

# The Orchid



November 2017

Volume 63, No. 8

[peterboroughnature.org](http://peterboroughnature.org)

*Bulletin of the Peterborough Field Naturalists*

*Published nine times yearly. Publication Mail Agreement #4005104*

Know • Appreciate • Conserve Nature in All Its Forms



Pine Siskins at feeder in the Sundbridge area in February of 2015.  
Photo submitted by Stephen O'Donnell

**Inside:**

The Challenges of Bobolink Conservation

Ron Pittaway's Winter Finch Forecast

Two Wetlands and a Shoreline Protected on Stoney Lake

Cookie Cutter Bird Feeder for Kids

Call-out for Christmas Bird Count Volunteers, New Director,  
and AGM Bucket Draw & Silent Auction Items

## In this Issue:

PFN Coming Events .....	3
PFN Junior Field Naturalists (ages 5-12).....	4
Other Events of Interest.....	5
Call for Bucket Draw and Silent Auction Items .....	5
67th Peterborough Christmas Bird Count.....	6
Notice to PFN Members – Nominations for Director...	6
James Bay Sandpiper at Presqu'île.....	7
The Hills and Dales of Cavan Millbrook.....	7
Winter Finch Forecast for Winter of 2017-18 .....	8
OMB Decision Saves Blanding's Turtle Habitat .....	10
From the Archives – Highlights of the '70's .....	12
Birds of a Feather Flock Together for Conservation ..	12
Seeing Old Friends Again.....	14
DIY Bird Feeder for Kids .....	15
The Orchid Diary .....	16
President's Message – Parkway Redux .....	17
PFN Membership Application .....	20

### Welcome new PFN members!

Neal Brinkman  
Barry Tighe  
Ellen Jamieson  
Melanie Boudreau  
Ian Fife  
Scott McKinlay  
Monica Fromberger  
Steven Kerr & Karen Burleigh-Kerr

## The Peterborough Field Naturalists 2018 AGM, Dinner, Guest Presentation

**Steve Burrows** is an award-winning mystery writer, journalist and past recipient of a "Nature Writer of the Year" award from BBC Wildlife.

Born in the U.K., he came to Canada as a youth. After studying at York University, he moved to Hong Kong where he served as editor of the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society magazine and a contributing field editor for Asian Geographic.

In 2014, he published his debut novel, *A Siege of Bitterns*, followed by *A Pitying of Doves* (2015), *A Cast of Falcons* (2016) and *A Shimmer of Hummingbirds* (2017).

**Date:** January 19, 2018

**Time:** 5:00 p.m.

**Cost:** \$35/person



Please RSVP by Friday Jan 5<sup>th</sup>.

To Reserve tickets, please contact

Jim Young at [jbyoung559@gmail.com](mailto:jbyoung559@gmail.com) or call 705-760-9397

**Doors open:** 5:00 p.m.

**Dinner:** 6:00 p.m.

**Meeting:** 7:00 p.m.

**Raffle:** 7:30 p.m.

**Keynote speaker:** 8:00 p.m.



Contact Rene Gareau if you have items to donate to the raffle or silent auction: [rene.gareau@sympatico.ca](mailto:rene.gareau@sympatico.ca) or 705-741-4560

**LOCATION:** The Peterborough Naval Association  
24 Whitlaw St., Peterborough, ON K9J 1K9



**Left:** Juvenile Double-crested Cormorant seen at Whitney Harbour during PFN's outing to Cranberry Marsh on October 14. Photo: Susan Weaver

**Above:** Newly hatched Common Snapping Turtle. The dime gives an indication of the turtle's diminutive size. Photo taken at Presqu'île Provincial Park on October 8 by Anne and Dave Heuft.



