

# **Friends of the Jock River**

**Annual Report  
2006**

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Editor's note: A significant number of projects approved at the February, 2006 AGM lacked resources (either funds or leaders) and were not performed. These projects have not been included in project reports.

For errors, omissions and comments please call Brian Finch at 825-8029 or e-mail at [brian.finch@rogers.com](mailto:brian.finch@rogers.com).

## 1. Leadership List

### Officers of the Executive

|   |                 |          |
|---|-----------------|----------|
| President                                     | Brian Finch     | 825-8029 |
| Vice-President                                | <i>vacant</i>   |          |
| Treasurer                                     | Brian Finch     | 825-8029 |
| Secretary                                     | Niel Barrington | 823-3643 |
| Director For Water Conservation and Usage     | <i>vacant</i>   |          |
| Director For Projects and Actions             | <i>vacant</i>   |          |
| Director For Membership Roster and Management | Tom O. Wright   | 823-2436 |
| Director for Publicity and Public Relations   | Niel Barrington | 258-9122 |
| Director at Large                             | Kelvin Burnett  | 825-1042 |

### Committee Chairs

|                            |                 |          |
|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Nomination Committee Chair | Niel Barrington | 823-3643 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|

### Project Leadership

|                            |                 |          |
|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Tree Plants                | Niel Barrington | 823-3643 |
| Clean-ups                  | Tom O. Wright   | 823-2436 |
| Munster Sewage             | Brian Finch     | 825-8029 |
| Richmond Conservation Area | Brian Finch     | 825-8029 |

### Other

|                              |             |          |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Editor of 2006 Annual Report | Brian Finch | 825-8029 |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------|

## 2. President's Report

The major activities the Friends of the Jock River for year 2006, our tenth year, were shoreline clean-up, tree planting and the monitoring of development activity in the watershed. Looking back over the past 10 years, it is pleasing to note that we have had and are continuing to have a positive influence in the watershed. It is good to see: the size of our trees planted 10 years ago (some over 4 m tall); the recovery (albeit slow) of the now fenced shoreline at the Munroe property at Twin Elm; the use of our ramp over the Ashton dam by wildlife; and the added pride of Richmond residents in their local green spaces, to name only a few of our accomplishments.

In this 2006 version of our annual report, we report on our involvement and participation in the Greenbank Road/Jockvale Road clean-up, as well as our activities related to 4 tree plants.

On the monitoring side:

- we report on the new community advisory team for an expanded Richmond Conservation Area (RCA);
- we provide an update report on the sorry mishandling of the Munster forcemain pipe issue. While our involvement in 2006 was limited primarily to the encouragement of Richmond residents in their fight to have the pipe shut down, FJR has spent so much effort on battling the pipe we felt an update was necessary;
- we have several reports on wetland destruction (or threat thereof) and water-taking issues in the Jock River watershed; and
- we report on several bylaw/planning issues that will have or could have an impact on the environmental health of the watershed.

Not all of the monitoring issues we have been involved in have been listed.

Some of our executive positions went unfilled in 2006, notably the vice-president position and several directors' positions. In addition, I doubled up on the president and treasurer positions. The small size of our board and leadership core has meant that some projects important to both the environment and the people in the Jock River watershed had to be cut back or dropped entirely. Another consequence is the burn-out of the executive. I urge new members to consider a position on the board.

Brian Finch

**3. Financial Reports**  
**3.1. Treasurer's Report**

This year, our tree plant projects were all internally funded. We received funds from the City under the Community Environmental Grants Program (CEPGP) directed to our tree plant signage project but there have been no expenses under the project.

We normally track GST (itemized under Accounts Receivable (GST) in the Balance Sheet) to facilitate the GST refund process but the tracking was dropped this year because the GST rate was changed mid-year. This does not affect our ability to apply for and recover these funds from Revenue Canada.

Brian Finch

**3.2. Financial Statements**

**Balance Sheet 2006**

|                    |                                |    | 2006         | 2005     | Variance  |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|----|--------------|----------|-----------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>      |                                |    |              |          |           |
|                    | Chequing - TD - Canada         | \$ | 3,037.25     | 4,011.35 | (974.10)  |
|                    | Trust Account                  |    |              |          |           |
|                    | Petty Cash                     | \$ | 40.65        | 130.65   | (90)      |
|                    | Accounts Receivable (GST)      | \$ | 240.93       | 240.93   | 0         |
|                    | Other assets                   | \$ | 0            | 0        | 0         |
|                    | Advances/Loans                 | \$ | 0            | 0        | 0         |
|                    | T-shirts 71 @ 8.731818182      | \$ | 619.96       | 672.55   | (52.59)   |
|                    |                                |    | -----        | -----    | -----     |
|                    | Total assets                   | \$ | 3938.79      | 5,055.28 |           |
|                    |                                |    | =====        | =====    | =====     |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b> |                                |    |              |          |           |
|                    | Accounts Payable               | \$ | 0            | 0        | 0         |
|                    | Misplaced inventory (T-shirts) | \$ | 31.19        | 0        | 0         |
|                    | Total Liabilities              | \$ | 31.19        | 0        | 0         |
|                    |                                |    |              |          |           |
|                    | Equity - Beginning             | \$ | 5,055.28     | 4,988.84 | 66.44     |
|                    |                                |    |              |          |           |
|                    | Receipts Plus                  | \$ | (\$1,085.30) | 66.44    | (1151.74) |
|                    | Dispersements for Year         |    |              |          |           |

|  |                |    |         |          |       |
|--|----------------|----|---------|----------|-------|
|  |                |    |         |          |       |
|  | Total Equities | \$ | 3938.79 | 5,055.28 |       |
|  |                |    | -----   | -----    | ----- |

### Cash Flow 2006

|                      |                           |              |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| <b>INFLOW</b>        |                           |              |
|                      | Donations unrestricted    | \$155.00     |
|                      | Membership-Family         | \$200.00     |
|                      | Membership-Supporter      | \$180.00     |
|                      | Membership-Volunteer      | \$50.00      |
|                      | Grants                    |              |
|                      | CEPGP                     | \$940.00     |
|                      | HRSDC                     | \$3,732.00   |
|                      | <b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>      | \$5,257.00   |
| <b>OUTFLOW</b>       |                           |              |
|                      | Bank Service Charges      | \$84.90      |
|                      | Office Supplies           | \$18.60      |
|                      | Postage and Delivery      | \$18.72      |
|                      | Printing and Reproduction | \$576.63     |
|                      | Projects                  |              |
|                      | HRSDC 2006                | \$3,732.00   |
|                      | Monahan Tree Plant 2006   | \$1,885.25   |
|                      | Promotion (FJR T-shirts)  | \$26.20      |
|                      | <b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>     | \$6,342.30   |
| <b>OVERALL TOTAL</b> |                           | (\$1,085.30) |

Brian Finch

#### 4. Membership

We had 26 members in the following categories:

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Volunteer            | 4              |
| Supporter            | 12             |
| Family               | 9              |
| Sustaining Corporate | 1 (Trail Head) |

#### 5. Website

Our website is located at [www.geocities.com/jockriver](http://www.geocities.com/jockriver), and we use [www.jockriver.org](http://www.jockriver.org), a website name we purchased in 2004, to transfer individuals to the geocities site.

