

TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING AGENDA
 Held on Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 11:45 AM
 at Town Hall – 30 King Street East (Council Chambers)

Video Conference Link: [Click Here](#)

1.	Call Meeting to Order
2.	Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof
3.	Approval of Minutes (Adoption) – March 26, 2026
4.	Public Question/Comment (Only Addressing Reports on the Agenda)
5.	Disclosure of Additional Items
6.	Delegations
7.	Presentations by Staff (Others)
8.	Correspondence
	1. Ministry of Environment – Judith Scott McLean Memorial Forest – Added to CPCAD Database
9.	Unfinished Business – None
10.	New Business/Reports
	1. St. Lawrence Waterfront Trail – Report
11.	McLean Forest Sub-Committee
12.	Invasive Plants
	1. Trees and Trails Invasive Plant – Update
13.	Gananoque Trail Updates
	1. Murray/Bickerton Trails 2. Water Trails
14.	Trail Mapping & Online Visibility
15.	Discussion of Additional Items

The Town invites and encourages people with disabilities to attend and voice their comments in relation to accessibility related reports. For those who are unable to attend, the Town encourages the use of the Customer Feedback Form found on the Accessibility Page on the Town's website.

16.	Next Regular Meeting – _____
17.	Questions from the Media
18.	Adjournment

5.	Disclosure of Additional Items – Water Trails – Member Smith
**Member Bickerton joined the meeting at 1:06 PM. The Chair asked Member Bickerton if he had any Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest or Additional Items – None	
6.	Delegations – None
7.	Presentations by Staff (Others) – None
8.	Correspondence
	1. Ontario Trails Council – Newsletter – March 23, 2026
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members discussed the
9.	Unfinished Business
10.	New Business/Reports
	1. Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Green Municipal Fund – Growing Canada’s Community Canopies: Urban Forestry Plans and Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel Members were invited to consider proposals under the leadership of Member Brown.
	2. Proposed Plan of Subdivision – Vacant Lands South of Elmwood Dr.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brenda Guy, Manager of Planning & Development, appeared before the Panel to provide an overview of the subdivision application for the Vacant Lands South of Elmwood Dr., and answered questions for the Panel Members. • Resident/Trees and Trails supporter, Dave Feick, presented slides to the Panel entitled, “Development Trail” and “Digital Engagement Update”. • The Panel had a discussion. No recommendations were considered at this time.
11.	McLean Forest Sub-Committee
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member Smith provided his report. • Member McLean noted that there are fourteen (14) native trees available through the RTO Tree Planting Collaboration, intended for planting in the McLean Forest by the Trees and Trails Advisory Panel.
12.	Invasive Plants
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update at this time.

13.	Trail Updates
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update at this time.
14.	Trail Mapping & Online Visibility
	1. Mapping Update – Town Resident David Feick <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panel Members discussed the Murray/Bickerton Gananoque Trail Map as provided by Hopkins Chitty OLS
15.	Discussion of Additional Items
	1. Water Trails – Member Smith <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was generally agreed that “Water Trails” would be added to the Trees and Trails Advisory Panel agenda as a standing item.
16.	Questions from the Media – None
17.	Next Meeting – Thursday, April 23rd, 2026, at 2:00 PM
18.	Adjournment
	<p>Motion-TTAP-2026-06 – Motion to Adjourn</p> <p>Moved by: Alison Timusk</p> <p>BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL HEREBY ADJOURN THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026, AT 3:02 P.M.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED – UNANIMOUS</p>
<hr/> Councillor David Osmond, Chair	<hr/> Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary



Protected Areas Section
300 Water Street
Peterborough, ON
K9J 3C7

April 10, 2026

Town of Gananoque
30 King Street East
Gananoque, ON
K7G 1E9

Dear John Beddows and Penny Kelly,

I would like to extend a sincere thanks and congratulations for your contribution to the assessment and reporting work completed by Town of Gananoque. I am pleased to let you know that the following property is now recognized as a protected and conserved area in the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD):

- Judith Scott McLean Memorial Forest

Thanks to your great work, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) was able to include this area in our submission to CPCAD at the end of November. It now counts towards the 11.2% of Ontario that is recognized as protected. Your final assessment report (Decision Support Tool) and consent letter are attached for your records.

We recognize that your property is an important part of the protected and conserved areas network in Ontario and would like to extend our sincere thanks for your significant contributions to nature and biodiversity conservation in Ontario.

Sincerely,
Laura Bjorgan

Laura Bjorgan (she/her) | Manager (A) – Protected Areas Section – Ontario Parks
300 Water St., Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 3C7
C: 705-772-6039 W: OntarioParks.com



Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

August 5, 2025

Town of Gananoque
30 King Street East
Gananoque, Ontario
K7G 1E9

Re: Permission to report the Town of Gananoque's Judith Scott McLean Memorial Forest to the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database and to share the Canada Target 1 Decision Support Tool screening result

Dear Town of Gananoque,

We would like to acknowledge your efforts to assess your property as a potential protected area or other effective area-based conservation measure (OECM). We also congratulate you on managing the property in such a way that it may meet international standards and be eligible to be reported toward Canada's international biodiversity targets on protected and conserved areas, if you so desire.

This letter is to seek your approval to report the following property owned by the Town of Gananoque to the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD) if it meets the criteria for protected areas or OECMs:

- Judith Scott McLean Memorial Forest (PIN 44244-0195)

If you provide permission, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) will submit certain information on this area to Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) for inclusion in CPCAD. We would submit this information in accordance with the Ontario Parcel Agreement with the Ontario Surveyor General, MPAC, and Teranet. The information adheres to data standards set by ECCC and includes spatial polygons along with specific attributes such as year of establishment, type of governance, and IUCN protected area category.

Once submitted to CPCAD, the area will be counted towards national and international area-based targets for protected and conserved areas. It may also provide you with additional recognition for your conservation efforts. Participating in this reporting does not entail any regulatory or policy restrictions for the property; however, if the use or management of the property changes in the future, it would need to be re-assessed to see whether it still qualifies for international reporting.

Please initial beside the actions below for which the Town of Gananoque grants permission, and sign and date to indicate your permission.

JKS
JKS

JK (Initial) Permission for MECP to submit the eligible protected area/OECM listed above to the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD).

JK (Initial) Permission for MECP to share the finalized Decision Support Tool assessment document for screening the property with relevant members within the protected and conserved area community (e.g., experts with the Canadian Council on Ecological Areas, program staff within provincial and federal governments).

9/26
9/26
9/26
PK (Initial) Permission for MECP to share finalized assessment documents for any of the above-named properties that do not meet the Decision Support Tool screening criteria for the purposes of sharing expertise with relevant members within the protected and conserved area community (e.g., experts with the Canadian Council on Ecological Areas, program staff within provincial and federal governments).

PK (Initial) Permission for MECP to include your eligible area in technical publications (e.g., summary reports, case studies) for public dissemination. This permission would be reconfirmed prior to publication.

PK (Initial) Permission for MECP to include landowner/manager name (Town of Gananoque) in external communications (e.g., external facing website) for public recognition and dissemination. This permission would be reconfirmed prior to publication, and you would be notified once recognition is made public.

(Signature)

X John S. Bradows
John S. Bradows
Mayor

X Penny Kelly

Name: John S. Bradows/Penny Kelly Date **August 27, 2025**

Title: Mayor/Clerk/CEMC
For the Town of Gananoque

Regardless of your decision on granting these permissions, we thank you for your important contributions to biodiversity conservation.

