

CHAPTER TWO TWELVE YEARS DEVELOPMENT BY VOLUNTEERS - 1992-2004

May 1992 THE FOUNDING MEETING

On Saturday, 23 May, 1992 the inaugural meeting to officially launch the association was held in the Ski Chalet at the Albion Hills Conservation Area, near Palgrave. Bill Granger, chairman of Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (MTRCA), was the guest speaker.

The objectives of the organisation were agreed together with statements of the activities required to implement them:

Object 1. To plan, promote, and create public recreational trails on the Oak Ridges Moraine from the Niagara Escarpment in the west to the Northumberland Forest in the east, linking the Bruce Trail, the Ganaraska and other inter-regional trails through the Oak Ridges Moraine. A system of public recreational trails will be for environmentally responsible trail users.

Object 2. To co-operate with private citizens, outdoor groups, landowners, conservation authorities, private enterprises and appropriate levels of government in creating an Oak Ridges Moraine recreational trail system.

Object 3. To assist in the maintenance, protection and safe public use of the trail system.

Object 4. To engage in and promote conservation, appreciation and renewal of the natural environment surrounding the trail system, and to encourage ecologically responsible attitudes towards it.

A draft constitution and by-laws were accepted.

A competition had been organised through local secondary school art departments to design a logo; results were presented to a ballot. The winner from G.W.

William's High School, Aurora, was presented with a Raleigh Tomahawk 21-speed Mountain Bike – somewhat ironic as the association was establishing a hiking trail!

Note the little acorn bottom right.



The first Board of Directors was elected for the year 1992 - 1993:

Fiona Cowles; Steven Greenland; Paul Peterson; Joy Pierce; Theresa Porter; Tom Rance; Peter Scholefield; Klaus Wehrenberg.¹

1992 – 1993

DEVELOPING THE ASSOCIATION

With the initial organisation now securely in place, the standing committees were re-organised to respond to the tasks which now faced the group: four areas were identified:

1. Fundraising/budget,
2. Strategic Planning,
3. Physical Trail Planning,
4. Public Relations.

In September 1992, a newsletter was instituted on a quarterly basis containing CORT news and details of planned hikes. *See Chapters Six and Seven.*

A database for Membership was compiled. Membership Fee: \$15.00 p.a. A Paid-up Membership List dated October 19, 1992 shows 14 Members added to 30 who joined by the Inaugural Meeting.² How many are still with us after 25 years?

¹ The Board appointed Officers and added Kris Keating at its first meeting

² See Appendix 2

At the Inaugural Meeting there had been much discussion as to who could use the trail. There was a concern from the equestrians and cyclists present that they would be excluded. Hence the compromise wording: "a system of public recreational trails for environmentally responsible users." Subsequent negotiations for access to private land meant it was impossible to accommodate these uses in all sections, particularly where the trail would cross private lands.

Routing the Trail and Establishing Chapters

Correspondence with municipalities, conservation authorities and other public bodies across the moraine explained CORT's intentions; they were very encouraging. Ian Deslauries of MTRCA assisted by providing mapping from the authority's resources. Similarly residents adjacent to proposed trail routes were being contacted; a *CORT Fact Sheet* was prepared for presentation to landowners.

CORT kept in touch with Hike Ontario on a number of matters, one or more directors attended their board meetings. Hikes were planned for Hike Ontario Day in October. Monthly CORT hikes were organised, most frequently on Sundays. Open to all members and potential new members they were publicised through the local newspapers.

Comprehending the concept of a trail going 160 km across a range of hills was difficult for some who wanted to concentrate on the development of local sections where they could apply their own local knowledge. So ORTSA would form local 'chapters' along the lines of the *Bruce Trail Association's* club network.³ The second week of January was designated "New Chapter Week." On January 11th 1993 Uxbridge Chapter was established, headed at first by Teresa Porter, soon after by Tom Rance; on the 13th King Chapter was formed with Fiona Cowles as its leader; and on the 14th the first attempt was made to form an Aurora Chapter with Rosemary Van Oostrom in charge.⁴

Thus the pattern was established of having Chapters corresponding to the Municipalities which the trail would cross.

³ BTA's Clubs in fact cover longer lengths of trail. Each has a substantially larger membership and a degree of autonomy not shared by ORTA Chapters, e.g. a Club President; separate financial accounts.

⁴ .Members living in the Yonge Street Corridor contributed much to the association's initial development even though the Aurora Chapter was not established until 1998.

In February 1993 ORTA acquired P.O. Box 28544, Aurora L4G 6S6; this has proved to be a valuable asset providing flexibility and stability throughout the association's developments.

Following from the Inaugural Meeting in May 1992 it was appropriate to have the AGMs in May with reports covering the period April 1st to March 31st.

The 1993 Annual General Meeting of CORT was held on Sunday, May 30th 1993, at Long Sault Conservation Area, on the Moraine north of Bowmanville, emphasising the task that lay ahead to develop the eastwards.

The programme that day included a talk by John Fisher, former co-chair of STORM and a member of the *Otonabee Conservation Authority Board*, on the physical geography and environmental sensitivity of the Oak Ridges Moraine. The day ended with a hike on the cross-country ski trails of Long Sault.

Substantial physical progress was reported. The Uxbridge Chapter identified a complete trail route across Uxbridge Township and had started to negotiate lease arrangements for access to the Walker property, recently acquired by the MTRCA.

The King Chapter started work rehabilitating a badly damaged unopened road allowance that had become a challenge for local ATV enthusiasts with deep mud-holes. The local Township supported the concept of a non-motorised trail along the unopened road allowance and assisted with some material and barriers. With the help of a grant from the local *Canada Trust Environmental Fund*, materials were purchased, signs posted, and the access points narrowed to keep out motorised vehicles. The building later in the year of a boardwalk over a permanently wet area, this route along the 16th Sideroad would become the first section to come close to trail standard, except for directional signage.⁵

Membership was now 58. The work load for a volunteer group was getting heavier and there were a few signs of 'burn-out' after the initial enthusiasm. Fiona Cowles was on leave in Scotland and Peter Scholefield took a job with the United Nations in Geneva. But alongside Stephen Greenland as President there were new faces on the Board for 1993 - 1994.⁶

⁵ BTA's Trail Standards were used as Guidelines.

⁶ Appendix 2 lists the Board Members across the years 1992 - 2004.

1993 – 1994 CORT BECOMES ORTA

The Board set a budget and goals for each year. They were carefully reviewed in November 1993 when, at the suggestion of Hike Ontario, an unsuccessful application was made to the federal Environmental Partners Program to fund a part-time Trail Director to co-ordinate the work of ORTA volunteers in developing the trail.



It became necessary to alter the association’s name for better understanding of the intentions; particularly since for charitable status the title, Citizens for an Oak Ridges Trail was inappropriate, describing an advocacy group rather than a trail club.

The change to the Oak Ridges Trail Association (ORTA) was unanimously endorsed by a Special Meeting on Sunday January 9, 1994 at Seneca College, King Campus. This aligned the group more closely to the Bruce Trail Association and other clubs in Hike Ontario.

The Objects of the Association were rationalised to two clauses when submitting the application for Incorporation. Clause 6 of the Letters Patent:

Incorporation was obtained dated June 28, 1994

Registered Charity Status was granted by the Canada Revenue Agency February 1, 1995.

1.
- To plan, promote, and create public recreational trails on the Oak Ridges Moraine for the recreational and educational use, benefit and enjoyment of the general public. The system of public recreational trails will be located on the Oak Ridges Moraine from the Niagara Escarpment in the west to the Northumberland Forest in the east, linking the Bruce Trail, the Ganaraska and other public recreational trails throughout the Oak Ridges Moraine.
2.
- To promote, support and engage in public education regarding the appreciation, renewal and protection of the natural environment surrounding the Oak Ridges Moraine trail system, and to encourage ecologically responsible attitudes towards it.

Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations

Ministère de la Consommation et du Commerce

LETTERS PATENT

La présente requête a été déposée par l'association

JUNE 28

JUIN, 1994

Director / Directeur

Form 3 Corporations Act

Formulaire numéro 3 Loi sur les compagnies et associations

From Charitable Property Division, Office of the Public Trustee

Issuance of Letters Patents/Supplementary Letters Patent conforming to this application is acceptable to the Public Trustee.

Page 1 of 1

Ontario Corporation Number

Numéro de l'association en Ontario

1083714

Trans Code

Line No.

