Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre

SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR OVER 30 YEARS

Public Services and Procurement Canada's Leadership Showcases Natural Assets

Restored Stormwater Pond will greatly improve its function, add to the health of the environment, directly benefit wildlife and serve as a beautiful oasis for the community and those working on the Carling Campus

Another essential piece in the protection of the natural environment on the Carling Campus has been completed, thanks to the vision and leadership of Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC).

The rehabilitation of Stormwater Ponds 1 and 2 was undertaken this past summer, under the direction of BGIS Global Integrated Solutions (BGIS), the Campus property management company.

It follows the substantial work done a year ago to restore the debilitated Wetlands and adjacent Stormwater Pond 3, with PSPC funding and the NCC acting as manager of that project.

Together, the restoration of these essential aquatic areas will serve as a showcase for sustainable development. *"What makes this project unique is the holistic approach taken, recognizing that the stormwater ponds are part of the overall wetland complex and that natural assets all have a critical role to play, particularly given climate change"*, said Donna DuBreuil, President of the Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre.

Partnerships and Community Engagement

"We valued working with the Wildlife Centre and other stakeholders. While the degree of collaboration with stakeholders added to the project's complexity, the various perspectives resulted in a much better all-round outcome and strong on-going community support", said Mario Hubert, Senior Director, Real Property Services, PSPC.

The BGIS team included Shelley Beaudette, Director, Major Capital Projects, Adam Brown, Senior Project Manager and Todd Davies serving as Project Manager, working with the National Capital Commission (NCC) and H.S.P. Consultants Inc. and the Tomlinson Group as Contractor. As a stakeholder, the Centre supplied expertise with respect to wildlife as well as liaison with the community.

From the outset, BGIS set up excellent consultation and reporting protocols. *"Typically, we don't get to work with non-profit and community organizations. I found it very satisfying to see the direct benefits to the environment as well as learn more about the Wildlife Centre's education role"*, said Project Manager, Todd Davies.

When concern about the project schedule was raised due to the nesting season for migratory birds, it was decided to get an early start by removing the vegetation around the ponds so that birds would nest elsewhere. It left the area looking desolate with the local community, who use the trails on Campus, expressing dismay over the loss of habitat and the impact on wildlife, particularly worrying about the beaver residing in Pond 2.

When the Centre suggested signage to reassure the public the project would greatly improve wildlife habitat, BGIS responded by having three large signs erected, outlining in detail what was planned. It was an important step in involving the community – not just nearby residents but those working on campus – contributing to the pride people felt that preserving the natural environment was a priority.

"Local communities like ours place great value in greenspace and being able to connect with nature. It is one of the reasons why people have moved and stayed in this area over the years. We are delighted with the work being done on the Carling Campus by PSPC. We are sure to remain involved, as was the case in the wetland restoration with the community turning out in large numbers to plant trees", said Ian McConnachie of the Crystal Beach Lakeview Community Association.

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Wildlife-sensitive planning was demonstrated by large public signs indicating that many important species, including beaver, depend on the naturalized stormwater ponds. To serve wildlife needs, over 200 trees were planted as a food and nesting resource

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Wildlife-Sensitive Planning

Too often, wildlife is an afterthought in construction projects, leaving large numbers of animals displaced and nearby residents frustrated by unnecessary conflicts along with concern for the harm done to the animals.

This was certainly not the case in this project as measures were put in place at the earliest planning stage to ensure that wildlife would be protected.

The rehabilitation of the stormwater ponds required that they first be dewatered so that sediment, which had accumulated over many years, could be removed. In that these ponds were used to treat stormwater from roads and parking lots, there was a large amount of sediment, including contaminated soil, with 3,673 metric tons of material removed.

During the dewatering and dredging phases, special pump pits were set up to make sure that no species, large or small, would be accidentally sucked into the pump. Todd Davies, BGIS Project Manager and Gaston Michaud, Project Supervisor from Tomlinson made regular treks to the Centre with turtles and the occasional frog to be assessed and taken to other nearby ponds.

"We were very impressed with the personal attention and care that every animal brought to us received from Todd and Gaston and other members of the team", said Kate MacNeil, the Centre's Executive Director.

