

# Friends of the Jock River

Annual Report  
2008

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Website: [www.jockriver.org](http://www.jockriver.org)

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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 Membership Roster and Management	Tom O. Wright	823-2436
Director for Publicity and Public Relations	Niel Barrington	823-3643
Director for Water Conservation and Usage	<i>vacant</i>	
Director at Large	Kelvin Burnett	825-1042
Director at Large	Bill Armitage	692-4577
Director at Large	Gary MacLean	440-1425

### **Committee Chairs**

Nomination Committee Chair	Niel Barrington	823-3643
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### **Project Leadership**

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

### **Other**

Editor of 2008 Annual Report	Brian Finch	825-8029
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## **2. President's Report**

Garbage clean-up, tree planting and the monitoring of development activity in the watershed have remained the major activities of the Friends of the Jock River for year 2008, our twelfth year, with one notable addition. In 2008, Tom Wright encouraged the board to run a photo contest directed towards school children within the watershed. Tom was the project leader and, in September, we launched the contest "Appreciation of the Jock River". Tom successfully approached more than 25 businesses and organizations, and received an incredible range of donated prizes ranging from digital cameras, paddles, restaurant meals, loot bags to \$100.00 gift certificates. Collectively, the prizes are worth thousands of dollars. We greatly appreciate the support. See Tom's report for more.

Another new activity for 2008 was our guided canoe/kayak excursions into the Richmond Fen Wetland, something we will definitely have to repeat.

Both I and the board extend considerable thanks to the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, Trailhead and Ramez Sam Eido of Barrhaven Computer Services for its support of our programs. The RVCA provided a grant of \$750 for our tree plant in support of the implementation of the 2001 Jock River Watershed Plan. Trailhead covered the cost of printing our bumper sticker "The Jock River - Paddle It - Protect It". Ramez designed our new FJR website at our [www.jockriver.org](http://www.jockriver.org) location. More details can be found in separate reports.

As I have said in the past, we continue to have a positive influence in advancing the health of the watershed. The City and other agencies continue to seek our opinions on environmental matters and our leadership has engaged many Scouts, Girl Guides, school children, businesses, and land

owners in environmental activities and stewardship within the watershed. In the 12 years we have been around, we have reforested significant parts of the shoreline of the Jock River and tributaries with over 12,000 trees. Some of our trees planted in our initial years are now over 4 m tall.

In this 2008 version of our annual report, we report on our involvement and participation in tree plants, an environmental assessment, plans for a city park, a fight to save wetlands in peril, a garbage clean-up, zoning and more.

Some of our executive positions went unfilled in 2008, notably the vice-president position and a director position. 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.

I urge new members to consider a position on the board.

Brian Finch

### **3. Financial Reports**

#### **3.1. Treasurer's Report**

The grant from the RVCA for our 2007 tree plant was received in early 2008.

As noted in the President's Report, above, our big tree plant in May was funded by a grant of \$750 from the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority covering the purchase of bare root seedling trees, posts for an electric fence and supplies. The funding from the RVCA was supplied in early 2009.

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

Brian Finch

#### **3.2. Financial Statements**

##### **Balance Sheet 2007**

			2008	2007	Variance
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>					
	Chequing TD Canada	\$	2,701.75	2,317.56	384.19
	Petty Cash	\$	10.00	65.00	(55.00)
	Accounts Receivable (GST)	\$	240.93	240.93	0.00
	Other assets	\$	0.00	0.00	0.00
	T-shirts 59 @ 8.731818182	\$	515.18	567.57	(52.39)
					-----
	Total assets	\$	3,467.86	3,191.06	276.80

					=====
					=
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
	Accounts Payable	\$	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total Liabilities	\$	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Equity - Beginning	\$	3,191.06	3,938.79	(747.73)
	Receipts Plus	\$	329.19	(695.34)	1,024.53
	Dispersements for Year				
	Total Equities	\$	3,520.25	3,243.45	276.80
					-----

### **Cash Flow 2007**

<b>INFLOW</b>		
	Donations	
	Designated - Photo Competition	\$1,212.48
	Unrestricted	\$167.00
	Grants	
	HRSDC (Summer Student)	\$3,753.00
	RVCA (for Tree Plant 2007)	\$445.52
	Membership Dues	
	Corporate sustaining	\$200.00
	Family	\$100.00
	Supporter	\$75.00
	Volunteer	\$40.00
	T-shirt sales	\$40.00
	<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	\$6,033.00
<b>OUTFLOW</b>		
	Bank Service Charges	\$60.08
	Office Supplies	\$43.90
	Printing and Reproduction	\$355.00
	Burnett Tree Plant 2008	\$745.25
	HRSDC Summer student	\$3,753.00
	Photo Contest	\$746.58
	<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	\$5,703.81
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>		\$329.19

Brian Finch

#### **4. Membership**

The membership of the Friends of the Jock River continues to grow with the addition of members from the Upper Jock River canoe race in the spring of 2008.

Our membership number: 159 in 2008

In 2008 the Board took steps to permit the payment of membership fees via the internet for 2009. For 2009, we expect to have additional members from the Appreciation of the Jock River Photo Contest, started in 2008 and slated to close in May 2009 (*Editor: recently extended to October 31, 2009*). Also, with the huge number of homes being built at Half Moon Bay and in the Richmond area, we expect our membership base to grow.

Tom O. Wright  
Director

#### **5. Website**

We purchased the website [www.jockriver.org](http://www.jockriver.org) in 2004 to protect the name, but we had been using it simply to transfer individuals to our website at [www.geocities.com/jockriver](http://www.geocities.com/jockriver). For the past approximately 3 years we have made minimal updates to the geocities website and some of the information was getting a little stale. The time for an update was overdue. Tom Wright asked a neighbour, Ramez Sam Eido, a website designer with Barrhaven Computer Services, to design a new FJR website at our [www.jockriver.org](http://www.jockriver.org) location. Ramez agreed (and became a member).