Stat

Comp

Method

Share

Notice Reg'd

Jurisdiction

APPLICATION FOR INCORPORATION OF A CORPORATION WITHOUT SHARE CAPITAL

REQUÊTE EN CONSTITUTION D'UNE ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the corporation is/Nom de l'association:

OAK RIDGES TRAIL ASSOCIATION

2. The address of the head office of the corporation is/Adresse du siège social:

305 ST. CLEMENTS AVENUE

TORONTO, ONTARIO

3. The head office of the corporation is situated in/Le siège social se trouve à:

CITY OF TORONTO

in the MUNICIPALITY OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO

4. Address of clubhouse or similar premises (if any) is:

NOT APPLICABLE

5. The applicants who are to be the first directors of the corporation are:

PETER ROSS McLEAN

STEVE EDWARD GREENLAND

FIONA MARY COWLES

BOX 708, R.R. 2

192 GRANDVIEW AVENUE

R.R. 1, KING CITY, ONTARIO

Landowners such as Conservation Authorities and Seneca College required ORTA to carry General Liability Insurance. In July ORTA suggested Hike Ontario should take out a Liability Insurance Policy with sub-policies available to its constituent associations. This became a reality a year or so later, halving ORTA's premiums.

There were signs of increasing interest in the Oak Ridges Moraine. Hike Ontario published *A Guide to Walks Around Toronto* and the MTRCA released a 15 minute video *The Oak Ridges Moraine*. (There are copies of these in the office.)

The 1994 Annual General Meeting was held at the Uxbridge Seniors Centre on Sunday May 30th. 1994.

An ORTA Member and an active member of STORM, David McQueen, spoke about the conflicting issues and objectives of those wishing to preserve the Moraine and developers and aggregate producers. The Provincial government has set up an Oak Ridges Moraine Technical Working Committee, but they were keen for local citizen initiatives such as trail developments rather than the committee's "top-down" approach to influence policy. He encouraged ORTA Members to participate in upcoming open houses organized by the technical committee.

1994 – 1995 A MORE DIFFICULT YEAR

Some momentum was lost in 1994 and the association met less frequently, maybe a necessary part of the evolution of the tasks to be done. But Group Hikes had become more frequent and well attended.

Despite many attempts to encourage Aurora residents to participate in the difficult issue of identifying an appropriate route to link the King section through Aurora to Whitchurch-Stouffville, the chapter ceased to operate because of lack of interest.

The Uxbridge Chapter found negotiations with MTRCA to obtain and sign an agreement for a trail corridor through the Walker property were protracted.

Further accounts of the development of the trail route are described in Chapter Three - ORTA's Chapters to Develop the Trail. It had been suggested initially that we use orange blazes, but on review it was decided to use the familiar white and blue blazes per Bruce Trail Association standards. Copies of the BTA's *Guide for Trail Workers* were obtained for guidance.

The 1995 Annual General Meeting on Saturday May 13th. 1995 was held in the new Aurora Town Hall Council Chamber. Directors for 1995 - 1996 were elected; some familiar faces filled different positions at the subsequent Board Meeting.

Special Guests were two Town Councillors; the newly appointed Director of Leisure Services, Barry Russell, who presented a paper *The Benefits of Trails*; and the Supervisor of Parks, Jim Tree, who led a hike in the nearby valley. The Town provided trees which were planted to celebrate the occasion.

1995 – 1996 PROGRESS AND SOME GENEROUS GRANTS

John Scott headed up the new Scugog Chapter with a hike on October 15th. The Board initiated efforts to establish chapters in Whitchurch-Stouffville and Sheilagh Crandall became our Caledon liaison person working to link the Caledon Trailway to King Township boundary.

Mountain Equipment Co-op awarded the Uxbridge Chapter \$6,000 (half the cost of construction expense) and Canada Trust Environment Fund \$1,000. A group of gravel producers offered up to \$2,000 worth of product when needed in Uxbridge.

For the annual fee of \$100 ORTA joined the Ontario Trails Council which gave a grant of \$500 towards development.

The Bruce Trail Association promised a grant of \$1,000 towards the proposed Guidebook. Ian Deslauries of MTRCA had assisted again by obtaining mapping. Peter Attfield presented a draft map for the King Section.

The 1996 Annual General Meeting was held near Port Perry, in the Community Hall of Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation on Saturday May 11th. 1996.

Jeff Hemming of Hike Ontario spoke about the benefits of our link to HO as the "voice of hikers." There was a most interesting talk by Chief Gary Edgar about the First Nation Reserve. Despite a rather chilly, damp day over forty people had made the trip and twenty-five participated afterwards in a hike around the island.

1996 – 1997 **SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY VOLUNTEERS**

Administratively this was a busy year; reading through the Minutes reveals that the Executive Committee was focused on setting goals and policy issues whilst the Board considered operational issues, especially Chapter Reports, trail development and maintenance, hikes and publicity. **Job Descriptions** were prepared for leadership positions and documents such as the **Landowner Relations Manual** defining good practice. These documents were later brought together to provide a comprehensive Directors' Manual.

Oak Ridges Trail Association

1996/97 Goals

1. To develop proposed trail routes and open sections of trail in each of our existing chapters: Aurora, King, Scugog and Uxbridge. **ACTION: Chapters and Board.**
2. Create a greater awareness of ORTA by establishing a publicity/public relations position and person. **ACTION: Fiona and Bill**
3. To form local chapters in other geographic areas of the Oak Ridges Moraine, namely , Ganaraska and Whitchurch/Stouffville. **ACTION: Pres. & Board.**
4. To increase membership from its current 281 to 400 to provide operating revenue and to expand the volunteer base to facilitate the accomplishment of subsequent goals. **ACTION: Bill Roberts and Board.**
5. To conduct fund raising activities and facilitate additional grants for operating expenses, i.e. trail development and signs. **ACTION: Vice President.**
6. Hold regularly scheduled hikes on the developed trail and other areas. **ACTION: Stephen Kamnitzer.**
7. To continue working with local municipalities and conservation authorities to accomplish common initiatives with respect to trail planning and development. **ACTION: Chapter heads.**
8. To produce an ORTA trail guide with maps. **ACTION: President**
9. Establish trail captains for blazed sections. **Action: Chapter heads.**

There was considerable correspondence with Hike Ontario and their Insurers as the Executive grappled over several meetings with the definition of a Membership and who and what was covered.⁷ Changes to the ORTA Constitution regarding Membership and Fees ensued for approval at the next AGM.

ORTA now had a website created and updated by Tony Van Oostrom with details of each hike. www.interlog.com/~orta⁸

A ten member team from the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers joined local ORTA Members led by Tom Rance to advance development of the Uxbridge Section of the trail in August.⁹

Williamson's loaned a van for team transport



A Grant of \$2,550 from the Shell Environmental Fund for construction materials for a bridge and boardwalks helped complete the Uxbridge Section.

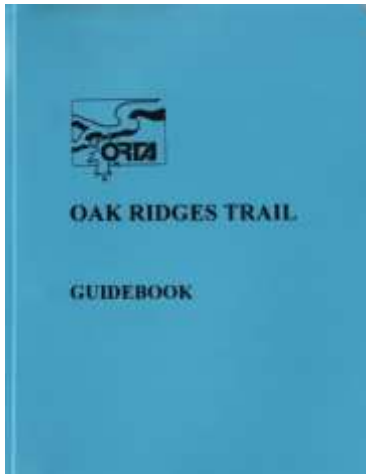
ORTA Publicity Director Brian Logan produced a slide show of the trail. Tim Lawley attended the Hike Ontario Hike Leader Training Course in February 1997.

Ian Deslauries made another attempt to get an Aurora Chapter going – but there was a failure to follow-up. Joe Palma was successful in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

⁷ SGB: Over the years HO has changed Insurers several times to get affordable deals. Each time some aspect of such definitions was raised. To my mind the most questionable issue is why are groups such as ORTA obliged to include for "Co-insured" when we are simply citizens walking on public lands.

⁸ Until a few years ago this link continued to show a number of references to ORTA, including one in Russian!

⁹ For more on the BTCV teams who provided substantial expert assistance see Chapter Five.

