

# Message from the President

Stephanie Hermans



As you can imagine, 2020 has been an unusual and challenging year for charitable non-profit organizations, including Brant Waterways Foundation. With the declaration of the global pandemic, our annual fundraising dinner was initially postponed and eventually cancelled. When the various lockdowns and stay-at-home orders were issued, it became apparent that an in-person dinner was not going to be possible.

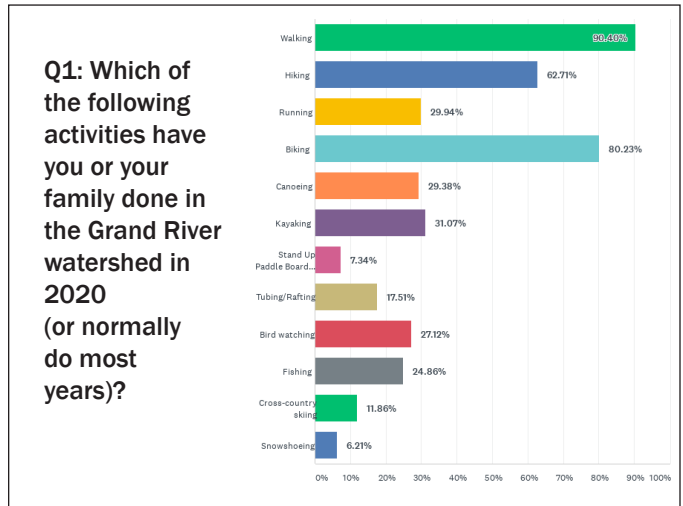
Rather than dwell on our inability to host an in-person event, we re-directed our energy towards updating our strategic plan. As the launching point for our new plan, we conducted a River & Trails community survey, where we obtained valuable feedback from

the local community on their use of the local waterways and trails and their opinions on areas that still need work. We also consulted with some key partners to gauge their thoughts and opinions on the needs in

the community and to seek ways that Brant Waterways Foundation can better assist in 'Connecting People to Healthy Waterways.'

Using this feedback, the Board met a number of times (virtually) in order to develop an updated vision for the future. The feedback we received indicates that although the community values the local trail and river amenities, residents and visitors also value environ-

**River & Trails Community Survey**  
 We want to hear from YOU!  
 Please share your thoughts about local recreational opportunities and protection of natural resources.  
[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/brant\\_trails](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/brant_trails)

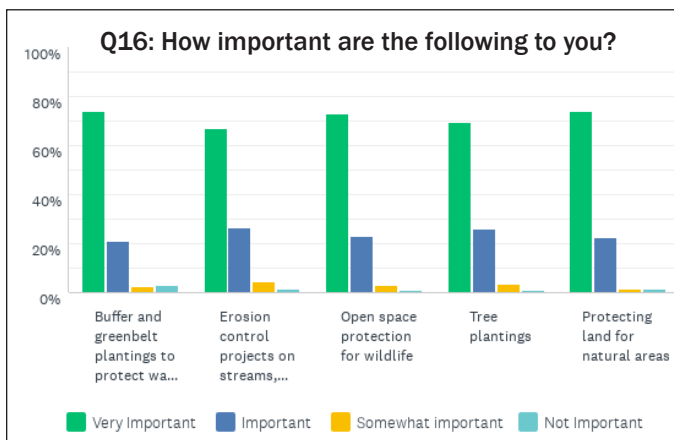


mental preservation activities. Balancing these competing interests factors strongly in our updated vision. As I write this, our Board continues to work on our operational plan to help implement the goals of our strategic plan.

We greatly appreciate the efforts of Ann Baughman of Freshwater Future. Her facilitation and guidance was instrumental in helping keep us on task and to formulate our plan. We must also thank our Board Coordinator Barb Wright for helping guide us through this process and keeping us all on track! All of these efforts have resulted in fresh ideas and an updated vision for the future: please see the back page of this report for our new vision, mission and value statements.

We look forward to embarking on new activities and continuing to work with the community to ensure a healthy environment, now and for future generations. Although the pandemic has certainly affected our social lives, we are lucky in our community to have so many outdoor recreation opportunities to use and enjoy. See you on the trails!

