontario.



Obtenez de l'aide.

Si vous ressentez des symptômes de COVID-19, APPELEZ votre médecin ou Télésanté Ontario.



1-877-984-2948
info@nation.on.ca

www.nation.on.ca/coronavirus



Update on SNC Operations and Business Continuity



- The SNC Office is now open to the public



Winter Hike at Warwick Forest





Winter Hike at Warwick Forest



Healthy Hike Event - Warwick Forest

- Over 200 people attended the 75th Anniversary Launch Event at the Warwick Forest on February 12th
- Free hot chocolate/coffee, campfire, snowshoes, live music and 75km Challenge registration



Flood Forecasting and Warning Workshop



SOUTH NATION
CONSERVATION
DE LA NATION SUD

FLOOD FORECASTING & WARNING

ANNUAL INFORMATION SESSION FOR
MUNICIPALITIES AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

Thursday, March 3, 2022

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Online via Microsoft Teams

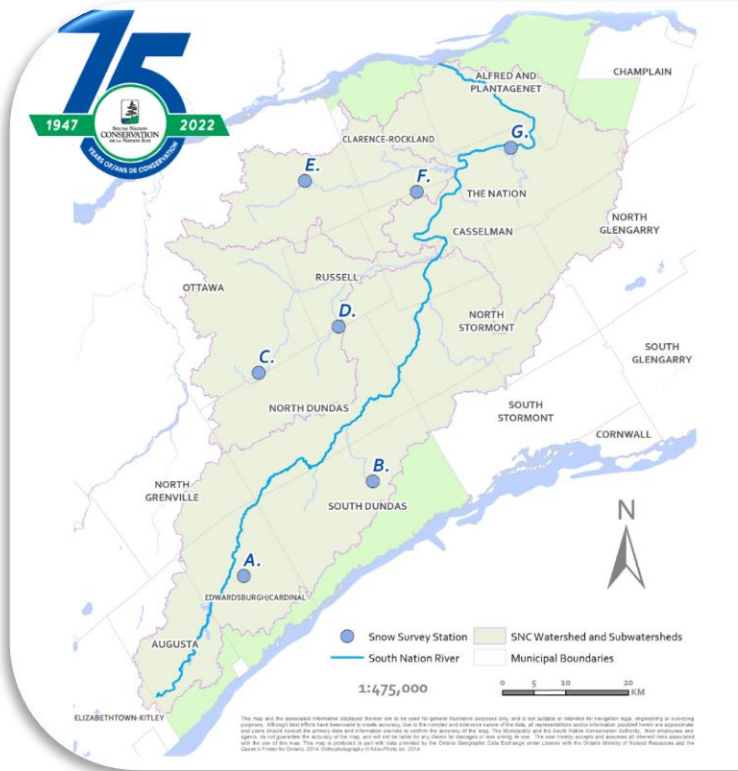


Photo: Presqu'île, Lefevre, Ontario - Ottawa River Flood 2017

- Hosting Emergency Management and Response Staff from Partner Municipalities and the Provincial Government
- Speakers from Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board, and SNC



Snow Survey



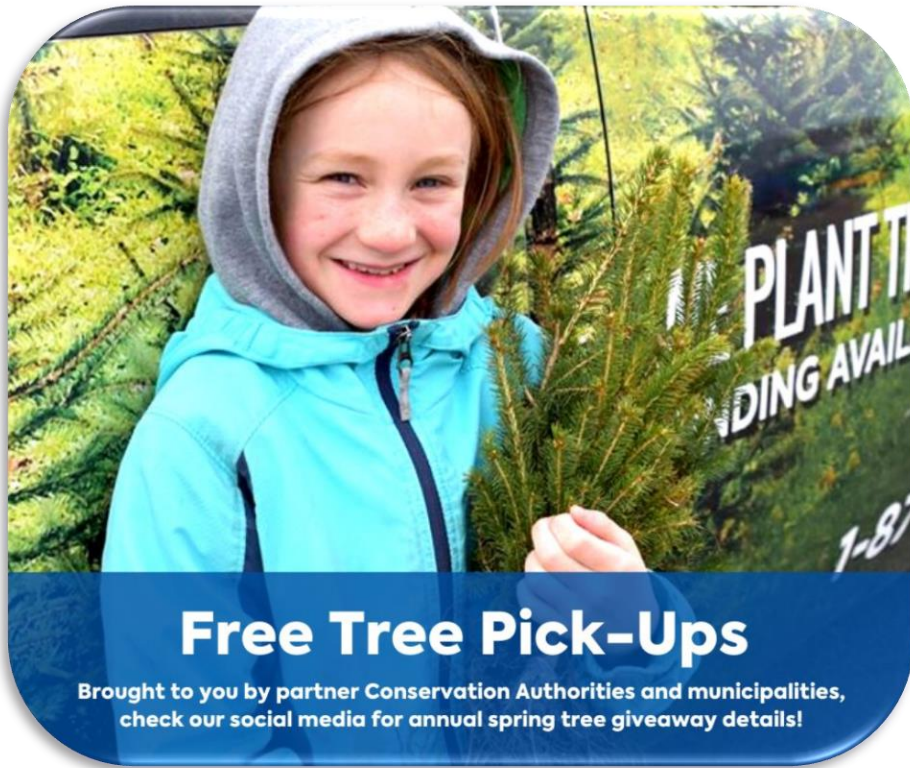
Snow Survey February 15th, 2022

2022 Snow Station	Snow Depth (cm)	Snow Water Equivalency (mm)
A. Spencerville	24	65
B. Williamsburg	20	67
C. Vernon	20	59
D. Felton	14	50
E. Bear Brook	19	54
F. Larose Forest	26	65
G. St. Isidore	15	43

- Snow Survey press release issued on February 25th to highlight additional tools used by SNC to help forecast flood potential during the spring freshet
- All snow stations and ice thickness surveys are normal for this time of year



2022 Free Tree Pick Ups



Working with Municipal Partners to plan the 2021 Tree Giveaways

- 16 giveaways planned for May
- \$500 per municipality allocated from SNC Budget
- Report will be brought back to Committee in June



Forestry Program Update



Cheyene Brunet, Forest Technician plants a tree at
J. Henry Tweed Conservation Area, Russell, ON