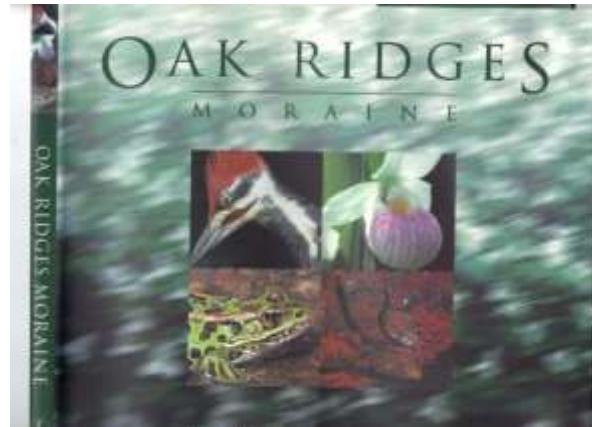


Publication of the First Edition of the Oak Ridges Trail Guidebook at the end of March 1997 was the year's most significant achievement. In the absence of publically available base mapping, the maps had been painstakingly drawn using *Corel Draw 5* by Pauline and Keith Dixie, Bob Woodland, Greg Rich and Peter Attfield. The price was \$10.00; \$6.00 for Members. See *Chapter Eight* for a sample map from this unique publication and the story of subsequent editions.

STORM Coalition had published the beautiful book *Oak Ridges Moraine* – contributors included some key ORTA Members - described in Spring 1997 *Trail Talk* as a companion volume to our *Guidebook*.

It is important to understand the complementary roles of STORM and ORTA. STORM is an activist citizens group advocating for the preservation of the moraine – speaking primarily to the political decision makers.

ORTA as a volunteer charity, by staffing information booths in malls, at street festivals and a variety of public events, locally and at the Canadian National Exhibition, addressed the general public, many of whom didn't even know the location of the Oak Ridges Moraine.¹⁰



¹⁰ *The Oak Ridges Moraine Battles – Development, Sprawl and Nature Conversation in the Toronto Region*, Sandberg, Wekerle and Gilbert, University of Toronto Press, 2013.

SGB: this book from academia is focused on political actions leading to passage of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act, 2001 and its subsequent implementation. It gives scant recognition of the groundswell of public concern prior to 2000 largely initiated by the Royal Commission chaired by David Crombie and the initiatives of STORM. ORTA and the trail receive but two cursory mentions.

These efforts led to an increase in ORTA Membership this year to 348 as the public identified with the moraine through the trail as David Crombie had predicted. Much credit was due to Membership Secretary Bill Roberts who handled over 150 new Memberships in nine months.

The 1997 Annual General Meeting was held in the Log Cabin at Seneca College, King Campus on Saturday May 31st 1997. The association was welcomed by Stu Koch, Seneca College's Recreation Co-coordinator – note his involvement in the Preliminary Meeting back in 1991 and the agreement for our trail to traverse the campus.

In addition to routine business five amendments to the Constitution were approved. Outgoing President Fiona Cowles recounted the achievements of the past year. Joe Palmer spoke about Hike Leader Training and after lunch led hikers around the wilds of the Eaton Estate.



Eaton Hall and Lake Seneca

The Log Cabin

In previous years the accounts had been examined and found in order by ORTA member Barbara Rance. This year Mike Inamdar, C.A., had been engaged as Auditor; the Statements reported an accumulated surplus of \$8,556.

Guest Speaker Bryan Howard of the Ontario Trails Council gave an informative overview of the value of trails. Concepts under development included the Trillium Trail Network for "shared use" and the Trans-Canada Trail in which ORTA's Uxbridge to Palgrave could be a valuable link.

1997 – 1998 GROWING PAINS; BUT ORTA IS GROWING

ORTA's Trail Builders were actively engaged in planning, constructing and signing the trail. The trail's development across each municipality was quite different due to the variety of land owners: farms and other private lands, undeveloped road allowances, town streets and parks, regional forests and conservation authorities.



In some places there was an existing route used by the public for years; we thought we were simply getting permission to designate it as part of the Oak Ridges Trail - only to find the association would be required to carry General Liability Insurance in the sum of \$5,000,000 and to sign a formal legal agreement annually. Public authorities generally undertook maintenance of these trails but welcomed our involvement in clean-ups and as eyes along the trail advising of issues such as fallen trees.

Elsewhere a route had to be identified and a trail constructed and maintained at our expense.

Chapter Three recounts the story of each chapter in turn; this is perhaps the most interesting part of our story. Where was our boardwalk ripped up? Why? Who was sued for trespass? Should hikers pay to use a trail through public land?

The 1998 Annual General Meeting was held on May 23rd, 1998 at Goodwood Community Centre. Business included approval of four more amendments to the ORTA Constitution. These included increasing the number of Board Members to ten Directors-at-Large elected at the AGM (Executive Committee Members and others who may have specified roles or simply be "at large") plus the Chapter Chairs who would normally be nominated by their respective chapter, failing which the Board could make an appointment.

Guest Speaker Bill McLean, President, Conservation Foundation of Ontario, recounted the history of land conservation across the moraine. After lunch there was a hike through Secord Tract which had recently been acquired by the MTRCA.

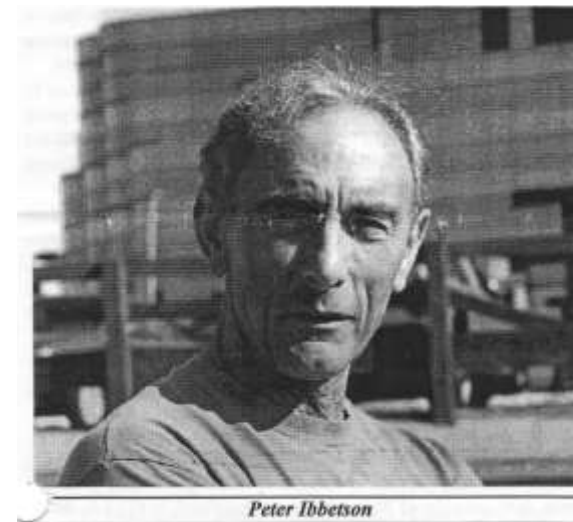


1998 – 1999 FIRST LIFE MEMBERS and Membership doubled in two years

The ORTA Crest was designed and one per Member was included with the Summer 1998 Trail Talk.

Stories recognizing individuals who made significant contributions to the development of the association and the Oak Ridges Trail are in Chapter Nine.

The option of becoming a Life Membership for a one-time subscription of \$300 was introduced. The first two Life Members were featured in the Winter Trail Talk.



Peter Ibbetson



Tom Beakbane

In November ORTA hosted the Hike Ontario Annual Meetings in Uxbridge.

The association was maturing with the preparation of a number of guidelines which would eventually form the Directors' Manual: Job Descriptions, Trail Standards, Hike Leader Manual, etc. The National Library of Canada assigned an International Standard Serial Number, *ISSN 1481-5982 to Trail Talk*.

The 1999 AGM was held on Saturday May 8th at Skyloft Ski Club.



President Tom Rance reported there were now 8 active chapters, 88 km of trail were complete. Within the next year the complete route, about 230 km long, should be identified.

Robert Ellison – *opposite* - succeeded Tom as President. Joining ORTA in 1993, Bob served as Treasurer; then Secretary, updating the Constitution, and this year as Vice-President had succeeded in getting the Aurora Chapter going.

Bill Roberts reported 786 Members, mostly Family Memberships, almost half of them having joined in the past 18 months. Life Membership Certificates were presented to Gloria Marsh and Lynne Thorkelsson in addition to Peter Ibbetson and Tom Beakbane.

Guest Speaker was David McQueen, Chair of STORM. He acknowledged the important role of hikers in promoting awareness of the Moraine. He said the only way to save the most sensitive parts of is to work patiently towards legislated protection and formation of a governing body similar to the Niagara Escarpment Commission.

1999 – 2000 **PROGRESS and the ORTA AWARDS Program**

As recounted in Chapter Six, the Second Edition of the Guidebook with eight professionally produced full colour maps was published in November 1999. Thanks in part to 22 retail outlets by the following Fall 2,100 copies had been sold - evidence that there were many people in addition to ORTA Members making good use of the trail.