After an initial meeting, Ramez produced a good looking prototype, which the board was pleased with. Through the year and following several meetings, Ramez migrated some of the information from the geocities site, updated old information and added new content. He also put in place a more up to date and innovative photo display tool. In 2009, Ramez will implement web-based financial tools, such as PayPal for the payment of dues and [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org) for the submission of donations, to facilitate online transactions.

We expect to be able to take down our old site early in 2009.

We continue to get many hits on our websites 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, from new residents looking for a spot to fish or canoe, or from university students working on journalism or environmental projects.

Many thanks Ramez for your work. (Note: Ramez can be contacted at Barrhaven Computer Services, Phone (613) 851-7870, website <http://BarrhavenComputerServices.com>)

Brian Finch

#### **6. Project Reports**

##### **6.1. Restoration and Environmental Enhancement Projects**

###### **6.1.1 Spring Tree Plant 2008**

The cover page of the FJR brochure states our "*raison d'être*" is providing leadership for improving the health of the Jock River watershed ecosystems. Towards that end, one of our most

important and enjoyable projects every year is hosting our big spring tree plant at a chosen location in the watershed.

We like to plant along the riverbank or tributary streams as close to the water as we can get. Over the last 10 years, FJR has put thousands of seedlings in at the Royal York Park in Richmond, Richmond Conservation Area, Twin Elm, Monahan Stormwater treatment ponds, both sides of the river downstream of Eagleson, both sides of Half-Moon Bay, Jockvale and Stonebridge.

The first Saturday in May (the 3<sup>rd</sup>) found the FJR tree-planting volunteers out in full force as local scout and cub troops arrived at the Burnett property upstream of Half-Moon Bay. We had been given permission to plant along one side of a small tributary, the very bottom of the Frazer-Clarke Drain that flows into the Jock River. This is really a great location for a future forest to take root as its strategic location will provide enhanced ecological value as a low lying area for nesting habitat, filtering and flood control, nutrient retention, etc. We thank Mr. Kelvin Burnett for permission to plant.

The day went by quickly as the ground was pretty good for digging and planting. The scouts, cubs, their leaders and parents, friends and family really pitched in and we are grateful for their assistance.

A few groups laboured through the afternoon getting most of the seedlings in the ground, as well as doing the final quality control on the morning's planting before laying our cut carpet squares around the base of every seedling to give it the best chance of survival against the emerging weeds and grasses. At the same time, spiral tree wraps were placed around the high bush cranberry, red maple, silver maple, and butternut plants to protect them from mice and voles (the other trees are not commonly attacked by these rodents).

About 120 people were out on Saturday. Fewer volunteers were out on Sunday but we succeeded in getting the remaining seedlings in the ground.

On both days, all participants were rewarded with one of our stickers, "The Jock River - Paddle It - Protect It", and a nice hot slice of pizza, courtesy of Boston Pizza.

The following trees, 1,020 in all, were planted:

White Cedar	200
High Bush Cranberry	100
Tamarack	200
Red maple	100
Silver maple	200
White Pine	100
White Spruce	100
Butternut	20

We greatly appreciate the support of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, which supplied us with a grant of \$750 that covered the purchase of the trees (excluding the butternut trees), spiral tree wraps and posts for the electric fence that will protect the trees from cattle. The grant was provided by the RVCA as part of its continuing support of activities relating to the implementation of the 2001 Jock River Watershed Plan.

Many thanks to the City staff at the old Goulbourn City Hall on Huntley Rd. who lent us two portable tents for the weekend and to Boston Pizza on Greenbank Road for the pizza.

The 20 butternut trees, along with a tree wrap and Tassu mulch collar for each were supplied by the RVCA's butternut recovery program.

All in all, a great effort with great results!

See ya' all next spring at our 2009 Spring plant, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 9:30!

Niel Barrington,  
Tree plant coordinator

### 6.1.2 IKEA Tree Plant

For the fifth consecutive year, Mike Rosen, President, Tree Canada Foundation, asked FJR to provide assistance 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.

Trees Canada went back to the City-owned Monahan Stormwater Treatment Pond area, the site of the 2007 and 2006 FJR and Ikea spring tree plants. The tree plant was held on Tuesday, May 27, 2008, a bright but cool day. Mike Rosen purchased 50-60 substantial trees and shrubs, most in pots but some larger trees in burlap-wrapped root ball form. Trees Canada supplied spiral tree wraps and special plastic mulch while FJR supplied buckets for watering in the plants.

The planting site was in the western corner of the Monahan Stormwater Treatment Pond area close to Eagleson Rd. I served as FJR planting instructor, labourer, advisor, cheerleader and quality control manager. By early afternoon, the crew comprising about 14 enthusiastic Ikea employees, Mike Rosen, Jim McCready (Trees Canada) and myself had all the trees and shrubs nicely planted.

Visits in the fall indicate a very high success rate.

Brian Finch

### 6.1.3 Barrhaven/Greenbank Road Spring Clean-Up

A spring clean up in Barrhaven and along the Greenbank corridor near the Jock River was held May 16, 2008. The event was organized jointly by The Friends of the Jock River and Andrea Steenbakkens, Executive Director, Barrhaven Business Improvement Association. A wide range of participants pitched in to do the clean up: students from local schools, businesses, residents, Steve Desroches (Councillor, Gloucester-South Nepean), the Barrhaven Independent Newspaper, Ottawa City Surface and Traffic staff, the Lions Club and the Satir Learning Centre. With this co-operative spirit, 620 kg of garbage and litter were gathered. Following the clean-up, a B.B.Q. lunch was supplied by Ross's Independent I.G.A. and served by the Barrhaven Lion's Club.

The area of Greenbank Road / Half Moon Bay was adopted by St Joseph School. This adoption by the school, supervised by Mr. Steven McCabe and Mr. Wade Cotnam, has proven to be a very worthwhile project. The installation of white barrels along the adopted Greenbank Road and Half Moon Bay on the Jock River has reduced litter and is developing a positive attitude towards "not littering".

