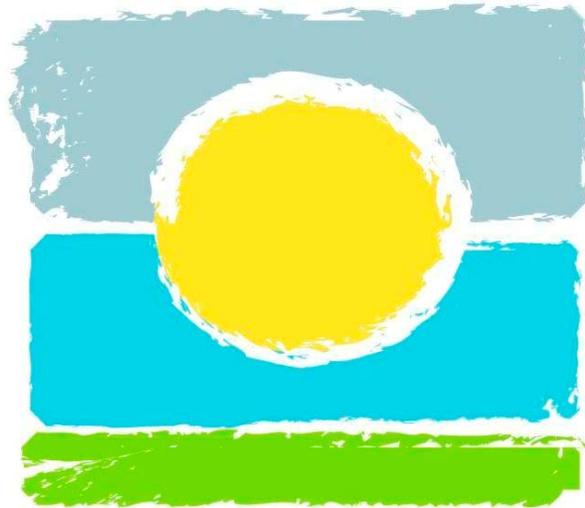


# Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council

## 2010

### *ANNUAL REPORT*



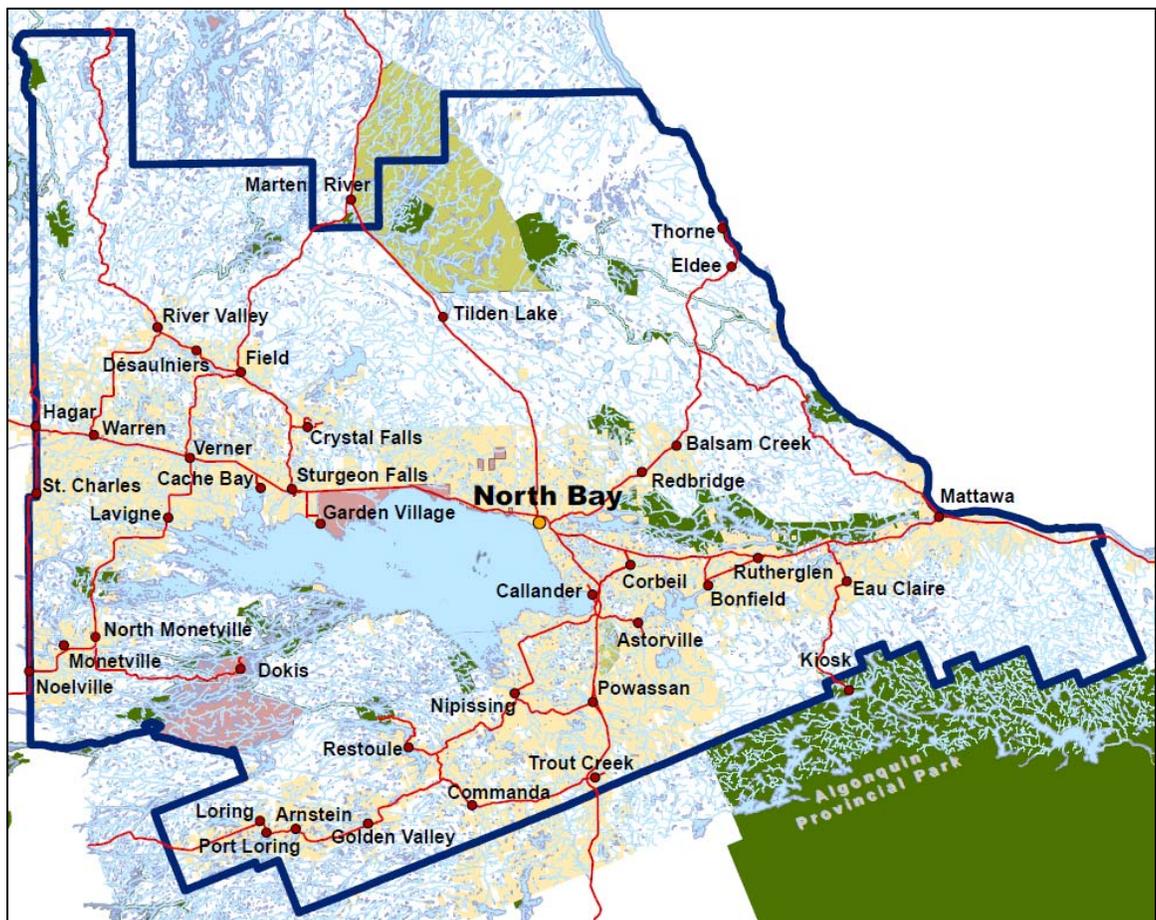
## Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council