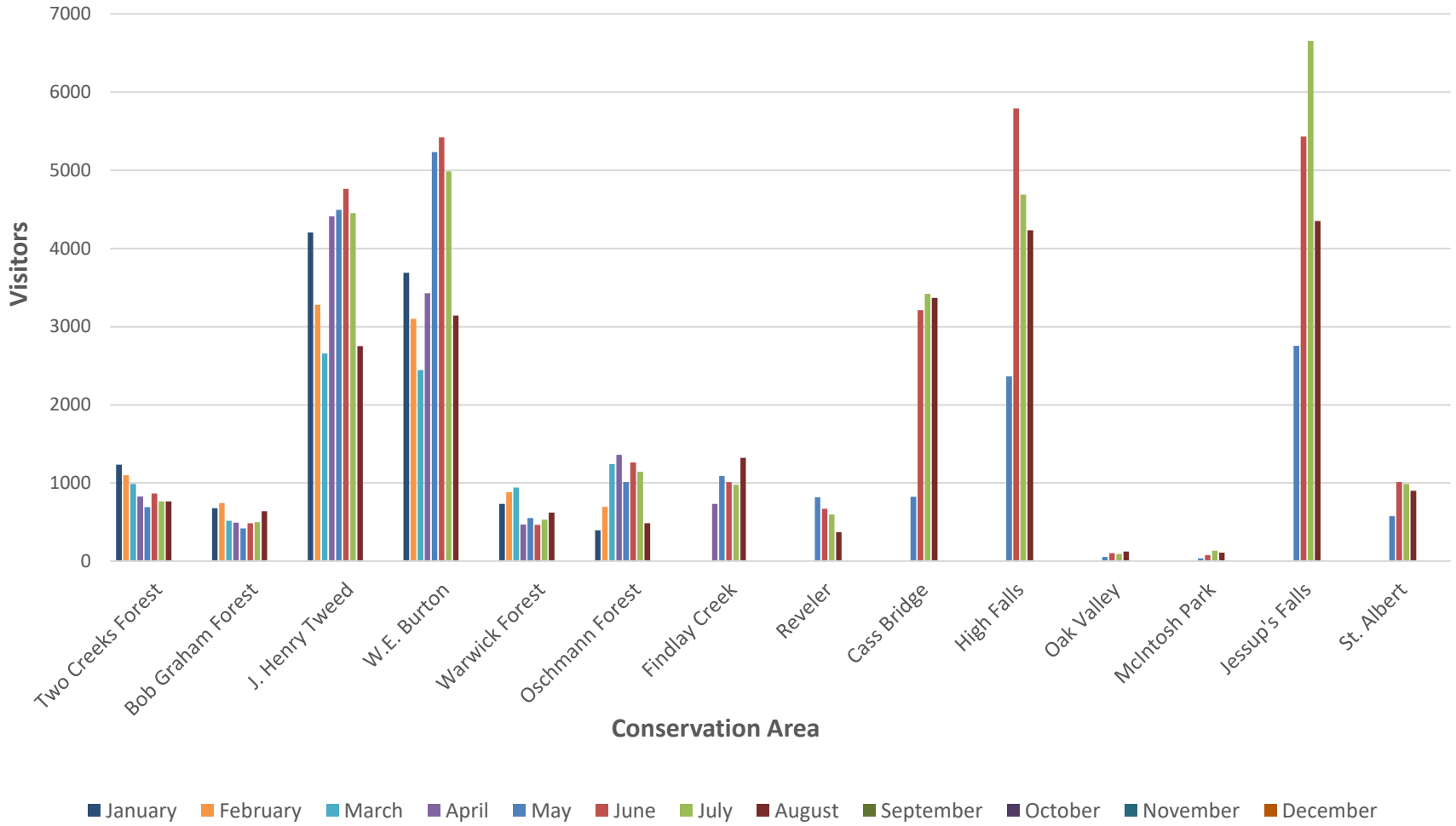
- 229,370 trees planted in 2021
- 1991-2019 averaged 120,000 trees/year
- 3,582,930 trees planted from 1990 to present
- 230,000 trees orders (to date) for spring 2022 planting
- Forestry Contractor's Meeting: April 1st at Larose Forest



2021 Conservation Area Statistics



Visitors Recorded at SNC Conservation Areas (January - December 2021)





Providing Recreational Opportunities: Winter Trail Maintenance



Trail Grooming at Two Creeks
Conservation Area, Morrisburg, ON



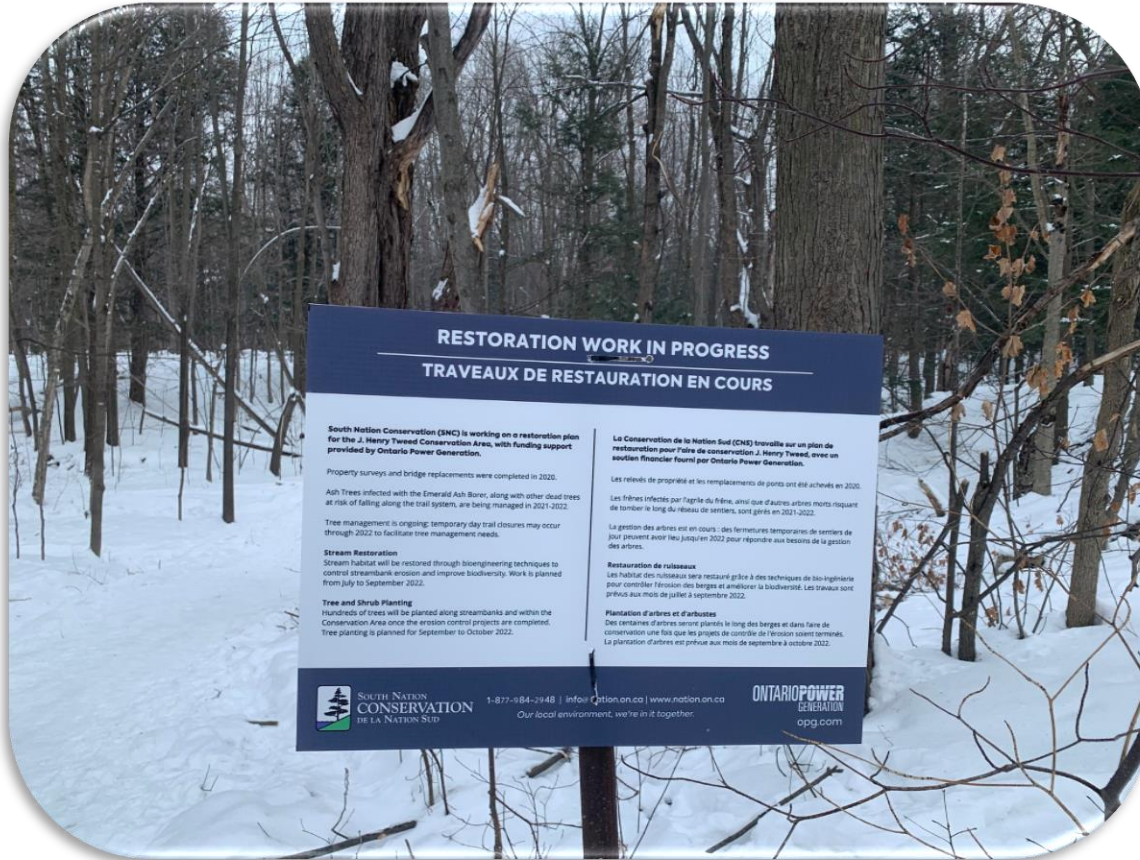
Nokomis Park, Russell, ON

Winter Trail Maintenance

- Trail Grooming at seven Conservation Areas
- Russell Recreation Trail and Nokomis Park (through municipal agreement)
- Over 35 kms of groomed trails throughout the jurisdiction