Sincerely,

X Laura Bjorgan

Laura Bjorgan
Manager, Protected Areas Section, MECP
705-772-6039

- c. Anurani Persaud, Protected Areas Section, MECP
- Pilar Manorome, Protected Areas Section, MECP
- Arunemathi Shanmugam, Protected Areas Section, MECP
- Jaelyn Brown, Protected Areas Section, MECP
- Holly Easton, Protected Areas Section, MECP



CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

August 13, 2025

Decision Support Tool – Screening Template

This Screening Template allows users to undertake a structured evaluation of a site to see if it meets the criteria for a Protected Area (PA) or Other Effective area-based Conservation Measure (OECM). A site must meet all criteria to be countable as either a PA or OECM.

For each criterion in this template, select the statement (drop down item) that best describes the site’s characteristics. Provide a brief explanation of whether the intended effect of the criterion is met, and how. In some cases the criterion can be met through multiple mechanisms – these should be considered together. Include enough information to provide a rationale for how criteria are met or not. This information enables federal, provincial, or territorial jurisdictions to evaluate the screening and informs their decision on whether to report a site in their jurisdiction.

Use this Screening Template in conjunction with the [Decision Support Tool guidance document](#). The guidance document explains the criteria that are used to evaluate sites against the agreed Pan-Canadian definitions of PAs and OECMs. It also provides supporting guidance for the interpretation of each criterion. Additional supporting materials are available here: <https://www.conservation2020canada.ca/accounting>.



**CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL
SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS**

August 13, 2025

Decision Support Tool – Screening Criteria



CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

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BASIC INFORMATION

Name of Site	Judith Scott McLean Memorial Forest
Designation	Municipal Heritage/Natural Area (Managed Forest)
Province/Territory	Ontario
Year of Establishment / Securement	2023
Area (ha)	14.16
Governing Authorities	Town of Gananoque
Explanation of Governing Authorities (optional)	<i>Only provide description if very complex or not well understood. This is not necessary for most sites.</i>
Governance Type (WDPA type)	Sub-national Government <i>If governance is shared, what types of organization are involved?</i>
Legal Basis / mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Fee-simple Ownership● THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GANANOQUE BY-LAW NO. 2023-093 with 999-year Restrictive Covenant● The Town of Gananoque Official Plan (2009 and upcoming 2025)● Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) under Section 3 of the <i>Planning Act</i>● Mining Act● Species at Risk Act● Migratory Birds Conventions Act



CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fisheries Act
Explanation of legal basis / mechanisms (optional)	<i>Only provide description if legal basis or mechanism(s) is very complex or not well understood. This is not necessary for most sites</i>
Summary of Essential / Relevant natural, social and cultural values	<i>Maximum 3-4 sentences intended to provide overall site context and connection to in-situ conservation of biodiversity</i> The Judith Scott McLean Memorial Forest offers numerous ecological, environmental, and economic benefits to the town of Gananoque. The property supports a variety of important habitats, including a mix of coniferous and deciduous forests, as well as wetlands and shoreline habitat. In the south, the property is bounded by undeveloped natural shoreline which provides fish spawning habitat. For a more complete list of species observed on the property, see Appendix B. The area is part of Gananoque's trail system and offers recreational opportunities like wildlife observation and hiking.

This template is intended to be used in conjunction with the decision support tool and detailed interpretation guide. see https://canadaconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/DST_03-2021-EN.pdf



CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

August 13, 2025

TABLE 1: STANDARDS COMMON TO PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

CRITERIA:	INTENDED EFFECT OF THE CRITERION	SCREENING CHOICE	EVIDENCE-BASED RATIONALE Rationale/evaluation of how area meets or does not meet the intended effect of the criterion	MEETS INTENDED EFFECT?
GEOGRAPHICAL SPACE	Demarcates the area to facilitate the in-situ conservation of biodiversity.	A. The geographical space has clearly defined and agreed-upon borders.	<p>The borders are clearly defined and property markers are in place. The River Trail which is part of the Town of Gananoque trails system is located on this property and the map is accessible at: https://www.gananoque.ca/community-services/parks-and-recreation/hiking-and-waterfront-trails.</p> <p>A commemorative plaque is maintained where the recreational trail enters the property outlining the history and property's mission to maintain and support local biodiversity.</p> <p>Town of Gananoque Official Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part of Lot 17, Concession 1, PIN 44244-0195• Residential (currently under review)	Yes



**CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL
SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS**

August 13, 2025

<p>EFFECTIVE MEANS – 1</p>	<p>Activities incompatible with the in-situ conservation of biodiversity do not occur and compatible activities are effectively managed.</p>	<p>A. The mechanism(s) provide(s) the ability to prevent incompatible activities and manage all other activities within the area, such that the in-situ conservation of biodiversity can be achieved</p>	<p>All relevant policies and legislation listed prohibit industrial activities from occurring on the properties and ensure long-term protection of in-situ biodiversity conservation. The fee-simple ownership and restrictive covenants placed on the property prevent incompatible activities from occurring on the property with additional protection offered from the policies of Gananoque’s Official Plan. Oversight by the Trees and Trails Advisory Panel of Council facilitates the management of passive recreation on the walking trail such that the in-situ conservation of biodiversity can be achieved.</p> <p><u>The Town of Gananoque By-Law NO. 2023-093 (Restrictive Covenants)</u></p> <p>This by-law authorized the acquisition of the McLean Forest and includes the Restrictive Covenants attached to the Purchase and Sale Agreement in which the Town agrees to observe and comply with these covenants, which are annexed to the Lands for 999 years and are binding on all future owners of the Lands.</p> <p>The key restrictions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No structures of any nature can be built on the Lands, and the Lands cannot be developed or subdivided for private ownership. • No development or construction can be undertaken that would prevent the Lands from qualifying for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP). The MFTIP defines “good forest management as “the property implementation of harvest, renewal and maintenance activities known to be appropriate for the forest and environmental conditions under which they are being applied and that minimize detriments to forest values including significant ecosystems, important fish and wildlife habitat, soil and 	<p>Yes</p>
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CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL

SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

August 13, 2025

			<p>water quality and quantity, forest productivity and health and the aesthetics and recreational opportunities of the landscape”. Activities that are not in accordance with good forestry practices are not permitted which includes, but is not limited to, high-grading or diameter limit cutting, pasturing livestock, removing soil from the forest, and continued inactivity that degrades the health of the forest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• These restrictions do not prevent the extension or expansion of municipal infrastructure¹. Infrastructure should be delivered in a cost-effective manner, aligned with development priorities, while ensuring protection of the environment. Specific objectives say that:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roads should be managed to function safely and efficiently.• Water, wastewater, and stormwater should be managed in a fiscally and environmentally responsible manner.• Waste management should be conducted in an environmentally sustainable way. <p><u>The McLean Forest Management Strategy of the Trees and Trails Advisory Panel (TTAP)</u></p> <p>In conjunction with Town staff, the McLean Forest is monitored by the TTAP, which advises council on the maintenance and enhancement of the town’s tree canopy and trail system.</p> <p><u>Prohibited Activities</u></p> <p>Trail users are alerted to prohibited activities by signage posted at the trail entrance. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the use of motorized vehicles• leaving the marked trail• cutting or removing vegetation	
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**CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL
SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS**

August 13, 2025

¹ According to the Town of Gananoque Official Plan (2009), *municipal infrastructure* (referred to simply as “infrastructure”) covers a broad set of public works and services necessary for the town’s functioning. It is defined as including transportation, water, wastewater, solid waste, energy, and communication infrastructures. These structures are crucial to sustainable growth and must be managed in a way that is environmentally, socially, and economically responsible.