Although there have been minimal updates to our website this year, we continue to get many hits and we average an e-mail or two per month routed through our website e-mail contact, Doug Watson. Questions

tend to be from people considering buying homes in Richmond or Munster, or from university students working on journalism or environmental projects.

Brian Finch

**6. Project Reports**  
**6.1. Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Projects**  
**6.1.1 Monahan Spring Tree Plant Report**

This year's big spring tree plant hosted by the Friends of the Jock River was held on the weekend of May 6-7 at the Monahan Stormwater Treatment Ponds. We had scouted the site with Ron Rooke from the City of Ottawa and Julie Jackson from the City Forestry Dept. Ms. Jackson drew up the site plan for the plant and helped facilitate the approvals. We noted on the site visit there was room for lots of trees and there were plenty of parking spaces in the little park in the subdivision bordering the storm water ponds. For those unfamiliar with the area, the ponds are located at the corner of Eagleson Rd. and Hope Side Road. The ponds were built into the Monahan Creek, or "Drain", as it is officially known, to trap and treat sediments and pollutants in storm water from the surrounding suburbs before the water makes it to the Jock River. There has been some tree planting at the site in previous years by the Scouts and the City but there were gaps, and beavers had damaged or destroyed many of the existing trees. We wanted to expand the types of trees and add to the number of existing conifers. The park-like ambience of the walkways circling the ponds makes this location a popular walking area for the local residents, and a few even returned with shovels on Sunday to pitch in while we were planting the seedlings.

In the days leading up to the tree plant, we were concerned about the truly terrible forecast for Saturday and we were scrambling to salvage the plant. The forecast called for wind and drenching cold rain. We knew from past experience that this ominous forecast was going to hurt the turnout. We got a tip that the City might have some portable tents we could borrow and the City staff at the old Goulbourn City Hall on Huntley Rd. came through for us on very short notice. On Saturday morning, the two tents went up quickly and the portable toilets ordered by the City arrived.

As we always do, FJR hosted the main plant with the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts on Saturday though a few members of the public also were out on this vicious, wet and wild day. As feared, the nasty weather really hurt our turnout on Saturday and the number of trees we could get in. We have had over 150 scouts out previously, but this time it was more like 50. But they were some tough little guys who worked pretty hard, though they were wet and cold.

Sunday, the 7th, found the main volunteer crew of FJR putting in another day, working alongside a few local residents, and a very tough and determined delegation of planters from the local Barrhaven Fellowship Christian Reform Church, who we owe a big thanks for their hard work in putting hundreds of seedlings in the ground. The FJR volunteer tree-planting crew was President Brian Finch, Secretary Niel Barrington, Doug Watson, Executive Tom Wright, Marie-Odile Liu and son, and Ron Maybury. Tim van der Horn came by with his cool old truck and his young son to lend a hand.

In our initial discussions with Ron Rooke, we had proposed planting on the 3 islands in the stormwater ponds but the City had some concerns about the sites, likely related to liability. Ron suggested to Brian Finch that his staff might plant the islands. Ron Rooke, one of his permanent staff, and two summer students planted the two islands W of the bridge on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> with assistance and planting supervision from Brian Finch. The other island to the E had nesting geese and was not planted.

We had a special tree-plant session just for the Girl Guides in the evening of Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. The Girl guides did a great job putting in the last hundred seedlings on a beautiful spring evening.

Here is our list of seedlings that went in this spring: 50 nannyberry, 50 bur oak, 50 red osier dogwood, 50 green ash, 50 silver maple, 50 highbush cranberry, 300 white cedar, 100 tamarack and 200 white pine and 150 white spruce, all purchased from the RVCA; 10 butternut, provided without cost from the RVCA's Butternut Recovery Program; and an even mix of approximately 550 spruce and pine, 15 walnut and 5 oak (likely bur oak) from Fran Little's and Brian Finch's back yard nurseries, for a total of 1630 trees.

All of the deciduous trees, except the tamaracks, were protected with spiral tree wraps. Tassu collars (mulch) were installed around the bases of all of the trees and pinned in place with 2 landscaping staples

Niel Barrington

### **6.1.2. IKEA Tree Plant - Monahan**

For the third consecutive year, Mike Rosen, Vice-President (now President), Tree Canada Foundation, asked FJR to provide a tree planting site and the supervising expertise for an Ikea-sponsored tree plant. Ikea provides the Tree Canada Foundation with funding from Ikea's retail Christmas tree sales and the Foundation manages the Ikea tree plants across Canada for Ikea volunteer employees.

We suggested the Monahan Stormwater Treatment Pond area, also the site of the FJR spring tree plant (see separate report), and after some discussion with the City's Forestry Department we secured the approval from the City to hold the tree plant on Tuesday, June 6, 2006. Mike Rosen chose the following appropriate trees/shrubs (and number of each) for the site: nannyberry (10), highbush cranberry (5), green ash (15), bur oak (3), white cedar (10), white spruce (12), hackberry (7), white pine (7), pussy willow (6), sandbar willow (5), and alternate leaf dogwood (10), 90 in all. The majority of the plants were in pots and the remainder were in burlap-wrapped root ball form. FJR supplied buckets for watering in the plants and the landscape staples for the Tassu collars (mulch), for which FJR was reimbursed.

The 10-12 enthusiastic Ikea employees were joined by 2 Tree Canada Foundation employees (Mike Rosen and a forestry intern). I served as FJR labourer, advisor, cheerleader and quality control manager. In the early afternoon Ikea spread out an ample picnic lunch and we finished the tree plant by mid-afternoon.

Side note: Mike Rosen warned everyone to avoid the wild parsley that was all over the site as it causes poison ivy-like reactions. There was only one casualty - me. I did a lot of kneeling during the quality control part and I evidently crushed a few wild parsley plants. Luckily, the rash and blisters on my knees were not itchy or painful, just persistent. Wild parsley is not as bad as poison ivy but one should still avoid it.

