



ROYAL  
BOTANICAL  
GARDENS  
[www.rbg.ca](http://www.rbg.ca)

## 2011 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



Creating pathways  
for a greener future...

## OUR MISSION

Royal Botanical Gardens' mission is to promote the public's understanding of the relationship between the plant world, society and the environment.

## VISION

Royal Botanical Gardens' vision is to be a recognized and supported global leader in how we use plants in bringing people, place and sustainable behaviours together.

## FUNDERS

Royal Botanical Gardens is funded by the people through Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Regional Municipality of Halton, City of Hamilton, Royal Botanical Gardens' members, The Auxiliary of Royal Botanical Gardens, and many corporations, foundations and individuals.

## 2011 Board of Directors

### Officers of the Board

Ian Brisbin – Chair  
Leslie Bullock – Secretary  
Ruth Lee – Treasurer

### Appointed by Council, City of Hamilton

Councillor Brian McHattie  
Ian Brisbin  
Rebecca Raven

### Appointed by Council, Regional Municipality of Halton

Councillor Jane Fogal  
Councillor Paul Sharman  
Kent James  
Peter Thoem  
Guy Wood Sheppard

### Additional Members in place of appointments by the Governor-General-in-Council, Canada

Two vacant positions

### Appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in Council, Province of Ontario

Ed Gamrot  
Susan Robinson

### RBG Appointees

Gord Albini  
Dr. Geoffrey P. Arron  
Leslie Bullock  
Cliff Carson  
Wayne Joudrie  
Ruth Lee  
Daniel Roberts

Dr. Patrick Deane, President and Vice-Chancellor,  
McMaster University — Ex Officio

### Representing the Auxiliary of RBG

Frances Neufeld, President  
Liaison Member, Auxiliary of RBG  
Dan Totino, Vice-President

## Executive Team

Mark Runciman, Chief Executive Officer  
Dolf DeJong, Director, Biodiversity Programs — until December 2011  
Darlene Bennett-Howes, Director, Business Development and Fundraising  
Terry Caddo, Director, Operations  
Andrew Duncan, Director of Finance and Administration — from September 2011

The Board of Directors and the Executive Team recognize the dedication of all 2011 staff members of Royal Botanical Gardens.



## Letter from Board Chair and CEO

A year of significant change, 2011 saw Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) solidify its commitment to its stakeholders and mandate. The finalization and approval of a three-year business plan put RBG on the pathway towards long-term financial success and the development of an even larger plan will address the sustainability of the Gardens ten years from now and beyond.

RBG once again balanced its budget in 2011 and with the help of public sector investments from Province of Ontario, Regional Municipality of Halton and City of Hamilton continued as an environmental steward while delivering memorable events of a premier tourist destination. Just over half of our revenue is self-generated and much of that is due in large part to member and donor support. We are very much a part of our community and are fortunate to have them supporting us.

Sadly, the passing of Dr. Leslie Laking, our director emeritus, in April 2011 marked the end of a long and storied era that put Royal Botanical Gardens on the map as a world-class organization. RBG's longest-serving director (1954–1981), Dr. Laking set the standard for what Royal Botanical Gardens is and what it can be. Officially he retired in 1981 but his work at RBG never ended. Dr. Laking's work and values will always live on in what we plan to accomplish.

The Laking legacy certainly lives on at RBG as was clearly indicated on June 22 when the Auxiliary of Royal Botanical Gardens (founded by Dr. Laking's wife, the late Barbara Laking) celebrated its 50th anniversary. In over half a century the Auxiliary has donated a total of \$3.7 million to support RBG operations, along with hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours.

The year ended on a positive note with the announcement of \$14 million in funding for our historic Rock Garden. With this much-needed funding we will be able to improve the garden's structural integrity, water and sewage systems, visitor accessibility and architectural landscape. Over the next couple of years we intend to solidify Rock Garden's legacy as a horticultural treasure and world-class tourist destination.

As a not-for-profit organization, we rely on the support of our members and of course, our dedicated staff and volunteer Auxiliary members. As last year's annual report stated, we are continuing to "grow in the right direction" as we create greener pathways for future generations to come.