Version: March 2021



CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• fires• litter <p><u>OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW</u></p> <p>According to conversations with the Town’s Manager of Planning and Development, the McLean Forest will be designated “Open Space” in the new draft Official Plan which is expected to be approved before the end of 2025. The new designation would then be reflected in the update to Gananoque’s Development Permit By-law (zoning).</p> <p>Within Section 3.5.2.2 the draft plan (Town of Gananoque, Draft Official Plan: Public Comment, 2024), permitted uses on land designated open space include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• parks, recreation facilities and pathways, and communication facilities.• active or passive recreational uses such as parks, boat launches, walking trails, picnic areas, etc. when resources are available. <p>Furthermore, the policies of the draft plan to enhance and protect access and enjoyment of the natural features of the Town, such as shorelines of the St. Lawrence River and trails include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ensuring that adjacent development, including new streets, parks and open spaces, building location, height, massing and organization, will preserve and enhance access and views between these natural features and the public realm• providing for public access along, into and through these natural open spaces• minimizing shadows on natural features to preserve their utility and ecological health <p>The Draft Plan includes mechanisms such as development permitting (zoning) regulations that restrict high-impact</p>	
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CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

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			<p>development near the shoreline, the establishment of minimum setback distances from the water's edge, and site plan control to ensure proposed developments align with environmental protection objectives. The plan also calls for the use of naturalized buffers to reduce runoff and protect aquatic habitats, and requires environmental impact studies for developments in or near significant natural heritage features. Additionally, tree preservation policies, stormwater management requirements, and public education initiatives help control cumulative impacts and promote stewardship of the St. Lawrence River's biodiversity within the Town of Gananoque. The plan emphasizes the protection of natural heritage features and ecological functions, such as fish habitat, wetlands, and riparian vegetation, by directing development away from sensitive areas and requiring restoration where impacts have occurred.</p> <p>Under the current (2009) iteration of the Official Plan, the property is zoned as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Schedule "I" LAND USE: Residential (currently under review, see below)● Official Plan Schedule "F" NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE FEATURE:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Fish Spawning: Development and site alterations shall not be permitted in fish habitat except in accordance with provincial and federal requirements. Where development is proposed within 30 metres of an area of fish habitat or adjacent to an area of fish habitat it must be demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural feature or on the ecological functions for which the feature is identified.○ Significant Woodlands: Development may be permitted in accordance with the underlying land use designation	
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**CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL
SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS**

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			<p>where it has been demonstrated that the overall woodland function will not be negatively impacted or the ecological function of the woodland negatively impacted by the proposed development.</p> <p>Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) (Planning Act, Section 2.1.4) The Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) under the <i>Planning Act</i> (October 2024) prohibits development and site alteration in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a) significant wetlands in Ecoregions 5E, 6E and 7E; and b) significant coastal wetlands (western section of the property coastline). <p>Development and site alteration are also restricted in the following, unless it is demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or their ecological functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PSWs in the Canadian Shield north of Ecoregions 5E, 6E, and 7E• significant woodlands in Ecoregions 6E and 7E (excluding islands in Lake Huron and the St. Marys River)• significant wildlife habitat <p>Additionally, development and site alteration on adjacent lands to these features are not permitted unless an evaluation confirms no negative impacts. Development is also prohibited in fish habitat and the habitat of endangered and threatened species, except in accordance with provincial and federal requirements.</p> <p><u>Mining Act</u> Under section 35.1 of the Mining Act [9], the subsurface rights for all “Southern Ontario” have been withdrawn from prospecting, staking, sale and lease since 2009. This prevents mining from occurring on all these properties, which lie within the geographic area described by the Mining Act as “Southern Ontario”.</p>	
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**CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL
SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS**

August 13, 2025

TABLE 1: STANDARDS COMMON TO PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

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			<p><u>Species At Risk</u> The purpose of the federal <i>Species at Risk Act, 2002</i> is to prevent species and populations from being extirpated or extinct and encourage the management of other species to prevent them from becoming at risk. The Act provides legal protection for wildlife species and conservation of their biological diversity. but not limited to the Blandings Turtle, Spiny Softshell, and the Golden-Winged Warbler. Fish habitat and migratory bird habitat also have additional protections through the <i>Fisheries Act (1985)</i> and the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act (1994)</i>, respectively.</p> <p><u>Migratory Birds Convention Act (MBCA, 1994):</u> The protections apply at all times for individual migratory birds (you can't kill, injure, harass, capture, etc.) even outside the nesting season. List of birds protected under this Act is available in Appendix B.</p> <p><u>Fisheries Act</u> (DFO Policy Statement on Fish and Fish Habitat Protection, 2019): Protection for all fish and fish habitat, including all species that support commercial, recreational or Indigenous fisheries (Fisheries Act, R.S.C., 1985, c. F-14).</p>	



**CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL
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<p>EFFECTIVE MEANS – 2</p>		<p>A. The mechanism(s) compel(s) the authority(ies) to prohibit activities that are incompatible with the in-situ conservation of biodiversity.</p>	<p>The Restrictive Covenant on the McLean Forest compels and legally binds the Town of Gananoque to abide by the restrictions to ensure effective protection of biodiversity. The restrictions compel the landowner to meet the requirements of Ontario’s Managed Forest Tax Incentive Plan (MFTIP) which draws on land stewardship principles that are compatible with the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. Appropriate management activities for the MFTIP include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● tree planting of native tree species, tending, thinning, pruning and harvesting; ● recreational activities such as hiking, skiing or hunting; ● wildlife management involving habitat work or participating in monitoring programs; ● protecting environmentally sensitive areas by limiting disturbance; and ● learning about the forest. <p>The TTAP is a committed group of citizen volunteers, town staff, and democratically elected councillors with a mandate to advise on the monitoring and management of the property. The broader community has demonstrated its willingness to support the work of Gananoque’s TTAP and its expectation that the McLean Forest will be managed in a manner that will protect the biodiversity and recreational opportunities it supports. Through the involvement of the community in all aspects of the property management, the Town is upheld to its commitment to acknowledge, maintain, preserve and respect the current managed forest status of the property and covenants to prohibit any development of the property.</p> <p>The Town of Gananoque’s Draft Official Plan Update (2024) includes a range of mechanisms in compliance with the Provincial Policy Statement aimed at conserving biodiversity along the shorelines of</p>	<p>Yes</p>
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**CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL
SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS**

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			<p>the St. Lawrence River. Through land use designations, shoreline buffer requirements, and environmental impact assessments, the plan provides tools to prevent, control, and manage development and other activities that may negatively affect shoreline ecosystems.</p> <p>According to the <i>Draft Official Plan for Public Comment (Dec 6, 2024)</i>, the Town of Gananoque includes several mechanisms aimed at conserving shoreline biodiversity. These include land use designations identifying sensitive natural heritage features (especially in Lowertown and waterfront areas), requirements for environmental impact assessments or supporting technical studies for development near shorelines, and buffer or setback provisions (such as undisturbed vegetation soils between development and the shoreline or stable top of bank). Buffers and setbacks are subject to policies in the Development Permit By-law and Conservation Authority/regulatory discretion. (Town of Gananoque, Draft Official Plan: Public Comment, 2024)</p> <p><u>Species at Risk Act, 2002</u> Under the federal <i>Species at Risk Act, 2002</i> no person shall kill, harm, harass, or capture a species listed as extirpated, endangered, or threatened, and no person shall damage or destroy the habitat of a species listed as endangered or threatened. If these prohibitions are contravened, the individual or organization may be found guilty of an offence under the Act and subject to penalties. These can include substantial fines, court orders, and restrictions on future activities.</p>	
LONG TERM	The area is permanently protected	A. The mechanism(s) is/are intended to be in	The Town of Gananoque has fee-simple ownership of the property and intends to hold it indefinitely as native forest and ecosystem. The Restrictive Covenants attached to the Purchase and Sale	Yes



CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

August 13, 2025

TABLE 1: STANDARDS COMMON TO PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

CRITERIA:	INTENDED EFFECT OF THE CRITERION	SCREENING CHOICE	EVIDENCE-BASED RATIONALE Rationale/evaluation of how area meets or does not meet the intended effect of the criterion	MEETS INTENDED EFFECT?
	or conserved and not easily reversed.	effect for the long term and not easily reversed.	Agreement are annexed to the McLean Forest for 999 years and are binding on all future owners of the Lands.	
TIMING	Biodiversity is protected or conserved year-round.	A. The mechanism(s) is/are in effect year-round	The Town of Gananoque owns and manages its properties year-round, and all protections, legislations, and policies are in place year-round.	Yes



**CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL
SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS**

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TABLE 2: STANDARDS THAT FURTHER DEFINE AND DISTINGUISH BETWEEN PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

CRITERIA:	INTENDED EFFECT OF THE CRITERION	SCREENING CHOICE	EVIDENCE-BASED RATIONALE: Rationale/evaluation of how area meets or does not meet the intended effect of the criterion	OUTCOME
SCOPE OF OBJECTIVES	Objectives have sufficient scope to result in the in-situ conservation of biodiversity.	A. The objectives are for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity as a whole, or for indigenous values accomplished through the in-situ conservation of biodiversity.	<p>All these objectives have sufficient scope to result in the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. By adhering to these objectives, the properties included in this assessment will contribute to biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>The McLean Forest Trees and Trails Advisory Panel (TTAP) of town council has a mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop and maintain Sustainability Plans for the Tree Canopy and Trail network ● Provide the Town’s Public Works Department with maintenance and monitoring recommendations. <p>In November 2024, the TTAP passed Motion-TTAP-2024-19 to adopt a Sub-Committee to manage the McLean Forest and create a forest management strategy. The overarching vision of the strategy is to establish and maintain a mixed deciduous and coniferous native forest, with a mature trail system for the enjoyment and education of residents and visitors. The objectives are listed below.</p> <p>Goal 1: A mature mixed native forest and native ecosystem. Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Protection of some coniferous blocks ● Re-establishment of native forest and ecosystem. ● Preservation of native wetland ● Removal of invasive and non-native species. 	Yes - PA



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TABLE 2: STANDARDS THAT FURTHER DEFINE AND DISTINGUISH BETWEEN PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

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			<p>Goal 2: A looped trail system that supports education and the enjoyment of nature. Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improve existing trail system and boundary marking. ● Establish a new looped trail system. ● Establish a river view point. ● Design and implement an educational element. ● Ensure sufficient parking. <p>Goal 3: Enduring community involvement from initiation. Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Community involvement in the development of the area. ● Community involvement in the ongoing maintenance and evolution of the area. <p>Upon entering the forest’s recreational trail, a commemorative plaque is maintained to alter visitors to the site’s objectives and history. It reads: <i>Judith Scott McLean Memorial Forest: Ivan and Marguerite Scott purchased this land as a working farm from the Dempster family in 1950. Their daughter Judy inherited the farm in 1981. Judy's goal was to preserve a habitat for native plants and animals. In her memory, Judy's children, grandchildren and great grandchildren are proud to donate this property in perpetuity to the Town of Gananoque. Our hope is that the residents of Gananoque and its visitors will respect and enjoy the natural beauty of this</i></p>	



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CRITERIA:	INTENDED EFFECT OF THE CRITERION	SCREENING CHOICE	EVIDENCE-BASED RATIONALE: Rationale/evaluation of how area meets or does not meet the intended effect of the criterion	OUTCOME
			<i>property as much as Judy did. Please, respectfully enjoy the trails, animals, plants and lovely view of the mighty St. Lawrence River from "Turtle Rock".- The McLean Family</i>	
PRIMACY OF OBJECTIVES	Objectives are such that they result in the in-situ conservation of biodiversity.	A. Conservation objectives are stated as primary and overriding of other objectives.	The strategy’s first goal and primary objectives are to establish and maintain a mature mixed native forest and native ecosystem. The overarching vision of the McLean Forest Strategy is “To establish and maintain a mixed deciduous and coniferous native forest, with a mature trail system for the enjoyment and education of residents and visitors”.	Yes - PA
GOVERNING AUTHORITIES	The in-situ conservation of biodiversity is not jeopardized by relevant governing authorities.	A. All relevant governing authorities acknowledge and abide by the conservation objectives of the area.	The Town of Gananoque, which is upheld to its objectives by decisions of its democratically elected council, restrictive covenants on the property, and relevant policies and bylaws, and provincial laws described above, is the governing authority of this property. In a public statement, the Town has promised to acknowledge, maintain, preserve and respect the current managed forest status of the property and covenants to prohibit any development of the property whatsoever, save and except for any extension or expansion of any municipal infrastructure” (Town of Gananoque, 2023).	Yes - PA



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<p align="center">BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION OUTCOMES</p>	<p>Biodiversity is conserved in-situ.</p>	<p>B. The area is being managed with the intent of, and is likely achieving, the conservation objectives.</p>	<p>Biodiversity is conserved <i>in-situ</i> through adherence to the Town of Gananoque and the TTAP’s mandate and mission to maintain a mature mixed native forest and native ecosystem and the associated ongoing ecological management practices.</p> <p>A baseline survey for the property was completed by biologists in July 2025 to assess the property’s biodiversity, trail conditions, and invasive species. This information was used to create potential management actions and recommendations to the TTAP.</p> <p>The baseline survey identifies the following Ecological Land Classification vegetation communities on the property:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● White Pine Coniferous Plantation <p>The White Pine plantation is the largest vegetation community and covers approximately 80% of the forest area. White Pine (<i>Pinus strobus</i>) is dominant in the canopy, with White Ash (<i>Fraxinus americana</i>) and Sugar Maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>) appearing occasionally in the subcanopy and understory layers. The ground layer is sparsely vegetated in areas which are heavily shaded by the canopy. Invasive species, like Honeysuckles (<i>Lonicera</i> spp.), Buckthorn (<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>), and Dog-strangling Vine (<i>Vincetoxicum rossicum</i>) are found in the ground layer and understory in areas where light reaches the forest floor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sugar Maple-White Ash Deciduous Forest <p>Smaller deciduous forest areas are found between plantations. Sugar Maple and White Ash are dominant in the canopy and subcanopy layers with Black Cherry (<i>Prunus serotina</i>) being subdominant. Additional species in the subcanopy include Red Oak (<i>Quercus rubra</i>) and Basswood (<i>Tilia americana</i>). Native shrub species found in the understory layer include Red Raspberry (<i>Rubus idaeus</i>), Red Elderberry (<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>), and Gray Dogwood</p>	<p>Yes - PA</p>
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CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