protect • conserve • improve • restore



## The Mandate of the Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council

- To protect, conserve, improve and restore the natural resources and environment of the 'Greater Nipissing' area, in the Province of Ontario.
- To encourage and foster an understanding and awareness of the natural resources and environment and their value in enhancing our quality of life, by organizing conferences, seminars, public meetings and distribution of information circulars on issues relating to the environment and its management and protection.
- To conduct educational seminars, conferences and public forums about the flora, fauna, ecology, hydrology and geology of the region.
- To collect information on the state of the natural resources and environment, and to provide information for, and participate in, management decisions affecting the 'Greater Nipissing' area.
- To act as a catalyst, in partnership with other organizations or individuals, assisting to achieve the desired outcome of projects that will benefit the natural resources and environment of the 'Greater Nipissing' area.



## Chairman's Remarks

Much of the strength of a volunteer organization comes from the dedication of its partners. The Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council has that strength and I wish to demonstrate it in real terms by highlighting some those individuals and organizations here.

Back in 2006, the council put the 'Restocking of McQuaby Lake' on our activity plan. The project grew rapidly as the focus changed from one of a simple fish stocking effort to a restoration effort. Up stepped the *Commanda Area Anglers and Hunters* to help fill the void with manpower and financing. At the same time, motivated individuals wanting to help formed a working group; the *Friends of McQuaby Lake*. They provided organizational structure to the many volunteers ready to assist, and then rolled up their sleeves and went to work, making the McQuaby Lake project their own. Behind the scenes, there were also some dedicated professionals at the MNR who helped significantly as well, but I hope they are not adverse to my saying it was these two volunteer groups that carried the effort well beyond initial expectations. And this is why the stewardship program works. With some help from council, these volunteer groups planted the stewardship seed in their community and gave it fertile soil to grow.

Do you have a project involving our natural resources or environment that you would like to see done? We are easily accessible. Visit our website to get in touch with us or bring your project suggestions to us through the stewardship council directors in your community.

In 2010, just such a volunteer came to the GNSC looking for support to evaluate and the loon population and initiate related stewardship activities on Lake Nosbonsing. We jumped at the chance to help! Engaging people who approach us and supporting community based projects like this are exactly what we have been working towards! Kathleen Ross, was not only a great help in accomplishing this project, she now occupies a seat on the board as a Director at Large.

In the past year the board has experienced a couple of significant retirements by two of our longest serving board members. We honoured Peggy Walsh Craig and Frank Marusich at our AGM in April 2010, but I think that their long service and continuing contributions to the Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council warrant more attention here.

Peggy Walsh Craig served on the board in the environmental portfolio and in the North Bay area. She talks the talk and walks the walk on environmental issues. Peggy is a member of other environmental groups in the City of North Bay like *Nipissing Environmental Watch* and the *Heritage Gardeners*. She was instrumental in forging our partnership with Nipissing Environmental Watch in the Nipissing Area Secondary School Used Battery Competition which diverts used household batteries from our landfills

to proper recycling facilities and raises young peoples' awareness of the real dangers of mercury and other heavy metals in our environment.

Peggy has been the lead for the successful Native Treaty Rights workshops that the Council has sponsored and is working on the next one which addresses native and non native friction over natural resources uses. Peggy served as Treasurer, a very demanding and time consuming job, during the conversion of the Lake Nipissing Stewardship Council into the Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council. She helped us to negotiate an agreement with the Ontario Stewardship Program that we felt addressed our unique situation. Peggy's tenacity and wise counsel is missed at our monthly board meetings but her replacement Vijanti Ramlogan-Murphy is no less of an environmentalist and her position as President of *Greening Nipissing* has opened up new partnership opportunities.

Frank Marusich is an original! Frank was the key driving force pushing the formation of the Lake Nipissing Stewardship Council and was its first Chairman. Frank was a businessman and the owner operator of the Walton Inn on the South Shore of Lake Nipissing. The health of the Lake Nipissing fishery was a key success factor for Frank's business and the importance he put on it was clearly demonstrated when he borrowed money to pay for a Lake Nipissing winter creel census.

Frank has worked tirelessly for Lake Nipissing and surrounding area through his membership in the Lake Partners in Conservation and the GNSC. He has organized banquets and fundraised for both groups with projects like the Lake Nipissing/FMZ 11 slot rulers that are now available at tourist outfitters and bait dealers throughout the area. Frank lead the charge in acquiring our media sponsors, *CTV, Cogeco, Rogers Radio* and the *Nugget* to a three-year, \$500,000 agreement to disseminate stewardship messages to the public. He canvassed and was successful in obtaining significant financial commitments from *The Redpath Group, Moore Propane, Mortgage Corp Financial Services* and the *Municipality of Callander*. Although Frank is no longer a member of the board, he continues to work with the Council on issues facing Lake Nipissing and the Greater Nipissing area.