A solid base for this project has now been established and it is hoped that this system will be expanded in 2009 with the new residents from the Mattamy, Minto, Tamarack, and Monarch housing developments.

Tom O. Wright  
Director

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

### **6.2.1. Riverbend Golf Course Rezoning Application**

The Riverbend Golf & Country Club expanded its golf course in 1998 and 1999 onto land not zoned for golf course usage. After some urging from the former Goulbourn and the amalgamated City of Ottawa (including the laying of charges), Riverbend applied for rezoning and site plan approvals for the approximately 23.5 acres affected (known as Phase 2). For more background information on this issue, please see Section 6.2.5 in the 2007 Annual Report on our website. The staff report to Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee of Ottawa Council, dated 27 June 2008, available on the City of Ottawa website, provides extensive background and maps.

Current requirements for the development of a golf course require that development be set back from watercourses by the greater of: 30m from the normal high water mark; or 15m from the top of the bank, where it can be defined.

The Friends of the Jock River indicated in its correspondence with City staff that, because of the pre-existing golf course playing surfaces, it could accept a compromise position of a continuous and fully planted shoreline buffer of 10m - 15m from the top of the bank, less than the required 30 m, in the subject lands if the proponent provided a continuous 15m vegetated shoreline buffer throughout the rest of the golf course. (Note that the top of bank in this instance is further from the river than the high water mark the current proposal is based on so our compromise position should be considered as 15m from the high water mark throughout.) Our position did not include any playing surfaces within any of the 15m buffer areas.

Despite the development requirements, City staff recommended the following multi-part arrangement:

1. the establishment of a 15m setback (buffer) from the high water mark within the subject lands;
2. compensation would be provided by extensive planting within this 15m buffer;
3. golf course surfaces within this 15m buffer would not be required to be moved; and
4. in compensation for golf course playing surfaces within the 15m buffer, the creation of a planted 15m buffer throughout the rest of the proponent's golf course on lands that are not the subject of the rezoning request.

In the summer, Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee (ARAC) and later Council agreed with the staff position but implementation will not proceed until the site plan and bylaw are completed. We met with City staff, the proponent's consultant, the RVCA and an interested City resident in November and, as of the end of December 2008, the site plan and bylaw were still under negotiation.

The Friends of the Jock River made the following objections to ARAC:

## I. The buffer is not a buffer:

- A. A quick inspection of the site plan shows that there are three holes (11, 12 and 13) spread along the Jock River shoreline, and all three holes, except for green 11 and a smidgen of fairway 11, lie within the required 30 m setback. While the delineation of the 30m setback was requested by staff, the proponent failed to provide it.
- B. Greater than 95% of the area of holes 12 and 13 lie entirely within the proposed 15m buffer, while an estimated 40% of the area of hole 11 lies within the proposed 15m buffer. On a linear basis, 68% of the proposed 15m buffer is affected and compromised by existing playing surfaces, including all of holes 12 and 13 and a major part of hole 11.

With respect to City staff's proposed 15m buffer on the subject property, the presence of existing playing surfaces within the buffer means the proposed 15m buffer is not a 15m buffer. Put simply, the proposed buffer is 15m wide along little less than a third of its length; for the remaining more than two thirds it is less; and in some instances significantly less. We measured the 13<sup>th</sup> tee-off area to be 1.4m from the top of the bank, while Riverbend's consultant reports that this tee is less than 4 m from the high water mark.

- C. The site plan shows both the shoreline buffer and proposed planting ending a few metres east of the 13<sup>th</sup> green leaving as much as 40m of shoreline without a planted buffer. We pointed out that there are no playing surfaces in this area, only low-lying grass, and saw no reason for excluding it from a 30m planted buffer. In the November meeting, City staff appeared open to providing for a 15m buffer.

In summary - when 30m is the required setback to protect the Jock River, the proposed setback of between 15m and less than 4m must be judged as inadequate.

## II. The golf playing surfaces could be moved outside the line of the compromise 15m buffer.

- A. The proponent's request, including the consultants' reports, appears to have been premised from the start that there would be "no modification of the playing surfaces".

The entire report by the proponent's golf course design consultant was based on the faulty assumption that a 15m setback was required when a 30m setback was actually required. What was the consultant asked to provide?

Not a single playing surface relocation was suggested by the proponent's consultant, even though City staff had specifically requested the proponent to provide site alterations that would place the subject lands in compliance with the 30m setback. If the proponent had asked his consultant to provide precisely this, there is a reasonable expectation that a proposal for course redesign would have been produced by the consultant.

- B. We dispute the consultant's conclusions that none of the playing surfaces can be moved without affecting the course playability or safety. Based on the site plan, we believe all of the affected holes can be moved outside the 15m buffer, starting with the most obvious:
  - 1. the strip between 15m and 30m from the river adjacent to hole 13 would easily provide for the relocation of hole 13. The loss of a few existing trees would be compensated for in the planting of a full 15m buffer. Concerns about golfer safety could be dealt with by planting barrier plants such as conifers between the 12<sup>th</sup> hole and the 13<sup>th</sup> tee-off area at right angles to the river. Similarly, a barrier could be planted parallel to the river between the relocated 13<sup>th</sup> green and the existing 9<sup>th</sup>

tee-off area. Barrier planting could be supplemented with nets until the barrier plants reach sufficient size.

The fact that this simple move was not even suggested by the consultant supports our belief the consultant's conclusions were predetermined.