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			<p>(<i>Cornus racemosa</i>). Numerous ferns and herbaceous plants are found within the ground layer. The signs of the invasive Emerald Ash Borer infestation are evident throughout this community. Several dead or dying Ash trees are present, causing an open canopy in many areas. In these areas, invasive honeysuckles have created dense thickets in the understory due to the increased sunlight. This community will see changes to species composition as Ash trees continue to die. The Sugar Maple and Black Cherry in the subcanopy are likely to become the dominant species of this community as the successional process continues. In areas near White Pine plantations, there is a transition zone where some White Pine mixes with the deciduous species of this community. Soils are shallow over bedrock, and some areas exhibit rocky ridges, exposed rock and steep topography.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ash Mineral Deciduous Swamp <p>A deciduous swamp is found along the western boundary of the property, continuing south of the boardwalk at the Arthur Street entrance. Dominant in the canopy are Black Ash (<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>), Green Ash (<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>), with Black Willow (<i>Salix nigra</i>) subdominant in areas closer to the river. Silver Maple (<i>Acer saccharinum</i>) and Red Maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>) are additional species found in the canopy and subcanopy layers. The ground layer is heavily vegetated with grasses, sedges, and cattails. This community is also seeing the effects of Emerald Ash Borer. Flooding duration within these types of swamps are typically short, with the substrate being aerated by early to mid summer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Duckweed Floating-leaved Shallow aquatic <p>Shallow aquatic wetlands are found along the north, western, and eastern boundaries. These wetlands are densely vegetated with Lesser Duckweed (<i>Lemna minor</i>) on the surface of the water. Water</p>	
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			<p>levels are variable and habitat features such as basking logs present.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reed Canary Grass Meadow Marsh <p>At the Arthur Street entrance, there is a narrow meadow marsh community with the dominant species being Reed Canary Grass (<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>). Flooding in these types of marshes are typically seasonal, with soils drying out in the summer months. Based on the survey and in considering the existing strategy for the property, the biologist developed the following management recommendations.</p> <p>Conservation Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Forest Ecosystems: The largest forest type found on the property is the White Pine Coniferous Plantations. There are additional areas of the property containing Sugar-Maple Ash mixed forest. By protecting and enhancing the forest conservation target, SAR species (including Wood Thrush & Eastern Wood-pewee) will also benefit. This target will require restoration/enhancement as it contains several invasive species. ● Shallow Aquatic Wetland Ecosystem: wetlands are located around the northern, northwestern, and northeastern boundaries of the property. These wetlands are providing habitat for numerous species, including Snapping Turtles and Midland Painted Turtles. This target only requires protection at this time, as there are no current invasive species or direct threats which will require management actions. <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To protect & restore native forest and wetland ecosystems ● To maintain property for public access 	
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CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

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			<p>Recommended Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Invasive species prevention through signage and boot brushes● Invasive species management<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ High priority for action: Dog-strangling Vine (<i>Vincetoxicum rossicum</i>), Garlic Mustard (<i>Alliaria petiolate</i>)○ Medium priority for action: Periwinkle (<i>Vinca minor</i>)● Property monitoring by Trail Stewards:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Recommended Monitoring Schedule: Once/season at minimum, but can be done more frequently if volunteers are on trails often● Trail maintenance & monitoring: With public use of the property, trail monitoring is an important action to help keep the trail safe and accessible for everyone to enjoy. Trail monitoring can be incorporated into the property monitoring. <p>Implementation:</p> <p>Stewardship activities carried out or planned for this year include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● On July 18/25, the Rotary Club of Gananoque worked with members of the TTAP and Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network to conduct an invasive plant clean-up through manual methods. Plants removed include: periwinkle, sedum, garlic mustard and dog strangling vine.● A group of “Trail Stewards” operating under guidance from the TTAP will regularly hike the trail and act as an early warning system for issues that require rectification such as invasive plants, evidence of prohibited activities, or other management -related issues. The TTAP meets monthly to report and coordinate a response to issues.	
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SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT

<p>OUTCOME / EVALUATION</p>	<p>Screening Outcome: Protected Area (meets all criteria) Is this an Interim Target 1 area: no. Is this a candidate Target 1 area: yes Currently reported to CPCAD/CARTS? No Total Area (ha) to be reported to CPCAD/CARTS: 14.16</p>
<p>Identify deficiencies that could be overcome in order to report as PA or OECM</p>	<p><i>What, if any, actions could be undertaken to meet the Pan-Canadian criteria and standards for reporting?</i></p>
<p>Lead evaluator / assessor</p>	<p><i>Names and organizations of lead evaluator and contributors, date of contribution, relationship to site</i></p> <p>Leila Vaziri Zanjani, Conservation Specialist, Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network Christine Grossutti, Conservation Project Manager, Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network</p>
<p>Communications / Engagement</p>	<p><i>Names of governing authorities and others consulted, including names and positions of contact people and dates</i></p> <p>Brenda Guy, Manager of Planning and Development, Town of Gananoque, 2024-2025 Delegation to Town of Gananoque Council, June 4, 2024 Jeff Johnson, Manager of Parks and Recreation, Town of Gananoque, January 2025 Robert Kennedy, Superintendent of Parks and Facilities, Town of Gananoque, January 2025 Trees and Trails Advisory Panel of Gananoque Town Council, Chair: Councillor David Osmond, May-July 2025 Lynsey Zufelt, Deputy Clerk, Town of Gananoque, May-August 2025 Delegation to Council of the Town of Gananoque, August 12, 2025</p>



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Approvals

Names of governing authorities (including government, private or Indigenous landowners, right holders and the responsible jurisdiction) that have approved the content and results of this screening as being accurate and complete to the best of their knowledge and agree to reporting of data. Agreement for data sharing with the land owner/manager.

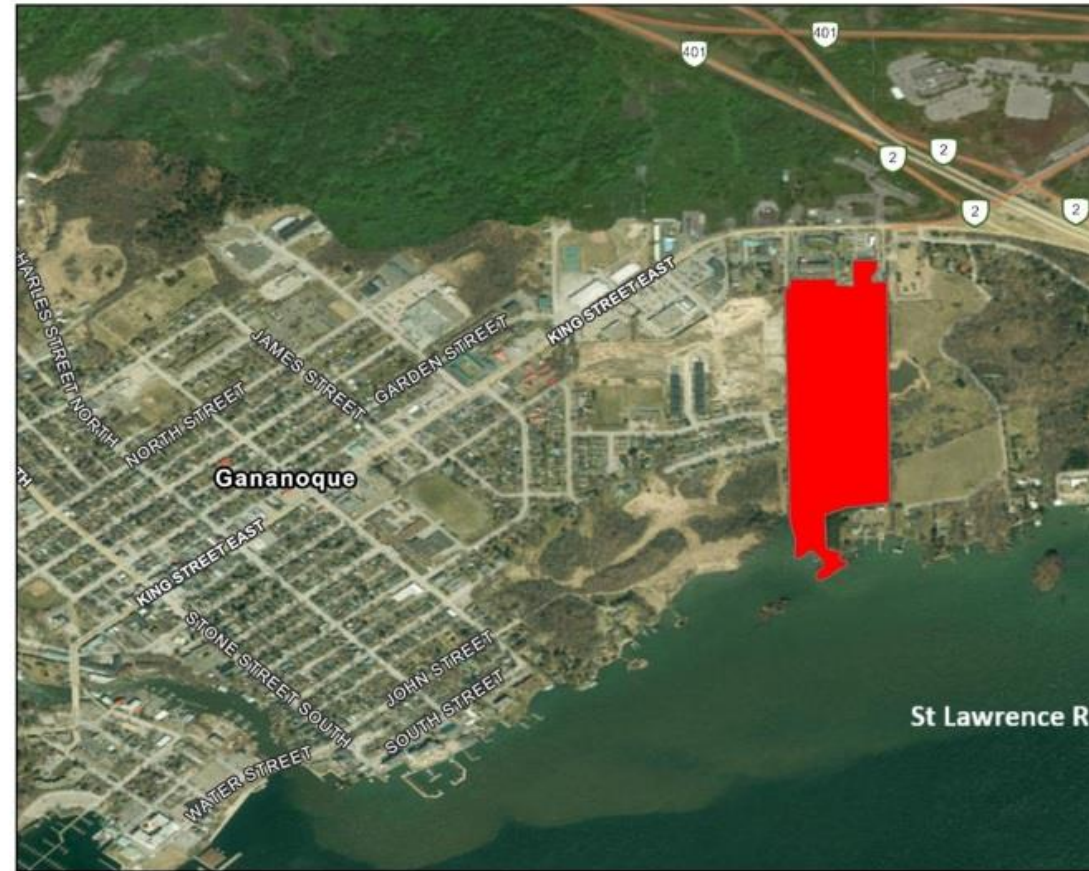
Laura Bjorgan, Manager, Protected Areas Section, Ontario Parks, MECP
John Beddows, Mayor of Gananoque
Penny Kelly, Clerk/CEMC