Restoration Work: J. Henry Tweed



Update

- Ash and other dead trees at risk of falling along the trail system, removed in 2021-2022; trails reopened at end of January
- Stream habitat restoration to be completed in 2022, including planting of hundreds of trees



Restoration Work: Oschmann Forest



Oschmann Forest, North Dundas

Oschmann Forest:

- Work scheduled from January 17th to February 2022
- Trails closed temporarily, reopened daily by 4:00 PM
- Some wood donated to the House of Lazarus in North Dundas to help families in need heat their homes this winter



Protecting People and Property

Bear Brook Natural Hazard Mapping:

- Hybrid public information Session, Thursday, March 31st, 2022 at 7:00 PM
- Meetings between residents and SNC staff offered in person and online
- SNC to distribute letters to landowners, stakeholders and municipalities; place newspaper ads; coordinate meetings



Shaws Creek Open House, January 2020
Vars, Ottawa



Education: Winter Wellness Workshop Series



The Healing Place • Tsi Tehshakotitsiéntha' • Endaji Mino-pimaadizin • Lieu de Guérison

WINTER WELLNESS
Free Workshop Series

January 19
Wednesday
1:10 - 2:30 PM

Alicia Cook
Canoe Woman Herbs: Winter Wellness
Learn about the cycle of illness, healing, and improving overall wellness

January 20
Thursday
1:10 - 2:30 PM

Shannon Hall & Al
Project Good Mind
Connect with your culture, take time to heal, and open yourself to listening and learning

January 27
Thursday
Multiple Workshops
10:30 - 1:30 PM

Akwesasne Satellite Office
Holistic Life Foundation
Workshops for Grades: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, and 7-8. Take a moment to lean in, breathe deeply and learn to grow

For more information or to register:
+1-877-984-2948
ksunday@nation.on.ca OR
healingplaceinfo@plentycanada.com

SOUTH NATION
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- The Healing Place Working group Meets regularly to discuss initiatives and plan activities at The Healing Place
- Hosted a series of free online Winter Wellness Workshops



Maple Syrup Education Pilot Program



Karen

Still from SNC's 2021 Maple Syrup Education Videos

2022 Maple Syrup Education Program

- SNC 2021 Maple Syrup Education videos will be offered to classrooms for free as part of SNC's 75th Anniversary celebrations
- Maple Syrup Education Program to be postponed in lieu of Maple Weekends to engage the public in a distanced format (depending on Public Health recommendations)



A child learns about tree age in SNC's Maple Syrup Education Program



Taffy station at SNC's Maple Syrup Education Program



Maple Syrup Education Pilot Program



Karen

Still from SNC's 2021 Maple Syrup Education Videos

- NDDHS is interested in starting a small-scale maple syrup operation by tapping the 40 maple trees that we have on site
- Students to learn about the history and traditions of making maple syrup and how it reflects Indigenous traditional knowledge. Chris said that he is willing to help with the Aboriginal aspects.
- Want to explore and compare modern methods for making maple syrup.



Stream of Dreams: Virtual Program



Photos from SNC's delivery of the Stream of Dreams program

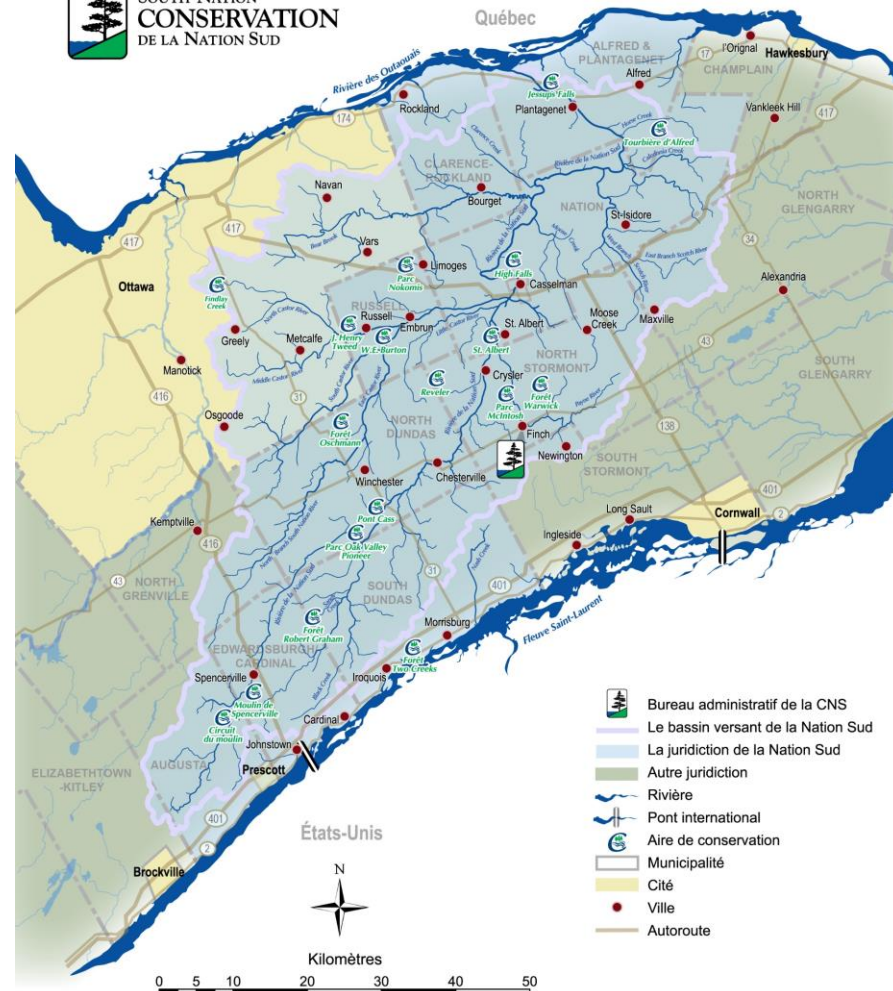
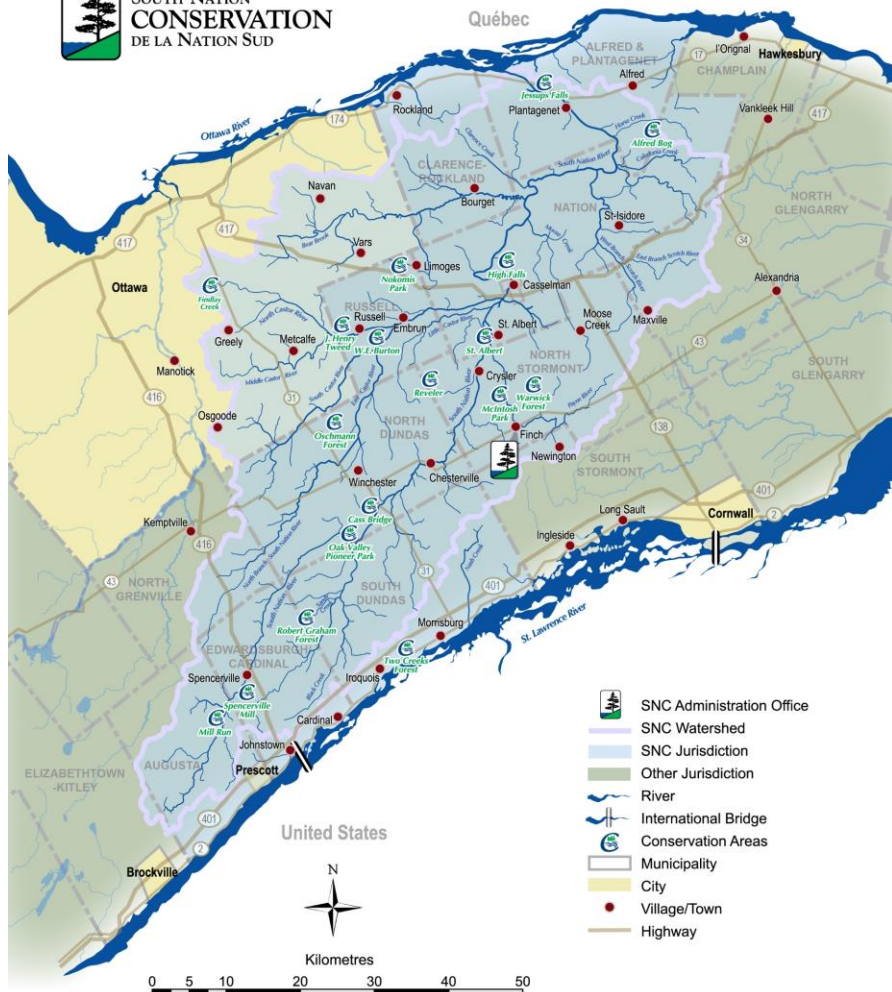