I am happy to announce that after looking for some time, the Council has found a person who we think can be a vital member of board and a credible representative for the tourist industry. Linda Anderson, a co-owner/operator of *Promised Land Camp*, has agreed to join the board and with her knowledge of tourism and background in industry and commerce in Canada we are excited to have her input.

With the current members, the new additions, Peggy and Frank still helping out, I know that we have the team to meet the future.

John Thornton, Chairman; Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council

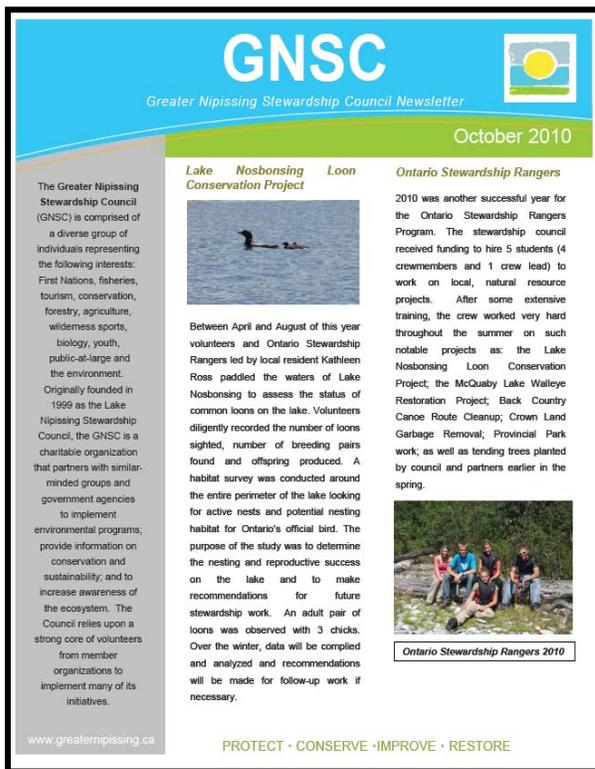
## Committee Reports

## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Communications Committee for the stewardship council looks after the coordination of media coverage and provides communications support for projects, workshops and other council activities – including the preparation of media invitations, releases, displays, handout materials, and electronic information (e-bulletins).

In 2010, one new show was produced as part of “The Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council Show”, for broadcasting on North Bay Radio ([www.northbayradio.ca](http://www.northbayradio.ca) / 104.9 FM). The shows, sponsored by *Clark Communications*, provide important information regarding projects and activities that support the natural resources and environment of Lake Nipissing and area.

The committee also put a significant amount of time and effort into three other ongoing initiatives.....



### *Newsletter*

Three editions were published and distributed electronically to council members, volunteers, partners, supporters, sponsors and other interested individuals and organizations on – January 30<sup>th</sup>, May 30<sup>th</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup>.

The newsletters play an important role in keeping the members informed of council projects and activities.

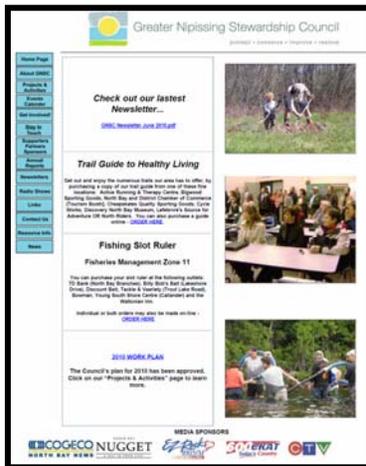
### *Media Space*

This was the third year of a three-year commitment (March 1/08 to February 28/11) of in-kind media space, with a total value of \$549,000.00, thanks to

our four media sponsors – *TVCogeco*, *CTV*, *Rogers Radio* and *The North Bay Nugget*. The donation of this space provided for increased communications through the placement of more prominent and additional notices, ads and announcements. The space was used again this winter for the “*Do Your Part*” campaign targeted at ice fishing on Lake Nipissing and to launch an additional campaign that focused on Crown land



recreation. Discussions to renew the commitment for another three years were started in early December.



### Website

A new and greatly enhanced website was launched in 2010. The site is more user-friendly and interactive and as a big plus for us; easier to administer. The development of the site was undertaken by *Due North Marketing* in West Nipissing ([www.duenorthmarketing.com](http://www.duenorthmarketing.com)) and their services have been retained to provide ongoing support.