PFN Coming Events	
<p>Sunday, Nov. 5</p> <p>8:00 AM</p> <p>Meet at Country Style (Old Keene Rd &amp; Hwy7)</p>	<p><b>Birding at Presqu'ile Provincial Park</b></p> <p>Jerry Ball will lead a day-long trip to view migrant birds at Presqu'ile Provincial Park, with other stops of interest on the way. In particular, expect to see many interesting waterfowl. Bring a packed lunch, binoculars and, if you have them, rubber boots (not essential). Meet at 8AM at the Country Style at the junction of Old Keene Road and Highway 7, east of Peterborough. We will likely carpool, so bring a contribution for gas and the entry fee to the park. Accessibility: easy walking</p>
<p>Wednesday, Nov. 8</p> <p>7:30 PM</p> <p>Camp Kawartha Environment Centre</p> <p>2505 Pioneer Rd Peterborough ON</p> <p>Please note we are back at the Environment Centre this month</p>	<p><b>PFN Monthly Meeting: An Eco Tour in North Central India</b></p> <p>Recently retired, Bill Crins holds a Ph.D. in Science from the University of Toronto. During his career, he has worked as a naturalist and biologist in Algonquin Park then for 20 years as an ecologist with the Ontario MNR, and finally as the Senior Program Coordinator for Resource Conservation in the Parks and Protected Areas Policy Section in the Ministry.</p> <p>Since retiring, he has kept very busy with volunteering for the Kawartha Land Trust, teaching a graduate course in protected area ecology and has enjoyed traveling in India and Brazil. He is presently exploring Australia but will be back in November to share with us his Eco Tour in North Central India.</p>
<p>Sunday, Nov. 26</p> <p>1 PM</p> <p>Meet outside Tim Horton's in the Canadian Tire/Sobey's Plaza on Lansdowne Street West</p>	<p><b>Wave Riders of Rice Lake</b></p> <p>Join Martin Parker for this traditional Grey Cup afternoon exploration of sites along the northwestern shore of Rice Lake. We will be looking for the later migrating ducks and other birds. Highlights will be the rafts of ducks riding the waves of Rice Lake and the scenic vistas overlooking the lake. Bring binoculars, telescope if you have one, and clothes suitable for the weather forecast for the day. The trip will last until the late afternoon and CFL fans will be home in time for the Grey Cup game.</p>
<p>Saturday, Dec. 2</p> <p>7 AM</p> <p>Meet at Tim Horton's in the Canadian Tire/Sobey's Plaza on Lansdowne Street West</p>	<p><b>World's Greatest Concentration of Gulls</b></p> <p>This day trip will be a birding outing to the Niagara River, a designated Important Birding Area due to the variety and number of gulls which utilize the river in the late fall. More species can be observed in a day than anywhere else in the world. There will be thousands of gulls consisting of ten or more species. Besides the gulls, there will be other waterbirds, and southern specialties such as Tufted Titmouse. The leaders for this outing will be Martin Parker and Matthew Tobey.</p> <p>The trip will start from Peterborough with a secondary gathering location at the Adam Beck Generating Station Lookout at Queenston. If you are planning to meet the group at Queenston, please advise Martin (705-745-4750) in advance.</p> <p>Bring a packed lunch and binoculars. Telescope and camera optional. A camera may be handy as well. Wear clothes suitable for the weather forecast for the Niagara River area for the day of this excursion.</p>