Stream of Dreams Virtual Program Version Development

- Co-op Student in the month of March
- Will be working on a virtual format for the Stream of Dreams program



Updated Jurisdiction Map





75th Anniversary Event Overview



75TH Anniversary GUIDE



Established under the Conservation Authorities Act of Ontario in 1947, SNC is celebrating 75 Years of Conservation in 2022! Join us for one of the many events planned throughout the year! Details can be found at: www.nation.on.ca/anniversary

Update: SNC 75th Anniversary Guide

- Details posted online at www.nation.on.ca/anniversary
- Month "at a glance" activities included within the Guide

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022

- 75th commemorative logo
- 75km Challenge launch event
- Ice Fishing Derby Partnerships: Promotion of the SNC fishery

MARCH 2022

- Maple Madness: FREE Community Days at Oschmann Forest, release of FREE Maple Education video programming
- SNC Workshop Series: Flood Forecasting and Warning Prep, Municipal Information Day, Standing Committee Meetings

APRIL 2022

- Annual General Meeting
- Record Spring Tree Planting
- Community Free Tree Pick-Ups

MAY - AUGUST 2022

- "Taste the Nation" Restaurant and Brewery Partnerships
- Canoe the Nation: Community partnerships for canoe and kayak races and activities
- Youth Fish Camps
- Friends of SNC Golf Tournament

SEPTEMBER 2022

- Open House and Eco-Education Day

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2022

- 75km Challenge: Fall activities including Ontario Hike Week
- SNC Annual Bus Tour
- SNC Gives Back



SNC Annual General Meeting



- April 21, 2022 at 9:00 AM
- Highlight 75th Anniversary
- 2021 Annual Report to be presented
- Endeavour to hold meeting in-person

Our Local Environment, We're in it Together.





Approval of Communications Committee meeting minutes of November 17, 2021

Recommendation:

The Members approve the Communications Committee meeting minutes of November 17 as submitted.

Our Local Environment, We're in it Together.





Update: 2022 Committee Chair and Membership

Recommendation:

The Communications Committee receive and file the 2022 Committee Chair and Membership report.

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Update: Social Media and Website

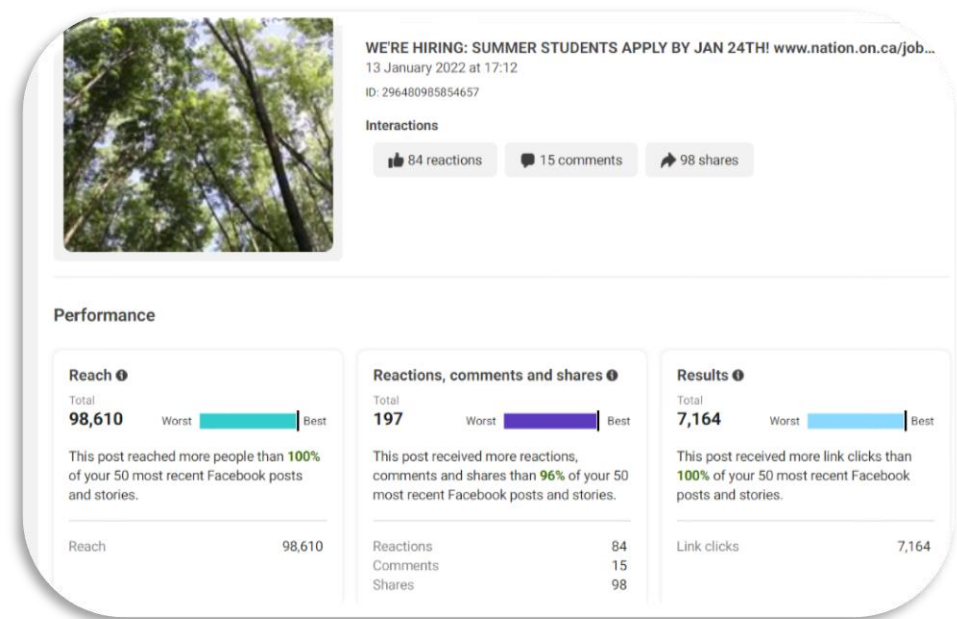
Recommendation:

The Communications Committee receive and file the Social Media and Website Update.