Visit our website at [www.GreaterNipissing.ca](http://www.GreaterNipissing.ca)

Bill Hagborg, Communications Committee Chair

## Project Reports

## North Bay Regional Science Fair



The Council continued its support of the annual North Bay Regional Science Fair by recognizing the efforts of environmentally-minded students participating in the event.

One hundred and fifty dollars were contributed as prizes in two categories: *Junior* (\$50) and *Senior/Intermediate* (\$100). The recipients also received a framed certificate and a year's membership

in the Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council. The Board of Directors were pleased to announce the following 2010 recipients of the "Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council Award", relating to natural resources and the environment:

### Junior Division Award (Grades 7 and 8)

Brianna Dumas, St. Hubert Catholic School, for her project "*Snow in the Environment*"

### Intermediate/Senior Divisions Award (Grades 9 through 12)

Jorrie Cull, Parry Sound High School, for his project "*Jorrie and the Beanstalk and Aloe Vera*"

Bill Hagborg, Vice Chairman

## McQuaby Lake Walleye Restoration Project



The Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council initiated the McQuaby Lake Walleye Restoration Project in 2006 after receiving a proposal from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). As a result of the community participation invoked, it has since been endorsed as a very good example of the broader partnerships that the MNR's Ontario Stewardship Program and the Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council can help facilitate. The Ontario Stewardship

Program brings together property owners, associations, conservation clubs, resource agencies and individuals who share an interest in responsible and sustainable resource use.

Informal discussions developing into public meetings were held as support for the project grew. A local Conservation Club, the *Commanda and Area Anglers and Hunters* contributed assistance through monetary donations, volunteer time and coordination of surveys. The *Friends of McQuaby Lake*, a new organization made up of year-round and seasonal residents was formed to implement the project, and address other concerns felt around the lake.

To evaluate project potential, a good deal of fieldwork was performed. In the spring of 2008, McQuaby Lake residents, volunteers from the Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council and Commanda and Area Anglers and Hunters spent many hours surveying spawning shoals for signs of walleye. It was deemed that the numbers were very depressed with a total of only 49 walleye sighted during spawning time (with some of those expected repeats).

That summer, a youth Stewardship Ranger team with technical help from MNR staff and local volunteers conducted a live-release trap net survey to determine the presence and numbers of other fish species in the lake. At that time only two walleye were captured. More reflection of the walleye numbers present including the current fish community dynamics, available habitat, habitat enhancement and stocking (adult transfer) options would be considered prior to efforts made to restore the walleye fishery.

In the spring of 2009 a questionnaire was sent to all residents and cottage owners to determine community interest in the project. The survey results demonstrated solid community support. The majority of residents believe improvements to fisheries habitat and shoreline improvements would improve outdoor recreation as well as quality of life around the lake. In addition to moral support, residents pledged to spend their own time helping the restoration effort and even donate money and the use of equipment.

With help from the residents secured, the partners made plans to go ahead with a spring spawning shoal survey, adult walleye transfer, shoal cleaning/augmentation, and finally a voluntary year-round closure of walleye fishing.

The spawning survey in 2009 produced some disappointing results. Only 3 adult walleye were observed on the shoals.

Many of the partners felt a major setback came in the spring of 2009 when MNR reconsidered their support for an adult walleye transfer. This ultimately meant brood stock would not be re-introduced

this year as expected. However, the Friend of McQuaby Lake, The Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council, Commanda, area Anglers and Hunters and volunteers believed so strongly in the project they decided to carry on with plans to clean and enhance shoals in order to carry out necessary habitat improvement work. On a dreary weekend in August, 45 volunteers using high-pressure pumps, washed detritus from the spawning shoals. The following weekend, these same volunteers placed several tons of rock rubble on the primary spawning shoals. A large sign was placed at the public launch ramp and smaller signs on roads around the lake informing every-one of the agreed upon voluntary closure of the walleye fishery on McQuaby Lake.

In the spring of 2010 MNR again was reluctant to give support to the transfer of adult slot sized walleye. However after the amount of work and volunteer support that had gone into this project was brought to their attention, they reconsidered.

Although it was late, plans were made for the transfer. During 3 days in late April, MNR Biologists and technicians, assisted by volunteers from Commanda & Area Anglers & Hunters and Friends of McQuaby Lake, trapped, transferred and released 198 slot-sized adult walleye to McQuaby Lake. The volunteers were happy to finally have their brood stock to tend and protect.

In August, volunteers cleaned the shoals again and augmented them with another 80 tones of rock. The main effort of augmentation in 2010 was concentrated to the southern and larger of the two main shoals.

Plans for 2011, include further surveying in the spring of spawning fish. Cleaning of the two main spawning shoal locations will take place in the summer when the weather is warmer.