Canada Geese, after feeding on nearby grass, would stroll leisurely across the road back to the Pond for a swim several times each day. They were assisted by the construction crew who not only kept an eye out for their safety while on the road but opened the gate to allow them access to the Pond. This was a sight enjoyed by many, reminding even impatient drivers that nature moved to the beat of its own drum.

"As the contractor, Tomlinson's professionalism was evident in the efficiency, quality workmanship and environmental sensitivity they contributed to the project", said Todd Davies.

Dewatering was done in order to excavate sediment, including contaminated soil, to ensure better functioning of the stormwater ponds as well as provide a much healthier habitat for wildlife

Canada Geese were escorted across the road so that they could safely access the stormwater pond several times each day

The Resident Beaver

The resident beaver in Stormwater Pond 2 disappeared daily as the Pond was dewatered but returned every night to rebuild his dam, meaning that each morning the construction crew had to dismantle the dam so that water could be released. After many days of this contest, the beaver finally gave up and moved to a less challenging watering hole but the exercise showed that the humane treatment of wildlife was the centerpiece of this project.

The Public Information signs erected at the site highlight an ecosystem approach, in that all species inhabiting the Ponds are consid-

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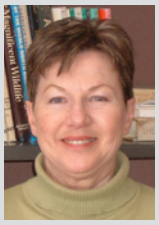
Editorial

'A Can-Do Attitude'



Given the major environmental challenges we are facing as a society, it's easy for the average person to feel overwhelmed.

However, our Centre is seeing an increasing number of people working within their communities to make a difference, replacing pavement with parkland, planting trees and speaking out to protect wetlands and important species such as beavers. Many thousands more, here and around the world, are taking to the streets to signal they want to see action on climate change. They expect their governments to work with them in this regard.

In this issue of the newsletter, we highlight some tangible initiatives taken by governments. From the work being done by the federal government within Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) to restore natural assets on its Carling Campus in Ottawa to the Town of Gibsons in British Columbia that has pioneered a Municipal Natural Assets Strategy that is now being adopted by cities across the country.

The pilot projects in these cities – many in the heart of the city - will provide a multitude of benefits from managing risks associated with flooding, reducing costs of engineered infrastructure, maintaining healthy ecosystems while providing people with an oasis that benefits their physical and mental health.

Here in Ottawa, the restoration of wetlands and naturalized stormwater ponds on the Carling Campus demonstrates that, with the right leadership, you can have a major employment hub built around natural features to the benefit of everyone from employees to the community to the wildlife that depend on these resources.

Donna DuBreuil
President, OCWC

Todd Davies, BGIS Project Manager and Gaston Michaud, Project Supervisor from the Tomlinson Group headed the team responsible for the superb restoration of the stormwater ponds

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ered important. While the list includes species-at-risk, it also lists other key species such as beavers that contribute to the health of the Ponds.

A Modern Approach to Stormwater Ponds

Wetlands and naturalized Stormwater Ponds perform much the same function: storing rainwater to prevent flooding; acting as a reservoir during dry periods that assists both surrounding vegetation as well as recharging ground water over a larger area; cleaning water by filtering out pollutants and toxins; storing carbon which reduces greenhouse gas; and also serving a vital purpose in terms of the animals and plants that depend on them.

The project recognizes, as do a growing number of jurisdictions, the substantial role that beavers play as a keystone species to protecting and enhancing biodiversity. For this reason, Hickenbottom stand pipes have been installed in both Stormwater Pond 1 and 2. This technology is designed to support beaver habitat (proper pond depth) in the ponds while at the same time allowing the ponds to drain during rain events. The deeper water required by beavers also allows other species like turtles to safely overwinter.

Co-Existence

While the primary purpose of stormwater ponds is to contain and treat stormwater, it was very encouraging to see the understanding and acceptance of how the project should benefit the wild species that rely on this habitat.

The NCC's design for the fencing around areas of the Ponds where there are pedestrian paths not only has an appealing rustic appearance but allows easy access for wildlife. We recommended leaving a large dead tree at the edge of Pond 1 because it functions as a roosting tree for herons and egrets while serving as an iconic image of the Campus.