Sept – Feb Social Media Campaigns

- Drinking Water Source Protection [campaign-Conservation ON] (Sept 2021)
- South Nation Creations Online Auction (Sept/Oct 2021)
- Indigenous Partnerships Campaign (Sept/Oct 2021)
- Donation/Giving Campaign (Dec 2021)
- Throwback Thursday SNC 75th Anniversary Campaign (2022)
- Source Water Protection [campaign by Conservation ON] (Dec 2021-Feb 2022)
- Summer Student Campaign (Jan 2022)
- The Healing Place Wellness Workshop Campaign (Jan 2022)
- Black History Month Diversity in Conservation Areas Campaign (Feb 2022)
- Healthy Hike Warwick Forest campaign (Feb 2022)



Top SNC Facebook and Instagram Post
Summer student recruitment post

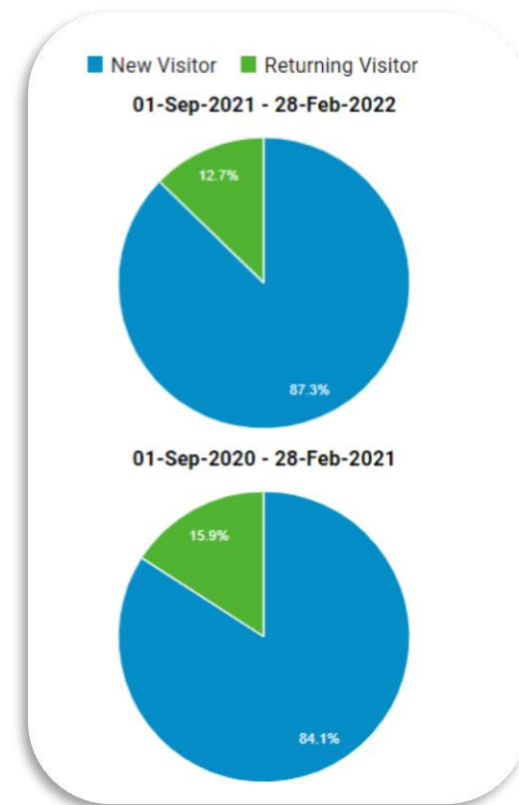


Outreach: Website Analytics



Page	Page Views	% Page Views
1. /		
01-Sep-2021 - 28-Feb-2022	12,541	13.43%
01-Sep-2020 - 28-Feb-2021	14,540	13.43%
% Change	-13.75%	0.02%
2. /about/job-opportunities-tenders		
01-Sep-2021 - 28-Feb-2022	3,086	3.31%
01-Sep-2020 - 28-Feb-2021	2,509	2.32%
% Change	23.00%	42.62%
3. /development/find-form		
01-Sep-2021 - 28-Feb-2022	2,233	2.39%
01-Sep-2020 - 28-Feb-2021	2,353	2.17%
% Change	-5.10%	10.04%
4. /contact/staff-listing		
01-Sep-2021 - 28-Feb-2022	2,094	2.24%
01-Sep-2020 - 28-Feb-2021	2,003	1.85%
% Change	4.54%	21.23%
5. /recreation/hikingwalking/warwick-forest-conservation-area-berwick-ontario		
01-Sep-2021 - 28-Feb-2022	1,768	1.89%
01-Sep-2020 - 28-Feb-2021	3,143	2.90%
% Change	-43.75%	-34.77%
6. /resources/maps		
01-Sep-2021 - 28-Feb-2022	1,678	1.80%
01-Sep-2020 - 28-Feb-2021	1,907	1.76%
% Change	-12.01%	2.03%
7. /contact		
01-Sep-2021 - 28-Feb-2022	1,476	1.58%
01-Sep-2020 - 28-Feb-2021	1,325	1.22%
% Change	11.40%	29.17%

Top pages visited and year-over-year changes in page views



New and returning visitor stats
Sept 2020-Feb 2021 VS Sept 2021-Feb 2022

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Update: Municipal Information Day

Recommendation:

The Communications Committee receive and file SNC's plan to host a virtual 2022 Municipal Information Day.

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Request for Approval: SNC 75km Challenge Guide

Recommendation:

The Communications Committee approve the 75km Challenge Guide.



75 km Challenge



nation.on.ca info@nation.on.ca 1-877-984-2948
 South Nation Conservation @SouthNationCA @southnationca

75KM CHALLENGE

Alfred Bog Walk
Visit the Alfred Bog off Concession Road 11, south of the village of Alfred.

Reveler Conservation Area
14255 Concession 10-11 Road, Crysler

Cass Bridge Conservation Area
12212 Cass Bridge Road, Winchester

High Falls Conservation Area
11 Nation River Road, Casselman & 18 Brisson Street, Casselman

Jessup's Falls Conservation Area
6675 Highway 17, Plantagenet

Oschmann Forest Conservation Area
12301 Ormond Road, Winchester

W.E. Burton Conservation Area
601 Church Street, Russell

Spencerville Mill
11 Water Street, Spencerville

Findlay Creek Board Walk
2835 Findlay Creek Drive, Ottawa

J. Henry Tweed Conservation Area
98 Craig Street, Russell & 110 Forced Road, Russell

Two Creeks Forest Conservation Area
11319 County Road 2, Morrisburg

Warwick Forest Conservation Area
15755 County Road 9, Berwick & 15751 County Road 9, Berwick

St-Albert Conservation Area
24 Machabee Street, St-Albert

McIntosh Park Conservation Area
Crysler Rd, Berwick

Oak Valley Pioneer Park
3324 Baldwin Lane, Winchester Springs

Mill Run Conservation Area
5659 McCrea Rd, Augusta

ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

BIRDING

- Alfred Bog Walk
- Reveler CA

BOAT LAUNCHING

- Cass Bridge CA
- Chesterville River Access
- Crysler River Access
- Embran Boat Launch
- High Falls CA
- Jessup's Falls CA
- Spencerville Mill
- St-Albert CA

HISTORIC SITES

- Oak Valley Pioneer Park
- Spencerville Mill

GEOCACHING

HIKING/WALKING

- Alfred Bog Walk
- Findlay Creek Board Walk, Ottawa
- Oschmann Forest CA
- The Moose Creek Recreation Trail
- W.E. Burton CA, Russell
- J. Henry Tweed CA
- Reveler CA, Crysler
- Robert Graham CA
- Two Creeks Forest CA
- Warwick Forest CA

CANOING/PADDLING

- Mill Run Kayak Route
- Great Blue Heron Kayak Route
- King Fisher Kayak Route
- Swallows Path Kayak Route
- Mallard Way Kayak Route
- Castone Farm
- Chesterville Waterfront
- Spencerville Mill
- St-Albert CA

PICNICS

- Cass Bridge CA
- High Falls CA
- J. Henry Tweed CA
- Jessup's Falls CA
- McIntosh Park CA
- Oak Valley Pioneer Park
- Spencerville Mill
- St-Albert CA
- Two Creeks CA
- W.E. Burton CA

FISHING

- Cass Bridge CA
- High Falls CA
- Jessup's Falls CA
- Spencerville Mill
- St-Albert CA
- W.E. Burton CA

75KM CHALLENGE TRACKER

Name: _____
 Phone Number: _____
 Email: _____

DATE	DISTANCE	LOCATION	ACTIVITY NOTES

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Request for Approval: Maple Education Program Update

Recommendation:

The Communications Committee approve the revised Maple Education outreach initiatives and recommend that the Board of Directors approve postponing the on-site tours for the Maple Education Program at the Oschmann Forest Conservation Area.

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Request for Approval: 2022 Youth Fish Camps

Recommendation:

The Communications Committee recommend that the Board of Directors approve SNC's planned delivery of the 2022 recreational fishing programs, subject to local public health restrictions.

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Request for Approval: 2022 “Friends of SNC” Golf Tournament

Recommendation:

The Communications Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that staff proceed with planning a golf tournament in Fall 2022, including seeking quotes for a venue.

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Request for Approval: Video Products

Recommendation:

The Communications Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that staff proceed with planning a golf tournament in Fall 2022, including seeking quotes for a venue.