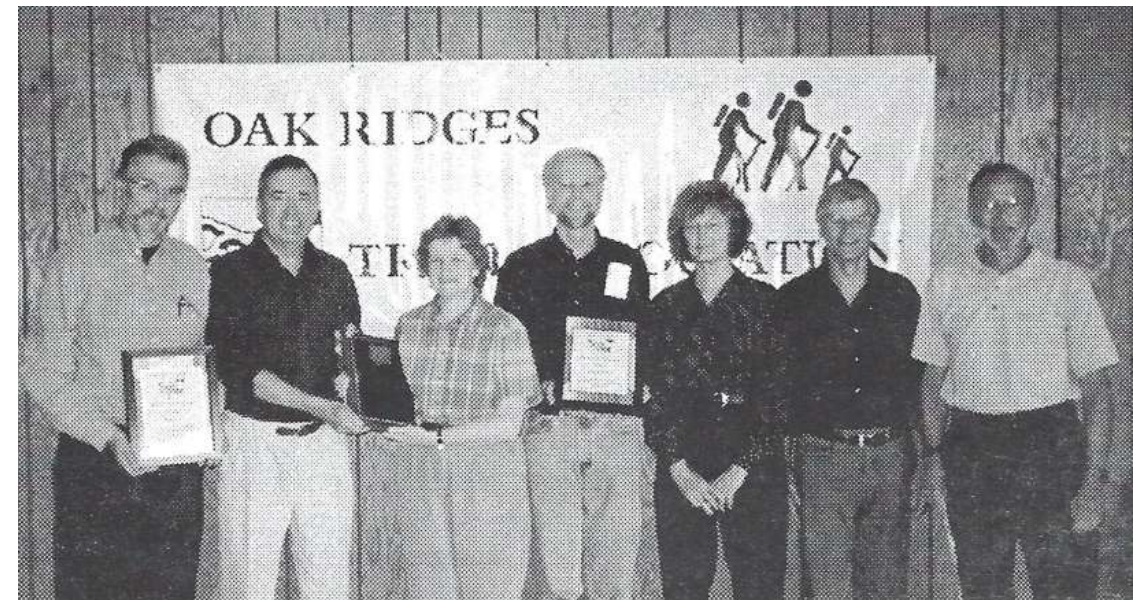
Membership reached ORTA's all-time high at 903 – counting up from Family Memberships = 1,436 people.

In January 2000 Harold Sellers started the Wednesday Hike program. Harold was engaged as Hike Ontario's Administrative Manager. David Francis as HO's new President was pursuing increased acceptance of the Hike Leader Training program.

The 2000 AGM was held on Saturday, May 13th at the Aurora Community

Centre. Guest speaker was Hike Mike Kirby of CFRB Radio. Earlier in the year he had presented ORTA with the Golden Boot Award.

Past President Tom Rance explaining the program presented the first ORTA VOLUNTEER AWARDS: Member of the Year Plaque to Fiona Cowles - Commendation Certificates to Bill Roberts, Peter Attfield, Pauline and Keith Dixie, and Tom Atkins.



2000 – 2001**FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VISION
and Supporting Our Moraine Partners**

As a registered charity ORTA cannot engage directly in political advocacy. But key ORTA Members were active in the King Township citizens groups which opposed developments which may have a big impact on the moraine environment, particularly on the quality of our drinking water. There was a successful appeal against the OMB decision to allow "the big pipe" to proceed; this action was supported by the Sierra Legal Defence Fund. Dr. David Suzuki spoke at a fundraiser towards these expenses on September 20, 2000 at Kettleby. (The "big (sewage pipe" eventually went ahead allowing substantial housing developments.)

HIKER MIKE'S WALK**MPP Begins Walk Across the Oak Ridges Moraine Monday August 21st. 2000.**

Ontario Liberal Municipal Affairs Critic Mike Colle begins his 'Stepping Across the Moraine' walk to raise awareness of the plight of the Oak Ridges Moraine this Monday August 21st in Port Perry, Ontario.

Says Colle, "I'm doing this to build awareness of the development pressures this precious bioregion is facing. I'm doing this to support the many people across the Moraine who are trying to protect the Moraine. I'm doing this to get the Harris government to do its job and pass legislation that will protect the entire length of the Moraine."

Colle will be covering as much ground as he can along the Oak Ridges Trail and the roads and highways from Port Perry to the Caledon Highlands during the week of August 21st. He will be passing through many communities on the Moraine and will be hooking up with Moraine supporters along the way who will join him through portions of his route.

On Monday August 21st at 10am Mike Colle will be joined by Doug Moffat, Mayor of Port Perry, Deb Crandall of STORM (Save the Oak Ridges Moraine), representatives from Earthroots and many other supporters who will help kick off the journey and wish him well.

Please see the attached itinerary for more information about Mike's route. Please note that it is subject to change depending on weather and other conditions (including Mike's feet).



Some of the Directors present at the retreat in November 2000.

The First ORTA Board Retreat allowed time to focus on longer term priorities which is sometimes difficult at regular board meetings. A Wish List of projects was put together "to make our trail more interesting and viable for everyone . . . if we had an awful lot of extra money." Summarized by President Robert Ellison:

1. Develop sections of the trail for the handicapped.
2. Develop an interpretive trail.
3. Institute a scholarship fund for trail studies at the post-secondary level.
4. Video presentation to highlight the trail and its benefits.
5. Benches and picnic tables at strategic locations along the trail.
6. Signs incorporating maps of the trail pointing out its creeks and rivers and forested land where the Moraine is situated.
7. Acquire land corridors to take the trail off roads.
8. Acquire a club house.

These discussions prepared the board for the opportunities which would arise in the next few years.

The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust (ORMLT) had been formed in 1999 by concerned citizens wanting to help protect the Oak Ridges Moraine.¹¹ Its founding chair was ORTA Director Tom Atkins.

¹¹ The Trust was incorporated in 2001 as a not-for-profit organization; Registered Charity #873208920.

ORTA President Robert Ellison ensured a good number of ORTA members would volunteer in organizing the first **Walk For The Moraine** to raise funds for ORMLT.

ORTA's Articles of Association do not, unlike for example the Bruce Trail's, allow for holding land. A *Memorandum of Understanding between ORMLT and ORTA* means that the ORMLT will, to further securement of the trail route across privately held lands, "obtain by donation in the name of the Land Trust . . . title to or an interest in lands for the Oak Ridges Trail." ORTA set up a *Land Acquisition Fund* to assist ORMLT's legal expenses of such acquisitions

Second End to End Hike Group Hike

Hike Coordinator Jill Doble led this sequence of 13 hikes - 154.5 km - starting on September 10th. The venture was completed by a very difficult seven kilometer hike in deep snow on January 7th 2001.

Universal Trail Assessment Process (UTAP.) How to designate sections of trail as accessible to persons with disabilities?

Patti Longmuir¹² led a workshop attended by ORTA Directors Sharon Emmerson, Tim Lawley, Brian Logan and Ray Matsalla on implementation of the UTAP developed in the USA. Characteristics of a section of trail are measured and then the **Trail Assessment Information** (TAI) is posted in standard format at the section entries. The TAI enables each individual to determine whether or not this section of the trail is accessible for him or herself. Tim Lawley subsequently became a Certified UTAP Trainer and headed up ORTA's use of UTAP.

The 2001 Members' Day and AGM was hosted by Clarington Chapter

Chapter Chair Roy Forrester and his team organized a much appreciated program including breakfast and lunch, and hikes before and after the meeting. Highlights:

¹² Patti Longmuir of the UofT became Chair of *Active Living Alliance for Canadians with a Disability*. Note that ORTA adopted **UTAP - TAI** prior to the ORM Conservation Plan requirement that the trail system be accessible "to all including persons with disabilities" or any workable definition of what that meant. Our first section opened was the Woodland Passage Trail near Eaton Hall in October 2004.



Accounts showed revenue and expenses balanced and a healthy \$25,000 reserve. However, Annual Membership Fees were increased by \$5.00 p.a. all round; the additional \$5.00 being put into the **Land Acquisition Fund** with the intent of building this up to \$4,000.

Harold Sellers succeeded Robert Ellison as President.

Peter Attfield was named Member of the Year. In presenting the award, Fiona Cowles noted that "Peter's involvement went back to the very beginning of ORTA. He created our first trail maps, wrote much of the preamble to our Guidebook . . . our first Hike Coordinator and has developed a volunteer recruitment program." ¹³ Peter has been one of ORTA's most, if not the most, hard-working and valuable member."

Al Shaw was made an Honorary Life Member in recognition of his special donation of \$5,000 to ORTA; a side trail in Walker Woods was designated in his honour.