PFN Coming Events	
<p>Wednesday, Dec. 13</p> <p>7:30 PM</p> <p>Camp Kawartha Environment Centre</p> <p>2505 Pioneer Rd Peterborough ON</p>	<p><b>Members' Slide Show Night</b></p> <p>The members slide show, held at our December monthly meeting, is a highly anticipated annual PFN tradition. Show fellow PFN members your photos of a recent trip. Display those great nature moments or wildlife encounters that you have recently experienced. This is your night to 'show and tell'!</p> <p>Contact Jim Young at jbyoung559@gmail.com or phone 705-760-9397 to add your name to the list. Sharing your photos and your narrative makes for an interesting and educational evening for all.</p> <p>Sharing some Christmas baking is also part of the December PFN traditions, so please don't feel shy about bringing a goodie or two!</p>
<p>Sunday, Dec. 17</p> <p>All day</p>	<p><b>66th Peterborough Christmas Bird Count – A Christmas Tradition</b></p> <p>Please see article further on for more information.</p>
<p>Friday, Jan. 19</p> <p>Doors open at 5 PM</p> <p>Peterborough Naval Association</p> <p>24 Whitlaw Street</p>	<p><b>Join us for PFN's 77<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting</b></p> <p>Keep up-to-date on PFN business, elect the next executive, enter the raffle for prizes, enjoy a delicious meal and stay for an entertaining presentation!</p> <p>Tickets are just \$35 for the evening, and can be reserved by contacting Jim Young at 705-760-9397 or email jbyoung559@gmail.com Please RSVP NO LATER THAN Fri Jan. 5<sup>th</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doors open at 5:00 pm; meal begins at 6:00 pm</li> <li>• Meeting at 7:00 pm, followed by raffle/silent auction at 7:30 pm</li> <li>• Keynote speaker, Steve Burrows, begins at 8:00 pm</li> </ul> <p>Check out the AGM poster on page 2 for further details.</p>

PFN Junior Field Naturalists (ages 5-12)	
<p>Junior naturalist families are reminded to check the website for event listings and email pfnjuniors@gmail.com if you're not on the members distribution list for event announcements. Bookings can be made online at <a href="https://peterboroughnature.org/junior/">https://peterboroughnature.org/junior/</a></p>	
<p>Sunday, Nov. 5</p> <p>2 to 4 PM</p> <p>Northcrest Arena</p> <p>100 Marina Blvd</p>	<p><b>Bears Creek Shoreline Planting</b></p> <p>Do your kids like to garden and help local wildlife? PFN Junior Naturalists families (and their friends!) are invited to help plant 33 trees and shrubs to enhance the shoreline along Bears Creek. We'll meet at the Northcrest Arena Parking Lot (Marina Blvd. and Water St. in Peterborough). Otonabee Conservation staff will provide gloves, shovels and instruction. Please register on the website if you plan to attend so that we have a sense of numbers. Flexible timing – stay as long as you can! Bring warm clothes, water bottles, and snacks for your family.</p>

### PFN Junior Field Naturalists (ages 5-12)

Sunday, Nov. 26  2 to 4 PM  Trent University DNA Building	<b>Bird and Mammal Collection at Trent University</b>  PFN Junior Naturalist families are invited to visit the bird and mammal collection at Trent University with Chris Risley, Erica Nol and Jim Schaefer. The Juniors Naturalists will learn about feathers, fur and bones during a visit to the teaching collection of the Biology Department. Find out how owls fly quietly and caribou float on snow. Please register online. Full details will be provided to registrants.
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### Other Events of Interest

First Friday of each month  7:00 PM  Guest Services Building, Riverview Park & Zoo	<b>Peterborough Astronomical Association Monthly Meeting</b>  For more information on their monthly meetings, please visit <a href="http://www.peterboroughastronomy.com">www.peterboroughastronomy.com</a>  Nov. 3: Getting Started in Astrophotography by Sean Dunne  Dec. 1: 7PM - Annual General Meeting & Christmas Social - Details to be announced  8PM - Topic to be Announced by Dr. Julie Banfield
Fourth Wednesday of each month  7:00 PM  Lion's Centre 347 Burnham Street	<b>Peterborough Horticultural Society Monthly Meeting</b>  Join us at 6:30 PM for socializing. The meeting begins at 7 PM. Annual membership rates are \$20 individual, \$25 family, and \$2 guest. All are welcome - and you don't have to be an experienced gardener! For more info visit <a href="http://www.peterboroughhort.com">www.peterboroughhort.com</a> .  Nov. 22: Marg Burley, Owner of Burley's Gardens on "Houseplants: Orchids and Beyond"

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## Call for Bucket Draw and Silent Auction Items

### Submitted by Rene Gareau

A tradition at the Annual Meeting of the Peterborough Field Naturalists is the generous donation of items to the PFN's annual bucket draw and silent auction. Attendees at the Annual Meeting will be given one ticket for the bucket draw. Additional tickets can be purchased at the meeting. Place the ticket in the 'bucket' beside the item(s) you want. Purchase of additional tickets will provide additional chances to win.