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Appendix A. Judith Scott McLean Memorial Forest



Legend

 Judith Scott McLean Memorial Forest



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Appendix B. Species Inventory and Biodiversity Values

This property is located on Ecoregion 6E of (Lake Simcoe-Rideau) Ontario ecotypes. Flora in this ecoregion is “relatively diverse. Hardwood forests dominated by sugar maple, American beech, white ash, eastern hemlock, and numerous other species are found where substrates are well developed on upland sites. Lowlands, including rich floodplain forests, contain green ash, silver maple, red maple, eastern white cedar, yellow birch, balsam fir, and black ash. Peatlands (some quite large) occur along the northern edge and in the eastern portion of the ecoregion, and these contain fens, and rarely bogs, with black spruce and tamarack. Some of the best examples of North American alvar vegetation are located in the ecoregion. Characteristic mammals include white-tailed deer, Northern raccoon, striped skunk, and woodchuck. Wetland habitats are used by many species of water birds and shorebirds, including wood duck, great blue heron, and Wilson’s snipe. Open upland habitats are used by species such as field sparrow, grasshopper sparrow, and eastern meadowlark. Upland forests support populations of species such as hairy woodpecker, wood thrush, scarlet tanager, and rose-breasted grosbeak. Reptiles and amphibians found in this ecosystem include American bullfrog, northern leopard frog, spring peeper, red-spotted newt, snapping turtle, eastern gartersnake, and common watersnake. Characteristic fish species in the ecoregion include the white sucker, smallmouth bass, walleye, northern pike, yellow perch, rainbow darter, emerald shiner, and pearl dace” (Crins W. J., Gray P. A., Uhlig P., Wester M. C., 2009).

Category	Biodiversity Values observed during July 2025 Baseline Survey (Stevenson, 2025) Listed Species appear in BOLD
Reptiles & Amphibians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Bullfrog (<i>Rana catesbeiana</i>) • Green Frog (<i>Lithobates clamitans</i>) • Special Concern Midland Painted Turtle (<i>Chrysemys picta marginata</i>) • Special Concern Snapping Turtle (<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>) • Mink Frog (<i>Lithobates septentrionalis</i>) • Leopard Frog (<i>Lithobates pipiens</i>) • Pickerel Frog (<i>Lithobates palustris</i>) • Common Gartersnake (<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>)
Birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scarlet Tanager (<i>Piranga olivacea</i>) • Ring-billed Gull (<i>Larus delawarensis</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Green Heron (<i>Butorides virescens</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Mute Swan (<i>Cygnus olor</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Cedar Waxwing (<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Yellow Warbler (<i>Setophaga petechia</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Common Yellowthroat (<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994)



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swamp Sparrow (<i>Melospiza georgiana</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Pileated Woodpecker (<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Trumpeter Swan (<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Great Blue Heron (<i>Ardea herodias</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Great Crested Flycatcher (<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Eastern Towhee (<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Black-capped Chickadee (<i>Poecile atricapillus</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Red-winged Blackbird (<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>) • Hairy Woodpecker (<i>Dryobates villosus</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Northern Cardinal (<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Tufted Titmouse (<i>Baeolophus bicolor</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Song Sparrow (<i>Melospiza melodia</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • White Breasted Nuthatch (<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Tree Swallow (<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • American Crow (<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>) • American Robin (<i>Turdus migratorius</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Red-eyed Vireo (<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • American Goldfinch (<i>Spinus tristis</i>) • Pine Warbler (<i>Setophaga pinus</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • House Wren (<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>) • American Redstart (<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Threatened Wood Thrush (<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Special Concern Eastern Wood Pewee (<i>Contopus virens</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Carolina Wren (<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) • Eastern Kingbird (<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>) (Protected in Canada Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994)
Mammals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastern Grey Squirrel (<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>) • Red Squirrel (<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>) • Raccoon (<i>Procyon lotor</i>) • Eastern Cottontail (<i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i>) • Chipmunk (<i>Tamias striatus</i>)



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<p>Invertebrates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chalk-fronted Corporal (<i>Ladona julia</i>) • Hickory Tussock Moth (<i>Lonomia obliqua</i>) • Hobomonk Skipper (<i>Lerema accius</i>) • Common Whitetail (<i>Plathemis lydia</i>) • Milipede (<i>Eurymerodesmus spp.</i>) • Inchworm (<i>Geometridae spp.</i>) • Black Swallowtail (<i>Papilio polyxenes</i>) • Common Eastern Bumblebee (<i>Bombus impatiens</i>)
<p>Trees, Shrubs and Vines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purple-flowered Raspberry (<i>Rubus odoratus</i>) • Shagbark Hickory (<i>Carya ovata</i>) • Basswood (<i>Tilia americana</i>) • White Pine (<i>Pinus strobus</i>) • White Ash (<i>Fraxinus americana</i>) • Black Walnut (<i>Juglans nigra</i>) • White Oak (<i>Quercus alba</i>) • Spreading Dogbane (<i>Apocynum androsaemifolium</i>) • Black Cherry (<i>Prunus serotina</i>) • Manitoba Maple (<i>Acer negundo</i>) • Virginia Creeper (<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>) • Prickly Gooseberry (<i>Ribes cynosbati</i>) • White Spruce (<i>Picea glauca</i>) • American Elm (<i>Ulmus americana</i>) • Gray Dogwood (<i>Cornus racemosa</i>) • Riverbank Grape (<i>Vitis riparia</i>) • Sugar Maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>) • Nannyberry (<i>Viburnum lentago</i>) • European Buckthorn (<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>) • Black Raspberry (<i>Rubus occidentalis</i>) • Staghorn Sumac (<i>Rhus typhina</i>) • Morrow's Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>) • Tatarian Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>)



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bittersweet Nightshade (<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>) ● Red-osier Dogwood (<i>Cornus sericea</i>) ● Red Raspberry (<i>Rubus idaeus</i>) ● Red Oak (<i>Quercus rubra</i>) ● Green Ash (<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>) ● Black Willow (<i>Salix nigra</i>) ● Bitternut Hickory (<i>Carya cordiformis</i>) ● Maple-leaved Viburnum (<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>) ● Willow sp. (<i>Salix sp.</i>) ● Silver Maple (<i>Acer saccharinum</i>) ● Endangered Black Ash (<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>)
<p>Herbaceous Plants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jewelweed (<i>Impatiens capensis</i>) ● False Solomon's Seal (<i>Maianthemum racemosum</i>) ● Lady Fern (<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>) ● Sensitive Fern (<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>) ● Creeping Jenny (<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>) ● Wood Avens (<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>) ● Selfheal (<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>) ● Broadleaf Enchanters Nightshade (<i>Circaea canadensis</i>) ● Goldenrod sp. (<i>Solidago sp.</i>) ● Herb Robert (<i>Geranium robertianum</i>) ● Common Dandelion (<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>) ● Eastern Poison Ivy (<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>) ● Thistle sp. (<i>Cirsium sp.</i>) ● American Bugleweed (<i>Lycopus americanus</i>) ● Virginia Strawberry (<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>) ● Fragrant Bedstraw (<i>Galium triflorum</i>) ● Tall Blue Lettuce (<i>Lactuca biennis</i>) ● Colt's-Foot (<i>Tussilago farfara</i>) ● St. John's Wort (<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>) ● Red-berried Elder (<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>)



