



SOUTH NATION
CONSERVATION
DE LA NATION SUD

Shield's Creek Stream Naturalization

South Nation Conservation (SNC) has completed multiple stream naturalization projects within the City of Ottawa in 2017 on Shield's Creek and Findlay Creek. Shield's Creek has been the target of many stream restoration projects in the past and continues to exhibit significant progress towards becoming a naturalized system in an urban setting. However, the headwater areas of Shield's Creek remained relatively disturbed and required intervention to accelerate movement back towards a natural system. Thus, the projects completed most recently have successfully increased buffer widths and complexity, restored low-flow fish passage instream, added in-stream habitat complexity and reduced erosion on sensitive and eroding bank areas of Shield's Creek. These recent efforts are a complement to the work done in the past on Shield's Creek and continue to provide overall benefits to water quality and quantity, fish passage and habitat as well as opportunities for interaction with nature for City of Ottawa residents. The projects followed recommendations for Shield's Creek provided in the Shield's Creek Subwatershed Study, 2004.

Support was provided through the City of Ottawa's Water Environment Strategy, a program designed to protect the health of city waterways, wetlands and groundwater.

Project Highlights:

- Planted 850 native trees & shrubs
- Planted 150 native perennials
- Increased riparian width
- Restored low-flow fish passage instream
- Reduced erosion
- Increased bank stability and biodiversity



Before



After