The new *ORTA Academic Prize* of \$500 was announced to be awarded each year to a student in the fourth year Honours Geography program at Trent University who writes a thesis that pertains to the Trent-Fleming Trail Studies Unit.

¹³ Volunteer Coordinator Peter Attfield's yellow insert in Summer 2000 *Trail Talk* identified the many volunteers needed for ORTA to further all its perceived opportunities. See Appendix 9.1

2001 – 2002 YEAR 10 – ENJOYING AND SAVING THE MORAINE

On May 26th Diana Piche led a new fundraising initiative – the **Baillee Birdathon**. Birding is one of her passions and a significant area of expertise. Sponsored at typically \$1.00 per species by a number of ORTA Members and her colleagues at the Ministry of the Environment the challenge was to positively identify as many as possible between sunrise and sunset along the Oak Ridges Trail. \$707.00 was split between Bird Studies Canada and ORTA as her sponsoring charity.

Harold's Wednesday Hikers tackled the now 172 km long ORT Main Trail over 13 weeks during the spring and early summer. From an astounding average attendance of 25 hikers, 17 received their **End-to-End Badges**, celebrated with a toast at Long Sault with Ocala Pear Wine. Harold also identified *The Best Refreshments on the ORT* for convivial Après Hike relaxation.

The First Annual Walk for the Moraine on Saturday, October 13th, at Seneca College at King Campus raised over \$15,000 for the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust. As promised by Robert Ellison, who was at the helm of the organizing committee, ORTA Members played a large role in the success of this event on a glorious day. ORMLT's Ildi Connor and ORTA's Wilma Backus had spearheaded publicity, Sylvia Gilchrist led the team of registrars, Marilyn Mussel organized an ample supply of refreshments, and Jill Doble coordinated a program of 2, 5 and 10 km hikes around the campus trails still in beautiful fall colours. 307 hikers brought in 450 pledges. ORMLT earmarked the proceeds towards securing 48 acres of the Secord property between the Secord and Goodwood Tracts - a vital length of the ORT.



After the fall board meeting ORTA Member Debbe Crandall spoke about the formation by the provincial government of an **Oak Ridges Moraine Advisory Panel** comprising developers, politicians, academics and environmental groups. Whilst specifically invited as STORM's representative, she was speaking up for a trail system – saving the moraine required appropriate access, not exclusion of the public.

Subsequently, on November 1st 2001 The Honourable Chris Hodgson, Minister of Municipal

Affairs and Housing, rose in the Ontario legislature and stated, in part:

"In addition to the legislation and the land use plan, Mr. Speaker, the government will establish a continuous east-west trail along the Moraine so that everyone, including seniors and people with disabilities, can enjoy the Moraine."

"Supporting the trail will be a Foundation, which could, for example, fund the purchase of access points and the construction of facilities, bridges and interpretive centres."

The Third Edition of The Guidebook was published in April 2002. The main trail was now a continuous ribbon across the Moraine from Palgrave to Gore's Landing on Rice Lake and there were a significant number of additional side trails. This no doubt contributed to the continued growth of the organized hike program; Hike Coordinator Jill Doble reported 200 hikes with 3,500 participants this year.

Under the leadership of Hope-Hamilton Chapter Chair Gary Ford extending the trail to the Northumberland Forest was in process; Tony Holmes as Chair of the new **Northumberland Chapter** had commenced exploration of route options through the forest. An attempt had been made to form a **Toronto Chapter**, but support was not forthcoming.

Thus at our **10th Anniversary AGM on May 11th 2002** at the Ballantrae Community Centre, attended by over 100 people, there was much to celebrate. How fitting that David Crombie was the guest speaker, he brought a very inspirational message of support and gratitude for the activism of many members.

There was a further amendment to the Constitution allowing the Nominating Committee to determine the number of Directors-at-Large needed; this time fourteen were elected in addition to the nine Chapter Chairs. The board thus had grown incrementally from the original nine to 23.

Whilst all reports to an AGM are important, summaries below of reports by Ray Matsalla and Tim Lawley are included as significant indications of the maturity of the association.



Trail Directors Report

- The ORTA trail standards have been revised, according to comments received by Chapter Chairs and other Board Directors. The final version will go before the Board for approval within the next few weeks. Changes are as follows;
 - Revised from 1 page to 7 pages
 - Only approved ORTA signs to be used
 - Permission of landowners is needed prior to blazing
 - Equipment list for blazing has been added
 - Illustrations of acceptable blazes
 - Signs should be ordered from Trail Director
 - Trail inspections will be twice per year (Spring/Fall)
 - Bruce Trail maintenance guide and video distributed to Chapter Chairs for review by the Trail Captains.
- An audit of the trail was completed in 2001. Reports distributed to Chapter Chairs for review and corrective action. Another audit planned for year 2003.
- Continued communication with Chapter Chairs and Trail Captains
- Co-ordination of Land Agreements for ORTA.

Universal Trail Assessment Process (UTAP) Report

Tim Lawley updated the group regarding the two workshops attended by Sharon Emerson, Ray Matsalla Brian Logan and Tim. The following changes were made in accordance with this assessment process;

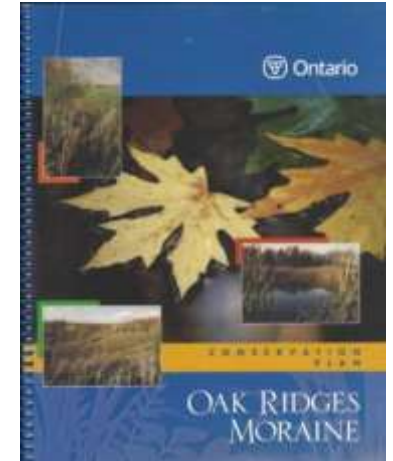
- Measuring of the Case Woodlot section of the Aurora trail
- Measuring of the Sheppards Bush section of the Aurora trail
- Assembled all recorded data using the TrailWare software package
- Produced Trail Access Information for the above sections
- Incorporation of the Access information in the latest version of ORTA Trail Guide
- Quote for Trail Head signs is in progress
- Clarington Chapter member Jeanne Winters has completed the two-day UTAP workshop
- An information package has been completed covering UTAP and ORTA in response to the Ontario Government's request for the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan.
- Trail Access Information will be on the "GO FOR GREEN/TRAILPAQ" Website.
- UTAP Co-ordinator and "Train the Trainer" courses are being offered in August at the Humber Arboretum. More information about this can be obtained from Tim.

2002 – 2003 THE OAK RIDGES MORaine CONSERVATION PLAN

The Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act had been passed in December 2001. On April 22, 2002 the principal Regulation under the Act, the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan (ORMCP), was adopted.

Section 39 of the ORMCP called for:

"the development and maintenance of a recreational trail system that will provide continuous access and travel across the entire moraine accessible to all people including persons with disabilities."



To oversee implementation of the plan the Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation (ORMF) was established, with long-time public servant Michael G. Scott as its Executive Director. The province endowed ORMF with \$15 million to be used over five years through grants for projects selected to implement the ORMCP.

ORMF established its office at The Gatehouse on Seneca's King Campus sharing the facility with the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust.¹⁴ As ORTA President, Harold Sellers, in conversation with Michael Scott laid claim for ORTA to implement Section 39. His response: "Where is your business plan?" The example was given of a recent document in which the Bruce Trail Association had set out the preferred route for their trail and how it would be achieved. ORTA was recommended to prepare a similar document.

The Second Walk for the Moraine on Sunday, September 29th raised over \$20,000. The Summer 2002 Trail Talk had included ORMLT's Newsletter as an Insert. Of particular interest to ORTA was the Conservation Easement on 48 acres of the Secord Property opened on June 20th partially funded by the First Walk for The Moraine.



¹⁴ Harold Sellers, as ED of Hike Ontario, also negotiated the move of their office to the Gate House.

ORTA now had 193 km of trail designated across the moraine from Palgrave to Gores Landing and was actively pursuing improvements to the trail. Thanks to the Fundraising Committee led by Tom Rance a grant of \$33,500 was obtained from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for the purchase of maintenance equipment.

The equipment purchased with the grant was displayed at the 2003 AGM. Afterwards small equipment kits were issued to appropriate Chapter Trail Captains. See opposite and the details in Appendix 10.