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- Common Gromwell (*Lithospermum officinale*)
- Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)
- Common Ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*)
- Marsh Hedge Nettle (*Stachys hispida*)
- Common Plantain (*Plantago major*)
- Elecampane (*Inula helenium*)
- Curled Dock (*Rumex crispus*)
- Oxeye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*)
- Orpine (*Hylotelephium telephium*)
- Burdock sp. (*Arctium sp.*)
- Fringed Loosestrife (*Lysimachia ciliata*)
- White Avens (*Geum canadense*)
- Dog-strangling Vine (*Vincetoxicum rossicum*)
- Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
- White Clover (*Trifolium repens*)
- Cow Vetch (*Vicia cracca*)
- Queen Anne's Lace (*Daucus carota*)
- Daisy Fleabane (*Erigeron annuus*)
- Common Cinquefoil (*Potentilla simplex*)
- Alsike Clover (*Trifolium hybridum*)
- Meadow Buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*)
- Wall Lettuce (*Mycelis muralis*)
- Wood Nettle (*Laportea canadensis*)
- Bird's-foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*)
- Spinulose Wood Fern (*Dryopteris carthusiana*)
- Lesser Duckweed (*Lemna minor*)
- Deptford Pink (*Dianthus armeria*)
- Chickory (*Cichorium intybus*)
- White Sweet Clover (*Melilotus alba*)
- Black Medick (*Medicago lupulina*)
- Broad-leaved Cattail (*Typha latifolia*)
- Sweet Cicely (*Osmorhiza longistylis*)



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SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS**

August 13, 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Garlic Mustard (<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>) ● Dame's Rocket (<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>) ● Periwinkle (<i>Vinca minor</i>) ● Canada Anemone (<i>Anemone canadensis</i>) ● Canada Thistle (<i>Cirsium arvense</i>) ● Marginal Wood Fern (<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>) ● Yellow Hawkweed (<i>Hieracium pratense</i>) ● Nipplewort (<i>Hieracium pratense</i>) ● Heart-leaved Foamflower (<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>) ● Yellow Avens (<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>) ● Mouse-ear Chickweed (<i>Cerastium vulgatum</i>) ● Spotted Joe-pye Weed (<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i>) ● Violet sp. (<i>Viola sp.</i>) ● Rock Polypody (<i>Polypodium virginianum</i>) ● Bindweed sp. (<i>Convolvulus sp.</i>) ● Yellow Wood Sorrel (<i>Oxalis stricta</i>) ● American Plantain (<i>Plantago rugelii</i>) ● New England Aster (<i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i>) ● Early Goldenrod (<i>Solidago juncea</i>) ● Large-fruited Burreed (<i>Sparganium eurycarpum</i>) ● Yellow Pond Lily (<i>Nuphar variegata</i>) ● Tall Hairy Agrimony (<i>Agrimonia gryposepala</i>) ● Cleavers (<i>Galium aparine</i>) ● Viper's Bugloss (<i>Echium vulgare</i>) ● Bethlehem Sage (<i>Pulmonaria saccharata</i>)
<p>Grasses and Sedges</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reed Canary Grass (<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>) ● Smooth Brome (<i>Bromus inermis</i>) ● Timothy (<i>Phleum pratense</i>) ● Canada Bluegrass (<i>Poa compressa</i>) ● Swamp Meadow Grass (<i>Poa palustris</i>) ● Nodding Fescue (<i>Festuca nutans</i>)



CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

August 13, 2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Slender Path Rush (<i>Juncus tenuis</i>) ● Perennial Bentgrass (<i>Agrostis perennan</i>)
Mosses and Lichens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tree Clubmoss (<i>Lycopodium dendroideum</i>) ● Common Haircap Moss (<i>Polytrichum commune</i>) ● American Tree Moss (<i>Climacium americanum</i>) ● Rock Tripe (<i>Umbilicaria mammulata</i>) ● Reindeer Lichen (<i>Cladonia rangiferina</i>)
Fungi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Turkey-tail (<i>Trametes versicolor</i>) ● Hemlock Varnish Shelf (<i>Ganoderma tsugae</i>)
Plant Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● White Pine Coniferous Plantation: White Pine (<i>Pinus strobus</i>) largest vegetation community and covers approximately 80% of the forest area, White Ash (<i>Fraxinus americana</i>), Sugar Maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>) ● Sugar Maple-White Ash Deciduous Forest: Black Cherry (<i>Prunus serotina</i>), Red Oak (<i>Quercus rubra</i>), Basswood (<i>Tilia americana</i>), Red Raspberry (<i>Rubus idaeus</i>), Red Elderberry (<i>Sambucus racemosa</i>), Gray Dogwood (<i>Cornus racemosa</i>) ● Ash Mineral Deciduous Swamp: Black Ash (<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>) (COSEWIC: Threatened, COSSARO: Endangered), Green Ash (<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>), Black Willow (<i>Salix nigra</i>), Silver Maple (<i>Acer saccharinum</i>), Red Maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>) ● Duckweed Floating-leaved Shallow aquatic: Lesser Duckweed (<i>Lemna minor</i>) ● Reed Canary Grass Meadow Marsh: Reed Canary Grass (<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>)

The Natural Heritage Information Center (NHIC) of Ontario has additional species at risk records for this area. These species have been recorded historically within 1 km of the McLean Memorial Forest. The below table summarizes these records.

Species	COSEWIC (Federal) Status	COSSARO (Provincial) Status
Golden-winged Warbler (<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>)	Threatened	Special Concern
Canada Warbler (<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>)	Threatened	Special Concern



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Blandings Turtle (<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>)	Endangered	Threatened
Pugnose Shiner (<i>Notropis anogenus</i>)	Threatened	Threatened
Spiny Softshell (<i>Apalone spinifera</i>)	Endangered	Endangered
Grass Pickerel (<i>Esox americanus</i>)	Special Concern	Special Concern
Wood Thrush (<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>)	Threatened	Special Concern
Eastern Wood-pewee (<i>Contopus virens</i>)	Special Concern	Special Concern
Lake Sturgeon <i>Acipenser fulvescens</i> pop. 3 -Great Lakes - Upper St. Lawrence River population	Threatened	Endangered
Western Chorus Frog (<i>Pseudacris maculata</i> pop. 1) Great Lakes - St. Lawrence - Canadian Shield population	Threatened	Not at Risk
Canada Warbler (<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>)	Special Concern	Special Concern
Snapping Turtle (<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>)	Special Concern	Special Concern



**CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL
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August 13, 2025



CANADA TARGET 1 – PAN-CANADIAN DECISION SUPPORT TOOL SCREENING TEMPLATE FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS

August 13, 2025

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St. Lawrence waterfront trail

St. Lawrence waterfront trail

☆ Our public waterfront walkways

The policy foundation for requiring a continuous waterfront trail is exceptionally strong. The Town's own Official Plan requires acquisition of land for walkways when development provides the opportunity (Section 3.1.2.2, Policy 1), mandates a connected greenway system (Guiding Principle 6), and calls for enhancing public access to the St. Lawrence River shoreline. The Planning Act gives the Town authority to dedicate pedestrian pathways and impose construction conditions as part of subdivision approval. The developer has already included a trail connection block in the draft plan. McLean Forest already connects to the waterfront — what is missing is the waterfront trail itself, the ability to walk along the river from Joel Stone Park to McLean Forest. The task now is to ensure the subdivision delivers that continuous waterfront trail experience — not just a line on a plan.

