



Dear SNAP,

Spring has sprung, in its own Canadian way, complete with sun, snow, and ice. With the longer days and upcoming warmer temperatures (we hope), we find ourselves gearing up for another exciting, busy season, including hikes, CPAWS Cafés, art exhibits, and more! But first, we would like to take this opportunity to share some bittersweet news.

Farewell, Genevieve!

Please join us in congratulating Genevieve Le Blanc, CPAWS-OV's conservation director, who has accepted the opportunity to lead the team at ABV des 7 as their new Executive Director!

While we will miss Genevieve's cheerful presence around the office and her devotion to nature and conservation, we are thrilled that she will be taking on this new and exciting adventure!

After more than 7 years with us at CPAWS-OV, most recently as our conservation director, Genevieve has been instrumental in all of our campaigns. Notably, Genevieve was the driving force behind the Noire-Coulonge protected area project, and her hard work helped lead to the project's recent completion as an 850km² proposed biodiversity reserve encapsulating the

Noire and Coulange rivers from the Ottawa River all the way up north to La Vérendrye Wildlife Reserve. What a feat!

We can't wait to see what she accomplishes with ABV des 7 and wish her the very best of luck!

Nature for Everyone, Everywhere! We are still recruiting.

We are still in the process of recruiting for our brand-new youth program titled "Nature for Everyone, Everywhere!". We are so excited to be able to offer this program to youth in the Ottawa Valley over the next two years. Through this program, we hope to connect youth with nature through education, adventure, and community service. The program consists of three main components:

- Wilderness expedition: An unforgettable 3-day adventure exploring and learning about a watershed in the Ottawa valley
- Participant-led volunteer projects: Create your own flexible community service projects addressing a community need of your choice.
- End of program summit: Assemble with youth from your cohort to showcase your work, celebrate one another and share knowledge.

Our aim is that youth will leave the program with a foundation of skills to prepare them for a career in a conservation-related field, confidence, and a sense of environmental stewardship.

Recruitment is ongoing! Note that priority will be given to youth from newcomer communities as well as Indigenous youth.

If this program is not applicable to you, please share amongst your networks!

Follow the link below for more information and how to apply!

<https://cpaws-ov-vo.org/campaigns/youth-program/>

Nature for Everyone, Everywhere!



La nature pour tous, partout !

Environmental cleanup at Mer Bleue

CPAWS-OV invites you to take part in our upcoming cleanup event at Mer Bleue on April 27th at 10:00 am. It is always a special experience when we are able to come together with our supporters to take part in active stewardship in the Ottawa Valley.

Along with the spring showers comes wet and muddy conditions. Please be prepared and dress accordingly! We will meet in the NCC Greenbelt parking lot 22 at 10:00am and get to work shortly thereafter. We will supply garbage bags, gloves, and a few pairs of claws, but please feel free to bring any other supplies you might find useful.

Details:

- **When:** April 27th at 10:00 am
- **Where:** Meet at [NCC Greenbelt parking lot 22](#)

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out at ov-outreach@cpaws.org. We hope to see you there!



New Road Ecology Study - Volunteers Needed!

CPAWS-OV will be conducting a road ecology study along Highway 17 between May and October and we need your help!

The study will aim to identify wildlife mortality hotspots along a 50km stretch of Highway 17 (approximately from Mackey to Deux-Rivieres). The data collected will then be used to propose strategies and solutions to reduce wildlife mortality along this stretch of highway.

This study is part of our larger campaign to create an ecological corridor between Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario and the Dumoine River Aquatic Reserve in Quebec. Currently, highway 17 is the biggest barrier to wildlife travelling between these protected areas and to surrounding areas.

We need volunteers to help us conduct surveys along the highway, documenting any roadkill and wildlife. Surveys will involve walking along the highway shoulder and potentially going on the highway itself to take pictures, collect samples, or

to move roadkill – all volunteers will need to complete safety training provided by CPAWS-OV staff. Volunteer survey shifts can be conducted at any time, however, mornings are ideal. You can help us with one survey or multiple, it is up to you!

Additional volunteer positions are available related to the project including data entry, wildlife identification (through photos), and helping to create educational materials on road ecology. We're also asking people to report any roadkill/wildlife sightings along highway 17 so that we can add it to our database. **To report a sighting, please email shuybregts@cpaws.org and include a picture and location.**

If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions about the project, please email Sasha at shuybregts@cpaws.org.