Public education has been important and will continue especially in respect to the voluntary closure of the walleye fishery. The friends of McQuaby Lake have taken this very seriously and are making every effort to protect their brood stock. It should also be noted that EVERY walleye transferred was a Zone 11 slot sized fish and as a result, this brood stock does enjoy atleast some legal protection.

This project has a strong foundation of community support and volunteerism. On these premises, it is anticipated the effort will be successful, with the walleye fishery returning to McQuaby Lake in the not too distant future....

Roy Warriner, Project Lead

## ***Urban Tree Planting Efforts***

### **North Bay Natural Habitats Project**



Stewardship Council members, North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority staff and a large contingent of volunteers came out on May 15, 2010 to plant a variety of conifer and hardwood trees. A total of 1,130 trees were planted along both sides of Chippewa Creek in the City of North Bay's Thompson Park as part of the third and final phase of this project. Another 400 seedlings were placed in the Hammond Street tree nursery for future planting throughout the city. The key objectives are to improve the bank stabilization and water quality of the creek. It will also enhance the aesthetic and recreational values of the creek system and the adjacent Kinsmen Trail.

The planting of trees and shrubs will help to restore the creek to its former coldwater status and fulfill the Authorities' city approved management plan for the creek. The plan calls for a seven metre natural buffer on either side of the stream.

Launched in the fall of 2007, a grand total of 3,264 trees and shrubs have been planted along the creek between Airport Road and Thompson Park.

Over ten thousand dollars were generated from the following project funders – Wal\*Mart Canada/Evergreen grant, Tree Canada's 'Green Streets' program which was awarded to the City of North Bay, the Ministry of Natural Resources 'Community Fish & Wildlife Involvement Program' as well as a donation from Nipissing Forest Resource Management Inc. Tree planting equipment was supplied by the Conservation Authority.



Photo courtesy North Bay Blooms

### **North Bay Blooms**

The Tree North Bay program, started in 2007, was incorporated into a broader initiative 2008 as – “North Bay Blooms”. The Stewardship Council continued as a partner in this organization, along with *Community Waterfront Friends, Greening Nipissing, Heritage Gardeners, Nipissing Botanical Gardens, Nipissing Environmental Watch, Burrows Country Store & Garden*

Centre, Northgate Shopping Centre and the North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority.

Once again this year, a variety of hardwood trees were planted at various locations throughout the City of North Bay.

The GNSC also assisted with coordinating the groups two “Wednesday Night Clean Ups” in June, in the Airport Road/Algonquin Avenue area.

For more information about North Bay Blooms visit [www.northbayblooms.com](http://www.northbayblooms.com)



## **TD Tree Days**



If there were ever any easier groups to work with, one would be hard pressed to find them. The local chapter of *TD Friends of the Environment* and *Tree Canada* helped see some new trees planted along Chippewa Creek in September of 2010. The City of North Bay provided a planting site, the Council the equipment and a bit of help, Tree Canada supplied the funds and The TD Friends showed up with the volunteer power and enthusiasm to get the job done in short order . Although a bit late in the planting season, time will tell if the planting was successful and the trees grow to fill in an appropriate buffer zone along the riparian area of the creek.

Bill Hagborg, Urban Tree Plant Program Lead

## ***Rural Tree Planting Efforts***



## **Rural Tree Planting Program**

The Council did not plant any new properties in 2010, due to an overall reduction in available funds across the province. To date, the program has been largely funded by the *Trees Ontario Foundation* – Full Service Incentive Program and implemented through a close partnership with *Nipissing Forest*

*Resource Management Inc. (NFRMI)*. NFRMI has coordinated the growing and planting of the trees. Some preliminary discussions have been initiated to look at developing a program geared to northern Ontario.

This program has focused on riparian areas, marginal agricultural lands, buffer strips and semi-forested areas, throughout the greater Nipissing area.

To learn more about the Trees Ontario Foundation visit their website at [www.treesontario.on.ca](http://www.treesontario.on.ca). Background information about Nipissing Forest Resource Management Inc. and their forest management role within the Nipissing Forest is available at [www.nipissingforest.com](http://www.nipissingforest.com).

Bill Hagborg, Rural Tree Planting Program Lead

### **Used Battery Collection Contest**



The GNSC partnered with *Nipissing Environmental Watch* and *TD Friends of the Environment* for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual *Used Battery Collection Contest*. This contest creates a competition between area high schools to see who can collect the most used batteries.

There are cash prizes for the top two schools.

Representatives from the council, area high school students and *Nipissing Environmental Watch*

volunteers collect the batteries from the high schools in the spring and deliver them to the North Bay Hazardous Waste Depot for safe and proper disposal.