Ian Brisbin,  
Board Chair

Mark Runciman,  
Chief Executive Officer

## Horticulture

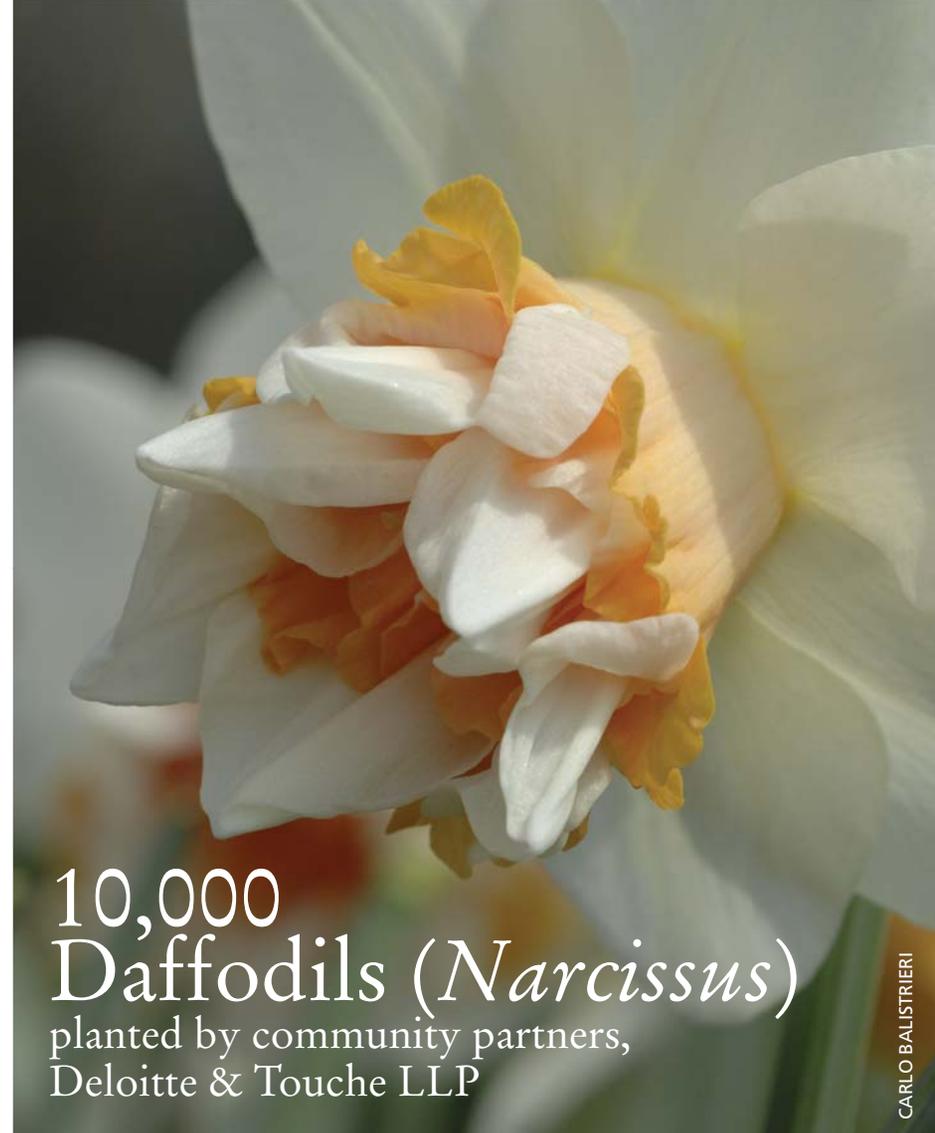
The adoption of Royal Botanical Gardens' multi-year business plan and its associated operating plan in 2011 brought the horticulture department's planning into sharp focus. In addition to satisfying the demands of RBG's four mandate areas, horticulture is addressing the needs identified by the institution at large. Writ large these include helping to meet the strategic business priorities, and instituting and adopting management processes to improve efficiencies and outcomes.

In addition, horticulture has some goals of its own. Significant increases in the number of taxa in collections and on display, and raising the reputation of the institution in the botanical world, dovetail nicely with enhancing our visitor experience and creating a one-of-a-kind visit. 2011 saw the creation of an extensive *Narcissus* collection showcasing nearly 100 cultivars of daffodil in 13 horticultural divisions; a huge push toward revitalizing The Centennial Rose Garden with 765 new shrubs planted and more to come; a *Metasequoia* grove demonstrating the range of variation in a single tree species—along with one of the finest plant stories of the 20th century; a cherry circle at the Arboretum; *Primula sieboldii* beds with nearly a dozen cultivars; an exciting new collaboration between Veggie Village and The Gardens' Café to feature RBG produce in the menu. Finally, significant planning was started for all of the major garden areas.

Interaction with the Auxiliary of RBG and our dedicated specialist societies in the work of the garden increased significantly in 2011, and we continue to engage and work with professional societies to raise the profile of RBG on the local, national and international stage.

The horticulture summer student program saw over 40 students from local universities come to RBG to learn and work, providing specialized skills training and help for the gardens. In addition the department coordinated projects for several corporate volunteer groups that netted RBG hundreds of volunteer hours and good relations with some of the area's finest businesses.

As always, the horticulture department is keen to share the work we do and the knowledge we've accumulated by presenting dozens of talks and demonstrations, making appearances at local and regional trade shows and on television and radio, and contributing to newspapers and magazines.

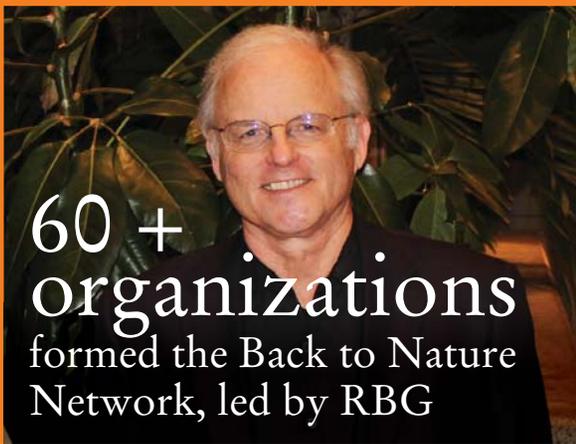


10,000  
Daffodils (*Narcissus*)  
planted by community partners,  
Deloitte & Touche LLP

CARLO BALISTRERI

40 +  
students  
gained valuable  
experience with the  
horticulture summer  
student program

765  
new roses  
planted to enhance  
The Centennial Rose  
Garden's collection



60 +  
organizations  
formed the Back to Nature  
Network, led by RBG

Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods* and the person behind the child/nature movement, visited RBG in May and spoke to an audience of over 200 about the fundamental human need for time in nature.

One of the most popular (and cutest!) of our “edutainment” programs, the Enchanted Garden weekend, brought 1,600 fairies, gnomes and parents to RBG on the Civic Holiday weekend to explore the magic of nature.



30,000 people  
experienced hundreds of  
educational activities  
and courses

## Education

Botanical gardens exist to grow and share knowledge about the plant world. At RBG, we share knowledge of the many relationships that exist between people, plants and nature through a wide range of formal and informal learning experiences offered on-site, off-site and via the Internet. In 2011, over 30,000 people participated in hundreds of educational activities and courses.

