



Ruiter Valley Land Trust President's Report

- 2011 -





Partners

- **Board of Directors:**
 - Stansje Plantenga (President)
 - Marie-Claire Planet (Vice-president – Secretary)
 - Guy Langevin (Treasurer)
 - France Lapointe (Administrator)
 - Daniel Sultan (Administrator)
 - Roberta Summers (Administrator)



Partners

- **Isabelle Grégoire:** Environmental educator for the schoolchildren
- **Éric Deschênes :** Trails and infrastructure maintenance
- **Julie-Anne Bellefleur:** Grant submissions and editor for the newsletter *Le point vert*
- **Appalachian Corridor and its dynamic team!** Technical and scientific expertise, support for conservation initiatives
- **Katimavik team :** Fullerton sector trails winter maintenance under Frank Ruiz' supervision

Revenues

- **Financial Partnerships**

- Conférence régionale des élus de l'Estrie (PMVRMF - Volet II)
- MNA of Brome-Missisquoi
- MRC de Memphrémagog (Pacte Rural)
- Mountain Equipment Co-op
- Municipality of the Township of Potton
- Club Optimiste de Mansonville
- Townshippers' Foundation
- TELUS





Revenues

- **Membership**
 - 60 of 124 members renewed their membership in 2011
 - Of which 43 offered an additional contribution
- **Volunteers**
 - Work done by members, volunteers and board members
 - Computers, office and meeting space loaned by board members



Management

- 2 board meetings: January 30th and December 3rd 2011
- Numerous meetings over the year to coordinate trail maintenance and various other activities
- Annual meeting held November 6th, 2011
- Financial report audited by Yvon Lallier, FCPA auditor, FCGA
- Membership in the L'UMQ (via the Municipality of Potton) made us eligible for their insurance program for non profits



With the Community Eco-Tourism

- The Ruiter Valley Land Trust trails are open year-round to the public
- Calendar of activities, and trail conditions published on the Land Trust web site (average of 2000 visits per month)
- Trail maps, eco-guides, and posters are available at the Tourist bureaus of Potton, Magog, Sutton, as well as regional businesses
- 4 flora posters published for the International Forest Year





With the Community

- **Municipality of the Township of Potton**
 - Member of the *Municipal Environmental Consultation Committee*. The focus for 2011 was to complete the action plan for sustainable development
- **Region**
 - Member of the *Comité de gestion provisoire de la Réserve naturelle des Montagnes-vertes*
 - Participant in the public consultation on the revised environment action plan
- **With Our Members**
 - Publishing and distributing the annual newsletter *Le point vert*





Networking

- **Affiliations:**
 - Appalachian Corridor
 - Réseau de milieux naturels protégés(RMN)
 - Nature Québec
 - Canadian Land Trust Alliance (CLTA)
- **Other Associations**
 - Stansje Plantenga is on the board of the Canadian Land Trust Alliance
- **Other Partnerships**
 - Trees for Trust
 - Missisquoi River Basin Association of Quebec
 - Missisquoi River Basin Association (MRBA of Vermont)
 - Nature Conservancy Quebec



Trail Maintenance

Phase II of the Major Trail Restoration Project

- New bridge on *Hawk Trail*
- New information panel on the Ruitter Brook road parking lot
- 8 steel fences installed at the Ruitter and Fullerton Trail entries
- Winter maintenance of the the Fullerton section with the Katimavik youth under Frank Ruiz' supervision
- Seasonal maintenance and winter patrol by Éric Deschênes
- Trail sign improvement
- Removal of 2 old bridges: Hawk Trail and Shepherd Sector





Faune sans frontières

- The Land Trust continued in a consulting role to local conservation groups wishing to use the *Faune sans frontières program* as part of their conservation strategy
- Some 30 volunteers, in 8 teams, monitor the Potton, Sutton, Lac Bowker, Mont-Chagnon, and Rivière au saumon sectors 4 times a year to collect tracks and signs of 9 focal species





Faune sans frontière jeunesse Environmental Fair "Sur les traces des mammifères"

An invitation from the elementary students to share with their community the results of the research conducted under the *Faune sans frontière jeunesse* program



Photos : Fondation de la Faune & I. Grégoire

Sur les traces des mammifères

La Fiducie foncière de la vallée Ruiter et les « jeunes détectives scientifiques » des écoles du Baluchon et Mansonville Elementary School ont le plaisir de vous inviter à une foire environnementale.



Faune sans frontière jeunesse

Tracking Mammals and an Introduction to Conservation in the Wild

- Implementation of a trans-border educational program (Canada-US) in 3 elementary school of Quebec and Vermont : Saint-Édouard, Knowlton Academy, Jay/Westfield Elementary School
- Set-up of a knowledge sharing blog between students and teachers of Quebec and Vermont : <http://schoolonhike.blogspot.com/>
- A thank you to Isabelle Grégoire, our environmental educator for the schoolchildren for exceptional work

Keeping Track on the Appalachian Chain

Trans-border educational program with : - Knowlton Academy, Quebec, - L'école Internationale Saint-Édouard, Quebec and - Jay/Westfield Elementary School-Vermont Thank you to the Townspeople's Foundation and the Ruiter Valley Land Trust



Flora

- **Workshop Participation**

Strategic plan for the conservation of endangered floral species in Quebec

(Réseau d'intervenants floristiques - FloraQuebeca)



- **Bottle Gentian, a Rare Plant**

Information shared with Geoffrey Hall (Institut de recherche en biologie végétale) in reference to his research on *Status Report on Gentiana clausa*
Committee on the status of endangered wildlife in Canada





Conservation

- Appalachian Corridor Workshop on boundary marking on conservation properties held on the Breslaw land donation
- MDDEP grant for the management of this property
- Monitoring of land protected by RVLT
- Conservation servitude project on Planet-Sultan property



Eastern Township Environnement Prize of Excellence

Awarded to Stansje Plantenga
Category: ***Personal Contribution***
For the *Faune sans frontière* Program.





Photo Exhibit at the Mansonville Public Library

Water in the Woods

Exposition photo de Stansje Plantenga et Mario-Claire Pianet
à la bibliothèque municipale de Mansonville
du 29 novembre au 30 décembre 2011

Photo Exhibit by Stansje Plantenga and Mario-Claire Pianet
at the Mansonville Public Library
from November 29th to December 30th 2011



Vernissage le 30 novembre 2011 de 17 à 19 heures
Private viewing on November 30th 2011 from 5 to 7 p.m.