



50 Years of Conservation Action

2010 Annual Report



In 2011, The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto (CFGF) celebrates its 50th anniversary. Since 1961, the foundation has funded the life-sustaining conservation projects undertaken by Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA). In all, over \$35 million has been raised for this work.

This special Annual Report looks back at past success and looks forward to new opportunities. It is fitting that CFGF embarks on the next 50 years with a renewed vision, vigour and name: The Living City® Foundation. In 2011, CFGF will become The Living City® Foundation.

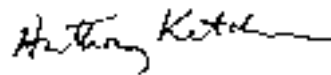
Also in 2011, our conservation partner, TRCA, is working with the largest budget in its 60 year history – over \$107 million. This unprecedented investment in a cleaner, greener healthier place to live shows the extent to which our partners are ready to put their shoulders to the wheel for the environment in the greater Toronto region.

Of course, CFGF has enjoyed an army of shoulders to the wheel. In this report, we say thanks to our most generous supporters. But we could never list all the people and organizations who have worked with us over the past 50 years. They are legion. And to them we owe a deep and lasting debt of gratitude.

As the CFGF becomes The Living City® Foundation, we are guided by a simple but profound maxim: **The past is prologue.**

A more popular way to say the same thing is: **You ain't seen nothin' yet!**

If you are already part of our family, we thank you for your support. And if you are just learning about us, welcome aboard. Together, we will build "The Living City®."



Anthony Ketchum
Chair



David Love
Executive Director

THE PILLARS OF THE LIVING CITY®

On January 31, 2011, TRCA, in partnership with Greening Greater Toronto, released our first *The Living City® Report Card*. This landmark document proposed six environmental measures of a flourishing living city:

CARBON



AIR



WATER



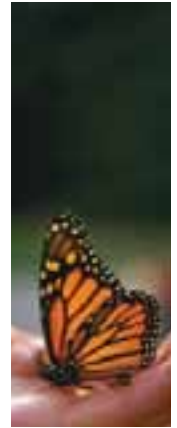
WASTE



LAND USE



BIODIVERSITY



While these measures present a new way of looking at our work, our efforts in the field since 1961 reflect these priorities. Moving forward, making significant progress on these measures is at the heart of building and sustaining The Living City®.

This special 50th anniversary report looks at tangible actions taken by CFGT and TRCA to effect these measures in the past. It also looks at specific future initiatives addressing the six measures.

In each case, we have highlighted just one of many projects. We make no claims to be exhaustive. Over 50 years the foundation has supported literally thousands of projects. But we have chosen six past projects and six future directions to celebrate our 50th anniversary.



CARBON – *then*

Climate change may be the most pressing issue of our time. And responding to it boils down to a simple fact. We need to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

Over the years, TRCA and CFGT have planted millions of trees and shrubs in the greater Toronto region.

Trees turn carbon dioxide into oxygen! The more trees we plant, the less carbon dioxide is in the air. It's that simple.



CARBON – now

One of TRCA's most ambitious projects is Partners in Project Green: A Pearson Eco-Business Zone. Through Partners in Project Green, TRCA has been working with businesses around Toronto Pearson International Airport to improve their financial and environmental performances.

Two Partners in Project Green programs focus on greenhouse gas emissions — the Eco-Efficiency Program assists companies in identifying and implementing energy conservation opportunities; while the Green Power Challenge works with companies to utilize 100 per cent renewable energy from Bullfrog Power.



AIR QUALITY – *then*

The air quality in the greater Toronto area is affected by the emissions which come from producing and using non-renewable energy, largely by burning fossil fuels like oil and coal.

The Kortright Centre for Conservation is a true pioneer in the demonstration of renewable energy. The centre has been showing kids and adults renewable energy technologies since 1985!

Recently, TRCA built two of the most energy-efficient homes in Canada at the centre. These houses show visitors that renewable energy is within our grasp.



AIR QUALITY – now

To continue to demonstrate renewable energy, the visitor's centre at the Kortright Centre is undergoing a major renovation. The retrofitted building will be another cutting-edge demonstration of renewable energy in action.

Kortright will remain the place people can visit to see that there are many ways we can produce and use energy which "spares our air."



WATER – *then*

Nearly 60 years ago, conservation authorities were created to protect the water quality in the Great Lakes. TRCA's major focus was, and remains, ensuring people in the greater Toronto region have access to clean, safe water.

Safe water comes from healthy watersheds and throughout the jurisdiction, there are stunning projects aimed at restoring the integrity of our watersheds.

One of the most spectacular is the Duffins Creek Marsh. Not only does this project help ensure water quality, it provides precious habitat for migratory and resident birds.



WATER – now

In many ways, the history of TRCA is the history of stormwater management. Nothing is as important to water quality and quantity as managing stormwater.