Messaging about RBG and the work we do is the focus of the dynamic learning activities we offer for casual visitors of all ages and a new interpretation plan was prepared to guide these efforts over the next five years. A new Project Paradise Discovery Cart was developed, and with the enthusiastic support of our Auxiliary we were able to recruit and train several new volunteer interpreters who engaged hundreds of people along the Waterfront Trail by the Fishway. These volunteers have become the nucleus of a new Auxiliary interpretation group that will be expanded in 2012.

Following the success of our Biodiversity Year programming in 2010, we brought back the concept of an annual RBG theme and focused much of our summer visitor experience on *The Edible Landscape*. Using the newly opened Veggie Village as the home base for our programming, we brought together interpretive signage and guides, new cellphone-based audio tours, and special events focused on growing vegetables and eating local.

Programs for our winter exhibit, *Wild Music: Songs and Sounds of Life*, were very well-received and we continued to focus on “plants that make music” on special interpretive tours during music nights through the summer.

Our award-winning videoconference-based programs continued their steady growth, with a 12 per cent increase in numbers, and recognition by a US-based educational group as Canada’s best videoconference content provider. Our camps, youth and horticultural therapy programs also grew in 2011.

We continue to work with many Ontario school boards and faculties of education to ensure that our programs support teacher needs. Halton District School Board and Ontario Ecoschools joined forces with RBG and Back to Nature to prepare and pilot a new educational resource that will help teachers use schoolyards and local parks for curriculum delivery. We provided hands-on placement for three student teachers over the course of the year, as well as a number of high school and college co-op students. With the help of a special grant from TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, the Nature Interpretive Centre upgraded aged and outdated equipment. New dataloggers and cameras put real-life scientific tools in the hands of students, while new presentation aids help our staff to provide better programming.

After over two years of background work, the Ontario Back to Nature Network was inaugurated in January. By the end of the year, over 60 organizations from environmental, recreation, youth leadership, planning and health sectors were involved, along with our collaborative partners in this Ontario Trillium Foundation-funded project — Parks and Recreation Ontario and Ontario Nature. As this network expands, it will build capacity to get more of Ontario’s children engaged in healthy outdoor activity.



910 hours of observation provided by volunteer trailwatchers  
1,500 kilometres of trail walked by volunteers

3,000 invasive shrubs removed and native plants added to improve habitat

## Natural Lands

An estimated 250,000 people enjoy the tranquility of one of the last major natural areas in the urban jungle that surrounds Lake Ontario. The 27 kilometres of nature trails winding through RBG's 900 hectares of natural lands provide year-round memorable experiences. In 2011 the featured lookout destinations of the trails were refurbished, including the platforms on the north shore of Cootes Paradise and the Escarpment edge lookouts at Rock Chapel.

Chegwin Trail Boardwalk was completely rebuilt and the first new observation platform in decades was added to the trail system in Hendrie Valley. To complement this work, nine new interpretive signs were added to enhance the visitor experience. This included three at Princess Point, one in Westdale, and five on the north shore of Cootes Paradise. Updated trails maps were published to provide information on the revitalized trail system.

Protection of federally listed rare species continued to remain a top priority. This included research with focus on Few-Flowered Club-rush (*Trichophorum planifolium*), Butternut (*Juglans cineria*), Red Mulberry (*Morus rubra*), Jefferson's Salamander (*Ambystoma jeffersonianum*) and various turtle species. Work on an overall strategy to recover turtle populations that complemented the marsh restoration program continued and is expected to be completed by the end of 2012.

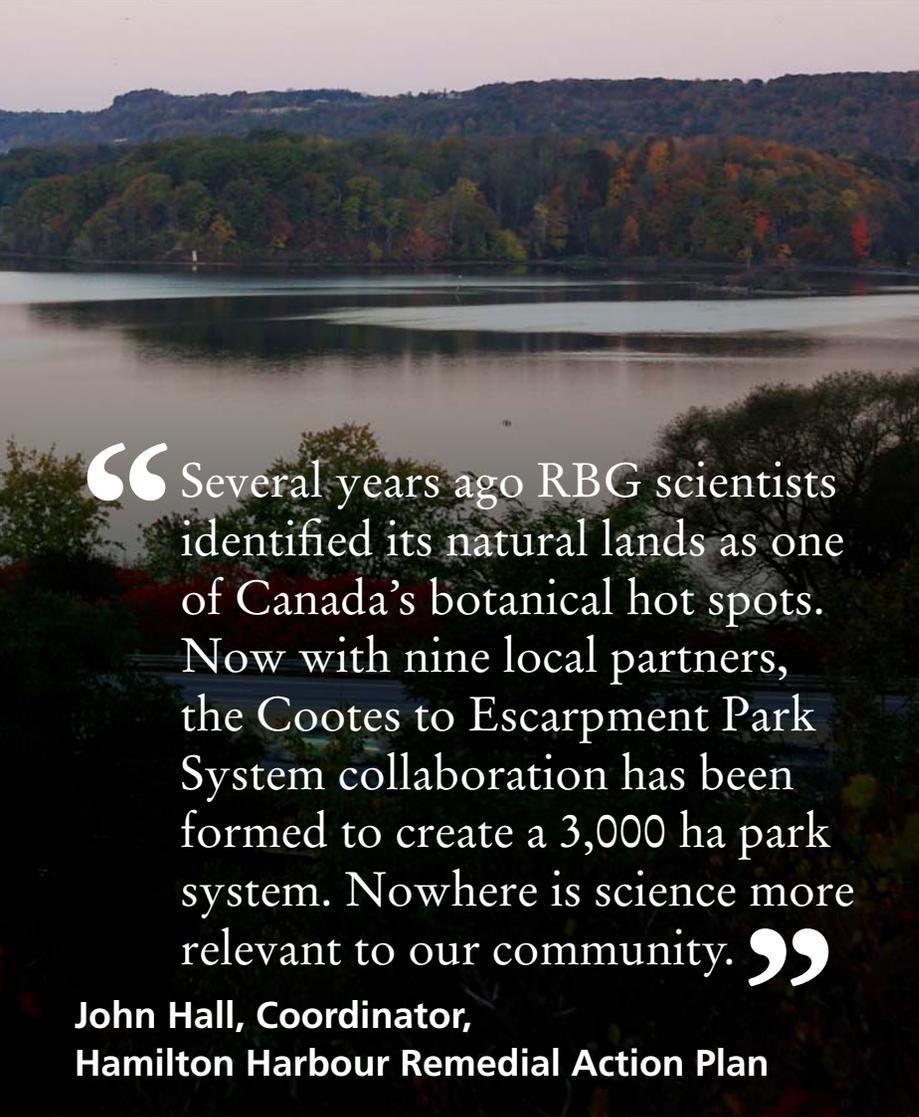
A cross-section of monitoring programs showed the status of the property continues to be impaired due to long-standing water and air pollution issues, and the resulting dominance of several naturalized Eurasian species. However