2. the relocation outside the 15m setback line of tee-off and green for hole 12 would require planted and/or net barriers. The move of fairway 12 outside the 15m buffer would require the removal of some of the adjacent hardwood bush. As environmentalists, the removal of trees would be regrettable but would be compensated by the plantings in the full 15m buffer.
3. the 11<sup>th</sup> tee and part of the 11<sup>th</sup> fairway could be moved sideways just outside the 15m buffer along with establishment of planted or net barriers between the 11<sup>th</sup> hole and 10<sup>th</sup>. While this is possibly a somewhat close arrangement, matching the move of the 11<sup>th</sup> hole with a small relocation of the 10<sup>th</sup> green and part of the 10<sup>th</sup> fairway should provide the required safety.

- C. We believe the argument by the proponent's consultant that the course cannot be reduced in size because it is already smaller than the average regulation course is specious as golf industry norms do not trump environmental requirements. The current 30m setback requirement is firmly entrenched in the regulations for sound environmental reasons.

In summary - we believe that the golf course surfaces can be relocated outside the compromise 15m buffer.

### III. The compensation plan is inadequate.

The staff report had indicated that, as compensation, the entire shoreline of the Jock River within the older part of the golf course property outside the subject lands would become a vegetated 15-metre buffer.

- A. A fairly substantial portion of the older part of the golf course immediately beside the subject lands had been excluded from the compensation planting plan. In the November meeting, City staff and Riverbend's consultant agreed to include it.
- B. We had asked that the tiny, spring-fed tributary, known as Dowdall Drain or Rogers Creek, flowing through the old part of the golf course from the west be included in the compensation plan. City staff and Riverbend's consultant agreed to include it subject to confirmation of the City's requirements for drains. Subsequently, we were told that planting along only one side would be allowed as working space along every municipal drain is required to allow for maintenance activities.
- C. The compensation planting plan was not continuous, as suggested by the staff report. It is understood that it would be broken at bridge crossings and that there are a few parts of the shoreline that are already treed; however, there were several significant breaks in the buffer, notably at golf hole crossings. We suggested that these areas be planted with shrubs. No conclusion was reached on this request.
- D. The staff position said the compensation would be provided by a 15m buffer but the site plan for the older part of the course was not very detailed. City staff indicated the final site plan would be more detailed.
- E. The site plan for the older part of the course indicated that the buffer would be planted in single and double rows of trees, which led to a question in the November meeting whether

these single and double rows would constitute a 15m buffer. City staff agreed that the area of trees to be planted within the older part of the golf course was simply a 1:1 compensation by area of the golf course that would lie within the 15m buffer in Phase 2 (the subject lands). Note: this compensation is not being provided for the parts of the golf course in Phase 2 lying within the required 30m buffer; it is being provided for only that part lying within a 15m buffer.

- G. We are uncertain how 1 or 2 rows of trees would constitute a 15m wide compensation buffer.

In summary - the compensation planting: is not continuous; only compensates for golf course surfaces lying within a 15m buffer within the subject lands and not for the full required 30m buffer; and may not be anywhere near 15m wide.

Next steps:

City Council passed the bylaw amendment at the end of August and the Friends of the Jock River filed an appeal of the decision to the Ontario Municipal Board shortly thereafter. One other private citizen filed an appeal. Apparently the appeals were premature as the **final approval of the site plan application has not been granted and the required site plan agreement has not been entered into with the City. We will await these documents, which we expect to get in draft form, and determine a course of action based on their content.**

Brian Finch

### **6.2.2 Riverbend Golf and Country Club Permit to Water Take Water**

The Riverbend Golf and Country Club (Riverbend), situated on the Jock River at the Franktown Road Bridge, 8089 Franktown Road, had been operating without a permit to take water (PTTW) since April, 2004, when its previous permit expired. That permit allowed Riverbend to take water from the Jock River. In 2005, the Riverbend requested a PTTW, which FJR and many others opposed; 208 comments were received and MOE rejected the application. Without a PTTW, the club is still legally allowed to take up to 50,000 litres per day and apparently has been making do on that amount, although, we have been told by a local golf course manager that this amount is quite inadequate.

Riverbend made another application to MOE some time in late 2007 or early 2008 that was posted on the provincial government's Environmental Bulletin Board on June 09, 2008, for a 30 day public review and comment period ending July 09, 2008. This proposal was for:

PTTW from the Jock River  
Period of Water Taking: 10 Years  
Maximum rate per minute (Litres): 1273  
Maximum number of hours of taking per day: 4  
Maximum volume per day (Litres): 305,520  
Maximum number of days of taking per year: 90  
Earliest calendar date of taking (mm/dd): 05/01  
Latest calendar date of taking (mm/dd): 10/01

The amount of water requested was reduced from the 2005 permit application. This new proposal also stipulated reduced taking amounts during lower water levels with a cutoff at a still lower level. This cutoff level had been established by a study conducted by a fish biologist hired by Riverbend. The RVCA, specifically its fish biology experts, had no objections.

We had always wanted Riverbend to consider taking water from deep wells rather than from the river and we had previously suggested that Riverbend provide proof that the lower level cut-off for water taking would not harm the river. With the science based approach taken by Riverbend and RVCA concurrence, we could not find any real basis for concern and did not object to the request.

An interesting postscript is that, as of the end of 2008, MOE has been silent on the Riverbend request - neither rejecting nor approving it - suggesting that something else may be going on. The only study done on downstream effects related to fish but perhaps MOE has concerns about possible effects of the taking on the other flora and fauna in low water conditions. It is important to note that the Richmond Fen Wetland, the largest provincially significant wetland in Eastern Ontario, lies downstream of the golf course.

Brian Finch

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

#### Background:

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. These wetlands are in the Jock River watershed and drain into Flowing Creek, a small tributary entering the Jock River in Richmond just upstream of the Eagleson bridge. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) concurred that the lands were provincially significant wetlands (PSWs). 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 City of Ottawa's Official Plan (OP) and the City initiated its OP amendment process

Most of the 60 private landowners upon whose lands these 20 wetlands were identified strongly opposed having any part of their lands designated as PSWs 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. Several of the landowners complained about beavers in the upper Flowing Creek area. Finally, they contend the evaluation process, based on the identification of wetland plant species, is unscientific. (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, and the group has been very active both locally and provincially.