*Close to 200 people completed the River & Trails Community Survey and provided valuable feedback including the types of outdoor activities they engage in and the importance to them of environmental and conservation issues. For a copy of the survey results and/or our new 2021-2024 Strategic Plan, contact us at: [info@brantwaterways.ca](mailto:info@brantwaterways.ca) or 519-770-6000.*



# TIRA projects promote safe enjoyment of the river and popular paved trail

**In an unprecedented year** marked by wide-spread closures, cancellations and restrictions in an attempt to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, outdoor recreation and leisure activities took on even greater importance. Brant Waterways Foundation was pleased to help fund two innovative projects that encouraged residents and visitors of all ages and abilities to safely enjoy the Grand River and adjacent trails.

The first project, completed in the spring of 2020, was the installation of two kayak docks at the current dock system on the north side of Penman’s Dam. The sturdy Ontario-made “EZ” docks allow people of all paddling abilities to easily and safely launch and dock kayaks, canoes and paddle boards.



*Brant County Mayor David Bailey (right) and TIRA Chair Duncan Ross stand in front of the new EZ dock for the presentation of a \$12,000 cheque toward the project.*

The second was the completion of the Nith River Sensory Trail in Paris’ Lion’s Park. The interactive recreational trail includes a variety of elements to explore. Sensity the Deafblind and Sensory Support Network of Canada contributed to the development of the trail, which includes musical instruments, a guided rope, braille signs, an accessible picnic table and other features people with disabilities can use to access the trail independently.

The Nith River Trail, which was paved the previous year with funds raised through Brant Waterways’ TIRA campaign, is a popular and well utilized feature of the park and trail network.



*Pictured from left: Mayor of Brant County David Bailey; Brant Waterways Vice President Marie Fanjoy; Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Drew B. and Brant Waterways President Stephanie Hermans. Brant Waterways Foundation contributed \$15,000 to the project.*

## Thank You to our donors and supporters

### TIRA Donations & Pledges

As at December 31, 2020

#### LEGACY PARTNER

Paul and Margot Williamson

#### HERITAGE CHAMPION

Pinevest Homes Inc.

#### WATERSHED GUARDIAN

G. MacDonald Family Fund

Millards Chartered Professional Accountants

#### TRAIL BLAZER

Brant Aero

Brant Industrial Warehousing

Brant Star Developments Ltd.

J.H. Young & Sons Ltd.

John Hall & Margot Neill

Harry Leach

Mike Yarek Dodge Chrysler

MMMC Architects

Kim & Bernard Neziol

Duncan Ross

#### PATHFINDER

Dr. Will Bouma

Marie Fanjoy & Craig Mann

Macauley White & Muir

Reynolds Custom Machine

Colleen & John Stolp

Bruce Wells

Ed & Shelly Doucet

Stephanie Hermans

Mott Manufacturing

Brian Smith & Janet Crook

Sheila Turner

In addition to contributions from our TIRA supporters, we are deeply grateful for several other financial gifts received in 2020 including those from Foundations (Stephen Smith and Dorothy Woltz, Roger and Edith Davis, Cowan); donations from Friends of TIRA and Brant Waterways; gifts in memory/honour of loved ones; and contributions made online through CanadaHelps.

# 2020 Financial Statements

For a complete copy of our audited financial statement, please call 519-770-6000.

<b>BRANT WATERWAYS FOUNDATION</b>		
<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION</b>		
<b>As at December 31</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and bank (Note 2)	122,602	68,354
HST receivable	9,214	10,258
Prepaid expenses	3,979	3,094
Current portion of long-term investments	130,000	92,685
	265,795	174,391
<b>Long-term Investments</b> (Note 3)	749,496	763,671
	1,015,291	938,062
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	8,559	5,430
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	1,006,732	932,632
	1,015,291	938,062

Approved on behalf of the Board:

