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CPAWS

CANADIAN PARKS AND WILDERNESS SOCIETY
OTTAWA VALLEY CHAPTER



The team out visiting the splendor of the Algonquin-Dumoine corridor.

Dear friend,

Summer is just around the corner and we have been as busy as your local bees with outreach, summer projects, youth program outings and so much more. We have a lot of updates for you here already but if you are curious to hear more about our Greenbelt campaign, we will be devoting a whole email to keep you up to speed with everything we have been up to so keep an eye on your inbox!



The youth program heads to the House of Commons

On the 27th of May, we took some of the Nature for Everyone, Everywhere participants to the House of Commons to attend Question Period and learn a bit more about our governments processes. We were greeted by MP Sophie Chatel who was excited to speak with the next generation of environmental leaders and mentioned Bill S-229 and the protection of Gatineau Park. Prime Minister Mark Carney was also in attendance which made the experience all the more

interesting. We look forward to further discussions as part of the youths journey with us!

Gatineau Park Bill goes to Committee

We were pleased to see the bill to make Gatineau Park a real park make its way to the Senate Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources in early May. CPAWS-OV had the privilege of working closely with the Bill's sponsors, Senator Rosa Galvez and MP Sophie Chatel in drafting the text before Committee, therefore we are very supportive and are proposing but a few minor amendments. You can read our brief [here](#). We are pleased to see support for the provisions of the bill from Kitigan Zibi and Kebaowek and we wish to thank both First Nations for taking the time to send letters to the Committee to confirm their support. Study of the bill has been paused for the moment, continue to follow our social media for updates.



[Learn More](#)



Season 2 of the Highway 17 Road Ecology Survey begins

Introducing our new Road Ecology Research Coordinator, **Dimitri Markou**! Dimitri joined us this month to help continue our Road Ecology Project which started last summer. He is already busy collecting data along a 50 km stretch of highway 17 to help determine where wildlife is crossing the highway.

As part of our Algonquin-Dumoine corridor campaign, we are looking to establish key areas which would benefit from wildlife bridges and culverts to reduce mortality rates. Connecting the forest of Algonquin Park to the Maganasipi and Dumoine protected areas in Quebec is critical for the survival of countless species, including species at risk such as the Eastern wolf and culturally significant species like the moose. The corridor is also regularly used by black bear, deer, and countless other wildlife. CPAWS-OV is working to protect it before we lose the opportunity to development.

Dimitri brings his ecology and cartography skills to the project as well as a staunch passion for nature. Welcome to the team!

[More on the Road Ecology Project](#)

Meeting with the National Capital Commission

On May 13, we had a positive meeting with Tobi Nussbaum, CEO of the NCC. We discussed a range of issues including the renewal of the Greenbelt Master Plan, where we re-iterated our support for the process and how we want to see the preservation of nature and green spaces as the priority going forward.



We also congratulated the NCC on the ongoing renewal of the Gatineau Park Ecosystem Conservation Plan and how we look forward to working with the planning team to ensure the preservation and restoration of nature continues to be the overriding priority.

Closer to the city, we shared our disappointment with the NCC's decision to allow student housing to be developed at the Moore Farm and we shared our strong opposition to any additional Gatineau Park lands being lost to a new hospital in Hull, including the widening of roads in the area.

Finally, we offered to work with the NCC to restore Brewery Creek in downtown Hull. This historic area has long suffered from pollution and poor land-use planning, yet has the potential to support climate resilience and become the green heart of the city. The CEO was open to our concerns and happy to share information with us so we look forward to continuing to work together for our green spaces.



We had a great time at the Glebe garage sale where Maggie's pawprint cookies were a big success! Jennifer also headed out to the Salon Forêt Boucher in Aylmer to talk about our Gatineau Park campaign. Big thanks to everyone who came out to support us and sign our petitions!

Come and find us in June at:

June 13th: [Green Fair Ottawa](#)

June 20th: [Pollinator Appreciation Day](#)

**There is still space to join us on our
Wilderness Walk tomorrow, May 30th, in
Gatineau Park! Message Jennifer and we'll see**

**you in the morning for a springtime wander
under the canopy.**

[More info](#)

Support for Conservation Cantley

We recognize we cannot preserve nature on our own. We are therefore pleased to support other groups in the region working to conserve important landscapes. We are delighted to be offering \$7000.00 to Conservation Cantley to carry out a study to characterize the various natural environments in the municipality with a view to determine conservation priorities.

[Donate today!](#)

DRAW art on display in Deep River for the month of June

Huge thanks to Cafe 349 in Shawville for hosting the DRAW exhibit this month! Works from our annual Dumoine River Art for Wilderness retreat will now be on display at Valley Artisans' Co-op in Deep River for the month of June. If you are in the area, please stop in, all proceeds from the sale of the artwork will support our conservation projects in the region.

[Read more](#)

CPAWS-OV Poetry Corner

Leafing

A sudden burst of life it seems

As if we were entranced in dreams when
branch and bough from naked stem
adorns bright shades of the emerald gem
How could they have appeared so quick?
Does time perform a fleeting trick?
Awaiting the advancing sun
We missed the leaves come out as one.
And now the trees dance once again
as the wind moves down the glen
with twirling gowns they greet the spring
And shade becomes their offering.

-Melinda Gilhen-Baker

That's it for now! I hope you enjoyed hearing about what we're up to and make sure you stay tuned in for more. **Thank you for your continuous support, we couldn't do it without you!**

Sincerely,



Melinda Gilhen-Baker

Communications and Outreach Manager
CPAWS-OV