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: for the Ottawa region, 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 prior to their designation as PSWs within the Official Plan. Once designated they are protected (sort of - see later).

In late 2005 the City stopped its OP amendment process to allow for a number of issues to be 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), conservation authorities (RVCA and Mississippi Conservation Authority), 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 group of landowners petitioned to have part of Flowing Creek designated a municipal drain. The City promised to review possible compensation options.

#### Current Status:

##### 1. Wetland Evaluation Protocol

The reviewed wetland evaluation protocol was originally slated to be complete by the end of 2006 but, 3 years later, nothing has been made public.

##### 2. Drainage petition - Flowing Creek.

The Engineer's report for the application on the drainage petition for Upper Flowing Creek is complete but it has not been released to the public. In the fall, all reviewing agencies appeared to be in agreement with the report with the exception of a few minor points. Surprisingly, by the end of 2008, the final report had not yet been received by the RVCA.

I had expected the agency approvals in the fall with Council approval in the winter of 2009 and work on the drain to start in summer 2009 but at the current pace, the 2009 construction window could be missed.

##### 3. Beaver dams.

The beavers and dams that the landowners have been complaining about were removed by the City during the summers of 2006 and 2007, and is an ongoing issue.

##### 4. Compensation

The City has put out a White Paper on Compensation Options for Wetlands and Other Environmental Lands located at [http://ottawa.ca/residents/public\\_consult/beyond\\_2020/papers/white/wetlands\\_en.html](http://ottawa.ca/residents/public_consult/beyond_2020/papers/white/wetlands_en.html) on the City's web site and has invited public comment.

##### 5. Status of wetlands.

In a letter May 28, 2009, MNR informed the City that it had identified new Provincially-Significant Wetlands, within the City of Ottawa. This updated mapping added 3,600 hectares (9,000 acres) of new provincially significant wetlands, and removed 775 hectares (1,900 acres) that were previously designated. The letter requested that the City modify its Official Plan to reflect these changes. More information on the MNR letter and a significant amount of information of wetlands can be found at [http://ottawa.ca/residents/planning/wetlands/index\\_en.html](http://ottawa.ca/residents/planning/wetlands/index_en.html).

While some of these additions and deletions cover some properties within the 20 wetlands in Goulbourn identified in 2004, the City is proposing to deal with these Goulbourn lands within the official plan by placing the subject lands under a special policy area designation, rather than by designating them in the Official Plan as PSWs. The remaining wetlands identified in the MNR letter will be designated as PSWs in the Official Plan. Concerning the identified Goulbourn wetlands, the following proposal was presented to the wetlands group in draft form:

"Their wetland status will be re-evaluated approximately five years after the completion of the drainage improvements, so as to capture the effects of the drainage improvements on the wetland features and functions."

"The Flewellyn Special Policy Area is designated ... to allow for correction of drainage problems and protection of provincially-significant wetlands in the area. The following policies will apply:

- a. The City in consultation with the Ministry of Natural Resources will evaluate the wetland status of lands within the Flewellyn Special Policy Area through a new study following the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System. The evaluation will be initiated not less than five years following completion of drainage works targeted for 2009. The Plan will be amended within a year of completion of the evaluation to reflect any provincially-significant wetlands identified by the Ministry of Natural Resources. The Plan will also be amended to remove the Special Policy Area designation.
- b. The provisions of the underlying designations on Schedule A will apply to lands within the Special Policy Area until or unless a development application is filed under the *Planning Act*, for example to change the zoning of a property or to create new lots through subdivision or severance.
- c. Where a development application under the *Planning Act* is filed, the following policies will apply:
  - i. Land within significant wetlands identified on maps maintained by the Ministry of Natural Resources and land within 120 m of these wetlands will be subject to the policies of Section 3.2.1 on Significant Wetlands and all applicable policies elsewhere in this Plan;
  - ii. All other land will be subject to the policies associated with the underlying designations and all applicable policies elsewhere in this Plan;
  - iii. The boundary of significant wetlands identified on maps maintained by the Ministry of Natural Resources may be amended based on more detailed site investigations, with the approval of the Ministry of Natural Resources."

This proposed handling of wetlands may be problematic for several reasons.

First, this proposed process to deal with significant wetlands as special policy areas outside of the designation process is unique in the province and may create its own set of administrative and legal problems that could compromise the intended protection. The environmental groups, the City, MNR and MMAH should all be uneasy about this process.

Second, on face value, this proposal appears to protect these lands, but within the City of Ottawa, closer inspection reveals gaps in the intended protection. If the proposal is adopted as part of the official plan and if someone decides to destroy one of the wetlands by cutting down all the trees and turning the earth with a bulldozer, what will be the consequences? The RVCA operates under the Conservation Authorities Act (1990). Generic Regulation 174/06: *Regulation of Development, Interference With Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses* relating to Sections 28(1) and 28(8) of the act specifically requires conservation authorities to protect "wetlands" (not just provincially significant wetlands) but the RVCA board has directed its staff to apply Regulation 174/06 only to those wetlands designated as PSWs in the City's Official Plan. The wetland within the special policy area will not have been designated as a PSW so RVCA staff will have to sit on its hands and do nothing. Meanwhile, City staff has been stating that the conservation authorities (CAs) are responsible for protecting PSWs and the City does not get involved in protecting wetlands (or even PSWs for that matter). The net effect is that the wetlands that have been evaluated as provincially significant wetlands (but not designated as such) will be protected from development under the special policy provision but not from destruction by other means. Furthermore, there is nothing to deter a developer from destroying one of these wetlands, and having the wetland evaluated as no longer provincially significant. After some time, the developer could then apply to develop the land so, in effect, the lands covered under the Flewellyn Special Policy Area designation may not actually be protected from development.

