

## Development Fee Schedule 2013

At the December meeting, the Board of Directors discussed SNC's development fee schedule. The Board approved an overall increase of 2% to the Planning, Regulations, and Technical Report Review Fee Schedules. The fee increases are effective January 1, 2013 and move the Authority toward full cost recovery for development services.



## Vice Chair, Bill Smirle, Receives Queen's Jubilee Medal

On December 18, 2012, Bill Smirle, Vice Chairman of SNC's Board of Directors was recognized with a Queen's Jubilee Medal for community service in the Township of North Dundas. Mr. Smirle, a retired school principal and municipal politician, has been involved with South Nation Conservation since 2005. The Conservation Authority extends congratulations Mr. Smirle and his family. We are pleased to benefit from Bill's thoughtful contributions at the Board and Committee level.

## SNC Reviews Programs to Assist Agriculture and the Environment



SNC spends hundreds of thousands of dollars a year on environmental programs geared to rural/agricultural. Most of these programs were established 15+ years ago, and the Board reviewed possible improvements to these programs. Among the options were targeted specific subwatersheds, improved partnerships with other organizations, and conducting a survey to get accurate data on the types of programs the rural/farm owners would like to see. The Board will continue to discuss these options, and look at making changes for the 2014 budget year.

## City of Hawkesbury Flood Plain Mapping Study

The City of Hawkesbury has plans for housing and other development along the Ottawa River. Some of this area will flood during storms and spring runoff. SNC was hired by the City and the United Counties of Prescott Russell to map the extent of potential flooding so that any construction will be safe from flooding.

## First Year of Septic Program a Success

At the beginning of 2012, South Nation Conservation undertook the challenging task of assuming responsibility for the Septic Systems permits program from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit. At their December meeting, the Board reviewed a letter of congratulations from a local septic installer for the smooth transition of the program from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit to South Nation Conservation. In 2012, staff processed over 160 applications.

## Potential Landslide Area: Open House

On December 5, 2012 South Nation Conservation, together with the Nation Municipality, hosted an open house at the Nation's municipal office. The open house invitation was extended to residents living within the Casselman to Lemieux potential retrogressive landslide zone. The purpose of the meeting was to ensure that property owners and residents with dwellings within the zone are aware of risks of living within the potential retrogressive landslide area. In 2013, the Authority will complete a literature review of existing studies and assemble a team of scientific experts to discuss research advancements in this field of study.

## Fish and Wildlife Committee Debates Actions for Invasive Crayfish

The invasive Rusty Crayfish was seen recently in Leeds Grenville. Its extent in our rivers is still unknown, and SNC will work with the Fish and Wildlife Committee to monitor their extent. Rusty crayfish eat large amounts of aquatic vegetation, thereby reducing habitat and spawning areas for fish.

For more information go to: [www.invadingspecies.com/invaders/invertebrates/rusty-crayfish/](http://www.invadingspecies.com/invaders/invertebrates/rusty-crayfish/)



## SNC Forestry and Tree Planting



Through the Eastern Ontario Model Forest, SNC will receive grants to encourage more tree planting. The funds come from solar panel companies who cut some trees and provide the funds for compensation. The grants should allow an additional 15,000 trees to be planted.

SNC also received \$4,500 from Ontario Hydro as compensation for Hydro cutting down some trees. The money will go towards planting 9,000 trees.

Finally, SNC has started harvesting a mature forest. Using sustainable logging techniques, a logging company will pay SNC \$73,000 to harvest 75 acres of pines in Nation Township.



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