

# Sustainable Peterborough 2015 Annual Report Card

*Caring communities  
balancing prosperity,  
well being and nature*



Our future...  
Our legacy

**sustainable**  
Peterborough



### Leveraging Sustainability

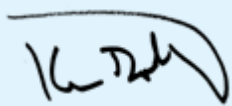
In 2007, the City of Peterborough, the County, its eight Townships, two First Nations, and community partners, established Sustainable Peterborough. This unique partnership has leveraged significant external funding and influenced regional planning.

In 2009, we secured \$445,974 from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities; the province; and local sources to develop an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan. This was unanimously adopted by all local governments in 2012.

Our vision is simple yet far-reaching: “Caring communities balancing prosperity, well-being, and nature.” Our plan encompasses 11 theme areas and 18 priority action items. Our annual report cards have spurred healthy competition, resulting in significant advances.

In 2013, we secured \$444,500 to develop a regional Climate Change Action Plan. We have completed inventories of Green House Gas Emissions for 2011 and are currently working on local action plans.

Our impact continues to expand. We have secured \$850,000 in provincial funding to lead a Healthy Kids Community Challenge. Our Plan has also influenced Official Plans, Transportation Plans, Energy Plans, and development of a regional Age Friendly Plan. What’s next?



Ken Doherty, Chair  
Sustainable Peterborough  
Coordinating Committee

**What a successful year we had! There were so many positive, sustainable projects in 2015 that we can only highlight some of the achievements. A comprehensive listing of all the 2015 accomplishments reported by our partner organizations is available on our website.**

**Note:** Bolded names throughout this Report Card denote Sustainable Peterborough (SP) partner organizations. To become a SP partner please contact us.



### Agriculture & Local Food

**Eating local foods encourages sustainable agriculture, benefits the local economy and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.**

**Elmhirst’s Resort** won the 2015 SP Agriculture and Local Food Award. They support local farmers and producers and also serve food harvested from 240 acres of their land. They offer a seasonal menu of hydroponic herbs and preserved tomatoes in the winter, raised cattle and duck, and local wines.

**By the Bushel** was recognized with an honourable mention at the 2015 SP Awards. To provide for their basket programs, they had 13 producer members farming within 100km of Peterborough in 2015.

**Electric City Bread Co.** uses ingredients from local producers and throughout the winter they hosted the **Circle Organic** CSA.

**The New Canadians Centre** ran a workshop which taught clients how to start and maintain a garden at home.

The **Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan** held the first annual *Farms, Fields and Food Tour*, a great event which brought families into the countryside for on farm activities.

**The Peterborough Farmers’ Market** celebrated its 190th anniversary!

**ReFrame** screened a number of films on food and food sustainability.

**McLean Berry Farm** is working with the Gleaning Program to connect lower income families to farms to glean produce that would otherwise not be harvested and sold.

In partnership with Trent Food Services and Chartwells, **Trent University’s** Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems students established the 1 acre Trent Market Garden.

**Seeds of Change** hosted a seed saving workshop led by the Peterborough Community Garden Network.

## Climate Change

**Reducing our contribution to climate change while increasing our ability to adapt to climate change conditions will contribute to a sustainable and resilient community.**

### For Our Grandchildren (4RG)

won the 2015 SP Climate Change Award. In November 2015, 4RG co-hosted a community meeting to support the Global Climate March and the COP21 conference. They encouraged community members to take action to reduce carbon emissions. Attendees took part in a post card writing campaign to local political leaders.

Sustainable Peterborough is developing a Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) for the Greater Peterborough Area (GPA) to reduce local contributions to climate change and prepare the community for present and future changes. Through 2015, over 800 people in the GPA contributed to the conversation on climate change and what we can do locally! 8 Task Forces of over 100 people from about 70 different community organizations were formed to work together to help shape the CCAP.