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Request for Approval: 2021 Annual Report

Recommendation:

That the Communications Committee recommend that the Board of Directors approve the 2021 Annual Report.



Agenda Item #6 i.: page 23-24



SOUTH NATION CONSERVATION

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Partner gathered to plant
and Remember the Children
at The Healing Place in the
Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal





2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

SNC Recognizes Importance of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

The Healing Place - a community green space located on the traditional territories of the Algonquin and Mohawk Nations in Eastern Ontario.



The Healing Place Property Sign, Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal.



SNC Staff planting trees at The Healing Place

The Healing Place represents an important step forward in the journey towards reconciliation. It's centered around creating and maintaining a safe, physical space of healing to help restore land, language, and relationships with community members from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous backgrounds.

This 89-acre site is located on an SNC property in Shanly, Ontario and is home to several grassland Species at Risk, including the Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, and locally significant Gorgone Checkerspot butterfly.

Project support was provided by members of the Eastern Ontario First Nations Working Group, Forest Ontario, Ontario Power Generation, and various government and industry partners.



SNC Partners with Ducks Unlimited Canada to Restore Wetlands Across Eastern Ontario

The revitalization of lost and degraded wetlands will be the focus of a three-year, \$375,000 restoration project.



A priority region for waterfowl conservation (Photo credit: Bill Kendall)

A partnership between SNC and Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) will complete wetland restoration projects on approximately 225 acres within the jurisdiction, primarily on SNC properties.

SNC has an existing partnership in place with DUC to provide support and expertise for DUC wetland restoration projects under the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks' Wetlands Conservation Partnership Program. The success of this partnership and SNC's local expertise led DUC to request SNC support with the implementation of the wetland restoration projects under the Federal Government's Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund.

SNC is also happy to report that the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) has also acquired 200 acres of wetland that is surrounded by the proposed Alfred Bog Provincial Park. Visitors are encouraged to visit the Alfred Bog walk that was constructed by SNC in the 1990s to explore this ecosystem.



The Boardwalk at the Alfred Bog, Alfred



The Alfred Bog, Alfred (Photo credit: NCC)



Virtual Education and Outreach

SNC takes education programs virtual with record numbers amid ongoing pandemic

With the ongoing Pandemic preventing in-person field trips, SNC adapted to provide schools with opportunities to learn outside the four walls of classrooms, to help students step outside and into nature through educational videos.

SNC successfully delivered two Virtual Field Trip Projects: Maple Syrup Education (two videos for Grades 1-3 and 3-6) and the Ottawa and St. Lawrence River Virtual Field Trip for high school students.

Maple videos took viewers on a tour of the Oschmann Forest Conservation Area and allowed families to revisit the site to immerse themselves in a self-guided interpretive tour. The videos were tailored to curriculum objectives, and reached over 25,000 students within the Ottawa Carleton School Board through a paid partnership.



Maple Weekend at the Oschmann Forest

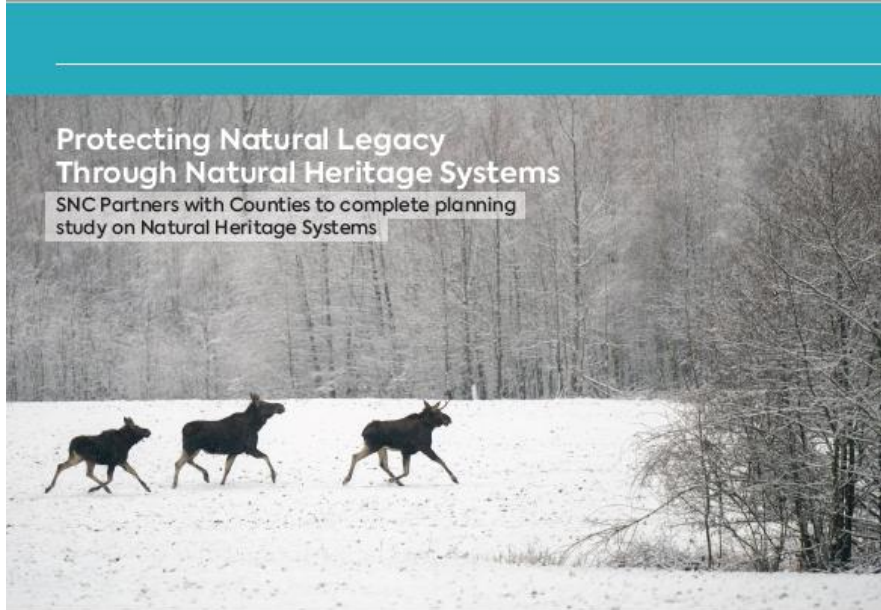
Ottawa and St. Lawrence River modules included a virtual tour of local shorelines; discussed issues facing freshwater supplies and offered guidance on how to be part of a sustainable solution. This provincial partnership project also included several chapters for teachers to use the local environment for different teaching objectives.



SNC Forester filming Maple Syrup Education videos



The Oschmann Forest, Township of North Dundas



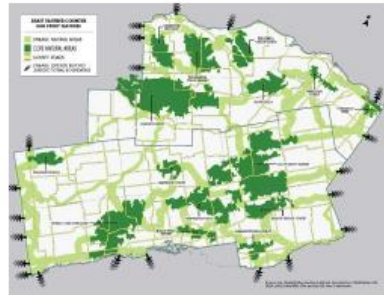
One of the main goals of the AHS is to recognize local linkages and wildlife corridors

SNC partnered with the Prescott and Russell, and Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry to complete a Natural Heritage Systems (NHS) study in Eastern Ontario.

An NHS is a network of interconnected natural features and areas such as forests, lakes, rivers, agricultural lands, and wetlands.

Strong natural heritage systems protection is necessary to maintain and enhance long-term quality of life, environmental health, and economic prosperity in the region.

The Province of Ontario requires municipalities to identify Natural Heritage Systems and preserve the diversity and connectivity of these features. This requirement is translated into policies that inform development, stewardship actions, climate change resiliency, environmental studies, and conservation efforts. Through a unique partnership, SNC will help ensure these policies remain appropriate, effective, and implementable.



Draft Partner Counties NHS Study Features



2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

SNC Approvals Programs: Planning and Development Reviews, Conservation Authority Regulations, and Municipal Septic Services

The way we plan and build our communities affects our natural environment. Environmental planning is an important part of protecting our land and water resources.

SNC's Approvals Team ensures people and property are protected from natural hazards by participating in local planning and development review to support local municipalities.

With expertise in natural hazards and natural heritage, municipal drinking water source protection, and private servicing, the team also supports development projects and environmental studies.

SNC's Septic Program through the *Ontario Building Code* (Part 8 - Sewage Systems) is delivered in 13 municipalities; working with landowners and contractors to ensure proper installation and repair of septic systems.

SNC's Regulations Program is delivered under Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and enables staff to work with municipal and agency partners, developers, landowners, and contractors, to safeguard human life and property from natural hazards.