Among the most exciting new methods for managing stormwater are TRCA's efforts to encourage low-impact developments. This means managing runoff as close to the source as possible. Initiatives include improved site design, rainwater harvesting, landscape considerations and permeable pavement.



WASTE – *then*

In the early 1990s, the conservation community began talking about “Ecological Footprints.” Canadians in general, and people who live in the greater Toronto region in particular, have a large footprint and we need to reduce it.

One area which is the easiest to effect is waste management. We can simply learn to reduce our waste.

Over 11 years, Husky Injection Molding Systems took this message to TRCA's outdoor education centre at Albion Hills Field Centre. Over their two night stay, kids learned how to reduce their waste footprint and they took their lesson home!



WASTE – now

Going forward, our outdoor education programs continue to focus on reducing our ecological footprint and managing waste as a top priority. But a new investment in the program by The W. Garfield Weston Foundation has taken managing waste to a whole new level.

Now, when students return from the program, they are encouraged to involve the whole school (and even the whole community) in reducing their waste footprint. Our students have moved from changing their own behaviour to changing the behaviour of much larger groups. This is environmental leadership at its best.



LAND USE – *then*

Perhaps TRCA's greatest legacy to date is the 16,187 hectares (40,000 acres) of green space we have acquired in the greater Toronto region.

Just one of those green gems is the Don Valley Brick Works, part of which Evergreen has transformed into a vibrant centre interpreting and demonstrating "Nature in the City."

At the Brick Works site, The Weston Family Quarry Garden is a stunningly beautiful wetland open to the public who can see birds, hear frogs and admire beautiful wildflowers in the heart of the city.



LAND USE – now

Until now, the land under TRCA's care has been seen largely as land on which we can restore nature. But with the growing interest in the local food movement, brand new opportunities exist for near-urban agriculture.

The new working farm on 1.6 hectares (4 acres) at The Living City® Campus at Kortright is a shining example. Using the most modern and sustainable farming techniques, this farm will become a demonstration project showing what is possible on appropriate lands in the greater Toronto region.



BIODIVERSITY – *then*

In 2002, TRCA launched our Terrestrial Natural Heritage Strategy. It was a bold move to look at the existing biodiversity in our jurisdiction and to suggest tangible ways to protect and enhance the flora and fauna in the greater Toronto region.

Many of our municipal partners adopted this strategy and are working with us to identify, protect and restore habitat for some remarkable but vulnerable wildlife species.



BIODIVERSITY – now

Moving forward, TRCA continues to pioneer what it will take for people in cities to live with nature. Our Sustainable Neighbourhood Retrofit Action Plan programs are ambitious initiatives which come from the communities themselves.

In three pilot projects, we are working with all stakeholders to build The Living City® neighbourhood by neighbourhood. These neighbourhoods will include wildlife.

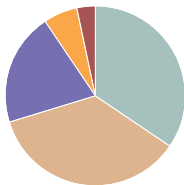
50 Years of Conservation:
50 Years of Building The Living City®





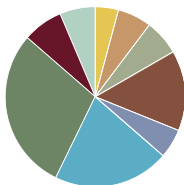
FINANCIALS 1961 – 2010

Where the money came from:



Foundations	\$ 12,100,000
Corporations	12,500,000
Individuals	7,400,000
Governments	2,300,000
Interest	1,100,000
TOTAL	\$ 35,400,000

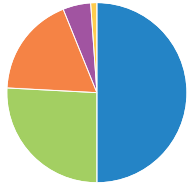
Where the money went:



Brick Works	\$ 1,500,000
Black Creek	2,300,000
Education Field Centres	2,300,000
Environmental Projects	5,200,000
Kortright Centre for Conservation	1,700,000
Land Acquisition	7,100,000
Living City Programs	10,100,000
Sauriol Dinner	2,500,000
Other Conservation Action	2,700,000
TOTAL	\$ 35,400,000

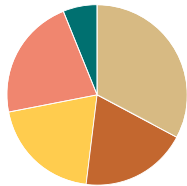
FINANCIALS 2010

Where the money came from:



Foundations	\$ 1,001,177	50%
Corporations	515,620	26
Individuals	351,645	18
Governments	92,568	5
Interest	29,390	1
TOTAL	\$ 1,990,400	100%

Where the money went:



Understand	\$ 664,572	33%
Enjoy	366,190	19
Look After	388,398	20
Fundraising	423,694	22
Administration	109,859	6
TOTAL	\$ 1,952,713	100%

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We are truly grateful to all our donors – including

THE LIVING CITY® CIRCLE

Robert Babensee
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Nick Foglia
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Gordon Joyce
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John Parkinson
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Donald Wood
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These committed donors have left a legacy for their watershed. To join them, please call David Love at 416-667-6291 or email him at dlove@trca.on.ca

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between 1961 and 2010.**

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