The committee next turned its attention to preparing an application to The Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation for the association to prepare an **Oak Ridges Trail Strategy**. The proposal was approved by their Board of Directors on February 18, 2003. The Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation's very first grant was awarded to the Oak Ridges Trail Association.

On May 1, 2003 the foundation's Executive Director, Michael Scott, presented a cheque for \$40,000 to Harold Sellers, President of ORTA.

Mr. Scott observed, "It is fitting that the ORMF's first grant be awarded to an organization which for over a decade has worked tirelessly toward developing an "accessible" trail right across the Oak Ridges Moraine."

The purpose of this grant was:

"to fund a consultant to lead ORTA in developing a Preferred Route for the Oak Ridges Trail and a Business Plan for the Association."



Summer 2003 Trail Talk Page 3

2003 Annual General Meeting

Taking Care of Business



Members' Day and Annual General Meeting on Saturday May 10, 2003

at the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Interpretive Centre in Port Hope.

After an Early Bird Hike alongside the Ganaraska River and Continental Breakfast moved the routine business along smoothly. The Annual Awards were presented. There was a presentation of Hike Ontario's new Risk Management Manual.

President Harold Sellers introduced as Guest Speaker, Michael Scott, Executive Director of the Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation. Mr. Scott explained the role of this new foundation and gave some insights into the plans which were being formulated. Funds are available for projects leading to better protection of the moraine, including land securement, research, monitoring, public education and private land stewardship. At the same time they would look to providing increased public access to and enjoyment of the moraine. Hence the great opportunity for ORTA to develop the trail system across the moraine towards which their first grant was announced last week.

Afterwards Members shared a Pot Luck lunch and looked at the new Maintenance Equipment before enjoying more local hikes.

2003 – 2004**NEW PLANS FOR THE OAK RIDGES TRAIL**

Determining the Optimum Trail Alignment. A Steering Committee was formed for this vital project consisting of President Harold Sellers, Vice-President Stan Butcher and Trail Director Peter Schaefer. On behalf of the ORMF we were joined by their newly appointed Program Manager, Kim Gavine. The Project Facilitator selected was Drew Cherry of Guelph, a retiree from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) who had been engaged in developments for the Grand Valley Trail. Fred Johnson, Oak Ridges Moraine Project Coordinator of the MNR, volunteered his participation which proved invaluable as he was very knowledgeable about moraine issues and could access their mapping services. This committee contributed many hours in late afternoon and evening meetings.

It was soon realized this study should cover these specific topics: optimum trail alignment, trail securement, trail routes to eastern and western gateways, connections to other trails, improved access including disabled access, financial sustainability, staffing strategy and monitoring.

Through the summer and fall of 2003 two rounds of stakeholder Focus Group meetings were held to obtain suggestions and recommendations to build and refine the plan.

The Optimum Trail Alignment was expressed as a continuous corridor approximately 1.0 km wide, to pass to the extent possible through the Natural Core Areas and Natural Linkage Areas defined by the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan. It is shown in blue on the map on the next page with the ORT as it then existed as a dark red line. This would provide direction for trail developments; it did not determine the practicability of such re-routes. Selection criteria, for example that the trail should be off-road and located where there was a good prospect it could be secured, would provide secondary directions.

The trail statistics as at December 2003:

Length of the Oak Ridges Trail was 193 km.
Of this 40% was located on public roads,
18% on road allowances,
33% on public lands, and
9% on private lands.

A Banner Year. The realization that the Association, the Oak Ridges Moraine and our Trail were "on the map" led to a banner year marked by an increasing number of well attended group hikes and 187 donations to ORTA's funds.

*And a Special Beginning –
Wilma Backus and Brian Millage
got wed on the trail on December 5th.*

*This event was on the
CTV National Evening News!*





Once again ORTA Members provided much of the leadership for the **Third Walk for the Moraine on September 19, 2003** – the last time this event was held.

Walk for the Moraine

Please join us on Sunday, October 19, 2003 for an enjoyable guided hike on the spectacular Oak Ridges Moraine to help raise funds for the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust.

Choose from our main location at Seneca College, King Campus or satellite walks in the Whitehorn/Staffville/Eldred King Woodlands or further east on Chertown's Blue Bird Trail.

The goal of the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust is to secure 5000 acres of environmentally sensitive lands by the end of 2004. The cost of each land acquisition is approximately \$17,000, making your pledge an integral part of our land conservation efforts. Last year's Walk raised over \$20,000!

This event is being organized by the Oak Ridges Trail Association for the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust with support from Seneca College, King Campus.

Please support us by participating at one of our three locations or by making your donation to the:

Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust
15170 Yonge St., Suite 2A,
Aurora, Ontario, L4G 1M2

For more information,
call 905-241-5679
or visit our website at: www.ortm.ca
www.oakridgesmoraine.org

COME OUT AND ENJOY THE ACTIVITIES ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

REGISTRATION

Seneca College, King Campus, register any time between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Register 30 minutes before hike begins at satellite locations.

WALKS

Walks of varying lengths have been organized, including short walks for families. The guided hikes will leave the registration area every half hour from 10am to 1pm at Seneca and at the times specified at the satellite locations.

Come prepared with comfortable hiking boots or running shoes, a water bottle, and some healthy snacks. Join us for a fun, active day and learn about the Moraine. Your participation will be helping us take one more step towards preserving the Oak Ridges Moraine for future generations.

fun for the entire family

SENECA COLLEGE

At King Campus, Walk for the Moraine participants will also be able to enjoy the many displays and activities of Seneca College's Environmental Fair before and after their walk.

Please note that Seneca College does not allow pets on their property, but they are permitted on a leash at our satellite locations.

SATELLITE LOCATIONS

Sun. Oct. 19, 10am Chertown E. 4 km, 2hrs family walk on Chertown Blue Bird Trail. Take Hwy 55 1/2 km south of Hwy 115, then south 1 km on Old Hwy 35 to parking area on left.

Sun. Oct. 19, 2pm same meeting place as above, 6 km, 2 1/2hrs. Both led by Roy Forester 905-883-5143.

Sun. Oct. 19, 2pm Eldred King Woodlands, 8 km loop, moderate pace, 2hrs. Meet at the Eldred King Woodlands parking area on west side of Hwy 40, 2.7 km south of Aurora Rd. (York Rd 15). Led by Charlie Atkinson 905-642-2408.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our three locations.

A Strategic Plan for the Oak Ridges Trail 2004 – 2009.

The major sticking point in acceptance of the plan would be: how could the association achieve all that it called for in the five year timeline it set out? But the report was not lacking in directions, including: "to pursue a funding partnership with the ORMF" and to engage staff, suggesting initially a full-time Executive Director and an Administrative Assistant.

This represented a major change for the volunteer organization which was recognized as having been "highly successful in developing and maintaining the

trail." The ORTA Constitution already provided for the engagement of paid staff by the Executive Committee, so no legal issue was involved; just a perceived change in the way things would be done.

The plan was accepted by a Special Meeting of the ORTA Board of Directors on January 10, with some minor adjustments to the wording for publication dated February 2, 2004.¹⁵

Having led acceptance of the plan, Harold Sellers left the meeting at that point.¹⁶ Vice-President Stan Butcher led the Board through subsequent actions as it was also a Business Plan for the association.

Treasurer Barry Hammerton on behalf of the ORTA Fundraising Committee presented motions authorizing applications to the ORMF and the Ontario Trillium Foundation for funding of the ED and Administrative Assistant positions, accounting services and an office facility.



The Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation provided a \$36,000 grant for year one; matched by the Ontario Trillium Foundation's \$79,500 over two years.



A Strategic Plan for The Oak Ridges Trail



An agency of the Government of Ontario
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

¹⁵ Print copies are still available from the ORTA Office.

¹⁶ Harold Sellers' position as ED of Hike Ontario had come to an end at December 31st, 2003 for lack of funds. He resigned as ORTA President in February in order to be a candidate for the ORTA ED position.

Harold Sellers Appointed Executive Director.

Pending acceptance of the plan, the Executive Committee had already nominated Wilma Backus, Stan Butcher and Barry Hammerton as a Staff Selection Sub-committee. The ORTA Board of Directors met again on February 21st 2004. They received the following report:

The Job Description was completed (issue dated January 20, 2004) and the position advertised. Of eight applicants the two who met the hiring criteria were interviewed by the Staff Selection Committee. Based on weighting of qualifications determined from their resumes and confirmed by the interviews, they recommended Harold Sellers to the Executive Committee..