these stressors continue to abate and the integrity of the property is improving. While numerous species were encountered within the various monitoring programs, the highlight of the year was the capture of a long-lost fish species, the Longnose Sucker (*Catostomus catostomus*) at the Cootes Paradise Fishway.

A number of volunteer events throughout the fall along with two staff employed full-time for six weeks, combined to remove over 3,000 invasive shrubs. At Princess Point, planting of native prairie plant species was the highlight of a provincial Envirothon student event. Marsh restoration faced an extremely challenging year due to high lake levels, summer flooding and sewer overflows. Despite the challenges the regeneration of wetland plants advanced and more importantly, the underlying conditions improved by year-end.



Volunteer planters



“Several years ago RBG scientists identified its natural lands as one of Canada’s botanical hot spots. Now with nine local partners, the Cootes to Escarpment Park System collaboration has been formed to create a 3,000 ha park system. Nowhere is science more relevant to our community.”

**John Hall, Coordinator,  
Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan**

**56,500**  
herbarium  
specimens  
digitized over  
two years

**9,500**  
historic  
horticultural  
catalogues  
inventoried by  
volunteers over  
four years

## Science

Science has an important role in Royal Botanical Gardens’ strategic direction and business plans, responsible for our non-living collections (herbarium, library and archival collections) and for leadership in key programs, such as plant identification, the on-going development of our knowledge resources, plant systematics and taxonomy, and partnerships with external agencies such as universities, natural areas stakeholders, and our sister botanical gardens across Canada and around the world.

The year past saw major advances in our knowledge resources, in the practical aspects of managing our collections, in better integrating our expertise across all of RBG, and in cultivating partnerships. Some of our most dramatic progress was made in the herbarium, known internationally as HAM. In 2011 staff completed the monumental, two-year task of digitizing all 56,500 herbarium specimens, and with the horticulture department integrated the herbarium database into the industry-standard record-keeping system for plant collections used at RBG, called BG-BASE.

This year, we also acquired a large herbarium dryer, allowing for rapid, high-quality preservation of fleshy specimens such as lilac flowers. This allows us to maintain the highest quality of preservation of our specimens, which is critical as our herbarium is the only one in Canada that accepts “nomenclatural standards” of cultivars — individual plant specimens that are vouchers for names of newly registered cultivars. Our botany program in 2011 included exciting experimental work on the propagation of two of our flagship endangered plant species: Red Mulberry (*Morus rubra*) and Few-Flowered Club Rush (*Trichophorum planifolium*).

Partnerships also were a major theme in 2011. In partnership with the Auxiliary we made progress in 2011 on our long-term project to reorganizing our knowledge resources and literature collections. Auxiliary volunteers completed a four-year project to upgrade the Canadian holdings in our collection of historic horticultural catalogues — some 9,500 items. Our partnerships with universities also reached several milestones in 2011. For example, since 2010 RBG and University of Guelph have presented a joint online certificate in Sustainable Urban Horticulture, a sister-program to the university’s Sustainable Urban Agriculture certificate. In 2011 our first students successfully completed the six courses to earn their certificates.

In these and many other ways, science has contributed to our knowledge of the world of plants, and the many relationships between people and plants, in 2011.

“First-class service all the way. The Rose Garden and reception hall looked gorgeous! The level of service was fabulous. We have heard nothing but great comments from our guests. Thanks again for a day we will never ever forget!”

S&R Stewart

## Events, Hospitality and Corporate Sales

Our hospitality and events team continued to host a number of entertaining and educational events. 2011 began with our third winter exhibit, *Wild Music*, which generated public interest from both adults and children of all ages. During January and February, guests had the added bonus of visiting *Glass under Glass* exhibit on both levels of our Mediterranean Garden where they could view and purchase original glass art.

Family Day brought in new and returning audiences to Royal Botanical Gardens and The Gardens Café had many specials and educational activities themed to *Wild Music*. Many popular events were held such as a Romantic Dinner and Dance to celebrate Valentine’s Day, Easter Brunch with a visit from the Easter Bunny, and the annual Mothers’ Day Brunch at RBG Centre. The annual bloom festivals included tulip, lilac and rose, and the music series provided outdoor live music from June through September.

With 93 ceremonies, 65 receptions and over 200 wedding photography rental sessions, RBG was a popular venue for weddings in 2011! Our gardens are the perfect backdrop for special events and weddings. With the recent royal wedding in England, we positioned our advertising and promotions around the slogan, “Your very own Royal Wedding” and had a solid response from potential customers. The essence of the success of our weddings continues to be a strong with positive word-of-mouth and we continue to improve upon an already excellent product.

Santa received a make-over in 2011 taking us back to Victorian times and was at the Gardens with his reindeer every weekend. Holiday cheer filled RBG Centre with uniquely decorated doors for Doorways to the Holidays while toy trains filled the back of the building and was a popular hang-out for both the young and not so young.