Sustainable Peterborough



@sustainableptbo  
#OURchange



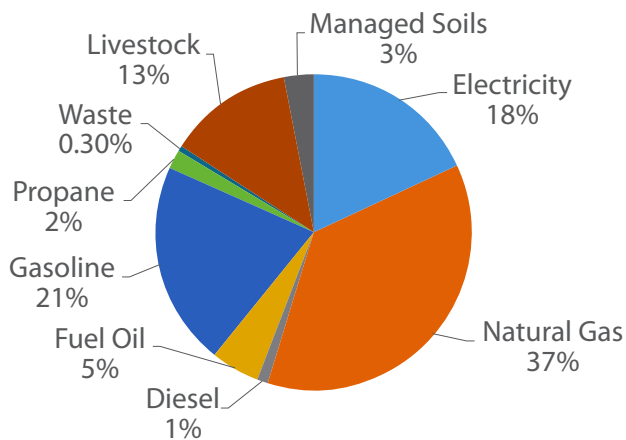
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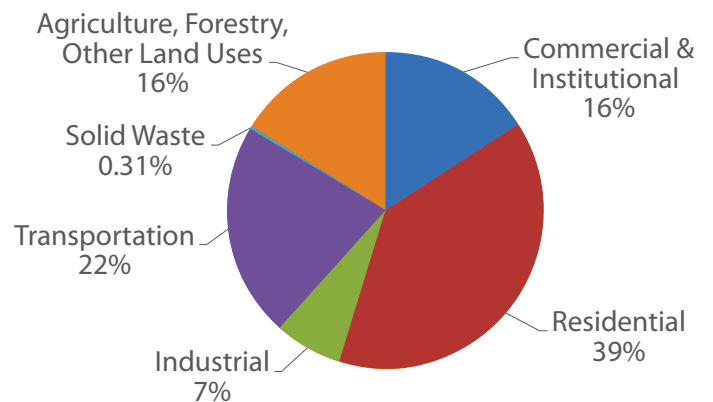
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**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Completed for each of the 12 Partners in the GPA!** In 2011, the GPA generated 630,587 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e. The biggest contributors to GHG emissions are heating our homes and buildings and gasoline for transportation.

### GPA Emissions by Source



### GPA Emissions by Sector



## Cultural Assets

**Preserving and protecting our history, heritage and diverse local cultures is a necessary foundation for building sustainable communities.**

**Lang Pioneer Village** won the 2015 SP Cultural Assets Award. In 2015, Lang partnered with **Hiawatha** and **Curve Lake First Nations** to establish the Aabnaabin First Nations site. Lang also completed a shoreline naturalization project in partnership with **ORCA**, **Tree Canada** and **Siemens Canada**. They planted 272 native trees and shrubs, many used

by early settlers for food, furniture, shelter, and dyes.

**Peterborough Immigration Partnership** launched the Community Immigrant Integration Plan 2016-2021.

**Fleming College** signed the Colleges and Institutes Canada's historic Indigenous Education Protocol.



**Taylor's Recycled Plastic Products** donated a Free Little Library to the Millbrook and District Lions Club.

The **Peterborough Museum and Archives** was recognized with a 2015 Community Partner Award of Excellence.





### Economic Development and Employment

Supporting existing local businesses, attracting new businesses, maintaining and growing local employment are all critical in building a strong, sustainable, resilient community.

**Transition Town Peterborough (TTP)** won the 2015 SP Economic Development and Employment Award. To help build and support the local economy, TTP introduced the Kawartha Loons local currency and runs several annual events. In 2015, **TTP**, in collaboration with **Farms at Work**, successfully spearheaded the initiative to declare September as Local Food Month, to bring awareness to local food providers and strengthen the local economy.



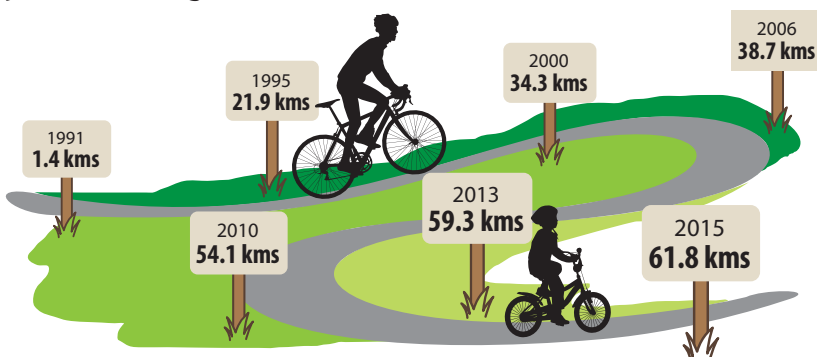
The **Municipality of Trent Lakes** developed a “Discover Trent Lakes” passport. Participants explored the region and entered a draw to win local prizes.