During the nine years this project has been taking place, over 75,000 pounds of single-use batteries have been collected. Over the past three years (2007-2009), the numbers of batteries collected have grown each year. 2010 was no exception and partners saw the collection of yet another record for us, with 14,868 pounds of batteries. That's the approximate weight of 5 ½ passenger vehicles!

The winning schools were St. Joseph Scollard Hall in North Bay and F.J McElligott in Mattawa who were each awarded a prize of \$400.

A special thanks to TD Friends of the Environment for continuing to fund this worthwhile and still ongoing project.

Vijanti Ramlogan-Murphy, Project Lead

## Trail Guide to Healthy Living



During 2010 we continued to release copies of our partnered regional trail guide; the 'Trail Guide to Healthy Living' as we moved into our second year of sales.

This project was initiated in 2007 with ambitious goals of assembling a comprehensive trail guide for the area. It was designed to be complete with all of the recognized recreational trails on both Crown and private lands. Our purpose for creating such a resource was to combine our interests towards natural resource education along with other organization's goals of encouraging outdoor activities as a part of a healthy

lifestyle as well as promoting sustainable eco-tourism of our area.

To create the guide, volunteers and some various staff members with GPS (Global Positioning System) machines in hand walked, ATV'd, snowshoed, skied and cycled recognized area trails to collect map data. Where extra attention was needed, a summer youth crew of Stewardship Rangers helped out on some of the more difficult or remote trails in 2007 and 2008. Some current map data was also obtained from previous trail mapping exercises completed by Ministry of Natural Resources or North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority staff. In rare circumstances where partner organizations already had GPS information, the council was able to make use of that valuable data.

Partner organizations further helped out by providing photography, corporate/organizational logos and trail information in addition to the public feedback which was received a year earlier in 2007.

To print the guide, the Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council received a generous amount of funding from the *Ontario Ministry of Health Promotions*. We would also be amiss if we did not recognize the outstanding help we received from our second lead partner; *Discovery Routes* and our third; the *North Bay District Ministry of Natural Resources*. In the end over a thousand hours of volunteer time was contributed to this effort.

The guide itself is a 120 page full-colour book complete with information and maps on 50+ individual trails and trail systems which are available for public use across the Greater Nipissing area and Near North Regions of Ontario. For the GPS savvy, it contains tables of coordinates for each trail in addition to the other valuable contents which include photographs, difficulty ratings, access/usage information, contact numbers & addresses for trail managers, plus a number of other useful features.

Copies of the Trail Guide are available online and at the local retailers listed at the stewardship councils website: [www.greaternipissing.ca](http://www.greaternipissing.ca)

GNSC Trail Guide Project Working Group

### **Zone 11 Slot Ruler**



Sales of our Fisheries Management Zone 11 (FMZ 11) slot ruler introduced in '09 continued throughout 2010. Collected funds go towards stewardship activities of the council across the Greater Nipissing area and copies are still available. The updated ruler has fisheries regulation summaries not only for Lake Nipissing but also for the rest of FMZ 11. It is a printed on water resistant glossy paper which adheres well to a boat seat, hull or portable fish board even if left out in the rain. Walleye slot size restrictions for the different areas are clearly marked with coloured bars. This is a fishing tool that every FMZ 11 angler should have.

Rulers are available from the following local vendors as well as from council board members and on our website [www.greaternipissing.ca](http://www.greaternipissing.ca)

- North Bay TD Canada Trust Branches
- Lake Nipissing Partners in Conservation
- Idylltime Sports & Marine
- Hunters Bay Marine
- Sturgeon Falls Auto, Sports & Marine
- Power Sports & Marine
- Billy Bob's Bait
- Bowman's Bait
- Young South-Shore Centre
- Waltonian Inn

## Lake Nosbonsing Loon Conservation Project



2010 saw the first year of our project end with success!

The Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council in partnership with the *Lake Nosbonsing Anglers and Hunters*, our Ontario Stewardship Ranger and local community volunteers conducted a nesting and habitat survey to find at least two active nests.

In the very late spring/early summer despite unusual weather patterns, or perhaps in spite of them, nature does what nature does best - live it's life cycle! It was an early year for hatching and our volunteers did a great job. They were provided with educational material, such as loons nest descriptors, loon and chicks descriptors, and how to use a GPS's and plot the coordinates. This year we noted two loon nests, and one possible third. We observed, and confirmed numerous adults pairs, and two pairs with chicks! One family was noted with three babies, unusual, although not unheard of, and the other family with one chick.

Over the course of the season, loons were observed staging and feeding throughout the summer, until the fall migration.