RBG offers a unique, beautiful and professional environment for companies and event planners to have something as simple as a meeting or a full catered event. Our reputation is excellent within the local area and beyond, and we strive to build upon our successes as we work towards exceeding our budget expectations and delivering premium customer satisfaction and service.



“ We have chosen to list RBG in our will because it shows we are committed to the work we are doing here, and we want it to continue long after we are gone. ”

**Dan and Colette Totino, RBG Auxiliary and Laking Society members**

“ More people need to be aware of the jewel we have here in Southern Ontario. People need to come here to see RBG, make the trip out and see all of it, and then go back to where they live and tell everyone they know. ”

**Miss Mary B. Stedman, 33-year RBG member and supporter**



## Membership, Community Relations and Fundraising

Royal Botanical Gardens' success stems from the strength and support of its communities and in 2011 the business development and fundraising team continued in its efforts to bring the RBG experience into homes and businesses of its community.

2011 saw the launch of Growing up Green, RBG's annual fundraising campaign aimed to improve the health of our children and future generations by providing education that connects them to plants, nature and green spaces in which to thrive. The completion of the Growing up Green Case for Support culminated with the campaign launch on January 28 and was met with immediate success. Burlington Community Foundation donated \$10,000 and CN Rail invested \$150,000 over two years, initializing what would be RBG's most ambitious annual fundraising effort in recent memory.

The campaign continued with the production of a 30-second public service announcement television campaign as well as an interactive photo, video and essay contest. We asked entrants to tell us when they first fell in love with nature, resulting in inspirational stories to share with our audience and capturing the essence of the Growing up Green concept. Year one of this initiative indicated that the Growing up Green brand resonates with our membership.

New membership acquisition strategies involving the volunteer Auxiliary and summer staff, resulted in a 100 per cent year-over-year increase in membership sales in the months of May and June. Two direct mail campaigns and one telephone campaign were also executed to inform members on new benefits. This has allowed RBG staff and volunteers to engage with its members as we prepare and support our business directives while moving into our multi-year business plan.

“ We are so lucky to be the home of Royal Botanical Gardens ... what a jewel in the world’s crown, here in our backyard. The Hamilton Spectator is proud to team up with RBG on its quest to make our world more beautiful, more green and more knowledgeable! ”

Jane Allison, Hamilton Spectator

Over  
\$800,000  
value in  
local, regional  
and national  
media coverage

Over  
2,000  
new Twitter  
followers and  
more than 1,000  
new Facebook  
fans of RBG  
in 2011

## Marketing and Communications

For the marketing and communications department, 2011 was a building year in many ways. Our foray into the world of social media, specifically Twitter and Facebook, has proven to be effective in delivering messaging and, more importantly, engaging with our members and patrons in a whole new way! By the end of 2011 we had over 2,000 per cent growth in both platforms which has resulted in a myriad of great questions and photos from our followers. This gave others insight into the many areas of Royal Botanical Gardens they may not have otherwise known.

The marketing and communications department worked diligently with all departments to ensure that we were both promoting and informing our members and patrons of our mandated areas and day-to-day activities through the advertising and promotions media, and via internal and external tools such as erbg email blasts, signage and our website, [www.rbg.ca](http://www.rbg.ca). RBG’s quarterly members’ magazine, *Paradise Found*, continued to evolve and provide an in-depth look into the inner workings of the Gardens.

Royal Botanical Gardens’ traditional advertising campaign remained regional in focus, but an effort to break out of the 20-kilometre-radius was also executed by utilizing small publications in Mississauga and west of Brantford for specific events such as Blooms Celebrations. The core of RBG’s advertising program consists of print, TV, radio, outdoor, web and grassroots promotions. It is the combination of these media that have proven successful and created the building blocks for delivering front-of-mind awareness in the greater region.

Media relations activities resulted in national and regional media coverage and further established RBG as an authoritative voice in the each of its mandated areas. Our total of 700 print, radio and television news items, with a circulation of over 45 million, delivered an estimated \$870,000 in advertising value.



CARLO BALISTRERI

“Royal Botanical Gardens has been helping to strengthen the role of botanical garden and plant conservation networks across Canada ... through RBG’s efforts our gardens are finally coming together with a stronger, unified voice to support conservation, public education initiatives, and strengthen our collections.”

**Melanie Sifton, Director, Humber Arboretum**

## Volunteer Services

The Auxiliary of Royal Botanical Gardens celebrated 50 years of service in 2011. It was a year filled with celebration and successful fundraising.

Our 2011 financial successes allowed us to celebrate, make gifts of \$50,767 and contribute volunteer services of \$3,900 to the Gardens. The Auxiliary had contributed \$24,000 in 2010 and this 50<sup>th</sup> year we topped up that contribution by \$50,000. The total of \$74,000 is going towards the development of a natural playground on the site of the former Discovery Garden. This inviting playground, while visible from the road, will provide an excellent safe play and discovery area for children and their families.

In 2011, we started joint executive meetings between staff and Auxiliary in the areas of horticulture, education, natural lands, and operations. Together we looked for opportunities to provide cost savings for RBG and revenue generation for the Auxiliary to give to the Gardens. Meetings were set up on a regular basis and provided for even more effective volunteer support of the work of the Gardens.

The Auxiliary contributed in many ways to RBG providing volunteer gardeners, trail watchers, tour guides for the gardens, Mum show helpers, getting signers for the Veggie Pledge, and volunteering at the Fishway. As well volunteers continued in the library, herbarium, and at the gardening information desk.

Finally, members were involved in executing the program of celebrations for the Auxiliary’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2011. The anniversary year brought attention to the Auxiliary and its achievements, and also gave RBG excellent coverage at the celebratory public Garden Party held on June 22, the Family Dinner in September, and all the fundraising events throughout the year 2011.