SNC Regulations Officer

The following summary identifies the number of development applications processed by SNC in 2021.

Planning and Development Reviews

- 579 development applications
- 85 property inquiries
- 196 technical reviews
- 9 applications reviewed for threats to municipal drinking water
- 1 risk management plan established to protect municipal drinking water

Conservation Authorities Act: Section 28 Permits

- 245 permits
- 25 occurrence reports Investigated
- 69 drain maintenance requests

Sewage Systems Review

- 500 permits
- 130 septic record searches
- 83 renovation reviews
- 24 occurrence reports Investigated

For all planning applications, timelines are established by municipalities depending on the type of development, applicable legislation, and municipal policies.

Timelines for *Conservation Authorities Act* permits are established by the Province of Ontario. The following summary notes the number of permits issued within and established timelines.

Permits Issued Within Provincial Timeline

Major (90 days)	Minor (30 days)
7	163

Permits Issued Within Provincial Timeline

Major (90 days)	Minor (30 days)
0	20

- As part of Conservation Ontario's new Client Service Standards, SNC works to achieve the following service standards:
- 21 days for minor applications,
 - 28 days for major applications, and
 - 14 days for routine applications.

Additional time is provided for resubmissions.



2021 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

ENDLESS RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT SNC CONSERVATION AREAS

In 2021, SNC's network of 14 Conservation Areas (CA) welcomed approximately 200,000 recorded visitors to hike, geocache, picnic, kayak, canoe, launch their boat, bird watch, fish,

The most popular destinations?

Year-Round Sites:

- W.E. Burton CA in Russell (40,470 visitors)
- J. Henry Tweed CA in Russell (39,281 visitors)
- Oschmann Forest CA in North Dundas (10,445 visitors).

Seasonal Sites:

- Jessup's Falls CA in Alfred-Plantagenet (26,042 visitors)
- High Falls CA in Casselman (13,981 visitors)
- Cass Bridge CA in North Dundas (13,981 visitors).

Residents and visitors continued to visit SNC Conservation Areas in record numbers in 2021 to step outdoors and into nature, as a respite from the ongoing Pandemic.

In 2021, SNC was able to create a new Conservation Area, implement several trail improvement projects while also addressing dead Ash Trees infected with the Emerald Ash Borer. Several Conservation Areas experienced temporary day-closures throughout the year to facilitate tree management needs.



SNC is committed to securing investments in our local environment and working with partner municipalities to maintain, conserve and restore public natural spaces, and to ensure accessible and safe recreational opportunities.

SNC completed year 2 of a 3-year Restoration Project at the J. Henry Tweed Conservation Area with funding support from the Ontario Power Generation.



Robert Graham Conservation Area in South Dundas underwent significant trail upgrades as part of SNC's continued commitment to maintain and improve its public parks.



The Mill Run Conservation Area is a 9-acre property on McCrea Road recently donated by Augusta Township to SNC and developed in part thanks to funding received by the Federal Government.

LAND PARTNERSHIPS SUPPORT LOCAL ECONOMY

SNC partners with area businesses and community members to sustainably harvest locally sourced products.



HUNTING

Nearly 9,000 acres of SNC land is used by hunters; 115 permits issued in 2021.



HONEY

SNC is gifted 10 lbs of honey annually from local beekeepers; 1 land lease in 2021.



MAPLE SYRUP

In 2021, 2,600 gallons of sap was collected from the Oschmann Forest and sold to a local producer. 33 acres of land is also leased for sugar bush operations.



TRAPPING

Nearly 9,000 acres of land is used by trappers; 4 permits issued in 2021



CROP PRODUCTION

30 acres of SNC land is leased to local farmers.



Maple taps at the Oschmann Forest, Township of North Dundas

The guidance, wisdom, and holistic perspectives shared through partnerships with First Nations ensure the protection of culturally-significant species.



WOODLOT MANAGEMENT AND TREE PLANTING

In 2021, SNC:

- Planted a record 230,000 seedlings, adding to the 3 million trees planted since 1990.
- Provided \$202,616 in grants through Forest Ontario's 50 Million Tree Program to help plant trees on private land.
- Completed free Woodlot Advisory Service site visits and provided \$32,000 in grants to 64 property owners to create forest management plans for 4,388 acres of land.
- Continued management of the SNC Forest (over 12,000 acres) and the SDG County Forests (over 9,000 acres). Sustainable harvest operations provided \$21,990 for SNC and \$17,996 for SDG.
- Worked with 22 Forest Stewards to monitor forest activity on 32 SNC properties.
- SNC partnered with municipalities to provide over 10,000 free tree seedlings to watershed residents. \$6,500 was fundraised to support this Forest Conservation Initiative.

WATERSHED MONITORING AND REPORTING

Our environmental monitoring programs focus on quality and quantity of our land and water ecosystems including: surface and ground water, native, invasive and at-risk species; stream assessments; and municipal drains.

SNC collects and provides scientifically accurate data for stakeholders and municipalities to make informed decisions; data also helps guide SNC stewardship projects and programs.

CLEAN WATER PROGRAM

Provided \$70,960 in cost-share grants to residents for 32 projects that improve water quality within the SNC jurisdiction.

Provided \$188,293 in cost-share grants for 72 projects within the City of Ottawa. The Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program is delivered by the Rideau, Mississippi, and South Nation Conservation Authorities Partners on behalf of the City of Ottawa.

OTTAWA ASH TREE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

Provided \$146,100 in cost-share grants for 65 projects on private property that helped replace 591 Ash trees and control the invasive emerald ash borer (EAB).

SNC remains committed to controlling EAB within its forest properties through research partnerships and tree management activities within Conservation Areas.



SNC Staff ground water sampling at Seguin Road well station



SNC is undertaking a 5-year grassland bird habitat enhancement and hayfield rejuvenation project in the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal.

GRASSLAND STEWARDSHIP

Thanks to years of successful paid industry partnerships to restore grassland habitat for Species at Risk birds, SNC partnered with Grasslands Ontario to support stewardship program funding delivery and the enhancement of grassland habitat at The Healing Place.

SNC will prepare a management plan for the improvement of grassland bird habitat and create a bird-friendly hay harvesting schedule to improve the productivity and overall effectiveness of the habitat.



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SNC Staff planting trees on private property in the City of Ottawa



SNC Staff completing water quality demonstration for local scouts during the J. Henry CA Community Day



Sustainable harvest on SNC and SDG Forests, Township of North Starmont



SNC welcomed environmental science students from Carleton University to the Indian Creek Fishway, Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal



SNC works with partners to keep trails groomed for winter use



Beaver Dam in the Ottawa River Floodplain Study Area, City of Clarence-Rockland



SNC Staff donated seedlings to local hospital, Winchester



2021 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



SNC YOUTH FISH CAMP

Nearly 100 youth baited a hook at SNC's Youth Fish Camps this summer, when it made it's return for its 12th season after a hiatus in 2020 due to COVID-19. These popular camps deliver an invaluable outdoor learning experience for youth and help familiarize young people with the natural environment through responsible and sustainable fishing. Special guests from the Water Rangers were also on-site to teach youth about water quality through citizen science testing kits, while members from the Ottawa Flyfishers Society provided participants with the basics of fly fishing.