A letter of appointment drafted by our lawyer was approved and delivered to Harold that day. Hours of work were flexible as there would be many calls for evening and weekend meetings. Harold would have Wednesdays off, as he had previously with HO, to continue his popular hike program as a volunteer.

ORTA Office at the Gatehouse, Seneca College King Campus.

The office previously occupied by Hike Ontario was now ORTA's. This may sound like a small matter, but for the first time ORTA now had a permanent address.¹⁷ And a new easy to remember telephone number: 905-833-6600. And, the staff of the Moraine Foundation, the Land Trust and ORTA were in daily contact.

ORMF advised us that on consideration their requirements for an Administrative Assistant did not amount to a full time position. We agreed to a shared appointment equivalent to three days a week for ORMF as the employer, two for ORTA; this became a good, flexible, working relationship as the workload varied week to week. The first appointee to this position was Judy Arsenault.

¹⁷ Previously the current President's home address had been used as ORTA's Business Address which must be a physical location, not a P.O. Box. The frequency of changes had from time to time incurred loss of some communications. Maintenance of the register with the Ontario Ministry of Business and Corporate Affairs had been inconsistent. On one occasion the ministry had failed to input our submission. Proper attention to such detail became essential now the association was receiving public grants requiring audit and CRA submissions as a Registered Charity.



Shared facilities including the Board Room and The ORMF's Offices were on the ground floor. ORMLT occupied the top floor right and ORTA top left.

Special Notice of Meeting for the 12th. AGM.

In view of these significant developments plans for the 2004 AGM on Saturday May 8th at Caledon received careful attention. An additional Special Notice of Meeting was mailed to all Members in which Stan Butcher outlined the changes, concluding:

As execdir@orta.on.ca Harold will no longer be leading all the day to day affairs of the association. To put it formally, he has resigned as President and I have assumed these responsibilities. ORTA will continue to be a volunteer organization led by its Chapters and Board. Indeed, the accelerated pace of development of the trail system right across the moraine will provide additional opportunities for members to participate.

It was essential for everyone to understand that the grants funding the Executive Director position were for the specific purpose of implementing developments of the Oak Ridges Trail called for in the Strategic Plan.

The 2004 AGM on Saturday May 8th at Caledon was a busy meeting!

For the first time we had an Executive Director's Report: Harold Sellers used wall maps to illustrate the land use zones under the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan; the Optimum Corridor for the trail system as presented in *A Strategic Plan for the Oak Ridges Trail*; and future re-routes and side trails.

To make reporting to the CRA and grant authorities easier, Treasurer Barry Hamilton introduced a motion, which was duly passed, amending the Constitution so ORTA's Fiscal Year would correspond to the calendar year. There were several changes to the Board of Directors with Stan Butcher becoming President.

Following the usual formal business, Brian Craig, Senior Science Advisor, Environment Canada, a Director of the Canadian Biosphere Reserves Association, and volunteer with the Long Point Biosphere Reserve Foundation, gave an illustrated presentation about UNESCO's Biosphere Reserve designation and what that means. Save The Oak Ridges Moraine (STORM) Coalition, the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust, and the Federation of Ontario Naturalists and ORTA formed a working group to try to get the Oak Ridges Moraine designated as a Biosphere Reserve.¹⁸



Before a superb lunch arranged by the Caledon Chapter, the ORTA Awards were presented. The first Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Tom Rance, for his many years dedicated service to ORTA, including as a Director, Uxbridge Chapter Chair, President, and most recently as Fundraising Chair.

The well-attended meeting recognized that after twelve years' development of the Oak Ridges Trail by enthusiastic volunteers the Association had arrived at a significant turning point in its history. There were 80 km to go and many improvements envisaged over the next five years.

¹⁸ This later became a high priority project for STORM and their associates in academia.

APENDIX 2

1991–1992 CORT Steering Committee

As far as can be determined from notes of meetings the twelve people who volunteered at the October 1991 Preliminary Meeting were:

Peter Scholefield, Steven Greenland, Tom Rance, Klaus Wehrenberg, Peter Attfield, Stuart Koch, Paul Peterson, Fiona Cowles, Theresa Porter, Joy Pierce, Dan O'Reilly, and Kris Keating.

Other people who participated at various times:

Frank Bowman, Lauren Bronson, Jim Cameron, Marie Casey, David McQueen, Gerry Pierce, Jean Orschel, Bill Cranmer, Anne Shier, Ralph Shier, Barb Rance, Heather Engli, Murray Pound, Jill Leslie (Hike Ontario), Mavis McCullum and Gale Dennison (Ontario Trails Council.)

Sub-committees: Public Relations led by Peter Attfield, Physical Planning led by Kris Keating. The Constitutional Committee was led by Paul Peterson (a BTA Member) of the law firm McCarthy Tétrault who acted on behalf of the association in registering business and charity status.

CORT’s FOUNDING MEMBERS
October 1992 CORT Membership List

Opposite: Persons numbered 1 – 30 had signed up at the Founding Meeting in May; the remainder had paid-up by October.

1	NAME	ADDRESS
	Anderson, John & Marian	69 Humber Valley Cres., King City
1	Attfield, Peter	13216 Bayview Avenue, Richmond Hill,
2	Bain, Ms. Frances H.	202 Fairview Ave., Toronto
	Chambers, Bruce & Eleanor	RR 1, King City
	Cooper, Andrew	1008 Lemar Road, Newmarket
	Cowan, Mr. Birley	5334 Yonge St, #2210, Willowdale
3	Cowles, Fiona	R.R. 1, King City
	Cranmer-Dyng, Margaret	92 Greenbelt Crescent, Richmond Hill
4	Crandall, Debbie	P.O. Box 617, Bolton
5	Deslauriers, Ian	16 Cousins Drive, Aurora
6	Doble, Jill C.	26 Dunkeld Way, Thornhill
7	Douglas, Dick	27 Lacey Court, Aurora
	Drummond, W. C.	77 Maple Grove Ave., Richmond Hill
	Frakes, Tim	15 Irvin Ave., Aurora
8	Greenland, Steven	192 Grandview Avenue, Thornhill
9	Izzard, Dorothy	R.R. 2, King City
10	Keating, Kris	96 1/2 Douro St., Peterborough
11	Leivo, Mrs. Ene	443 North Lake Road, Richmond Hill
12	Leslie, Jill	64 Forbes Ave., Guelph,
13	Mather, Boris	505/485 Kingston Road, Toronto
14	McQueen, David	R. R. 4, Uxbridge
15	O'Reilly, Dan	R.R.5, Bolton
16	Peterson, Paul	305 St. Clements Ave., Toronto
17	Pierce, Joy	69 Marsh Harbour, Aurora
	Poglitsh, Joanne	7811 Yonge St., Apt. #12, Thornhill
18	Porter, Teresa	720 Wagg Road, R. R. 4, Uxbridge
19	Rance, Tom	249 Reach Road, R.R. 4, Uxbridge
	Roberts, Bill	353 Cotter Street, Newmarket
20	Scholefield, Peter	Box 708 R.R. 2, Kettleby
21	Scott, Karen	52 Worsley Road, Stoney Creek
22	Segline, Carol	185 Old King Rd., Bolton
	Smith, Anne	10 Penaire St., Scarborough
23	Taylor, Pat	283 Rockway Court, Newmarket
24	Thompson, Mrs. Ilse W.	7 Welton St., Maple
25	Usherwood, David	54 Carlisle Cres., Scarborough
	Van Oostrom, Rosemary	98 Seaton Drive, Aurora
26	Warner, Mr. L. C.	89 Squires Ave., Toronto
27	Wehrenberg, Klaus	Box 222, Aurora
28	Wells, Yvette	479 Armadale Ave., Toronto
29	Westhouse, Barry	32 Mancroft Cres., Bramalea
30	Whitehead, Richard	18820 4th Line Albion, RR 3, Caledon East
	Woodland, Robert	37 Adams Court, Uxbridge,
	Worsley, Eric	RR 2, King City
	Zakrzewski, Adam	151 Kingslynn Dr., PO Box 251, King City

1992 – 1993 CORT Board

President	Peter Scholefield
Vice-President	Steven Greenland
Secretary	Fiona Cowles
Treasurer	Teresa Porter
Directors-at-Large	Kris Keating
	Paul Peterson
	Joy Pierce
	Tom Rance
	Klaus Wehrenberg