Brian Finch

### **6.1.3. Twin Elm Fall Tree Plant**

President Finch keeps a small walnut seedling nursery in his back yard, protected from squirrels by a wire cage on all sides including the top. This stock is grown from walnuts scavenged from a neighbour's walnut tree or transplanted seedlings from yards in Heart's Desire. The walnut seedlings grew well over the summer and some were sticking right up through the cage by October. He wanted to get these seedlings out into a tree plant location to make room for next year's crop of nuts, so we planned a quick tree plant for late in the season after the little trees had gone into dormancy. We caught a fairly nice late fall day on November 4th to put the seedlings in. I remember we would pause in the work to watch raft after raft of Canada Geese winging over the river. The following trees were planted: 45 of a mix of walnut and butternut, 4 ash, 3 oak, 1 pine and 1 dogwood on the ridge of the Twin Elm (Foster Farm) site plant site by Brian, Niel, Doug Watson and Russ Alexander.

The Foster Farm site is a wonderful strip of land between the Richmond Rd. and the river just south of the Twin Elm Bridge. The site has been planted over the years by FJR. These new seedlings were planted in

the spaces where some of the previous trees had been killed by rodents. And it was great to see the thousands of little trees we had planted in previous years were growing fast and strong.

But I did notice the old fence along the road is down in some sections and will have to be fixed this spring. Ah yes! Another project for the spring! A few good men and a handful of T-bars should do the trick.

Respectfully submitted,  
Niel Barrington  
Tree-plant Coordinator, FJR

#### **6.1.4. Green Bank Clean-Up /Half Moon Bay Restoration**

##### **Clean-Up**

One of the effects of the recent building boom on Greenbank and Jockvale Roads in the southern part of Barrhaven and on Half Moon Bay (where Green Bank Road goes over the Jock River) has been the dramatic increase in the amount of litter.

Some of this litter originates from the shopping centres clustered near Strandherd and Greenbank Rd. (bags and flyers blown out of shopping carts), some from the increased traffic (sip and toss), and some from people stopping at Half Moon Bay for picnics, coffee or a wee stroll with their kiddies.

Members of the Friends of the Jock River have been cleaning up litter on Greenbank Road near the Jock over the past number of years. Again, this year, I coordinated another clean-up involving local farmers, residents, all levels of schools, four City Departments, churches, senior citizen residents, service organizations, community associations, Scouts, the local councillor, Jan Harder, and dozens of businesses in the Barrhaven Business Improvement Association. It was a real "team" effort.

The major clean-up was on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, but some individuals and organizations in Barrhaven had their clean-up on other days. In the largest clean-up on the 5<sup>th</sup>, over nine hundred kilograms of garbage were collected; the amounts collected on other days were not tallied.

I also worked with St. Joseph High School to have the students adopt Greenbank Road from Jockvale Road to Cambrian Road (including the Jock River at Half Moon Bay). A private company supplied white plastic barrels that were placed along Greenbank Road from Jockvale to Half Moon Bay. These barrels are regularly emptied by the students of St Joseph High School. We are thankful to the school's coordinator, Mr. Wade Cotham and the co-operation of the principal, Mr. Cullen and now Mr. McCabe.

##### **Half Moon Bay Restoration**

Four wheel drive vehicles have rutted the park-like area at the south end of Half Moon Bay beside the grove of trees planted by the Friends of the Jock River in the mid 90's and cars have been compacting the soil all around the bay, killing some trees. In addition, nature has been hard on the Half Moon Bay area. The ice storm damaged a number of trees and the beavers have been cutting a few trees as well.

It was apparent that a re-forestation plan was needed in the Half Moon Bay area. I arranged a meeting with the Ottawa City Forestry Branch, residents, Mattami Homes, and St. Joseph High School and all agreed that remedial action was needed. In a tour of the bay, Julie Jackson from the City's Forestry Branch noted the location and types of trees along Half Moon shoreline and she agreed to present a draft planting plan to this group in February 2007. To protect the existing trees from beaver damage, St. Joseph School has offered to wire wrap the trees along Half Moon Bay with wire supplied by the Ottawa Forestry Branch. To prevent

the rutting of soil caused by four wheel vehicles, we have proposed that a few large boulders be placed strategically.

Submitted by Tom O. Wright

### **6.1.5 Stonebridge Scout Tree Plant Tending Project**

Last year, on a beautiful Saturday morning in mid-May, I was coming up from the river in the Stonebridge subdivision area and noticed a local troop of Boy Scouts putting in spruce and pine seedlings between the NE portion of Riverstone Dr. and the Jock River. I stopped to help a bit and talked to the Scout leader. They had received permission from the City Forestry Dept. to plant in this area.

As the Scouts worked hard digging holes, I could not help but notice they were not adding any weed/grass suppression measures or tree wraps to protect against predation. In these riparian areas, the grass and weeds grow so thick and tall that they will actually suffocate the freshly planted trees, if measures are not taken. We in the FJR have learned this the hard way and now apply these protective measures to every tree we put in the ground. But not wanting to criticize the worthy effort of the Scout troop effort, I kept silent but decided to put the matter on the agenda for FJR's next meeting. We decided to tend the trees ourselves with the following crew: myself, Brian, Bill Armitage and Nicole Parent (all FJR members but Bill is President of the Stonebridge Community Association and Nicole lives on Stoneway Dr. and is a member of the Ottawa Forest and Greenspace Advisory Committee (OFGAC)).

We were fortunate to have one box of 200 Tassu collars left over from our spring tree plant so on Monday, June 12, 2006, we placed and pinned (2 staples) Tassu collars around as many trees as we could find (166 in all) in the already tall grass. Since tree seedlings are typically supplied in lots of 50, we figure that 34 trees were lost in the grass. In the two hours between 6:30PM and 8:30PM we were finished. There was a good breeze to keep the mosquitoes off till almost dark when they mounted a spirited offensive.

However this report does not have a happy ending. Again, unbelievably but true, in mid-October a City mower came along and appeared to go deliberately out of its way to mow the freshly planted seedlings down. About 75% of the trees we had protected had been mown, only a few of which are likely to survive. Very shortly afterwards, 50 healthy cedars about 1.2 m tall appeared in the same area.

Niel Barrington  
Tree-plant coordinator, FJR

#### **Follow-up**

After the trees were mown, Bill Armitage (now wearing the hat of President of the Stonebridge Community Association) asked City staff for an explanation. The City's forester, Craig Huff responded quickly with the following:

Where Park Planning may suggest an area for planting, or Forestry may work with a volunteer group to same effect, a physical reminder is needed in the field to not just inform the operator of the tractor, but to also alert park neighbours that the meadows there will no longer get mowed. Forestry Services will be installing "No Mow - Naturalization In Progress" (or similar) signs to alert all visitors to the property of the intent.