## Finances

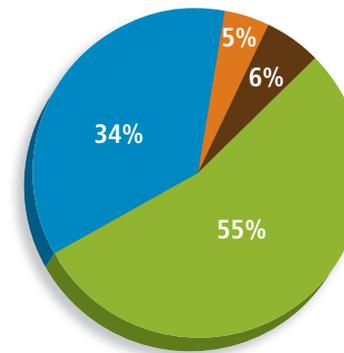
ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS  
(A Corporation without Share Capital)

### STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

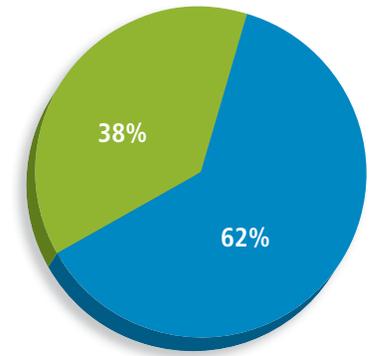
REVENUE	2011	2010
Operating grants		
Province of Ontario – Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport	\$ 4,112,000	\$ 4,112,000
City of Hamilton	599,206	599,206
Regional Municipality of Halton	701,860	692,524
	5,413,066	5,403,730
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	1,551,780	1,373,288
Amortization of self-funded capital assets	28,382	301,591
Investment income	39,694	38,754
Admissions, marketing and visitor experience	1,662,482	1,746,621
Development — donations	493,916	399,899
Membership fees	491,354	539,450
Mandated activities	1,765,110	1,625,554
Transformation funding	397,278	279,524
Other fees	90,662	219,633
	11,933,724	11,928,044
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Operations and maintenance		
Buildings and equipment	1,475,159	1,411,560
Amortization of capital assets	1,580,162	1,674,879
	3,055,321	3,086,439
Mandated activities		
Horticulture — gardens, parklands and collections	2,160,647	2,228,628
Conservation and environmental programs	623,871	558,412
Scientific and research programs	401,779	260,939
Education programs	1,079,602	1,432,114
	4,265,899	4,480,093
Administration	1,807,922	1,864,520
Development fundraising	557,694	371,135
Membership services	67,530	91,686
Admissions, marketing and visitor experience	2,170,517	1,961,614
	4,603,663	4,288,955
	11,924,883	11,855,487
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	\$ 8,841	\$ 72,557

### REVENUE



Province of Ontario	\$ 4,112,000
City of Hamilton	\$ 599,206
Regional Municipality of Halton	\$ 701,860
Self-generated	\$ 6,520,658

### EXPENSES



Mandated Activities	\$ 4,265,899
Operations Activities	\$ 7,658,984

“ I thoroughly enjoyed it. The instructor was very nice, very knowledgeable and always helpful. The other participants were also friendly and helpful. It was a nice atmosphere to learn in and also fun to be in. ”

Public Program participant

## 2011 DONORS, SUPPORTERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

We are most grateful to everyone who supports Royal Botanical Gardens. Your generous contributions make possible the ongoing operation of this national treasure. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list and we apologize for any errors or omissions. Please call 905-527-1158, extension 295 with any corrections. We also express our appreciation to those supporters whose names do not appear as they have chosen to remain anonymous.

### GROWING UP GREEN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

#### \$150,000 and more

Anonymous (1)

#### \$75,000 to \$149,000

CN

#### \$50,000 to \$74,999

Anonymous (1)

#### \$10,000 to \$49,999

Burlington Community Foundation  
Michael & Jane Schwenger

#### \$5,000 to \$9,999

Mr. Cliff Carson & Mrs. Toni Carson

#### \$1,000 to \$4,999

Ms. Leslie Bullock & Mr. John Vice  
Mr. W. Frank Carpenter  
Marlies & Alan Clark Fund at  
Hamilton Community Foundation  
Jean & Cameron Crowe  
Dr. Christopher J. Cudmore

Mr. Floyd Elder  
Mr. John Evans, QC  
& Mrs. Patricia Peacock-Evans  
Mr. Douglas A. Flett  
Mr. Murray E. Hogarth  
Mr. Jeremiah Hurley  
& Ms. Mita Giacomini  
Mr. & Mrs. John & Eileen McQuade  
McGrath Milne Fund at  
Hamilton Community Foundation  
Mrs. Margaret Morison  
Marjorie & Bill Nelson  
Dr. Lyn Robinson  
& Dr. John Robinson  
W. Robert and Marion Shivas  
Conservation Trust and Fund at  
Hamilton Community Foundation  
Glen & Debra Swire Fund at  
Hamilton Community Foundation  
Mr. John Thode  
Mr. Ray Twinney  
Mrs. & Mr. Brenda & Terry Yates

#### \$500 to \$999

Mr. Arthur Adams  
Mr. Ronald Bayne  
Dr. Martin Daly  
Mr. Michael de Pencier  
& Mrs. Honor de Pencier  
Miss Mary S. Gilmour  
Mr. David Goodings  
& Mrs. Judith Goodings  
Mr. Fred Hall  
& Mrs. Constance Hall  
Mrs. Marion Harrison  
Mr. Glen House  
& Mrs. Laura House  
Mrs. Nancy McFadyen  
& Mr. John McFadyen  
Dr. & Mrs. Ian McQuistan  
Mrs. Jean Miller  
Mr. John North & Mrs. Anne North  
Mr. Paul Phoenix  
& Mrs. Pat Phoenix  
Mrs. Anne Pigott

Robert & Sharon Redhead  
Kathy & Mark Runciman  
Mr. Robert Schellenberg  
& Mrs. Lenita Schellenberg  
TD Bank Group  
Mr. Richard Thode  
Mr. Ian Tollerton  
& Mrs. Elsie Tollerton  
Mr. Thomas Van Zuiden