(Note: The CAs operate under the Conservation Authorities Act but the City operates under the Planning Act and the latter requires the City to abide by the Provincial Policy Statement, which explicitly requires the City to protect PSWs. There is overlap in the responsibilities of CAs and municipalities with respect to wetlands, but the requirement to protect PSWs actually falls more heavily on the shoulders of municipalities than on the CAs. Clearly, the City is side stepping its legal obligations.)

Brian Finch

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

In mid-2006, 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). The Friends of the Jock River had been involved in the now defunct RCA Management Team, which was a group of volunteers assembled by the City to manage the previous smaller RCA comprising the abandoned Richmond sewage treatment ponds and adjacent lands situated between Eagleson Road and the eastern edge of the residential part of Richmond. There had been two previous attempts to produce management plans for the old RCA.

The expanded RCA was proposed to include both City-owned land (old RCA and shoreline parks within the village) and RVCA-owned land (primarily the park near Royal York St. and McBean St.) These lands are on one or both sides of the river through Richmond with only one interruption by private lands such that, together, they form an almost contiguous shoreline corridor from the old RCA near Eagleson Rd. to the southern end of Richmond at Ottawa St. About 5 privately held lots in one block prevent this expanded RCA from being contiguous.

More background is provided under Section 6.2.8 of the 2007 Annual Report on our website.

A draft management plan written by a consultant was near completion in June 2007 but, unfortunately, the project became bogged down. There was some progress in 2008 resulting in the completion of a draft management plan by Lynn Preston. The report was basically an amalgam of the two previous management reports, expanded to deal with the joint City and RVCA lands, and incorporating the items gathered since the RVCA became involved. Lynn also took into account the concerns of the City i.e. that any development has to have a business approach and a cost-benefit analysis applied to it. Lynn outlined 2 management scenarios and tried to associate costs with some of the recommended actions.

The city is currently undertaking a Community Design Plan for Richmond. In 2009, I will attempt to ensure the concepts of the RCA management plan are considered in the Community Design Plan process.

I continue to believe in the enormous potential of the project and of the area. The old RCA and the corridor lands are a terrific asset for Richmond and other City residents. I favour a mixed use for the area, with the lands inside Richmond being managed as a natural recreational or natural open space corridor through Richmond, and the lands in the old RCA being managed as a natural conservation area and a bird watching location.

Brian Finch (with abstracts for RVCA correspondence)

### **6.2.5. Hearts Desire Weir**

The following relates to a request made in the spring of 2007 by the Stonebridge Community Association, co-signed by the Friends of the Jock River, to remove the Hearts Desire Weir.

Background information on this topic can be found under Section 6.2.10 of the 2007 Annual Report on our website. Other background documents can be found on our website under the "Issues" line.

Studies on 1 km sections of the river both above and below the Hearts Desire weir were conducted by RVCA staff in 2007. On May 13, 2008, Bruce Reid supplied FJR with a staff recommendation (dated May 12, 2008) that was to be presented to the RVCA board at a meeting May 22, 2008. The following abstract from RVCA documents provides an overview. The study indicated:

- the weir is structurally sound;
- the weir is *not* considered to be the *primary* factor in the erosion process. However, it is a *contributing* factor in the observed erosion rate and bank instability, insofar as its annual installation for the summer months has the effect of preventing the establishment of any deep-rooted vegetative cover on the lowermost portion of the river bank (below the controlled summer water level), and its annual removal in fall causes elevated soil pore water pressures (relative to river level) in the lower portion of the bank;
- there were some concerns about flooding with the weir in place: water levels in the head pond reach will exceed the water level that original flooding easements were based on; at a recurrence interval (return period) of about 40 years (a so-called 40 year flood) or more, there will be shallow depth flooding affecting access to one single family home on Goodwood Drive; in a 100 year flood, the flooding in the access to this home will be unsafe; but in a 100 year flood, the basement of the lowest lying home upstream of the weir appears to be approximately 20 cm above flood level;
- biologists at the RVCA, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans were consistent with the contemporary position of most fisheries biologists that wherever opportunities are presented to eliminate man-made barriers to the free movement of fish and other species along watercourses, the prudent course of action from an aquatic habitat management point of view is to remove the barrier. The 2007 surveys did not reveal any specific negative impact that would result from decommissioning the weir. However, it is acknowledged that decommissioning the weir would definitely result in a *change* in the habitat characteristics, and there is a consensus amongst the habitat management experts that efforts should be made to ensure a net beneficial effect, if a decision to decommission the weir was made. This would require implementing a well thought out habitat restoration plan; and
- the weir site is considered to be hazardous by canoeists and kayakers under both weir-in and weir-out conditions, the latter on account of the steel I-beam anchor posts that are set into, and project upwards and out from, the concrete sill.

RVCA staff recommended that the RVCA should work towards decommissioning the structure but the RVCA Board was presented with three options for the future operation of the weir:

- Option 1 — continue to operate the weir in its present configuration
- Option 2 — continue to operate the weir, but in a modified configuration
- Option 3 — decommission the weir.

The RVCA Board of Directors agreed with the staff recommendation for Option 3, that the Hearts Desire Weir will not be permanently removed until a stream restoration plan has been prepared in consultation with interested stakeholders, and a budget for its implementation has been approved. In the interim, the RVCA will continue its annual installation and removal of the Hearts Desire Weir.

The RVCA conducted additional studies on this part of the river in the spring of 2008, prior to the installation of the weir panels.

Starting in the fall of 2008, the RVCA intended to prepare a possible decommissioning plan and then to consult with directly affected public and private landowners and regulatory agencies. The RVCA will also apply for provincial funding through the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Program to support the preparation of a plan to effectively restore and rehabilitate public or private lands on the one kilometre length of river that has been altered by the weir's original construction and subsequent operation. The RVCA's plan will also need to contribute to flood and erosion control and aquatic habitat health goals.