☆ Parkland Dedication (Planning Act, Section 51.1)

The key is to ensure the parkland dedication includes trail-usable corridors and is not limited to decorative greenspace.

For residential subdivisions, the Town can require conveyance of up to 5% of the land (or 1 hectare per 300 dwelling units) for park or public recreational purposes. With 77 units proposed, this amounts to approximately 0.26 hectares, which on its own is modest — but the existing draft plan already proposes 0.596 ha of parkland (Blocks 79–80) and 2.038 ha of open space (Blocks 81–85), which exceeds the minimum.

☆ The Town's own Draft Official Plan contains several policies that directly support requiring a trail connection.

These should be cited in any submission:

Guiding Principle #2: The waterfront will be enhanced through development that creates an accessible and useable waterfront for residents and visitors.

Guiding Principle #6: The Town will plan for a connected system of greenways and parks facilities.

Section 3.1.2.2, Policy 1 (Public Access and Use): Acquisition of land for public walkways shall be required where new development or re-development provides an opportunity to do so. This is directly on point — the subdivision is exactly this kind of opportunity.

Section 3.1.2.2, Policy 5: A balanced network for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists shall be implemented as development occurs, considering connectivity and the extension of existing walkways.

Section 3.1.2.2, Policy 6: A continuous pedestrian walkway through the Lowertown district shall be implemented through development.

Section 3.1.2.2, Policy 8: Access and enjoyment of natural features, including shorelines of the St. Lawrence River, trails and open areas, will be enhanced by: (a) improving physical and visual access; (b) ensuring adjacent development preserves access; (c) providing for public access along and through natural open spaces.

Section 3.5.2.2, Policy 7: Repeats the same access and enjoyment language for rural and open space areas.

Section 2.3, Planning Context, Policy 5(f): Applications for intensification shall be evaluated based on the availability of existing or planned, or potential to enhance, active transportation infrastructure.

☆ Precedent: Gananoque riverfront loop (Hetu Homes Subdivision)

Developer was made to donate the lands along the waterfront for trail use, creating the riverfront loop trail.

☆ Name the specific trail connection requested

A publicly accessible multi-use waterfront trail along the St. Lawrence River through the subdivision lands, helping to close the gap between Joel Stone Park and McLean Forest. The trail should use Block 89 (Trail Connection) and the open space blocks along the waterfront to create a continuous waterfront walking and cycling experience.

☆ Address the gap in the current application

The Planning Justification Report mentions "sidewalk and trail connections" in general terms but does not commit to a continuous waterfront trail. Point out that Block 89 is labelled "Servicing/Trail Connection" but no waterfront trail design or construction commitment is provided. The subdivision would sever what should be a continuous waterfront experience from Joel Stone Park to McLean Forest.

☆ What the Developer's Application Already Includes (Use This as Leverage)

In other words, you are not asking for something the developer hasn't already contemplated. You are asking for it to be formalized, specified, and made enforceable.

The applicant's own documents contain commitments that can be leveraged:

- The Draft Plan includes Block 89 as a "Servicing/Trail Connection" block — the applicant has already acknowledged a trail connection is part of the plan.
- The Planning Justification Report states the development "will include a sidewalk and trail connections through the development" and will "retain natural heritage features."
- The report also claims the development is consistent with PPS Policy 3.2.3, which requires planning for multimodal connectivity — a trail connection is needed to deliver on this claim.
- The applicant proposes 2.634 ha of parks and open space — a trail through these lands is a natural extension of what is already proposed.

Some Possible points for the committee to suggest to council

- 1** Dedicate Block 89 and connecting open space corridors as a public pedestrian and cycling pathway, conveyed to the Town.
- 2** Require the developer to design and construct a multi-use waterfront trail (minimum 3.0 m wide, granular or asphalt) along the St. Lawrence River, connecting to the existing trail network at both ends.
- 3** Trail construction must be completed before assumption of the subdivision by the Town.
- 4** The developer shall post financial securities (letter of credit) to guarantee trail completion.
- 5** Trail design must meet AODA accessibility standards and be approved by the Town.
- 6** Include the above as enforceable conditions in the subdivision agreement registered on title.

Trees & Trails
Invasive Plants
Update 28 May 2026

Alan Smith

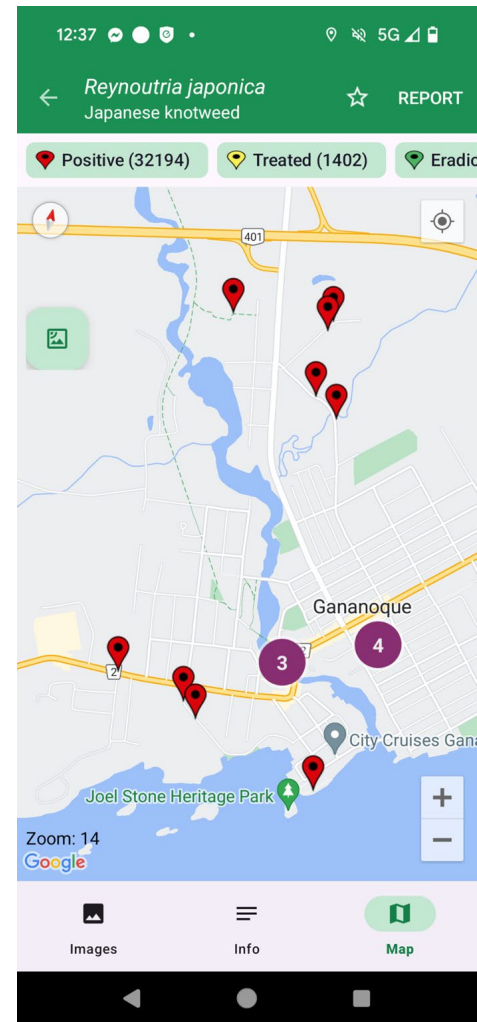


Japanese Knotweed

A 3 year Town funded treatment of Japanese knotweed commenced in 3 locations in Fall 2025; Joel Stone Park, Bay Rd and Kinsmen Park.

Early indications are that there has been a reduction in infestation density. Monitoring will continue.

A further parkland infestation has been identified on the West side of the river at Confederation Park.



Phragmites

- The Town Council funded CRCA eradication of Phragmites is expected to commence 2nd or 3rd week of September. Timing is weather dependent.
- There are 6 sites included: 3 in the stream from Grasshopper Park to Connor Woods; one near Thompson Fasteners; one in the small pond on River St; and, a large patch in Stocking Hill Creek by the Public Works Yard.
- Some in-kind work is required by the Town, including:
 - assistance notifying local landowners
 - mowing of dry sites 2 weeks after spraying
 - manual control of 2 small patches unsuitable for chemical control.



Invasive Cleanup

- The Environment Committee of the Rotary Club remain keen to engage invasive plant cleanups.
- The first occurred in the McLean Forest on Tue 19 May, with a focus on:
 - Garlic Mustard
 - Sedums
- Other Spring events are planned for Tuesday mornings with target species identified in the McLean Forest including: Garlic Mustard, Lily of the Valley, Sedum, Buckthorn saplings, Periwinkle and Goutweed
- The Dog Strangling Vine in the McLean Forest is a priority species for this year, but cannot be tackled until early summer.