When the Parks maintenance crew started the annual cut it was not immediately apparent to them that they were cutting trees however, (and fortunately), they did realize what was happening and stopped before the entire area had been cut. The Parks Supervisor subsequently took the initiative to action tree planting and replacement trees were installed ... . A further review of the site and the

potential for additional planting in the area will be reviewed and actioned by Forestry staff next spring after consultation with all parties.

In the subsequent e-mail exchanges between Bill, Nicole and myself, we seized on Craig Huff's proposal in the last line and met with Julie Jackson, Forestry Services Program Coordinator, on December 19, 2006 to discuss 2 items: the immediate issue of the mown trees; and the larger and much longer term issue of the development of a site plan, planting plan (if necessary) and a maintenance regime that would identify areas to be mown/not mowed and stipulate frequencies. The four of us walked most of the length of the Stonebridge pathway along the river and I explained what FJR had in mind through our many tree plants in the area. Collectively, we presented our views on what we would like to see in the future for parts of the pathway area, such as an area of wildflower meadow, a diverse area of native trees, and, overall, a safe, attractive location for passive recreation.

For the mown site, Nicole suggested that the replacement cedars were inappropriate; Julie said that some could possibly be moved to other locations in the Stonebridge area, subject to a plan for the mown area to be presented to the FJR, the Stonebridge Community Association and OFGAC some time in late winter. A plan for the natural area along the length of the pathway would take much longer.

One comment of note from Julie was that the areas previously planted by the FJR alongside and NW of the Levesque fields are well planted out and will not need any further planting.

Brian Finch

#### **6.1.6. Tree Plant Signage**

After 500 of our trees planted along the edge of the nature path in the Stonebridge area were mown by City staff in 2005, the City's Forestry Department staff recommended that signage may have prevented the destruction. We concurred. We also felt that some other FJR tree plants may be at risk so we applied to the City for funding through its Community Environmental Projects Grant Program (CEPGP) to make 50 signs to identify and delineate our tree plants. The City provided us with a grant of \$940. The work to date has been limited to designing a sign and having it approved by City staff. The printing and installation of the signs will be done in early 2007.

Brian Finch

### **6.2. Monitoring, Assessment and Planning Projects**

#### **6.2.1. Munster Hamlet Forcemain Sewer**

The issue relates to the installation of an 11 km forcemain sewer line from Munster Hamlet to the pumping station in Richmond. In Richmond, Munster sewage then enters the 14 km long Richmond - Glen Cairn forcemain sewer line before entering the City's gravity sewer system to the treatment plant (ROPEC) located at Green's Creek in Ottawa's east end.

FJR's concerns started with the environmental assessment of solutions to problems with the Munster sewage lagoons. The City and consultants concluded that a sewer to Richmond was the preferred option; we (and many others) preferred a less expensive, environmentally responsible, on-site treatment plant that would have treated the sewage to tertiary quality (virtually swimming pool quality) and discharged the effluent to the Jock River. This option would have retained the water within the watershed while augmenting the flow of the upper Jock River with water of better quality than is currently in the Jock. The added flow would have been particularly important during the summer months in dry years. The major problems with the pressurized sewer pipe relate to its route through the largest provincially significant wetland in Eastern

Ontario, which is also the source for Richmond's aquifer, and through the Village of Richmond which relies on the shallow aquifer for its domestic water. The individual wells average less than 30 feet.

Our concerns extended to the Richmond - Glen Cairn line as the Munster sewage would increase the load by 1/3 through the pressurized pipe that, as of October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004, had failed 6 times in its relatively short 20 year lifetime.

The Munster treatment solutions project has been full of complaints and appeals: FJR and 8 others filed "bump-ups" of the Environmental Assessment (turned down); FJR and 3 others filed OMB appeals of City's pipe decision (won but City fudged conclusions on re-evaluation); FJR and the Richmond Village Association jointly filed a request for an investigation to the Environmental Commissioner for Ontario (the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) refused request); and a private resident of Richmond filed a complaint with the Professional Engineers of Ontario against 4 engineers involved in the project (pending).

Independent experts told the City the pipe would cost much more than the \$8.7 million estimated by the City's consultants; the actual costs are now about three times the \$8.7M figure and still rising (see below). In 2005, the City's auditor, Mr. Alain Lalonde initiated an audit of the whole Munster wastewater issue and the report was initially scheduled for completion in June 2006. It was then subsequently slated for September completion. We have been told that a draft of the audit report was given to City management staff in November 2006 and that the release to the public of the final report may be in April 2007. We expect the report will be very revealing.

Independent experts also told the City that there would be an odour problem at the Richmond Pumping Station because of the low flow and length of the pipe. Approximately two weeks after the activation of the forcemain in April 2005 there were odour problems at the Richmond Pumping Station. MOE issued 2 orders against the City to fix the problem by September 2005. The City installed a bioscrubber without success and then a bio-filter but the odours have persisted intermittently into fall 2006. The latest odour incident was on Thanksgiving Day 2006. On Friday, November 3, 2006, Richmond residents were informed that the City of Ottawa was served notice by MOE that it is being charged with allowing the odours from the Richmond Pumping Station to adversely affect/impact its neighbours. Note that MOE took approximately 14 months from its deadline for charges to be laid.

Richmond residents continue to push for MOE to uphold the orders by shutting down the pipeline and establishing an on-site treatment facility in Munster.

More background on the issue is available at [www.OttawaSewergateFiasco.com](http://www.OttawaSewergateFiasco.com).

Brian Finch (with extensive excerpts from correspondence with Doug Arnold)

### **6.2.2. Trail Road Dumpsite Leachate**

I was a member of the public liaison committee (PLC) on the environmental assessment of the options to deal with leachate from the Trail Road Dumpsite. In November of 2004, City Council approved on-site solutions for the two problems in the vicinity of the Trail Road dumpsite: leachate contained in the current, lined Trail Road Dumpsite; and groundwater contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOC), specifically chlorinated hydrocarbons, moving south from the old Nepean dumpsite. Different processes are required for each.

City staff dealt first with the contaminated groundwater from the Nepean Landfill as there is an outstanding MOE Order to solve the problem by May 31, 2006. The City designed and constructed an on-site contaminated groundwater extraction and treatment system, and put it into full operation in May 2006. The system strips the VOCs from the ground water and the water is discharged to an existing pond in a sand quarry immediately to the south of the dumpsite on Moody.