A group of young people, along with their parents, visited the site during the restoration work. They were excited to see a project that demonstrates such respect for the environment and wildlife

Poplar and willow trees were planted for beavers as these trees regenerate quickly, traditionally serving in nature as a food source for beavers

But, one of the most progressive examples was the decision to plant 'beaver food' trees, recognizing that beavers will continue to inhabit these naturalized stormwater ponds from time to time. Of the over 200 trees that were planted, over half are poplar and willow trees that traditionally serve as 'beaver food', in that they regenerate quickly. Other trees such as pine and spruce will provide both screening and nesting sites for animals. At the same time, the large mature trees have been protected via wire wrapping.

"We couldn't be happier with the very productive working relationship and positive outcomes the BGIS and Tomlinson team brought to this project", said Kate MacNeil of the Centre.

Best Practices' Model

Not only has the work on the Stormwater Ponds greatly improved their function, added to the health of the environment and directly benefitted wildlife but the area will serve as a beautiful oasis for the local community and those working on Campus.

The rehabilitation of the Stormwater Ponds and the restoration of the Wetlands on the Carling Campus serve as a *'best practices'* model thanks to the vision of Public Services and Procurement Canada and its close collaboration with a variety of stakeholders. *"This project shows that if it can be done here on a very busy Campus that will house a major employment hub, it can be done elsewhere in our city and country"*, said Donna DuBreuil of the Centre.

Canada Summer Jobs Supports Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre

Summer Interns assisting volunteers and ASL Contractors in tree planting.

The Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre (OCWC) was fortunate to once again receive support from the Canada Summer Jobs Program in 2019. The Centre received funding for two Wildlife Intern positions. The support is thanks to Ottawa West-Nepean MP, Anita Vandenbeld. Anita believes in supporting positions though the Canada Summer Jobs Program that not only help participants develop demonstrable skills but also gives them the opportunity to give back to the community.

Jenny Kenmir and Monica Seidel worked through the spring and early summer and made a significant contribution to the Centre's work. As a small non-profit organization, they got to work on and contribute to a wide range of projects. They assisted in developing education kits and delivering education programs to children and seniors aimed at helping connect people to nature. They also helped in the development of education and promotional materials.

Jenny was invaluable in helping with fieldwork, from site assessments for potential flow device locations to relocating the turtles that needed moving during the stormwater pond work.

Monica was vital in the updating of the Centre's website, including some great videos that showcase some of the projects we have been working on.

As Interns, they also worked to further enhance the wetland by planting trees and dispersing native plant seeds. They also helped to deliver sessions in the wetland to

Anita Vandenbeld, MP for Ottawa West-Nepean with Donna DuBreuil, Kate MacNeil of OCWC and Summer Intern Jenny Kenmir at a BBQ the MP hosted for participants in the Canada Summer Jobs Program.

local students, students from across Canada that visited the Centre as part of the Encounters with Canada Program and community members.

The Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre is grateful for the opportunity to participate in the Canada Summer Jobs Program. This is a program that truly makes a difference. Participants received important work experience while making a valuable contribution to their community and the environment.

Restored Wetland Revitalized

In the last issue we shared the exciting news that the dysfunctional wetland on the Campus where our Centre is located had been restored. Thanks to the leadership of Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) as well as the collaboration and efforts of the National Capital Commission (NCC), Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA), area MP Anita Vandenbeld, the local community as well as our Centre (OCWC), we saw one of the City's largest urban wetland restorations.

The work wrapped up last fall, just as the snow began. Everyone was anxiously awaiting spring to see how the wetland would look when it greened up. To give nature a helping hand, some tree planting events and native seed distribution sessions were organized. The first session was in early May, and the turnout from the local community was amazing, with more that 50 people including a group of students that came as a class. It really was a demonstration of how much the community recognizes the value of the wetland and local greenspace.

"The tree-planting experience was great because we got to be a part of something bigger than ourselves, we got to help rebuild the environment. But most importantly we got to come together as a community to do something good!", said William, a grade 9 student.

Prior to the wetland restoration, when we visited the area, we would be lucky to hear a red-winged blackbird. Now there is a wonderful chorus of birds and frogs. Some of the species that have been observed at the wetland include killdeer, green heron, great egret, muskrat, green frog and white-tailed deer.

