

# 2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

## YEAR 2 OF 2020-2023 STRATEGIC PLAN



### PROTECT PEOPLE AND PROPERTY



**Safeguard our community from the dangers of flooding and erosion through flood management planning, site alteration management, education and enforcement.**

- Issued 19 permits under Ontario Regulation 165/06
- Annual update and distribution of the MRCA Flood Contingency Plan
- Distributed 4 watershed statistics reports to community stakeholders
- Held 5 Timmins Flood Advisory Committee meetings through continued partnerships
- Issued 1 Watershed Conditions Statement for Water Safety
- Provided snow sampling data via MRCA website
- Processed 8 legal compliance requests



**Protect drinking water sources.**

- Established 7 Risk Management Plans
- Education and signage provided to 25 fuel distributors in drinking water intake protection zones
- Developed a video highlighting Drinking Water Source Protection from source to tap



**Monitor and maintain our natural flood control infrastructure.**

- Wetland awareness information mailouts shared with 250 residents living near wetlands
- Widened a section of Town Creek for better waterflow
- Year round monitoring of Town Creek and Crawford Creek



**Collaborate with partners in data collection and information sharing.**

- Organized an Integrated Watershed Management Committee with draft terms of reference



**Support municipal land use planning, emergency management and floodplain mapping.**

- Provided input on City of Timmins Official Plan, Zoning By-law and 80 Planning Act applications
- Partnered in the annual City of Timmins Municipal Emergency Plan working group
- Issued 12 Site Alteration Permits through agreement with City of Timmins
- Assisted the City of Timmins with facilitation of aerial imagery updates



**Monitor and report on our watershed's water quality and quantity.**

- Maintained and monitoring of 4 groundwater wells for water levels and quality, 4 surface water quality sites, and 20 snow stations
- Completed year-round monitoring of watershed staff gauges



### CONNECT PEOPLE TO NATURE



**Maintain quality trail systems and conservation areas that support safe access for all residents and visitors to our watershed.**

- 9 trail counters registered 282,319 trail users
- 23 events were held at our conservation areas once the province permitted in-person group activities
- Completed 1 km trail brushing on Bart Thomson Trail
- Trail resurfacing completed on Golden Springs Trail (2 km) and Lion's Walk Trail (1.2 km)
- Winter grooming of 9 km of trail for all-season access
- Installed 7 new bear-proof garbage bins at Gillies Lake and Hersey Lake Conservation Areas
- Installed 20 swallow nesting boxes at Gillies Lake
- Refinished 28 park benches, 12 picnic tables, 3 bridges
- Installed new bumper posts at Mountjoy Historical CA
- Installed new trailhead signs on Rotary Trail and Marcel Lafleur Walk



**Promote our trail and conservation areas as outdoor recreation opportunities and environmental education spaces.**

- 146 Facebook posts received 2,434 likes, 741 post shares and reach was increased by 265.6%
- Instagram reach increased by 68.5%
- Hosted over 40 participants in-person for Fall Hiking Day for the first time in 2 years, with introductions to forest bathing, birdwatching and general ecology, in partnership with Wintergreen Fund for Conservation



**Engage residents in creating a Community Trail Network Master Plan.**

- Initiated discussions with local partner organizations about reinstating the Timmins Recreational Trail Committee to provide a more comprehensive long-term plan for the community trail network
- Ongoing development of an MRCA Trail Management Plan
- Comprehensive trail signage plan developed and funding sources reviewed
- Priority trail maintenance issues to be addressed in 2022 were identified

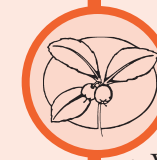


### CONNECT WITH US

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### STRIVE FOR ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE



**Foster a culture of giving to support community conservation activities in partnership with Wintergreen Fund for Conservation.**

- Wintergreen Fund for Conservation partnership to employ 4 students to complete work on recreation trails
- Assisted Wintergreen with the implementation of a fundraising committee
- The following donations to the Wintergreen Fund for Conservation are gratefully acknowledged:
  - » Newmont for trail revitalization and bear-proof garbage bins
  - » Enbridge Gas for wetland awareness initiatives
  - » Rotary Club of Timmins for Rotary Trail signs
  - » Eacom Timber for swallow nesting box and butterfly house lumber
  - » Lake Shore Gold, Newmont and Glencore for Bee City initiatives
  - » Sandvik for a bear-proof garbage bin



**Ensure best practices in day-to-day operations.**

- Completed a Conservation Authorities Act Transition Plan
- Draft Program and Services Inventory developed as required by changes to the Conservation Authorities Act
- Utilized Land Management Policy guidelines to review all MRCA property holdings
- Implemented regular trail disruption notifications via Trailforks app, social media sites and website
- 3 property leases were renewed for an additional 5 years
- Implemented updated Health and Safety Policies
- Finalized an MRCA Business Continuity Plan



**Engage residents and partners in our programs and services.**

- Contributed guidance to local industry relating to fish habitat offsetting plans.
- Continued collaboration with member municipality
- Continued online engagement with residents through social media outlets



### BUDGET AND REVENUES

2021 BUDGET  
\$1,033,840

- 59% Municipal Levy
- 21% Self-generated / Other
- 11% Drinking Water Source Protection
- 7% Provincial Transfer Payments
- 2% Special Grant Payments



### INSPIRE WATERSHED CHAMPIONS



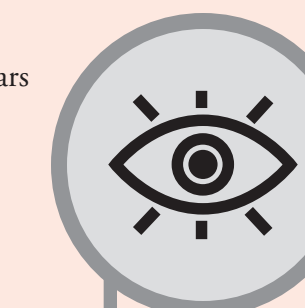
**Inspire youth through experiential learning opportunities to become environmental champions.**

- Yellow Fish Road™ program hosted with 1 secondary school after COVID-19 restrictions lifted
- Cancelled Children's Water Festival due to COVID-19

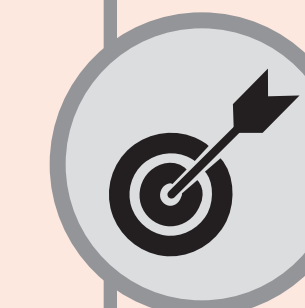


**Establish new partnerships for resource sharing capacity building.**

- Partnerships with Timmins High and Vocational School to build swallow nesting boxes, O'Gorman Intermediate Catholic School to build butterfly houses, and the Porcupine Art Club to decorate butterfly houses
- Partnership with Outland Youth Employment Program to provide training opportunities for trail development and maintenance
- Partnership with Bee City to promote pollinator friendly initiatives
- Continued collaboration with Friends of the Porcupine River Watershed Liaison Committee to increase understanding of watershed health
- Continued discussion with local cycling enthusiasts regarding safe use and maintenance of single track cycling trails at the Hersey Lake Conservation Area



**OUR VISION**  
A healthy, safe and sustainable environment



**OUR MISSION**  
We manage the conservation, protection and restoration of our watershed



**OUR VALUES**  
Collaboration  
Accountability  
Innovation  
Adaptability  
Integrity  
Leadership