On the Trail Road leachate issue, City staff met with MOE in August and December 2005 on the effluent objectives for the Leachate Treatment Plant and there was agreement for all discharge parameters except for total dissolved solids (TDS) and chlorides. The City had agreed to a MOE request that toxicity testing be done using actual species from the Jock River to establish acceptable levels. The PLC members were told the City planned to proceed with this work in 2006. Note: MOE is paying close attention to the treatment plant as the effluent will be discharged into a ditch that runs into the Jock River. As such, a discharge of this nature to a sensitive watercourse like the Jock River is unique in Canada.

In September 2006, PLC members were told that part of the dumpsite will be capped and another site started resulting in a substantial reduction in leachate amounts starting in 2007. The reduction of leachate is expected to drop significantly from the current rate of approximately 110,000 cubic meters per year to an estimate of 1,200 cubic meters per year in 2010 to 2015. Following 2015, the amount of leachate produced will rise. Consequently, the City has decided to continue hauling and treating the leachate at ROPEC until the operational impact of the changes are known. Detailed design for an on-site leachate treatment plant has been deferred. The City will use the next two to three years to determine the most appropriate means of designing and operating the on-site leachate treatment facility under these altered conditions.

Brian Finch (with excerpts from e-mails from T. Woytowich, City of Ottawa, and M. Benson, Conestoga-Rovers and Associates)

### **6.2.3. Jock River Reach One Subwatershed Study**

I had initially requested to be involved with the study but there was no public liaison committee for the study so my involvement was limited to attending public open houses and commenting on draft reports. However, City staff have considered FJR to be an interested party and have kept us informed. The draft interim report, 4 cm thick, was released November 15, 2005; both Niel Barrington and I reviewed it. On March 29, 2006, I wrote Susan Murphy, the planner managing the subwatershed study, to list our comments. While the report was draft, interim and in some respects incomplete, we were generally pleased. We agreed with and endorsed the objectives, with a few conditions and comments. We found the objectives were well thought out and considerate of the environment and the people who will live in the watershed.

Many of our comments were minor in nature. Some were more substantive, such as:

- we pointed out the erosion problem caused by the Heart's Desire weir and asked for its removal.
- the narrow riparian, emerging or young forests in the reach should be mentioned as they currently provide wildlife habitat and environmental diversity. Sites noted were:
  - the wooded areas just downstream of Highway 416, which are of sufficient size, age and diversity, even though they may be fairly narrow; and
  - the emerging/recently planted woodlots along the south bank of the Jock between Jockvale Rd. and Prince of Wales Dr., which complete a significant contiguous natural corridor when included with the already identified significant woodlots along the river.
- there is potential to provide a significant, natural, forested corridor along the entire length of the river through this reach (Highway 416 to the Rideau River).
- there was no mention of the impacts of development in Reach 2 (Highway 16 to the Richmond Fen Wetland) on Reach 1. The planned and potential development in Reach 2 in the Stittsville area, along the new Terry Fox Drive extension and around Richmond, although cumulatively not as large as the development planned for Reach 1, has the potential for downstream effects in both quantity and quality of water. With increased development in Reach 2, peak flood times will be shortened and peak flood flow potentially increased, both of which will have an effect on Reach 1. (Note: the Reach 2 subwatershed study must be completed before the data will be available. In this respect the Reach 1 Report is "placing the cart before the horse".)

- the Jock is a Policy 2 river and as such, the discharge criteria are particularly stringent. Considering the existing high levels of total phosphorous in the Jock River, an upper discharge limit of total phosphorous = 0.03 mg/l for stormwater discharge is appropriate. Current evaluation measures for the Jock River rest in the bottom of the “fair” category and reinforce the need for treatment of stormwater runoff.

The study also dealt with fish habitat compensation for tributaries and drains that were proposed to be closed or entombed (put into pipes). We didn't comment on the proposed compensation plans as we lack appropriate fish habitat knowledge. The federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) was reviewing these compensation plans and we felt that the plans were receiving proper oversight. We were pleased to note that the proposed conversion of the current, dry pond at the end of the Foster Drain into fish spawning habitat will integrate nicely with two years of FJR tree plants along the shoreline area west of Cedarview, part of which will wrap around the deepened pond.

Brian Finch

#### **6.2.4 Jock River Reach 2 Watershed Study**

In June 2003, the FJR was invited to participate and monitor the activities of the planning group for the Jock River Reach 2 Watershed Plan. The area of study is the part of the Jock watershed above Highway 416 (near Moodie Drive) to below the Richmond Fen Wetland and comprising the tributaries: Flowing Creek (rising in wetlands just south of Stittsville), Monahan Drain (near Glen Cairn) and Leamy Creek (south of the Jock near Twin Elm). The study was paired with the Mud Creek Watershed Plan, which relates to an adjacent watershed to the south with similar characteristics but flowing into the Rideau at Manotick.

The City of Ottawa initiated studies of the Jock River Reach 2 and Mud Creek subwatersheds to address growing development pressure in Richmond, Manotick and Stittsville, and to address the existing environmental condition of the rivers and their associated natural resources. The objective of the studies was to develop long-term environmental management strategies to protect, enhance or restore environmental quality in light of current and future demands on the watershed's resources. To date, a draft Existing Conditions Report has been produced that documents the natural resources (fisheries, wetlands, forests, stream erosion, water quality and quantity, and groundwater) within the study area. The Friends of the Jock River received the draft report in April 2006.

Some time in mid-2006, further work on the Jock River Reach 2 Subwatershed Study was unofficially put on the back burner and separated from the Mud Creek subwatershed pending the resolution of wetland issues in the Goulbourn area. The potential wetland additions to the provincially significant Goulbourn Wetlands Complex, evaluated in 2005 and located within the Jock River Reach 2 Subwatershed study area were identified to be part of provincially significant wetlands by complexing (a process that identifies significant wetland within proximity to provincially significant wetlands). The status of these lands is currently being discussed with affected landowners, interest groups (FJR) and agencies (municipal, regional and provincial) to resolve the questions and concerns in regard to local drainage changes, definition of wetlands, methodology for identifying wetlands and potential impact on property values from wetland identification and Official Plan designation. These discussions are specific to natural environment issues within the subwatershed study area, thereby necessitating the delay. Note that these discussions could affect wetland issues in the remaining parts of Ottawa, in Eastern Ontario and the rest of Ontario.

Unfortunately, the development pressures in both Stittsville and to a lesser extent in Richmond continue. Without guidance from a subwatershed study and the designation of provincially significant wetlands in the City's Official Plan, we are seriously concerned that valuable natural resources will be mismanaged, damaged, irrevocably altered or totally destroyed. We are particularly concerned about the wetlands, and the aquifers, creeks and streams they supply.