The first spring after restoration work was completed

We are confident this list will continue to grow and we look forward to keeping you updated.

Celebrating and Protecting Biodiversity

The Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre (OCWC) has been located on the Carling Campus for close to 30 years. The approximately 360 acres site includes a built area, formerly Nortel Networks, which is now becoming a major employment hub for the Department of National Defence (DND).

A large part of the Campus is Greenspace, including the recently restored wetland, naturalized stormwater ponds as well as other natural spaces that provide habitat for a remarkable range of species.

People are often quite surprised when they learn about the amazing biodiversity we have on the Campus. One recent comment made was that only mice and coyotes lived here. This could not be further from the truth. The species inventory for the Campus is very impressive, including at-risk species, boasting 21 species of mammals, 131 bird species, 14 species of reptiles and amphibians and more than 250 insect species. Here are just a few of our wildlife neighbours:

Monarch caterpillar feeding on a milkweed plant on Campus.

Monarch Butterflies are perhaps one of the more recognizable of the 41 species of butterflies found on the Campus. The Monarch Butterflies that we see in the fall embark on an amazing migration south to spend the winter in Mexico in the forests of oyamel fir trees. This journey of up to 3000 miles is quite a remarkable feat for an animal that weighs about as much as a paperclip.

After the winter they then begin their migration north, making stops to reproduce, meaning the butterflies that we eventually see here could be fourth generation.

Monarchs begin as eggs which are laid on milkweed plants. When they hatch as larvae or baby caterpillars, they rely on milkweed for food. When big enough they encase themselves in a hard, jade green case called a chrysalis. They emerge from the pupal stage as a lovely black-orange-and-white Monarch Butterfly. This distinct color pattern warns predators that the insects are foul tasting and poisonous. This is a result of the toxins they consume as caterpillars from the milkweed plant.

Photos courtesy of Leah Travis. One of the fox pups looking all grown up.

Red Foxes seems to elicit excitement in those who get to see them. This year a female, also known as a vixen, was denning on the Campus. There were frequent sightings of her and her two pups and while the male or dog fox will also help with raising the young, it appears our resident was a single mom.

Red foxes are not large and weigh in the range of 8-15 lbs, but their lush fur, especially in the colder months, makes them appear larger. To go with this small size, is a small stomach. Their diet consists of insects, mice, voles, squirrels and rabbits. They will cache surplus food for later. The landscaping staff on site saw this firsthand when they discovered a stash of mice and voles. Fortunately, they were aware it was the fox's, so they left it alone.

We still occasionally see the pups, which now look like adults. Just the other day, one appeared during a meeting. Everyone paused to watch as it dug a hole, placed some food in it and then proceeded to use its muzzle to cover dirt over its treasure.

Snapping turtles are the largest freshwater turtle in Canada. These prehistoric looking creatures spend much of their time in water and only occasionally come out to bask. They are omnivorous, and a large percentage of their diet consists of dead plant and animal matter, meaning they help keep lakes and wetlands clean. Other foods include invertebrates, fish and frogs.

Two of the many turtles found during the remediation of the Campus naturalized stormwater ponds

Females don't breed until they are close to 20 years old, meaning adults must rely on low mortality for species survival. Eggs are laid in a nest and then buried, often on the roadside. The gender of the hatchlings depends on the temperature during incubation. When born they are about the size of a loonie.

Snapping turtles are one of 3 species of turtles found on Campus. They have been observed in the 3 naturalized stormwater ponds, as well as along the trail system. The rehabilitation work in Pond 1 and 2 that took place this summer meant any turtles in the area were moved to near-by ponds. The range in age of the turtles found demonstrates how valuable this habitat is.

Valuing Natural Assets – 'Best Practices'

Town of Gibsons, British Columbia Takes the Lead

In speaking with those cities that are best adapting to change, we see there are common denominators. These cities are innovators and leaders with respect to municipal practices when it comes to the environment, they promote community engagement, they quickly move from planning to 'action' by implementing pilot projects and they reach out to other cities to share their experience and enlist them as partners.

The Town of Gibsons in British Columbia was the first community in Canada to pioneer a Municipal Natural Assets Strategy that counts natural assets like wetlands and forests and assigns a value equal to the cost of services of engineered assets. *"It then manages these assets so that they remain healthy and continue to deliver services"*, said Emanuel Machado, Gibsons' Chief Administrative Officer and the main proponent for the program.