<b>BRANT WATERWAYS FOUNDATION</b>		
<b>STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>For the year ended December 31</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Donations	107,469	105,261
Event income	-	42,472
Investment income	21,324	25,331
Miscellaneous income	5	4,981
	128,798	178,045
<b>Expenses</b>		
Administration	13,196	23,060
Dinner/event expenses	873	25,436
Insurance	3,490	3,720
Interest and bank charges	343	500
Office, postage and general	1,942	4,881
Professional fees	9,660	11,837
Project grants		
GRCA	-	15,000
Brant Cycling Club	-	10,000
TIRA	-	15,000
Canoe Kayak Dock Penman's Dam	12,000	-
Brant Sensory Trail	15,000	-
	56,504	109,434
<b>Excess of Revenue over Expenses Before Undernoted Item</b>	72,294	68,611
Gain/(Loss) on change in fair value of investments	1,806	61,949
<b>Excess of Revenue over Expenses</b>	74,100	130,560
<b>Unrestricted Net Assets - Beginning of Year</b>	932,632	802,072
<b>Unrestricted Net Assets - End of Year</b>	1,006,732	932,632

## 2020 Board of Directors

**Stephanie Hermans**  
*President*

**Marie Fanjoy**  
*Vice President*

**Sheila Turner**  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

**Eva Andrews**

**Joe Cohoon**

**Sandra Fazari**

**John Hall**

**Mike Laracy**

**Bruce Wells**

**Richard Carpenter,**  
*City of Brantford Representative*

**John MacAlpine**  
*County of Brant Representative*

**Duncan Ross**  
*Past President*

**Mary Welsh**  
*Honorary Director*

**Barbara Wright**  
*Board Coordinator*

### For more information

about Brant Waterways Foundation,  
or about how you can help support  
our projects, please contact us at  
[info@brantwaterways.ca](mailto:info@brantwaterways.ca) /  
519-770-6000.

Contributions of all amounts are  
welcome, appreciated and eligible  
for charitable tax receipts.



## *Our Vision*

We envision a community in which everyone benefits from a connection to our healthy waterways and trails, and works collaboratively to protect and preserve our natural resources.

## *Our Mission*

Brant Waterways Foundation seeks to:

Provide funding assistance and advocacy to projects in Brantford, Brant County and Six Nations of the Grand River that enhance, restore, protect and preserve our natural heritage of the Grand River, its waterways and adjacent lands to provide recreational opportunities, a healthy environment and sustainable use.

## *Our Values*

We are defined and motivated by the following values:

- Accountability** We are honest and transparent in all our activities and are accountable to our partners, donors, supporters and the communities we serve.
- Collaboration** We strive to build and strengthen community partnerships in order to share ideas and resources and to better achieve our common goals.
- Inclusivity** We respect the strengths and sentiments of diverse groups and individuals in our local communities and value their efforts in helping further our mandate.
- Guardianship** We are committed stewards of our natural resources and actively work to create positive change that will ensure the protection of the environment.
- Sustainability** We focus on worthwhile, viable projects that will accrue long-term benefits to the community and promote enjoyment of the local Grand River watershed now and for generations to come.

## *Our History and Impact*

Brant Waterways is a charitable non-profit Foundation, established in 1988, whose objective is to provide funding assistance for projects that protect and enhance the Grand River and adjacent lands in Brant County, Brantford and Six Nations of the Grand River.


The Grand River and its major tributaries – the Conestogo, Eramosa, Nith and Speed Rivers – were designated ‘Canadian Heritage Rivers’ in 1994. The designation recognizes the outstanding human heritage values and excellent recreational opportunities along the rivers and encourages the public to enjoy and appreciate them.

Brant Waterways inspired and helped fund the conversion of flood control dikes, abandoned rail lines and other trails into a river-based passive recreational trail system. Natural habitat restoration, tree planting, water and environmental education activities and the development/enhancement of river access points for people to safely experience the river are among the many other initiatives supported.

To date, more than \$5 million has been invested in our local communities, spearheaded by Brant Waterways Foundation’s commitment and efforts in the areas of advocacy, fundraising and collaboration with visionary funding partners.

Brant Waterways Foundation  
P.O Box 21014, 84 Lynden Road  
Brantford ON N3R 6B8  
519-770-6000



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www.brantwaterways.ca  
 Brant Waterways Foundation  
@brantwaterways

Charitable Business Number: 890559248 RR0001