#### \$100 to \$499

Ms. Susan Alcock  
Mr. Albert & Mrs. Nancy Alexanian  
Mrs. Rita Altman  
& Mr. Michael Altman  
Mr. Don Alton  
S E Arliss  
Mrs. Bev Armstrong  
Mr. Harrison Arrell  
& Mrs. Diane Arrell  
Mr. Dennis Baker  
& Mrs. Patricia Baker  
Mr. C. Mitchell Banks  
& Mrs. Linda S. Banks  
Dr. H. Douglas Barber  
& Mrs. P. June Barber  
Ms. Patricia Barton  
Mrs. Diana Beacham  
& Mr. Warren Beacham  
Mrs. Darlene Bennett-Howes  
Mr. John Bennie  
Mrs. Margaret J. Biggar  
Mr. E. Roy Birkett  
& Mrs. Joan Birkett  
Ms. Dorothy Birtalan  
Dr. Margaret Black  
Ms. Sandra Black & Mr. John Black  
Ms. Susan Blue  
Mr. William Bota & Mrs. Ida Bota  
Mr. Gordon Bowlby  
& Mrs. Helen Bowbly  
Mr. David Bowen  
& Mrs. Lynda Bowen  
Mr. Walter Boyd  
& Mrs. Christine Boyd

Mrs. June Brayshaw  
Dr. Andrew W. Brink  
& Mrs. Helen Brink  
Dr. I. David Brown  
Dr. Kathleen H. Brown  
Mr. Douglas Bruce  
Mr. Heinz Brune  
Mr. Harcourt Bull  
Mrs. Pat Bullock  
Mrs. Carole Burgess  
Mr. Anthony Butler  
& Mrs. Margaret Butler  
Ms. Joyce Butler  
Mr. Mac Byrne & Mrs. Marion Byrne  
G. O'Connor Consultants Inc.  
Dr. Gordon Cameron  
& Mrs. Pat Cameron  
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“Understanding and enjoying the beauty of nature goes hand-in-hand with its protection. RBG promotes all three and we are proud to support this jewel in the Hamilton landscape.”

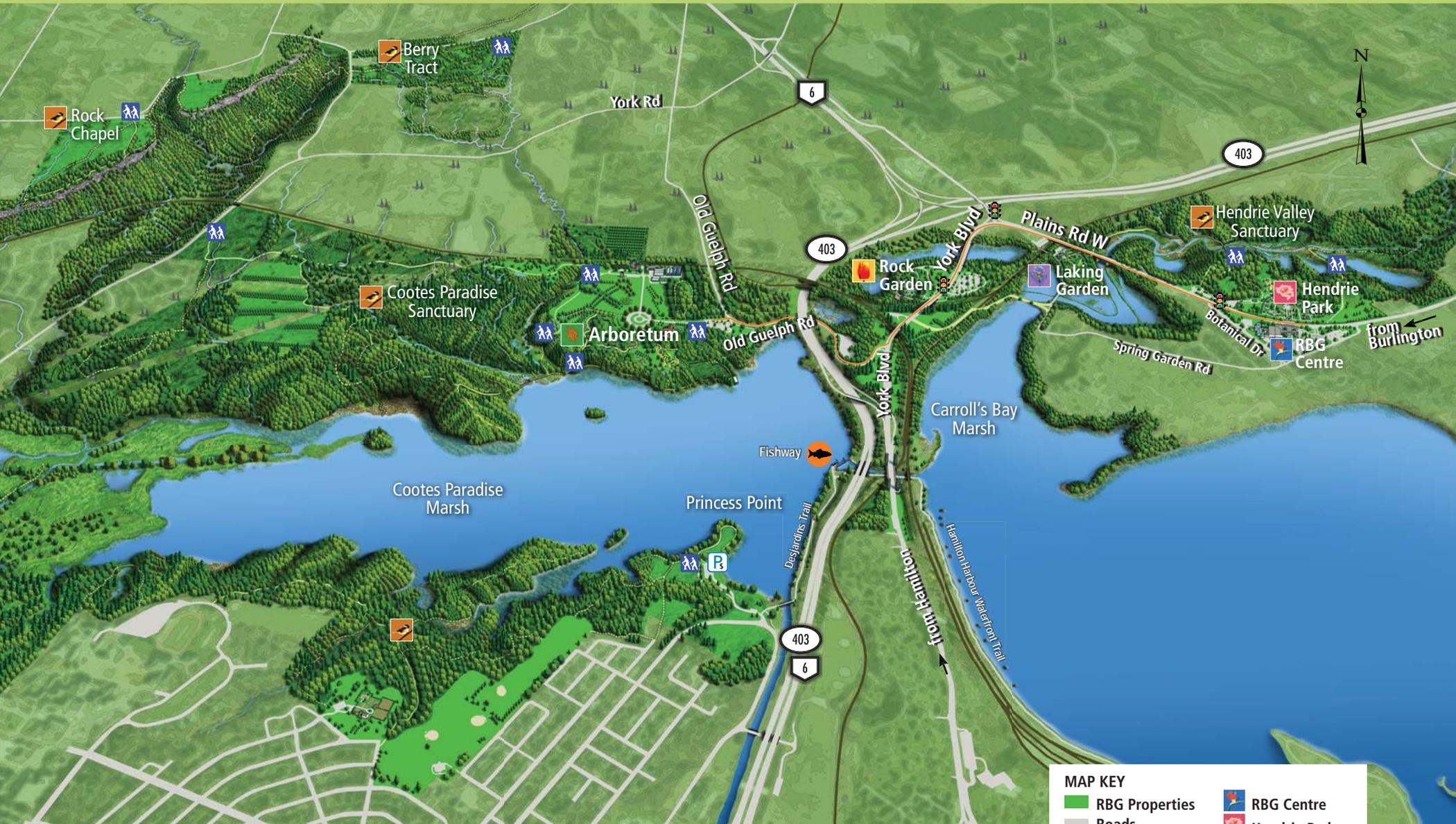
**Terry Cooke, President & CEO,  
Hamilton Community Foundation**