Across Canada, municipal infrastructure is aging, while replacement costs are rising. Together with the growing challenges presented by climate change, cities are having to look beyond engineered solutions, recognizing that nature offers alternatives. Wetlands provide flood control, trees and other vegetation absorb stormwater while preventing erosion, streams filter contaminates from fresh water.

In 2017, the David Suzuki Foundation measured the hydrological and ecological functions performed by Gibsons' creeks and woodlands. They determined that the Whitetower Park ponds have a value of $3.5 to $4.0 million in terms of the stormwater management services they deliver.

While Gibsons leads the way in integrating natural asset management into financial planning and asset management, including quantifying the value of services provided by nature, other Canadian municipalities are lining up to pilot similar approaches.

To share its approach, the Town of Gibsons partnered with the David Suzuki Foundation, Brooke & Associates Consulting and Smart Prosperity to found the Municipal Natural Assets Initiative (MNAI) with the goal to scale up Gibsons' example.

The Municipal Natural Assets Initiative started with a pilot group of five municipalities – Nanaimo, West Vancouver and Grand Forks in B.C. and the Regional Municipality of Peel (population 1M) and Oakville in Ontario.

It has since added a second national cohort that includes the City Courtenay and the District of Sparwood in British Columbia, the Western and the Southeast Regional Service Commissions in New Brunswick and the City of Oshawa in Ontario. In addition, on Vancouver Island, Canada's first watershed-scale municipal natural asset management initiative is underway with several communities in the Comox Valley and the K'ómoks First Nation participating.

All told, there are now 26 pilots across Canada, with a number completed. For example, the City of Nanaimo, B.C. found that the Buttertubs Marsh Conservation Area, a 133 acre reclaimed wetland/floodplain in the center of the City, manages the same amount and flow of stormwater as an engineered system costing about $4M. By counting the Conservation Area as a natural asset, the City makes a financial case for protecting and caring for the Marsh. This, in turn, makes the City less reliant on engineered assets.

To find out more about the Municipal Natural Assets Initiative, including project communities and case studies visit https://mnai.ca/

"The work can seem a little intimidating at first, but as we add more tools like business cases and case studies, and running these pilots, it allows people to see that if we can do it in Gibsons, then everyone else can as well," Machado said.

Emanuel Machado's background provides insight into how he became the lead for putting Natural Asset Management into action. Growing up in the Portuguese Azores he saw first-hand the community's dependency on the environment and it was here where he developed a close connection to nature.

In 2003, the City of Dawson Creek hired Emanuel as the Director of Corporate Planning and Sustainability and he became one of the key drivers of sustainability work in that City.

For over a dozen years, Emanuel has worked with communities throughout Canada, promoting a greater use of renewable energy, net-zero buildings, water strategies, social plans and sustainability frameworks, all with a focus on people.

Emanuel's passion and commitment to creating sustainable communities is evident in his work in the Town of Gibsons, by combining the Official Community Plan, Strategic Plan and Sustainability Plan to create a hybrid document that balances economic development, the natural environment, and social well-being.

Ruth Wesenberg Learning Centre – Connecting People to Nature

While the *Ruth Wesenberg Learning Centre – Connecting People to Nature* was officially launched on June 14, 2019, Ruth's long-time and generous support of the Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre was celebrated for many weeks this past summer.

Although distance prevented Ruth, who lives in Vancouver, from attending the celebrations, a video of the various events was able to convey everyone's gratitude.

One such event was particularly appropriate as high school students, from across the country through the Encounters with Canada Program, attended a workshop at the Centre on Canada Day to learn about the importance of wetlands and the role of beavers. *"They were inspired by Ruth's example that education is key in recognizing that wildlife issues are universal ones that all of us can do something about"*, said Kate MacNeil, Executive Director of the Centre.

It was Donna's cousin, Sharon Wright, and a good friend of Ruth's that first introduced Ruth to the Centre in 1989, just a few years after the organization was founded.