Peterborough & the Kawartha Tourism, a division of **Peterborough Economic Development**, held the Travel Media Association of Canada conference in Peterborough. The conference generated an estimated \$575,000 in economic impact on the region.

**Fleming Crew** helped 238 job seekers secure employment and supported 66 on-the-job training opportunities.

The **City of Peterborough** secured funding from Eastern Ontario Development Fund to develop the **Peterborough Airport Industrial Park**. In 2015 Stage 1 was completed, including ground preparation and drainage.

Total # kms of cycling routes within the City of Peterborough over time:



### Energy

It is important to reduce our energy consumption and maximize the production of renewable energy.

The **Township of Douro-Dummer** received the the 2015 SP Energy Award. A municipal energy management leader, the township was the first municipality to put in place an energy management plan. They retrofitted their facilities for energy efficiency and, in 2015, completed the conversion to LED streetlights.

The **Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen** completed installation of Variable Frequency Drives and programming of the closed loop DO control system at the Havelock Water & Wastewater Treatment Plant, providing energy saving opportunities.

The **Township of North Kawartha** adopted a Solar Projects Policy to facilitate the processing of applications.

**GreenUP** and **Peterborough Distribution Inc.** developed an education program for grades 5 through 7 using LEGO robotics to showcase alternative energy production and conservation.

Lakefield College's Upland House opened in September 2015. Built by **Mortlock Construction Inc.** and designed by **LETT Architects Inc.**, the building was built to LEED standards and combines natural materials into the existing natural bedrock that encases the residence.

## Healthy Communities

**A sustainable community is one where everyone has the opportunity and support to achieve their physical, social, mental, emotional and spiritual potential.**

**Camp Kawartha** won the SP Healthy Communities Award. In 2015, the Camp added 5 environment camps and 2 weeks of kindercamp. Thanks to a grant from the Gainey Foundation and a crowd source funding campaign, they constructed new nature playscapes in 2015.

**Seeds for Justice**, a **Kawartha World Issues Centre** Youth Program, was recognized with an honourable mention during the 2015 SP Awards. In 2015 **Seeds for Justice** offered over 300 youth an opportunity to build confidence, knowledge, skills and experience.

The **Peterborough Council on Aging** ran the 4th Annual Seniors' Summit in partnership with the Trent Centre for Aging and Society. Over 200 attendees explored how technology is changing our health care system.

The **Township of North Kawartha** received the Seniors Community Grant for their *Community Literacy Training for Isolated Seniors in a Rural Environment* project.

**The Mount Community Centre** won \$100,000 from the Aviva Community Fund grant program, to aid in their renovation project.

Grants from the **Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough** and others are helping the **Peterborough County-City Health Unit** and the **YWCA Nourish Project** establish Myrtle's Kitchen - a place where people come together to access healthy food, learn life skills and advocate for good food for everyone.

With just over 50 affiliates, **GiveLo** fundraised more than \$5,000 for local non-profit & charitable organisations.

**Total number of community gardens within the Greater Peterborough Area over time.**



## Land Use Planning

**Planning policies and decisions must preserve the environment while also supporting the building of sustainable, healthy and diverse communities.**

**Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA)** received the 2015 SP Land Use Planning Award. In 2015 **ORCA** updated the Watershed Planning and Regulation Policy Manual, which consolidates all of **ORCA's** watershed policies.

The **Township of Cavan Monaghan**, in conjunction with the **County of Peterborough**, completed new walkways and railings on the Distillery Street Bridge in Millbrook, providing a more aesthetically pleasing and pedestrian friendly walkway.



Peterborough City and County is one of 45 communities in Ontario receiving funding from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to participate in the Healthy Kids Community Challenge (HKCC). The initiative aims to support community-driven activities focusing on physical activity and healthy eating for children aged twelve and under. The goal is to create communities where it is easy for children to lead healthier active lives. For details, contact Claire Townshend at 705-743-1000 ext. 355 or [ctownshend@pcchu.ca](mailto:ctownshend@pcchu.ca)



**GreenUP**, the **City of Peterborough**, **Trent University**, and residents of the Stewart Street neighbourhood came together – as one of 12 national pilot projects – to explore more participatory approaches to neighbourhood planning.