Thank you!

DRAW vernissage and ongoing exhibit at Café 349 in Shawville

Last weekend, we were honoured to have our DRAW artwork displayed at [Café 349](#) in Shawville for a special vernissage event. We were overjoyed by the turnout, and want to extend our deepest thanks to all those who came out, and of course, to all those at Café 349 who helped to make this event a success!

The DRAW artwork will remain on display and available for purchase for the rest of the month of April, at 349 rue Main, Shawville. Be sure to check it out!

can think of," said Kris Cartier Lalleu, one of the facilitators. By the end of the session, the group of about 80 participants had come up with five priority areas to help focus the assembly's efforts. They were shared in a Facebook post, which lists them as follows:

said participants will be invited to start thinking about how to tackle the ideas generated from this session. "[An idea] could come out of left field that everybody is excited for," Villeneuve said. "That's what's really exciting, we're going to see what the community actually wants to do."

doesn't yet know much of the process, but the expenses are paid. They also raised over \$700 from a silent auction that featured donated artwork and woodworking by local artisans. The CLSC Foundation will continue to collect donations until the end of April.

Dumoine artist retreat creations on display at Café 349

by GLEN HARTLE
SHAWVILLE
Apr. 5, 2025

The Ottawa Valley chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS-OV) has been championing the Dumoine, Noire and Coulonge rivers watersheds for a number of years, and this past weekend partnered with Café 349 to once again grace the restaurant's walls with art of all dominion.

From Apr. 1 to May 3 CPAWS-OV is using the Shawville restaurant as a gallery space to showcase works produced by the artists who participated in last summer's annual Dumoine River Art for Wilderness (DRAW), and on Saturday evening it hosted a vernissage for the exhibition.

Seventeen artists answered executive director John McDonnell's invitation to participate in the multi-day residency last year, and "create artwork inspired by the intact and wild nature of the

Dumoine River." The exhibit at the café is the next stage of that adventure whereby the artwork aims to connect people to the watershed and to nature.

With the exhibit, the walls of the café offer an extensive collection of interpretations made manifest in paint, fibre, photography, collage and more. Individually, they are stunning and collectively they are impactful.

On hand for the opening were several participating artists, including Maggie Glossop whose fibre piece "Sunbathing on the Dumoine" brought broad appreciation from across the very busy room. She seemingly echoed the sentiment of many of the participants when describing her own experience.

"It was just sitting there," explained Glossop as she stood beside the felt-based piece of a turtle by the water's edge, "and it invited me in."

CPAWS Ottawa Valley chapter advisory board president Monique Boivin was on hand to thank attendees and explained, "the sales from the exhibit go toward generating funds for the society and this year's residency and retreat."

"I look forward to seeing you this summer," she

enthusied as she extended an invitation to this year's retreat running from July 29 to Aug. 5.

The exhibit runs through to the beginning of May and the café is open Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Ruth Hahn, owner and operator of Café 349 since 2002, personally catered the event and once again showcased her prowess at hosting art openings with an ample and endless array of her signature goodies.

If you would like to participate in this year's retreat, contact CPAWS at jmcdonnell@cpaws.org or by phone at 819-209-5178.



From left are DRAW retreat participants Scott Haig, Kathy Lajthess, Dot Bonnenfant, Tina Michaud (previous retreats), Jennifer Haughton, Anne Scatton, Maggie Glossop and CPAWS-Ottawa Valley advisory board president, Monique Boivin.

Pour tous vos besoins de propane

BUDGET PROPANE

For all your propane needs

Our local Sales Rep Pontiac Propane 819-647-3547

1.800.205.2776 | Québec | budgetpropane.com

License R.B.Q. 8248-7954-09



CPAWS-OV thanks you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

The team at CPAWS-OV



Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - Ottawa Valley Chapter 331, boulevard
St-Joseph, bureau 201
Gatineau (Québec) J8Y 3Z2

You received this email because you signed up for communications from CPAWS
Ottawa Valley. You can manage your preferences to update the type of emails you
receive from us, or you can unsubscribe from all our communications.

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact Us](#)