Ruth's unwavering belief in and very generous support has not only helped the Centre through some difficult times but ensured that its programs have been able to thrive and expand to help wildlife as well as meet the growing public interest in living in greater harmony with the natural world.

Ruth's commitment to animals includes those domestic and wild and extends to all species of wildlife. She and her dog, Joey, recently came across a Black Bear that was foraging on berries along the same path they were on. She spoke to the bear in a quiet, calm voice while slowly backing away and the bear continued foraging, realizing there was no threat.

She and her husband, Ray, have a winter home in Scottsdale, Arizona where Ruth volunteers with an animal shelter. In British Columbia, she supports the good work of Northern Lights Wildlife Society, a wildlife rescue and rehabilitation center.

Ruth (right) and Sharon (left) during a visit to the Wildlife Centre in 2013

What makes Ruth special is her vision and wisdom that recognizes not only is help needed for animals in immediate distress but that education – directed to the public and governments – is also needed to change the circumstances that put wildlife at risk in the first place.

Why would someone living on the West Coast want to support a wildlife centre so far away in Ottawa? It is a legitimate question and one that Ruth answers without hesitation: *"I like the education work that the Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre is doing. We have to teach the next generation to understand and respect wildlife and the natural world. If not for programs like this, how will it get done?"*

The Learning Centre is at the very heart of what we do. Having Ruth's name on it not only recognizes the essential role she has played in our ability to provide a needed service but it will inspire others – particularly youth – that each of us can make a real difference for wildlife.

International Beaver Conference Coming East

Photo: C. Reynolds, Worth A Dam

The State of the Beaver Conference, which is held in Oregon, has motivated the creation of an east coast counterpart. BeaverCON 2020 will be held this spring near Baltimore, Maryland. The Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre is honoured to have been asked to attend as a presenter.

This hands-on conference will bring together those dealing with beaver issues and wetland restoration. Land use managers, restoration professionals, road/infrastructure specialists, ecologists, engineers and community organizations will gather to share best management practices and the latest research and proven techniques to cost-effectively coexist with beaver.

There is growing research and awareness about the critical role North America's most valuable keystone species, the beaver, plays. Benefits include improved water quality and storage, creating important habitat for other species, including those at risk and providing important adaptations to climate change.

OCWC has been working for decades to promote the value of wetlands and the growing opportunities being employed by jurisdictions across North America to coexist given the many beneficial ecological services beavers provide. This will be an excellent opportunity to collaborate and learn about the latest research and current practices from experts so we can share this with local governments.

Praise for Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre's Education Programs

Children having fun learning about local wildlife

It has been 14 years since we launched our Education and Outreach Programs and we remain committed to helping people of all ages better understand, appreciate and protect wildlife and habitat.

Through our School Program we work with students in grades JK-12 to teach them about wildlife and how to coexist, as well as the important role all species play in healthy ecosystems.

Our Nature Discovery Workshops delivered on-site at the Centre give children a chance to explore nature firsthand. The newly restored wetland is a great addition and participants have enjoyed planting trees and spreading native seeds. We also deliver our workshops at events such as Girl Guide camps and local libraries.

Introducing children to nature enriches their lives. Having a connection and appreciation for the natural world also fosters stewardship and ensures that they will value and protect our natural world in the future.

It was very encouraging to have Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, praise the OCWC's programs, "I love that you are helping students, both local and across the country, work with their communities to build a brighter, more sustainable future."

In addition to our youth programs we take the opportunity, wherever we can, to help people better understand and coexist with wildlife. We often speak at community association meetings to give residents tools to coexist with wildlife in their neighbourhoods.

We also believe that it's not only children that benefit from a connection to nature and have been expanding our programs to include seniors. We have been visiting retirement communities as well as seniors organizations, giving presentations about local wildlife as well as promoting the benefits of a connection to nature and providing information about ways they can enjoy nature in their neighbourhoods.

Members of Parliament Visit Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre

In August we were pleased to have Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change and Anita Vandenbeld, Member of Parliament for Ottawa West-Nepean visit the Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre. We welcomed the opportunity to give them a tour of the Centre and to talk about our programs and to share the best management practices occurring on the Campus, including the wetland restoration and wildlife-sensitive planning. Although they were very interested, the highlight of the visit was when one of the young fox pups made an appearance and stole the show.

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