“ Royal Botanical Gardens is an important provider of environmental science, and outdoor experiential education ... RBG addresses many of The Ontario Curriculum expectations, most importantly, in a highly engaging manner. ”

**Ron Ballentine, Coordinator: Environmental Education;  
Science and Technology, Halton District School Board**



# Royal Botanical Gardens Properties



MAP KEY			
	RBG Properties		RBG Centre
	Roads		Hendrie Park
	Rail Lines		Laking Garden
	Hiking Trails		Rock Garden
	Water		Arboretum
	Trailheads		Natural Lands
	The Fishway		

## RBG Facts

Royal Botanical Gardens is the largest botanical garden in Canada. RBG features within its dozens of documented collections approximately 42 living collections displayed in five major garden exhibition areas.

### HISTORY

1930 – Received Royal Charter from King George V

1932 – Opened to the public

1941 – Established by an Act of the Provincial Legislature

### CHARITABLE REGISTRATION

13350 0850 RR0001

### VISITATION

184,260 (approximate) paid visitors, school groups, conference attendees (does not include trail users)

### CORE PROGRAM AREAS

Horticulture  
Education  
Natural Lands  
Science and Research

### EMPLOYEES

Spring and summer: 86 full-time, 115 part-time

Off season: 86 full-time, 16 part-time

### MEMBERSHIP

6,710 memberships, representing an estimated 11,931 members

### AUXILIARY VOLUNTEERS

320 volunteers provided

43,838 volunteer hours

### ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS SIZE

Total: 1,100 hectares (2,700 acres or 11 square kilometres)

Cultivated Gardens:

121 hectares (250 acres)

Nature Sanctuaries:

971 hectares (2,450 acres)

Trails: 27 kilometres

## HORTICULTURAL COLLECTIONS AND HIGHLIGHTS

8,000 taxa (different species and cultivars) in the permanent collection; maintains the International Lilac Registry

### Rock Garden

50,000 spring flowering bulbs and 40,000 summer annuals

### Arboretum

Features over 600 species and cultivars of lilacs, as well as extensive magnolia and crabapple collections

### Laking Garden

Thousands of iris and peony blooms; ornamental grasses; as well as an extensive Perennial Garden and a Heritage Garden (Temporarily closed for the 2011 season.)

### Hendrie Park

The Gardens' largest garden area is noted for its collection of antique and hybrid roses in the Centennial Rose Garden, as well as Woodland, Scented and Medicinal gardens, World of Botany, Helen M. Kippax Garden and Veggie Village: 100 Mile Produce Gardens

### Mediterranean Garden

Two-storey indoor garden features a collection of ethnobotanical plants from the world's five Mediterranean climates that shaped human civilization

### HERBARIUM

Approximately 60,000 specimens

### WILDLIFE SPECIES RECORDED AT ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

Birds: 277 species

Mammals: 37 species

Fish: 68 species

Amphibians: 9 species

### Living Accessions

10,836

## FACILITIES

**RBG Centre**, 680 Plains Road West, Burlington

This administration, research and public learning facility houses the auditorium, classrooms, archives and herbarium, Camilla and Peter Dalglish Atrium, Aldershot Escarpment Garden, Stedman Exploration Hall, Mediterranean Garden, the children's Discovery Garden, The Gardens' Café and the gift shop

**Nature Interpretive Centre**, Arboretum, Hamilton

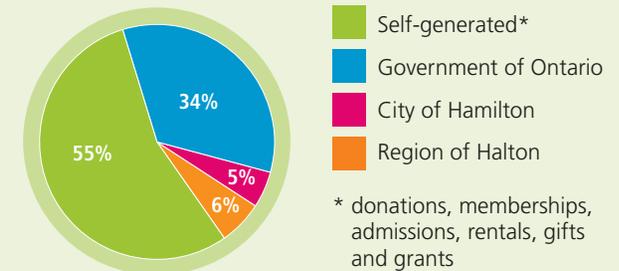
The Nature Interpretive Centre, our gateway to Cootes Paradise, features exhibits on our wetland restoration activities and is the hub of our formal education program and children's camps

**Rock Garden Teahouse**

and **Turner Pavilion Teahouse**, Hendrie Park

Open seasonally, these areas provide visitors with a quick lunch or snack

## FUNDING



“The Burlington Community Foundation is proud to support RBG as it encourages families to explore and experience the outdoors together.”

Colleen Mulholland, Executive Director,  
Burlington Community Foundation



**ROYAL  
BOTANICAL  
GARDENS**  
[www.rbg.ca](http://www.rbg.ca)

680 Plains Road West, Burlington, Ontario L7T 4H4  
P.O. Box 399, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3H8  
905-527-1158, 1-800-694-4769, Fax: 905-577-0375  
Charitable Registration: 13350 0850 RR0001

Royal Botanical Gardens  
is a proud member of:



“ I was happily surprised to discover Royal Botanical Gardens after moving to Hamilton. My membership over the last 40 years has allowed me to explore every corner of the Gardens until I had numerous favourite places to return to where I could be calmed down or completely revitalized by the beauty of these spectacular spaces. ”

**Mona, RBG member**

“ I was involved in the planting of over 5,000 cattails in Cootes Paradise and the building of a fence enclosure to protect the new plantings from goose browsing. I took part in the monitoring of water quality, aquatic plants, young-of-the-year fish, salmon spawning and migratory birds — which helped me to substantially improve my identification skills. ”

**Jessica Epp,  
Aquatic Ecology Intern**

COVER AND BACK COVER PHOTOS: DAVID GALBRAITH