1993 – 1994
CORT became ORTA in January 1994

Executive Committee

President	Steven Greenland
Vice-President and	
Newsletter Editor	Sylvia Gilchrist
Secretary	Joy Pierce
Treasurer	Robert Ellison

Chapter Chairs

Aurora	Rosemary Van Oostrom
King	Eric Worsley
Uxbridge	Tom Rance;

Directors-at-Large

Mary Drummond
Paul Peterson

The above became the first board of the Incorporated Association in June 1994

Following sheets:
ORTA BOARDS 1994 – 2004

1994 – 1995*Executive Committee*

President	Steven Greenland
Vice-President	Fiona Cowles
Secretary	Sylvia Gilchrist
Treasurer	Robert Ellison

Chapter Chairs

Aurora	vacant
King	Eric Worsley
Uxbridge	Tom Rance

Directors-at-Large

Hike Co-ordinator	Stephen Kamnitzer
Newsletter Editor	Anne Shier
Volunteers Co-ord	Rosemary Van Oostrom

1995 – 1996*Executive Committee*

President	Fiona Cowles
Vice-President	David Graupner
(from September)	
Treasurer	Graham Keevill
Secretary	Robert Ellison
Past President	Steven Greenland

Chapter Chairs

Aurora/Central Yonge	Sylvia Gilchrist
(until December)	
Caledon	Sheilagh Crandall
(from February)	
King	Eric Worsley
Scugog	John M. Scott
(from September)	
Uxbridge	Tom Rance

Directors-at-Large

Hike Co-ordinator	Stephen Kamnitzer
Membership Co-ordinator	Bill Roberts
Newsletter Co-ordinator	Anne Shier

1996 – 1997*Executive Committee*

President	Fiona Cowles
Vice-President	David Graupner
(until December; from February)	Tim Lawley
Treasurer	Graham Keevill
Secretary	Robert Ellison
Past President	Steven Greenland

Chapter Chairs

Aurora	
Caledon	Sheilagh Crandall
Uxbridge	Tom Rance
King	Tom Atkins
Scugog	John M. Scott

Directors-at-Large

Hike Co-ordinator	Stephen Kamnitzer
Membership Secretary	Bill Roberts
Newsletter Editor	Anne Shier

1997 – 1998*Executive Committee*

President	Tom Rance
Vice-President	Tim Lawley
Past-President	Fiona Cowles
Secretary	Robert Ellison
Treasurer	Theresa Porter
Membership Coordinator	Bill Roberts
Publicity & Trail Talk Editor	Brian Logan

Chapter Chairs

Aurora	Ian Deslauries
Caledon	Sheilagh Crandall
"Ganaraska"	Roy Forrester
King	Tom Atkins
Scugog	John M. Scott
Whitchurch - Stouffville	Joe Palma
Uxbridge	Ralph Shier

Director-at-Large	Bruce Chambers
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Key Persons not elected as Directors but attending Board Meetings as needed

Fund Raising	Diana Piché
Hike Coordinator	Peter Attfield
Trails Director	Keith Stafford

1998 – 1999*Executive Committee*

President	Tom Rance
Vice-President	
Past-President	Fiona Cowles
Secretary	Tony Bulson
Treasurer	Teresa Porter
Membership Coordinator	Bill Roberts
Publicity & Trail Talk Editor	Brian Logan

Chapter Chairs

Aurora (Interim)	Robert Ellison
Caledon	Sheilagh Crandall
Clarington	Roy Forrester
King	Tom Atkins
Scugog	John M. Scott
Stouffville	Chuck Suikki
Uxbridge	Colin Barnett

Directors

Hike Coordinator	Peter Attfield
Fund Raising & Guidebook	Diana Piché
Trail Director	Keith Stafford

The appointments above were made following the AGM. Developments during the year resulted in additional appointments as Directors:

Vice-President	Robert Ellison
Aurora	Ray Matsalla
Hope	Gary Ford
Publicity Director	Harold Sellers
Director-at-Large	Jill West

1999 – 2000*Executive Committee*

President	Robert Ellison
Vice-President & Publicity	Harold Sellers
Past-President	Tom Rance
Secretary	Tony Bulson
Treasurer	Teresa Porter
Trail Director	Keith Stafford
Membership Coordinator	Bill Roberts

Chapter Chairs

Caledon	Sheilagh Crandall
King	Tom Atkins
Aurora	Ray Matsalla
Whitchurch-Stouffville	Chuck Suikki
Uxbridge	Colin Barnett
Scugog	John M. Scott
Clarington	Roy Forrester
Hope-Hamilton	Gary Ford

Directors

Hike Coordinator	Jill Doble
Fund Raising	Diana Piché
Trail Talk Editor	Brian Logan
Director-at-Large	Jill West

Other Appointments

Guidebook Chair	Fiona Cowles
Volunteer Co-ordinator	Peter Attfield
Webmaster	Bob Hughes

2000 – 2001*Executive Committee*

President	Robert Ellison
Vice-President	Harold Sellers
Past-President	Tom Rance
Secretary	Barry Hammerton
Treasurer	Teresa Porter
Trail Director	Tony Bulson
Membership Coordinator	Sharon Emerson

Chapter Chairs

Caledon	Sheilagh Crandall
King	Tom Atkins
Aurora	Ray Matsalla
Whitchurch-Stouffville	Chuck Suikki
Uxbridge	Colin Barnett
Scugog	John Scott
Clarington	Roy Forrester
Hope-Hamilton	Gary Ford

Directors

Hike Coordinator	Jill Doble
Fund Raising	Diana Piché
Trail Talk Editor	Brian Logan
Publicity Director	Martin O'Grady

2001 – 2002*Executive Committee*

President	Harold Sellers
Vice-President	vacant
Past-President	Robert Ellison
Secretary	Barry Hammerton
Treasurer	Teresa Porter
Trails Director	Ray Matsalla
Membership Coordinator	Sharon Emerson
Publicity Director	Wilma Backus

Chapter Chairs

Caledon	Sheilagh Crandall
King	Tom Atkins
Aurora	Stan Butcher
Whitchurch-Stouffville	Charlie Atkinson
Uxbridge	Tom Rance
Scugog	John M. Scott
Clarington	Roy Forrester
Hope-Hamilton	Gary Ford
Northumberland	Tony Holmes

Directors

Hike Coordinator	Jill Doble
Fund Raising	Diana Piché
Trail Talk Editor	Brian Logan
Director-at-Large	Jill West

2002 – 2003*Executive Committee*

President	Harold Sellers
Vice-President	vacant
Past-President	Robert Ellison
Secretary	Suzanne Summers
Treasurer	Barry Hammerton
Trails Director	Ray Matsalla
Membership Coordinator	Marilyn Mussell
Publicity Director	Wilma Backus

Chapter Chairs

Caledon	Sheilagh Crandall
King	Bruce Chambers
Aurora	Stan Butcher
Whitchurch-Stouffville	Charlie Atkinson
Uxbridge	Tom Rance
Scugog	Peter Bramma
Clarington	Roy Forrester
Hope-Hamilton	Gary Ford
Northumberland	Tony Holmes

Directors

Hike Coordinator	Jill Doble
Fund Raising	Diana Piché
Trail Talk Editor	Brian Logan
Directors-at-Large	Tom Atkins Peter Attfield Sharon Emmerson Michael McAllister

2003 – 2004*Executive Committee*

President	Harold Sellers
to February 17, 2004	
Vice-President	Stan Butcher
Past-President	Robert Ellison
Secretary	Suzanne Summers
Treasurer	Barry Hammerton
Trails Director	Peter Schaefer
Membership Coordinator	Marilyn Mussell
Publicity Director	Wilma Backus

Chapter Chairs

Caledon	Sheilagh Crandall
King	Bruce Chambers
Aurora	Bill Smith
Whitchurch-Stouffville	Charlie Atkinson
Uxbridge	Brian Millage
Scugog	until October from January
Clarington	until October from January
Hope-Hamilton	Peter Bramma
Northumberland	Garry Niece
	Roy Forrester
	Rick Patterson
	Gary Ford
	Tony Holmes

Directors

Hike Coordinator	Jill Doble
Fund Raising	Tom Rance
Trail Talk Editor	Brian Logan
Directors-at-Large	Tom Atkins Peter Attfield Virginia Johnson Michael McAllister Audrey Fullerton