Brian Finch (with extracts from City staff correspondence)

### **6.2.5. Barrhaven South Community Design Plan Study**

The Community Design Plan relates to undeveloped lands south of the Jock River, east of Highway 416, west of Jockvale Road, and north of Barnsdale Road in South Barrhaven and to the arrangement of the public road network, municipal water and storm water management and sanitary sewer infrastructure, transit linkages, the location of residential, commercial and institutional uses, schools, parks and open space linkages.

The significant impacts on the river were studied and dealt within in a separate Reach 1 Subwatershed Study (see separate report). Based on open houses held by the City in January and March, 2006, it was apparent that the recommendations for setbacks from the river, prohibitions on development in the 100 year flood plain were consistent with our views, although some of the proposed sports fields were too close to the natural riparian corridor. These concerns are details that must be addressed closer to the final design stages.

The Barrhaven South Community Design Plan and the related Transportation Master Plan were approved by Planning and Environment Committee June 13, 2006.

Brian Finch (with excerpts from City of Ottawa literature)

### **6.2.6 Riverbend Golf Course Rezoning Application**

Late in 2005 the City laid a charge against the company that owns the Riverbend Golf & Country Club for expanding the golf course back in 1998 and 1999 onto land not zoned for golf course usage. The Riverbend Golf & Country Club then applied for rezoning and site plan approvals for the approximately 23.5 acres affected and the charges were dropped. (Note: we have been told that the City has a policy of dropping this type of charge once the application has been filed.)

In a letter May 10, 2006, the City requested comments from FJR on the application, which was requesting a rezoning from Rural to Open Space for one area and from Environmental Protection Area to Special Exception in another, to allow the golf course expansion. (Note: Environmental Protection Area zoning specifically prohibits golf courses.) In addition, Riverbend requested various but minimal setbacks from the Jock River, even though development (including golf courses) throughout the City must be set back from watercourses by the greater of: 30 m from the normal high water mark; or 15 m from the top of the bank, where it can be defined. The purpose of these setbacks is to help preserve the environmental quality of watercourses and their aquatic habitat and to provide a margin of safety from hazards such as flooding or unstable slopes. In the instance of golf courses, the setbacks provide protection from both nutrient and pesticide/herbicide/ fungicide run-offs into watercourses.

The Friends of the Jock River wrote the City in June 20, 2006, asking that the application be rejected as it did not provide a natural buffer sufficient to protect the shoreline and river. We added that the proposed planted buffer was non-existent in places resulting in a discontinuous buffer and that the suggested planting species was limited to one type of shrub, red osier dogwood. We asked that a naturally vegetated buffer of a range of native trees and shrubs be required, measuring the greater of 30 m from the high water mark or 15 m from the top of bank.

We had other problems with the application but one of note was that the requested setbacks of tees and greens from the top of the bank was between 5m and 15m but upon walking the river bank we were able to determine that the actual widths of the planned buffer were less than shown on the site plan. One proposed 5m wide buffer was measured to be 1 m from the top of bank.

City planning staff informed the applicant that additional information was required, namely: a detailed survey of the lands involved showing where the present golf course greens, tees, fairways, and roughs are in relation to the Jock River; and a proposal for re-design of the layout of the part of the golf course involved, which incorporates the required setbacks from the Jock River; and a vegetated setback planting plan. As of late November, 2006, the City has not yet received any additional information documentation required to support the applications. While the applications are still incomplete, the City has not re-laid the charge against Riverbend. However, the City has informed the golf course that it reserves the legal right to pursue further prosecution should the planning approval process not proceed to the satisfaction of the City.

Brian Finch

### **6.2.7. Riverbend Golf Course Water Taking**

The Riverbend Golf and Country Club (Riverbend), situated on the Jock River at the Franktown Road bridge, has been operating without a permit to take water (PTTW) since April, 2004, when its previous permit expired. In 2005, the Riverbend requested a PTTW, which FJR and many others opposed; 208 comments were received. MOE rejected Riverbend's application on September 29, 2005.

While the club can legally take up to 50,000 litres per day without a PTTW, we have been told that this amount is quite inadequate for a golf course. The Ottawa area has received adequate precipitation over the last three summers and the need for more water may have been unnecessary. Riverbend has a poor record on water taking issues (2 previous charges) so we remain concerned that the golf club might attempt to take more than the allowed amount in a dry summer.

Brian Finch

### **6.2.8. Designation of Provincially Significant Wetlands in Goulbourn**

Late in 2004, a professional wetlands evaluator hired by the City of Ottawa identified 20 additional wetlands, comprising 262 ha, to be complexed into the Provincially Significant Goulbourn Wetlands Complex, in the former Township of Goulbourn. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) has concurred that the lands were provincially significant wetlands (PSWs).

A large number, perhaps all, of the 60 private landowners upon whose lands these 20 wetlands were identified, are strongly opposed to having any part of their lands designated as PSWs in the City of Ottawa's Official Plan (OP). According to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH), the City is required by the Provincial Policy Statement to protect identified PSWs by designating them in the OP. The landowners claim that wetland designations devalue rural properties and place restrictions on future opportunities for changing land uses (i.e., development). They feel that the "wet" character of many of their lands is due to improper drainage design or poor maintenance of the drains by the municipality and they contend the evaluation process, based on the identification of wetland plant species, is unscientific but they have yet to provide their own science experts or scientific evidence to support this position. A number of them formed a group, the Goulbourn Landowners Group, to oppose the designations.

Several of the landowners cleared the vegetation from their properties (6 of the 20 identified wetland parcels) with the express purpose of removing the wetland designations, and several others threaten to do likewise. MNR has confirmed that the cleared lands are no longer PSWs.

Note: there are no municipal or provincial laws or regulations that prevent the wholesale destruction of wetlands plant species in wetlands that have been evaluated as PSWs. Once they have been designated as PSWs within the Official Plan there is protection.

The City sent out a Nov. 8th, 2005 letter to the affected landowners indicating that the City has stopped its OP amendment process until after a number of issues have been addressed. Since then, the City struck a Wetland Stakeholder Group comprising government (City staff, politicians, provincial MNR and MMAH), government advisory groups (Ottawa Forest and Greenspace Advisory Committee, Ottawa Environmental Advisory Committee), RVCA, landowners and interested groups (FJR). In addition, the MNR initiated a review of the criteria used to add or complex new wetland areas to existing Provincially Significant Wetlands. A reviewed wetland evaluation protocol was originally slated to be complete by the end of 2006 but the draft has yet to be made public for consultation and comment.