Brian Finch (with considerable input and abstraction from RVCA documents)

### **6.2.6. Half Moon Bay Park on the Jock River**

Three years ago the Friends of the Jock River initiated a meeting with Greenbank residents, St. Joseph High School and the Ottawa Forestry group to upgrade the Half Moon Bay area just south of the Greenbank Road bridge over the Jock River. Now, this area will soon become Half Moon Bay Park.

A variety of activities have taken place since the meeting. Local fire station #44 conducted a practice rescue drill by retrieving a truck tire from the ice in the middle of the bay. White litter barrels were placed around the bay and St. Joseph High School cleaned up the shoreline and adopted Greenbank Road from Loblaws to Cambrian Road. At our urging, the City's Forestry Department removed quite a few hazardous limbs and trees. The Friends of the Jock River, area residents and a member of the St. Joseph High School environmental club wrapped seventy trees with wire mesh to prevent beavers from cutting down more trees.

In February, 2008, Kevin Wherry of the City's Parks and Recreation Branch invited local residents and Friends of the Jock River to view, discuss and comment on the conceptual design for the new Half Moon Bay Park that Mattamy Home's landscape architects and the City had been working on. We liked the plans and had a few requests. We had several concerns, including the planned level of shoreline planting (not enough), and we were interested in retaining the trees we had planted back in 1998 near the southern end of the bay.

Through the construction season, Mattamy did some work on the shoreline such as grading and the addition of top soil and sod along the edge of the bay. In the fall, Mattamy planted a variety of caliper-size trees, protected by a row of armor boulders placed between the trees and the road. The trees and armor stones extended along the shoreline but were not placed in a portion of the shoreline just north of the caliper trees we planted. In the late fall we understood the reason. Mattamy constructed a large outlet connecting its stormwater pond with the river and constructed two large concrete culverts to cross the outlet "creek" at Greenbank and a new unnamed road about 50m to the west. The meandering "creek" from the stormwater pond to the river has been landscaped and this area, when completed, will be a very attractive park connected to the Half Moon Bay Park.

Due to the extensive construction of the outlet and culverts, the shoreline restoration will be completed in the spring of 2009.

Attractive litter containers were installed at the road side for those stopping to eat and enjoy the area.

We expect further consultation with the Parks and Recreation Department with other developments in the park such as the canoe launch area and continued reforestation of the shoreline along the bay and downstream.

Tom O. Wright  
Director

### **6.2.7 Jockvale Road Widening and Bridge Crossing Environmental Assessment**

In late 2007, the City asked the Friends of the Jock River to participate in a Public Consultation Group as part of an environmental assessment to examine alternatives for Jockvale Road improvements between the Prince of Wales Drive and the Jockvale Bridge over the Jock River. Improvements will, of course, be necessary due to the growth of new suburbs around Manotick and around Barrhaven, especially the Stonebridge Community. A series of meetings was held.

A number of FJR board members, including Brian, Niel, and Bill, attended these meetings and offered input on protecting the river and ecologically important lands in the corridor under review. (Bill was also wearing the hat of the President of the Stonebridge Community Association.) We studied the 4 alternatives the City put forward and were satisfied with the final choice, with the following caveats added:

1. that any new bridge structure provide a through-access (a wildlife corridor) under the south end of the bridge to avoid unnecessary road kill and to provide a connection between green spaces along the river above and below the bridge;
2. our hope that the new bridge construction would include restoration to the river bed to correct modifications made by previous construction. This would restore the beautiful pool, known to fisherman as "upper Jockvale" pool;
3. that the roadway utilize more environmentally advantageous roundabouts instead of traffic lights; and
4. that raised berms planted with trees be installed between the new 4-lane Longfields Drive to the north and the Bren-Maur stormwater pond, and between the new 4-lane Jockvale Road and the Stonebridge community.

Niel Barrington,  
Secretary

## **6.3 Other Projects**

### **6.3.1 Human Resources and Social Development Canada Student Employment - RVCA**

FJR has again 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 (RVCA). The total amount of the grant from HRSDC to FJR was \$3,753 which we provided to RVCA to pay for a summer student. As in the past, FJR had asked that at least 50% of the summer student's time be spent on environmental activities within the Jock River watershed.

The RVCA hired Kaitlin Grant, a university summer student, and supplied the supervision, financial logistics (including topping up wages) and training. RVCA incurred all of the financial liability, as they were not paid until well after she returned to university.

The following is a slightly edited report of RVCA's work on the Jock River for 2008 from Jennifer Lamoureux, Aquatic and Fish Habitat Biologist. The report includes Kaitlin's work from May to August.

### Aquatic Habitat Monitoring Achievements 2008

#### Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network (OBBN)

-Sampled May and October at 7 stream sites for the Jock River and tributaries.

Flowing Creek	FL-1		at Garvin Rd
Jock River	JO-1		at Old Hwy 16
Hobb's Drain	HO-1		at Bleeks Rd
King's Creek	KI-1		at Jock Trail
Nichols Creek		NI-1	at O'Neil Rd
Jock River	JO-2		at Ottawa St
Rogers Creek	RC-1		at Heron Lake Rd

-Identified all stream samples in house for spring and fall.

- Entered data into database and produced one page summary reports for 2007 results along with historical results since 2003. The 2008 reports have not been finalized as of yet.

#### Ontario Stream Assessment Protocol (OSAP)

-Sampled using the Channel Morphology module in the OSAP protocol prior to the Hearts Desire Weir installation. This was done at 25 cross sections to get a sense of the channel bottom shape, availability of cover, in stream vegetation, bank steepness, bank vegetation, and bank composition.

Brian Finch and Jennifer Lamoureux (RVCA)

### **6.3.2 T-Shirts**

Three shirts were given to the Jock River Race Committee to use as prizes for the race entrants. Sales of our T-shirts for 2008 have been slow.