Catch of the day at the Jessups Falls Fish Camp



SNC'S MUNICIPAL SEPTIC PROGRAM

SNC septic officials conduct septic inspections for 13 municipalities. In 2021, 500 septic permits were issued to residents across the jurisdiction, marking the most septic permits issued by SNC in 1 year to date.

SNC Staff conducting septic inspections



ONLINE WOOD AUCTION

The Online Auction raised nearly \$3,000 to support tree planting initiatives across the jurisdiction. Building on the success of the Art for Trees auction that was held in 2020, in lieu of the postponed annual SNC Golf Tournament, the Wood Auction featured many wood ware products such as furniture, displays, art, signs, and charcuterie boards from local artisans.

Donation from the Sheds and Gazebos Warehouse in Alexandria



ENHANCING EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS IN THE SNC JURISDICTION

SNC has expanded our climate station network to support flood forecasting and warning and low water response. Early warning systems are key to enhancing resilient communities, especially when considering the impacts of a changing climate. These stations collect information on water and weather, including air temperature, rain, snow, well water levels, and soil moisture. Stations transmit information in real-time on an hourly basis and are used in SNC's water resource management programs.

New climate station at South Bear Brook in the City of Ottawa



SNC DONATES TREES TO FRONTLINE HEALTHCARE WORKERS

SNC donated 1,100 tree seedlings to hospital nurses for National Nurses Week. Staff at the Glengarry Memorial Hospital, Winchester District Memorial Hospital, and the Cornwall Community Hospital received special thank you gifts of free trees. Donated Norway Spruce seedlings were sourced locally from the Ferguson Forest Centre. In the face of tragedy, trees can become a symbol of resilience, perseverance, and hope.

SNC Staff at the Glengarry District Hospital during nurses week handing out tree seedlings



FLOOD MANAGEMENT/MITIGATION STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

SNC provided services to the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne to support the development of a flood management strategy across Akwesasne. These services included GIS training, creation of key data sets to support the development of Early Warning Systems and Floodplain Mapping services, and a methodology for completing Flood Vulnerability Assessments. Throughout the project, SNC collaborated with Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and the St. Lawrence River Institute.



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2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SNC's Board of Directors consists of 13 appointed representatives from SNC's 16-member municipalities who govern and provide direction for all the work completed by SNC staff.



The 2021 Board of Directors Includes:
George Darouze, Chair, City of Ottawa; Pierre Leroux, Vice-Chair, Prescott-Russell;
Bill Smirle, Past Chair, Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry

City of Ottawa:
Gerrie Kautz, Michael Brown, Catherine Kitts

United Counties of Prescott-Russell:
François St. Amour, Mario Zanth

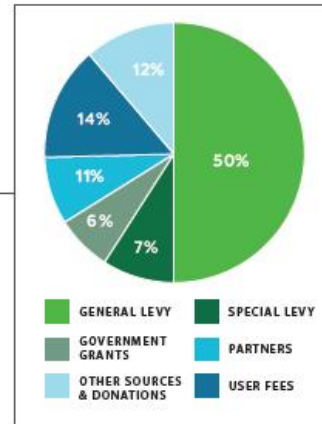
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry:
Steve Densham, Archie Mellan

United Counties of Leeds and Grenville:
Dana Farcasiu, John Hunter

2021 SNC BUDGET SUMMARY

2021 Budget: \$7,226,080

- General Levy: \$3,629,611
- Special Levy: \$507,133
- Government Grants: \$496,407
- Partners: \$744,792
- User Fees: \$997,754
- Other Sources and Donations: \$850,383

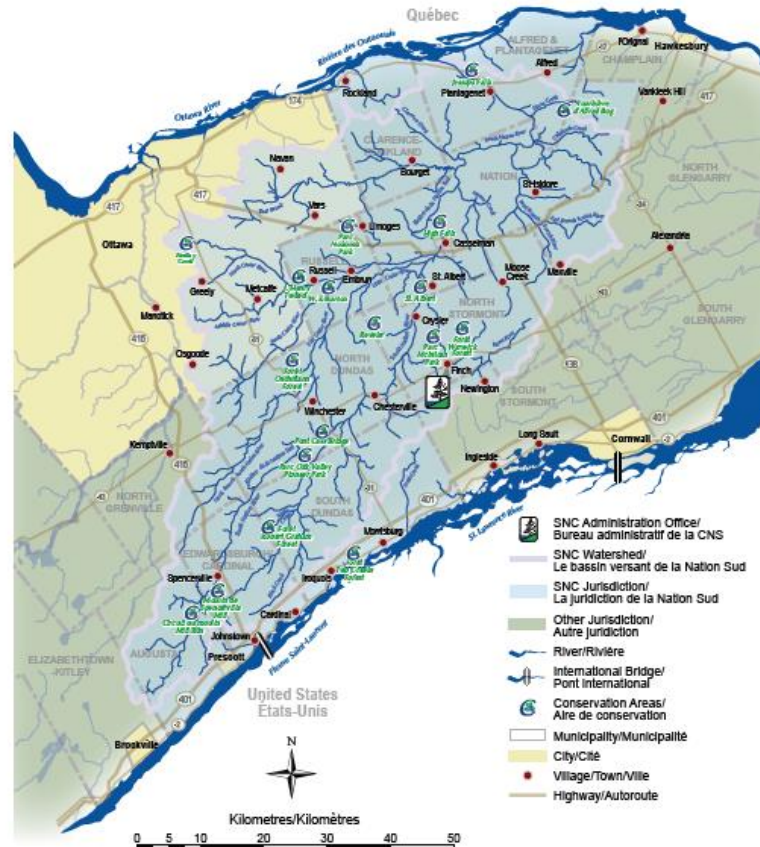




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OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT; WE'RE IN IT TOGETHER.
NOTRE ENVIRONNEMENT LOCAL, PROTÉGEONS-LE ENSEMBLE.



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Our Local Environment, We're in it Together.





Request for Approval: Community Environmental Grants Program Update

Recommendation:

The Communications Committee recommend that the Board of Directors approve amendments to the Community Environmental Grants Program to allow applications for certain community environmental projects in 2022.

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Request for Approval: Community Environmental Grants

Recommendation:

The Communications Committee recommends the Board of Directors approval of Community Environmental Grants in the amount of \$300 each to:

- Trinity Bible Church of Ottawa
- The River Institute
- St. Albert Optimist Club
- St. Albert Primary School

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Agenda Item #7



Supplemental Agenda (if any)

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Agenda Item #8



Roundtable Discussion

- a. Community Engagement Activities
- b. Recommendations for 'Friends of SNC'

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Agenda Item #9



Correspondence (if any)

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Agenda Item #10



Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday, June 8th, 2022

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Agenda Item #11



Adjournment

Recommendation:

The Communications Committee meeting of March 3rd, 2022 be adjourned at _____.

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