Wetland Stakeholder Group met quite a few times through late 2005 and early 2006, and in June 2006, the following recommendations were sent to City Council via the Agricultural & Rural Affairs Committee. The recommendations reflect the issues discussed:

1. Direct staff to take the necessary municipal drain maintenance actions on the Hobbs Municipal Drain and other drainage improvements to return the surface drainage in the area north of Flewellyn Road to pre-existing conditions, as defined in this report, with any actions taken being subject to an evaluation of the environmental benefits of the recommended actions;
2. As part of the process to declare Flowing Creek a Municipal Drain which is subject to a separate report to the Agricultural & Rural Affairs Committee on June 22, 2006, direct staff to:
  - a. Monitor environmental changes as a result of these actions by establishing a baseline in advance and annual monitoring after the corrective works are undertaken;
  - b. Report annually to Committee and Council on the monitoring results or when significant landscape changes in vegetation, creek health or surface drainage are observed;
3. Direct staff to continue to provide feedback to the Ministry of Natural Resources' review of the *Ontario Wetland Evaluation System* (OWES) through:
  - a. A letter to the Minister recommending that the update of the OWES include such items as clear specification of wetland species, the re-examination of the criteria for complexing of wetlands, consideration of whether the wetland developed through natural or human forces, a re-examination of the points allocation under the Social factor, a broader consideration of social factors such as land tenure, population density and length of residency and; an updating of the social value of wetlands to be aligned with current societal use and value of wetlands; and
  - b. participation in the targeted consultation later in 2006 as a direct participant and through the Association of Municipalities of Ontario;
4. Direct staff to encourage the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to address issues that have arisen through this process, including the consideration of social aspects in environmental lands protection, development of a Provincial policy of compensation and associated incentives for landowners to encourage environmental protection on private lands and clarification of the Provincial Policy Statement interpretation when dealing with conflicting resource protection, such as mineral aggregates and wetlands;
5. Confirm that the Official Plan wetland designation process, initiated by the City in 2005, and the existing wetland evaluation study, are cancelled and withdrawn for those areas under review within the Flewellyn Road area of Goulbourn ward, including those lands that are subject to the completion of new drainage works. Further, a re-evaluation of the wetland status of the subject lands, as defined in this report, will not occur unless the following conditions are met:
  - a. For those lands within the influence area of the drainage corrections proposed in this report and outlined in Document 3, the wetland status of the lands will not be re-evaluated any sooner than a period of five years after the undertaking of the drainage works (expected in 2007), nor will a re-evaluation occur before completion of recommendations 3, 4, 6 & 7 and initiation of recommendation 8;
  - b. For those lands outside the influence of the planned drainage corrections, the wetland status of these lands will not be re-evaluated before completion of the *Ontario Wetland Evaluation*

- c. For those lands within existing designated Limestone Resource Areas, they shall remain as limestone resource through the 2008 Official Plan review;
6. Direct staff to refine its process for notification and involvement of landowners in the identification and application of conservation measures for newly identified environmental areas as part of the 2008 Official Plan review process, taking into consideration early stakeholder involvement, social and environmental factors and the applicability of the suite of conservation measures summarized in this report;
7. Direct staff to develop a compensation policy to accompany the relevant conservation measures available to the City or its agency partners in the conservation of environmental lands;
8. Direct staff to conduct an education program that addresses the value of wetlands, the land use implications of zoned and designated environmental lands and the responsibilities of landowners and the municipality in the maintenance of municipal drains, ward drains and private property drainage and in the protection of our shared groundwater resources; and
9. Communicate the results of this wetland resolution process and the report outcome to all landowners within the subject lands and adjacent lands of the Flewellyn Road area of Goulbourn.

Not all group participants agreed with all recommendations. We have concerns as to the meaning of “pre-existing conditions” in recommendation 1. The landowners feel it relates to cleared and drained conditions in the 1960’s but there is evidence from the 1940’s that these lands were wetlands. Another considerable concern is the City’s withdrawal of the evaluation of these lands as PSW’s, which acts against the provincial requirement in the Provincial Policy Statement to protect such lands. The withdrawal could create planning and development difficulties. Note: MNR considers the lands to be provincially significant wetlands; the planning and scientific staff of conservation authorities considers the lands to be provincially significant wetlands, but the conservation authority boards and the City overlook the fact. We believe that this situation will allow wetlands to be destroyed. Unless the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (the ministry in charge of the Provincial Policy Statement) is willing to step into this issue with firm guidance and assistance, I suspect that the ongoing process will jeopardize the future designation of as yet unevaluated provincially significant wetlands in official plans in Ottawa, and other areas of Eastern Ontario.

The petition to designate Flowing Creek a municipal drain has proceeded to the next stage, which involved the appointment of an engineer to conduct a study of the area. The engineer has since had one consultation with the affected landowners (FJR was present) and the study is expected to be complete in early 2007. Recommendations must then be reviewed by the RVCA.

The beavers and dams that the landowners have been complaining about were removed by the City during the summer.

Submitted by  
Brian Finch

#### **6.2.9. Country Club Village and Canadian Golf & Country Club Service Road Environmental Assessment Study**

Ken McRae was a public representative on the Public Advisory Committee (PAC) on the City of Ottawa's and Ministry of Transportation's Country Club Village (CCV) and Canadian Golf & Country Club (CG&CC) Service Road Environmental Assessment (EA) Study. Ken represented the Friends of the Jock River on the committee while he was still a FJR member and we asked him to stay on as our representative.

The main issue for us relates to the Provincially Significant Huntley Wetlands Complex. The golf club and a number of local residents were urging the committee to put a service road through the wetland when Highway 7 is expanded from 2 to 4 lanes, to provide them with insignificantly shorter driving distances and

driving times. Ken pointed out that the expansion of Highway 7 through the wetland will have a very negative effect on the wetland and that the addition of an unnecessary service road through the wetland will only make it worse.

The report for the study on June 4, 2004, recommended that no additional service road be built, however, the study report was withdrawn in September, 2004, under curious circumstances, for further study. The final study report, released November 25, 2005, reversed its recommendation and opted for the service road option that runs through approximately one kilometre of the Provincially Significant Huntley Wetlands Complex.

Ken found many problems with this Environmental Assessment Study, including significant gaps in information (both environmental and financial), serious errors in data resulting in flawed or incorrect sub-studies conclusions, information that was withheld from PAC members, and flaws in PAC voting.

In January 2006, Ken, and Selena Walker, representing the Goulbourn Wetlands Group, filed a "Part II Order Request" (an appeal) to the Hon. Laurel C. Broten, Minister, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act in regard to the Environmental Assessment Study. To my knowledge, there has not been a decision.