Brian Finch

### **6.3.3 Upper Jock River Race - Spring 2008**

Every year a group of paddlers from Richmond organizes a spring canoe and kayak race on the upper Jock River between Munster Side Road and the Jock River Park in Richmond. The Friends of the Jock River again supported the race committee by organizing the car shuttle team to transport participants from the finish line back to the starting line to pick up their cars. The Friends of the Jock River also supplied 3 FJR T-shirts for door prizes and gave a FJR bumper sticker (also suitable for sticking on canoes) and FJR membership to all who registered in the event.

Race day for 2008 was a perfect day on Saturday, April 26th, and, according to the organizers, the participation was 137, one of the best turnouts ever. The race crossed the Richmond Fen

Wetland, which was flooded at this time of year so the participants viewed (although hurriedly) a very special part of the Jock River.

For further information on the race committee and on the upcoming 2009 race, check out their website at [www.jockriverrace.ca](http://www.jockriverrace.ca).

Brian Finch

#### 6.3.4 Photographic Contest - Appreciation of the Jock River Watershed

A photo contest titled "**Appreciation of the Jock River**" was launched by the Friends of the Jock River in September, 2008, ending in May 2009 (*Editor: please note that in 2009, the board extended the deadline to October 31, 2009*). The Jock River, its tributaries or wetlands must be the main subject of the photograph or have a recognizable relationship with the main subject.

The competition is open to primary and secondary school students who live or go to a school within the Jock River watershed, which includes 4 major high schools and dozens of elementary schools. The main communities include Prospect, Blacks Corners, Ashton, Munster Hamlet, Richmond, Fallowfield Village, part of Kanata South, Barrhaven, Stonebridge and Heart's Desire.

With the increased number of new homes along the Jock River and especially in the Barrhaven and Richmond areas, this competition will be an attempt to have new (and old) residents get out into the watershed, look through the lens of their cameras and thereby learn more about the river. Hopefully, they will develop an appreciation for the river, and see the tremendous recreational potential (canoeing, fishing, hiking, bird watching, etc.) of the watershed. Also, we trust this project will reduce vandalism and graffiti and put more people in touch with their local environment.

More than twenty businesses have enthusiastically backed this project as has the community as a whole. Thousands of dollars of prizes from digital cameras to \$100.00 gift certificates have been donated. Entry forms and rules, and a list of prizes can be found on our website at: [www.jockriver.org](http://www.jockriver.org).

Tom O. Wright  
Director

*Editor: At the urging of the Ottawa Riverkeeper and Canadian Geographic, the board reconsidered the scope of the competition and agreed in February, 2009, to **open the competition to all Canadians, regardless of age or where they live, and to extend the deadline until October 31, 2009**. There will be three categories: grade 6 and younger; grade 7 to grade 12; and adult (post grade 12). With the addition of the adult section we hope to gain another perspective, as well as encourage parental involvement. Opening it up to all photographers will increase the awareness of the Jock River to a much larger group of people.*

#### 6.3.5 Canoe/Kayak Excursion into the Richmond Fen Wetland

I led two afternoon canoe/kayak excursions on Saturday, May 10th and Thursday, May 15th, up the Jock River near the Centennial Golf Course into the Richmond Fen Wetland, the largest provincially significant wetland in Eastern Ontario. We met at end of Joy's Road beside the Richmond Centennial Golf Course at 12:00 noon on both days and returned about 4 hours later. A map of the area can be found at: <http://www.jockriverrace.ca/Map.html>.

We had 9 boats on the Saturday (6 canoes and 3 kayaks) and 3 canoes on the following Thursday. The weather was good but a bit on the cool side, which turned out to be a bit of a mixed blessing as the coolness kept the black flies down.

Our put-in at the end of Joy's Road was within the wetland on its eastern edge and we paddled upstream about 6km (rough estimate), emerging from the wetland about 2 km downstream of the Munster Road Bridge. We had to hoist over several beaver dams (didn't see any beavers though) and powered and pushed over a few incomplete dams and log jams. Going upstream over these barriers was a bit of a challenge for a few of the inexperienced paddlers but the trip downstream proved to be both easier and faster.

We saw lots of wildlife: 2 deer; muskrats; red-finned river horse fish (quite rare); herons; turkey vultures (beautiful birds up close); snipes doing their mating aerial acrobatics; Baltimore orioles; ducks; geese; plus many of the common birds. At this time of year, the leaves in the trees (mostly red maple, silver maple and ash), ferns and grasses were just out and a beautiful electric green.

The Fen is known as an incredibly diverse wetland and we were not disappointed. All agreed that it is a very special place.

Following the excursion I received many calls and e-mails from individuals who were unable to join the excursion and requested that we repeat the excursion in 2009.

Brian Finch

### 6.3.6 Bumper Stickers

Tom Wright approached Wally Schaber, Director at Trailhead to ask for assistance in producing a sticker to promote both the Friends of the Jock River and Trailhead. In 2007, we failed to get the sticker designed and printed in time for the 2007 Jock River Race but this year we succeeded.

The sticker is printed with "The Jock River - Paddle It - Protect It" in large letters, along with the logos and website information for both FJR and Trailhead. Our intent is to encourage people to use the Jock River as a recreational resource but, in doing so, to appreciate and protect it. The sticker is on permanent stock, 7 ½ cm x 20 cm and has a tenacious adhesive suitable for applying the sticker to canoes, kayaks and bumpers. Trailhead paid for the printing of the production run of 500 stickers, which we greatly appreciate.

The stickers were given to each of the participants in the Upper Jock River Race (200+) and the 2008 spring tree plant (120+), to many FJR members and to anyone interested in the Jock River. By the end of the year, our stash of 500 was depleted.

(Note: Trailhead is a corporate member of the Friends of the Jock River and can be reached at: 613-722-4628 ext 106 and [www.Trailhead.ca](http://www.Trailhead.ca).)

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  
Secretary  
Director for Membership Roster and Management  
Director for Publicity and Public Relations  
Director For Water Conservation and Usage  
Directors at Large (currently 3)

Respectfully submitted,

Niel Barrington  
Nomination Committee Chair