### Natural Assets

**Preserving, enhancing and restoring natural assets is essential in maintaining ecological health.**

**Kawartha Land Trust** received the 2015 SP Natural Assets Award. In 2015 **Kawartha Land Trust** met their fundraising goal to save Boyd Island! Boyd Island is the largest undeveloped and unprotected island in southern Ontario. It has historic, natural and cultural value to the region and to the indigenous community which can trace back use of the island some 10,000 years.

The **Peterborough Field Naturalists** celebrated their 75th anniversary in May of 2015!

Nesting habitat for snapping turtles was created in The **Township of Selwyn** in partnership with the Township, **ORCA** and Environment Canada.

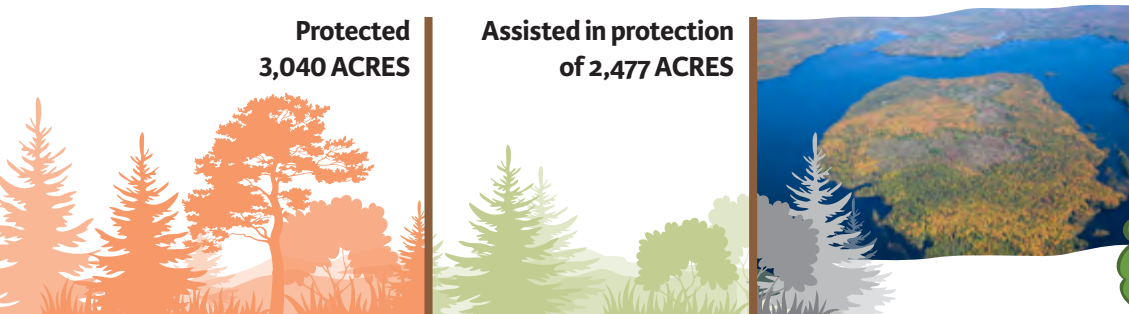
The **Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen** purchased, donated and planted 50 maple trees.

Ontario Parks, in partnership with the Buckhorn Trails Association, established a 1.5 km hiking trail loop at the Kawartha Highlands Signature Park Mississauga River Take Out, in the **Municipality of Trent Lakes**.

**Peterborough County** Public Works removed a perched culvert that was preventing the migration of Brook Trout through a stream tributary of Baxter Creek in Millbrook and installed fish baffles to provide resting areas for fish as they move through the new culvert.

In partnership with the **Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan**, **ORCA**, and the **County of Peterborough**, Keene Girl Guides participated in the Yellow Fish Road Storm Drain Marking Program as a reminder that storm water enters local watercourses directly and can impact local fish populations and water quality.

Since the year 2000, Kawartha Land Trust has...



Since 2011 ORCA has planted over 50,000 native trees, shrubs and plants!



### Transportation

**A sustainable community has an accessible transportation network that places priority on active and efficient modes of transportation.**

**Peterborough County/City Paramedics** received the SP Transportation Award. In 2015 they implemented the ECO-run system in vehicles. They reduced Excessive Idling time by 26%, and saved 1,918 litres of fuel, 8,717 lbs of CO<sub>2</sub> and saved nearly \$2,500!

The **City of Peterborough** received two awards - a Silver Bicycle Friendly Community Award and a Silver Walk Friendly Community Award.

Peterborough Pulse, the City's first Open Streets initiative, was embraced by the community, with over 4,000 in attendance and 50 local businesses, groups, and clubs taking part. The **City of Peterborough**, **GreenUP**, the **DBIA**, **BIKE**, the **Peterborough County City Health Unit**, and the Peterborough Bicycle Advisory Committee led the coordination.

The **County of Peterborough** partnered with **Peterborough & the Kawarths Tourism**, the **City of Peterborough** & Shimano Canada on the Peterborough & the Kawarths Road Cycling Routes, over 300km of scenic road cycling along 3 routes.