This project is attributed to the stewardship council's commitment to local initiatives, local residents who have a concern for their environment and to ensuring the loon population is thriving on Lake Nosbonsing and the lake is able to sustain them.

The project focus for 2011 will be education and to have signage in place at access points to ensure the loons continue to thrive on Lake Nosbonsing!

Kathleen Ross, Project Lead

## Ontario Stewardship Rangers



In 2010, the GNSC and local MNR received funding for an Ontario Stewardship Ranger (OSR) Crew. OSR Crews are paid summer employment positions whereby the students work with partner agencies, organizations and individuals to complete natural resources work. Summer positions are often a stepping stone for youth who wish to pursue a career in natural resources.

The team was lead by an older, more experienced college student and through the months of July and August, the Rangers worked on a variety of different projects. Also included in the work plan for 2010 was a training set which provided the students both with workplace and certification training which they can carry with them into their continuing educational and employment careers.

In 2010, the students worked on the following projects:

- A cursory forage fish assessment on McQuaby Lake
- Spawning Shoal Cleaning and Augmentation on McQuaby Lake
- A Shoreline Habitat Assessment of Lake Nosbonsing
- Crown Land Canoe Route Maintenance north of Sturgeon Falls
- Crown Land Canoe Route Maintenance north of Marten River
- Collecting GPS/GIS Information for Computer Mapping
- Tree Planting Site Maintenance
- Assisting at the North Bay Fish Culture Station
- Provincial Park Maintenance at Samuel De Champlain Provincial Park
- Provincial Park Maintenance at Restoule Provincial Park

Nathan Kirby, Stewardship Coordinator/ Project Lead

## Moose Hunting Compliance Project

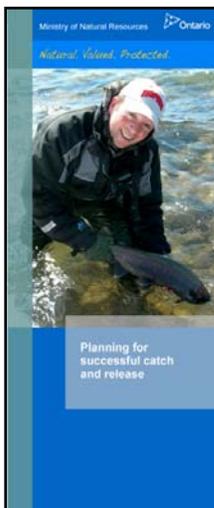


In 2007, the Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters, Zone 'D', The Commanda Area Anglers & Hunters and the Sturgeon Falls Rod & Gun Club generously donated \$5,000 to purchase two moose decoys for the Enforcement Branch of the Ministry of Natural Resources, North Bay. With the remaining funds, two Report Poaching signs were prepared and donated to the Ministry of Natural Resources,

Enforcement Branch. North Bay at the spring OFAH Zone 'D' meeting. The signs are designed to be hung on fire sign frames along highways in the area. Watch for them!

John Thornton, Project Lead

## Catch & Release Brochure



In partnership with the *Near North Chapter of Trout Unlimited*, *The East Algoma Stewardship Council*, *Thunder Bay Stewardship Council*, *Fisheries Management Zone 10* and *Ministry of Natural Resources* we helped produced a brochure entitled: *Planning for Successful Catch & Release* to help encourage a 'limit your catch' conservation ethic amongst anglers and provide some tips on how to carefully release game fish.

The intent was to make this a part of or 'Don Nicholson Four Mile Creek Coldwater Restoration Initiative', but unfortunately that effort has been temporarily shelved due to partner capacities. Copies of the brochure are still however available through the stewardship council either by request or at the council's display table at community events.

Nathan Kirby, Stewardship Coordinator

## **Community Events**

### *Nipissing University Eco-Fair*

The Council took part in Nipissing Student Council's eco-fair, along with several other local organizations. It provided a great opportunity to showcase past and present projects and activities to both the students and faculty. The fair ran the week of March 8<sup>th</sup> and involved a number of other activities, including a used battery collection and guest speakers.

### *Town Hall Gathering on the Environment*

Anthony Rota, MP, Nipissing-Timiskaming, hosted a town hall that brought together interested organizations, groups, municipal leaders and individuals to discuss environmental issues from a local perspective. The format included panel presentations, by several individuals and organizations including the Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council, followed by an interactive dialogue from the floor.

Held on March 20, 2010, at the North Bay Public Library, the session was attended by over 50 participants who offered up their visions of what Canada will look environmentally as it celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2017.

### *Living Fit from the Inside-Out*

Council Chair, John Thornton and Bill Hagborg, Vice-chair provided an overview on the Council – its mandate, membership and work plan – to members of the group on April 29<sup>th</sup> and May 5<sup>th</sup>. There was significant interest in the Lake Nipissing fishery and in particular about the "Adopt a Sturgeon" program. One of the key activities this organization is walking and hiking, so it provided a good opportunity promote the Council's *Trail Guide to Healthy Living*. This publication can be purchased online or from several local outlets in the North Bay area.