Brian Finch (from conversations, e-mails and letters from Ken McRae)

#### **6.2.10. Richmond Conservation Area Community Advisory Team**

In August, Lynn Preston, Watershed Planning Coordinator, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) invited the Friends of the Jock River to participate in a Community Advisory Team (CAT) to assist in the development of a management plan for an expanded Richmond Conservation Area (RCA). Members of the former RCA management team (comprising community representatives and the Rideau Trail Association), the Richmond Village Association and the Ottawa Field Naturalists were also invited. City staff was at the table to represent the City's interests.

The RVCA hired consultant David Lashley of Lashley & Associates to combine the findings of the two previous management plans (drafted in 1997 and 2003) with policies and standards of the city and the RVCA for those publicly-owned lands within Richmond that run along the Jock River. These lands include both City-owned land, the largest single parcel comprising the old RVA, and RVCA-owned land. Together, the lands form an almost contiguous shoreline corridor from the old RCA to the southern end of Richmond at Ottawa St. The corridor lands are on one side or the other, or both sides of the river and there are occasional interruptions by private lands so it is not possible to say the new RCA lands are truly contiguous through Richmond.

The goal of the project is to prepare a consolidated Management Plan that will guide the development and management of the old RCA and the corridor lands for the next 20 years.

Richmond landowners adjacent to the Jock River were invited to an open house, Nov. 9 at the South Carleton High School in Richmond to hear a presentation on the subject lands and on possible directions that a Richmond Conservation Area and Jock River Corridor Management Plan might take. Unfortunately, community participation was poor.

I believe that the old RCA and the corridor lands together are a terrific asset for Richmond residents and I hope its value is recognized and seized upon by the residents. I favour a mixed use for the area, with the lands inside Richmond being managed as natural recreational or natural open space, and the lands in the old RCA being managed as a natural conservation area and bird watching location. The views of the members of the CAT are fairly consistent with this direction.

There have been several meetings with the CAT and a few more are expected in the new year. A draft management plan is expected late winter 2007.

Brian Finch (with excerpts from CAT correspondence)

### 6.3 Other Projects

#### 6.3.1 Human Resources and Social Development Canada

This year, FJR sponsored a summer student under the Summer Career Placement Program, Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC) to work at the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority. The total amount of the grant from HRSDC to FJR was \$3,732 which we provided to RVCA to top up the wages of the summer student, Lisa Thompson. The RVCA hired Lisa, and supplied the supervision, financial logistics (paying out wages, etc.) and training. RVCA incurred all of the financial liability, as they were not paid until well after she returned to university. FJR had asked that at least 50% of the summer student's time be spent on environmental activities within the Jock River watershed.

The following is an edited report of Lisa's work from Jennifer Lamoureux, Aquatic and Fish Habitat Biologist, RVCA.

#### **OBBN 2006**

Lisa collected a range of aquatic invertebrates at sites on the Jock River and tributaries for the Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network (OBBN), which integrates the procedures of Environment Canada's Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network and the Ontario Ministry of Environment's (MOE) Rapid Bioassessment Protocol. The OBBN protocol determines water quality by comparing the benthos (collection of organisms living on or in sea or lake bottoms) at a reference site that is natural and unimpaired. Hobb's Drain at Bleeks Rd. was used as the reference site for the Jock River. The sampling method involves collecting the species by using a D-net with a kick and sweep method. Aquatic invertebrates are sampled at different times of the year to account for all life stages of their development. A total of three replicates of samples are collected at each of the site locations and are brought back to the lab for identification. Once identified, the samples are run through various indices, which are then analyzed and observations can be made. Each year a summary report is produced, which provides details of water quality conditions for a given site. The report for 2006 will be ready in March 2007. The sites tested in the watershed were:

- Flowing Creek at Garvin Rd.
- Jock River at Hwy 16
- King's Creek at Jock Trail
- Nichols Creek at O'Neil Rd.
- Jock River at Ottawa St.
- Heron Lake at Rogers Ck Way (3 locations)

#### **Macro Stream Survey 2006**

Lisa was involved in the Jock River watershed macro stream survey. The Jock River, Kings Creek, and Nichols Creek were sampled from top to bottom using this protocol. The Jock River had a total of 472 surveys completed, Nichols Creek had 68, and Kings Creek had 122 surveys completed. Streams are sampled in 100m sections from downstream to upstream. The Macro Stream Assessment Protocol is used to obtain, record, and manage valuable information on the physical and biological characteristics of creeks and streams in the RVCA watershed. The information collected allows the identification of locations where efforts should be focused to improve aquatic habitat conditions. Another advantage of the protocol is that it looks at the entire stream system, as opposed to specific sites, which provides a holistic view of potential issues along the watercourse. A final report will be available in March 2007 summarizing the field data from last year.

#### **Municipal Drain Classification Program 2006**

The RVCA has been classifying municipal drains within the watershed for the past several years. There were a number of drains in the Jock River Watershed that were sampled last summer that had not yet been classified. A couple of those drains included the Hobb's Drainage network and the Dowdall drainage network. Lisa collected data on these drains in the summer of 2006 and classifications have now been assigned. These classifications apply to drain maintenance activities ONLY. The following link provides more information on the program, [http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/regions/central/pub/fact-fait/L2\\_e.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/regions/central/pub/fact-fait/L2_e.htm).

Brian Finch

### **6.3.2 T-Shirts**

In January 2004, we ordered 100 sand-coloured shirts printed with the FJR logo (main component is the heron drawn by Eric Snyder) in a dark green colour. Sales through 2004 and the first part of 2005 proceeded at a steady pace and eventually some sizes sold out. In April 2005, we purchased an additional 50 shirts to fill our complement of sizes. For the sake of a little diversity, we ordered the shirts in powder blue with the logo in a dark blue. Because of the lower volume purchased, our cost has increased so we decided to increase the selling price of our T-shirts to \$20, effective May 2005.

Sales for the remainder of 2006 have been slow. Three shirts were given to the Jock River Race Committee to use as prizes.

Brian Finch

### **7. Nomination Committee Report**

The Nomination Committee will submit nominations for the Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting. I bring to the attention of all members that the Nomination Committee would be pleased to accept nominations for any of the positions prior to the meeting (please call Niel Barrington at 823-3643). Nominations will also be accepted from the floor during the AGM. In all instances, those nominated must be members in good standing and must agree to the nomination. The posts on the Board are:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| President                                     | Vice-President                                      |
| Treasurer                                     | Director for Water Conservation and Usage Secretary |
| Director for Membership Roster and Management |   |
| Director for Projects and Actions             | Director of Fund-Raising                            |
| Director for Publicity and Public Relations   | Directors at Large                                  |

The Board is also seeking interested candidates for the Editorial Board for the FJR Newsletter, the Management Board for the FJR Website, and the Internal Auditor.

Niel Barrington  
Nomination Committee Chair