With the completion of the new Trans-Canada Trail Bridge over the Otonabee River, the **City of Peterborough** created an active transportation link between East City and Downtown Peterborough. The bridge was built on a maintenance free rust-proof Cor-ten steel structure with LED lighting.



## Waste

**Waste management practices need to better reflect processes found in nature; we must reduce the amount of waste we generate by maximizing waste diversion.**

The **Food Forest Café** won the 2015 SP Waste Award. The plant-based Café produces less than 1 bag of garbage per week and composts 100% of leftover food and scraps. In 2015 they expanded their composting program by donating nearly 90 gallons of kitchen scraps per week to local farmers and gardeners, including St. Peter's Secondary School for their garden.

**Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School** was recognized with an honourable mention during the 2015 SP Awards. In 2015 they earned Platinum certification from Ontario EcoSchools. The school maintains a garden that helped reduce their green waste, as cafeteria and garden green waste is reused as compost.

**Curve Lake First Nation** added Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment recycling stations at their waste transfer site.

The **Township of Cavan Monaghan** upgraded their Wastewater Treatment Plant. The effluent water quality surpasses MOE discharge criteria for phosphorus and other elements. The new facility employs ISAM™ technology which will reduce waste sludge by 75%.

**Peterborough Mitsubishi** sponsored the "A Greener Future" litter pick up initiative.

The **Township of Douro-Dummer** installed composters at all recreation facilities.

The **Township of Asphodel-Norwood** implemented mattress recycling at their landfill site.



## Water

**Water is a precious resource and we must work collectively as a community to protect its quantity and quality by conserving the amount of water we use and protecting watersheds.**

**GreenUP** won the 2015 SP Water Award. In 2015, GreenUP, with support from Green Communities Canada, RBC Blue Water Project, Sammy and Sons Ltd, the **City of Peterborough**, other organizations and volunteers, ran the Depave Paradise project. In the parking lot of Wireless Solutions they removed 250m<sup>2</sup> of asphalt and planted a rain garden with 730 native plants

and trees! This diverts 178,000 liters of water per year from the grey stormwater infrastructure and naturally removes 23kg of contaminants annually.

The **Township of Asphodel-Norwood** completed the replacement of their existing water/sewer infrastructure.

All **Hiawatha First Nation** buildings switched to low flow toilets.

In partnership with Nibi Emosaawdamajig ("Those Who Walk for the Water"), the Sacred Water Circle, **GreenUP**, **Trent University's** Indigenous Studies, **TRACKS**, **Curve Lake First Nation** and Faith & the Common Good, **Fleming College** hosted *Seven Generations Ahead: Celebrating Water Solutions*.

In partnership with the government of Ontario and the **Township of Selwyn**, **ORCA** constructed a rain garden at the Lakefield Beach to protect water quality by filtering runoff from the parking area.



## What our partners are saying about Sustainable Peterborough

Look for our partners throughout the Greater Peterborough Area!



"It is heartening to hear of the good work being done by Sustainable Peterborough partners as they find innovative ways to save energy, protect our watershed and adopt alternatives to fossil fuels. Sustainable Peterborough inspires all of its partners to collaborate as we strive to create a culture of stewardship in the Peterborough region and beyond. We are thrilled to be part of this worthwhile work."

Jacob Rodenburg,  
Camp Kawartha

"Advocates for the local sustainable community are the tireless supporters that ensure the survival of local businesses like mine. A sustainability partner helps ensure less greenwashing and more authentic businesses that make every effort to create a local economy that our Peterborough can be proud of. Sustainable Peterborough is a cheerleader, they honestly care about my efforts."

Tracy Cosburn,  
Kyoto Coffee

"There are many organizations and enterprises in Peterborough acting in their own unique ways to combat the worst effects of climate change. By recognizing their individual accomplishments, Sustainable Peterborough encourages us all when we see that we are not alone, we are part of a team."

Guy Hanchet,  
For Our Grandchildren



No trees were harmed in the printing of this Report Card.  
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## What you can do

Check out the SP Toolbox on our website for more ideas, resources and tools to help you incorporate sustainability into your organization or personal day to day life



Photos throughout this Report Card courtesy of Camp Kawartha, City of Peterborough, GreenUP, Kawartha Land Trust, Lang Pioneer Village.