### *Nature Day*

On June 8, 2010, a large number of organizations gathered at Canadore College's Commerce Court auditorium to display their information, provide each other with an overview about themselves and to answer questions and share ideas. John Thornton, Chair,

highlighted the Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council's mandate, projects and activities; and the Council's interest in partnering with individuals and organizations to carry out environmental and natural resource projects in the greater Nipissing area.

Bill Hagborg, Vice Chairman

## **MEMBERSHIP / VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**



Launched in April, 2008, membership was promoted again in 2010, through the use of the council's media space.

<b>Adult (ages 18+)</b>	\$25.00
<b>Youth</b>	\$10.00
<b>Family</b>	\$35.00
<b>Life</b>	\$1,000.00 (one-time dues)
<b>Bronze Supporter</b>	donation of \$100.00 or more
<b>Silver Supporter</b>	donation of \$500.00 or more
<b>Gold Supporter</b>	donation of \$750.00 or more
<b>Platinum Supporter</b>	donation of \$1,000.00 or more
<b>Diamond Supporter</b>	donation of \$2,500.00 or more

There will be no change in the annual fees for 2011. Online forms are available at [www.greaternipissing.ca](http://www.greaternipissing.ca) for new memberships, membership renewals or to sign up as a volunteer.

As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, membership stood at 41, including 2 life members and 3 supporter level members. The ultimate target is to grow to 80 members. There are currently 117 non-members who are listed as volunteers and/or wish to stay connected with information about Council activities.

Members and volunteers played a key role on several council projects over the past year, including the tree plant on Chippewa Creek in Thompson Park and the McQuaby Lake Walleye Restoration Project.

Bill Hagborg, Membership/Volunteer Program Lead

## **2010 GNSC Board of Directors**

### **Executive Directors:**

<b>Chairman:</b> John Thornton	Wilderness Sports Representative
<b>Vice Chair:</b> Bill Hagborg	Forestry Representative
<b>Treasurer:</b> Jessica Dion	Youth Representative
<b>Secretary:</b> Paula Scott	Conservation Representative

### **Directors:**

Peggy Walsh Craig	Environmental Representative (part yr.)
Vijanti Ramlogan-Murphy	Environmental Representative
Frank Marusich	Tourism Representative (part yr.)
Bob Burke	Director at Large
Dr. Kevin O'Grady	Fisheries Representative
Adrienne Pelletier	First Nations Representative
Steve Mitchell	Biology Representative
Klaus Wand	Agriculture Representative
Roy Warriner	Director at Large

### **Honourary Directors**

Liza Vandermeer	Ministry of the Environment
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### **Ontario Stewardship/Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources**

Nathan Kirby	Stewardship Coordinator
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# Financial Report

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**Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council  
Statement of Financial Position**

December 31	2010	2009
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Cash and bank	\$ 32,187	\$ 21,006
Accounts receivable	809	8,820
	<u>\$ 32,996</u>	<u>\$ 29,826</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ -	\$ 159
Deferred revenue	18,147	19,483
	18,147	19,642
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted	<u>14,849</u>	<u>10,183</u>
	<u>\$ 32,996</u>	<u>\$ 29,825</u>

**Greater Nipissing Stewardship Council  
Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets**

For the year ended December 31	2010	2009
<b>Revenues</b>		
Projects	\$ 44,694	\$ 23,374
Donations	4,006	830
Trail guides	1,603	1,270
Memberships	1,032	1,175
Other revenues	843	14,921
Grants	-	14,200
	<u>52,178</u>	<u>55,770</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Project expenses	40,166	18,248
Office and administration	2,331	895
Insurance	2,200	1,750
Professional fees	1,811	1,794
Telephone	479	489
Rent	360	1,440
Bank charges	165	39
Trail guide production costs	-	16,420
	<u>47,512</u>	<u>41,075</u>
<b>Excess of revenues over expenses</b>	<b>4,666</b>	<b>14,695</b>
<b>Net Assets, beginning of year</b>	<b>10,183</b>	<b>(4,512)</b>
<b>Net Assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 14,849</b>	<b>\$ 10,183</b>

# **SPECIAL THANKS**

## **Grants**

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

## **Project Funders**

Ministry of Natural Resources - Ontario Stewardship and Community Fish & Wildlife  
Involvement Program

TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

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Friends of McQuaby Lake

## **Life Members**

Frank Marusich

Peggy Walsh Craig

## **GNSC Members and Volunteers**

## **C O N T A C T U S**

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Stewardship Coordinator (Direct Telephone Number): **(705) 475-5603**  
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More information can be found about the stewardship council at our internet  
website at **www.greaternipissing.ca**