Annually there are a number of special items available through a silent auction. In the past, a print or sketch donated by artist Kelly Dodge has been the highlight of the silent auction,

If you have any items to donate for the bucket draw or silent auction, please advise Rene Gareau in advance or bring to the December meeting or the Annual Meeting.

Proceeds of the Bucket Draw and Silent Auction are used for special projects of the Peterborough Field Naturalists.

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## 66th Peterborough Christmas Bird Count – A Christmas Tradition

Sunday, December 17th – all day

Pre-registration required – For Experienced and Beginning Birders

The Peterborough Christmas Bird Count (CBC), now in its 66th year, is the longest running wildlife survey in Peterborough County. The Peterborough CBC participants cover an area contained within a circle with a diameter of 24 kilometers, centered on the intersection of Chemong Road and Sunset Boulevard. This total count area is divided into smaller areas and a team of participants is assigned to each area.

The participants spend the day visiting various habitats within their area and recording both the number and species of birds observed. At the end of the day all the parties will gather at a local establishment for supper and swapping stories. The final results of the count will be compiled after. All area parties will be led by one or more experienced counters.

Plan to participate in this Christmas tradition. It is an excellent way to learn more about our wintering birds. An unexpected species or two will highlight one's day.

The Participants for this long-term bird monitoring programme were awarded the City of Peterborough Environmental Stewardship/Sustainability Award.

To register contact Martin Parker (count compiler) as soon as possible by phone (705) 745 – 4750 or by e-mail [mparker19@cogeco.ca](mailto:mparker19@cogeco.ca). More details in the next Orchid.

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## Notice to PFN Members – Nominations for Director

The affairs of the Peterborough Field Naturalists are managed by 12 members who comprise the Board of Directors. The Nomination Committee annually prepares a slate of Directors for approval at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Friday January 19, 2018.

There is 1 vacancy on the Board which the Nominations Committee has to fill. The normal term of a Director is 3 years.

If you are interested in serving on the Board, or would like to suggest a member who may be interested, please contact Lynn Smith at [smithfam@nexicom.net](mailto:smithfam@nexicom.net) or phone 705-944-5599



Don McLeod, PFN's go-to tracker, led the Sunday morning outing to the Ballyduff Trails and Fleetwood Creek Natural Area on October 1. In this picture, Don is demonstrating how to visually examine scat close-up without getting a brown nose or an unpleasant whiff. You take an arm's length digital photo and then zoom in on the photo afterwards. Good plan! Photo submitted by Jim Young.

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## James Bay Sandpiper at Presqu'île

### Submitted by Amie MacDonald

A juvenile Semipalmated Sandpiper with a white leg flag coded 4H9 was located at Presqu'île Provincial Park on September 30. It was first spotted by Bruce DiLabio, then seen by the Trent Ornithology class during their annual field trip to Presqu'île. This individual was banded by Gill Holmes on September 7th at Northbluff Point on the southwestern coast of James Bay, approximately 20 km north of Moosonee. When it was banded, this bird weighed 22 g and had a fat score of 2/7, which is fairly low. At Presqu'île, the bird was observed feeding on the beach with other shorebirds, including Sanderling, Dunlin, Pectoral Sandpiper, Black-bellied Plover, Long-billed Dowitcher, White-rumped Sandpiper, Semipalmated Plover, and other Semipalmated Sandpipers.

This Semipalmated Sandpiper was banded as part of the James Bay Shorebird Project, an initiative of the Canadian Wildlife Service, Trent University, and several other collaborating organizations. The James Bay Shorebird Project is studying stopover ecology and migration of shorebird species that use James Bay. This will improve our understanding of the area as shorebird habitat, which will help in designing and implementing conservation measures. Data from Semipalmated Sandpipers with radio-transmitters have shown that birds will fly overnight from James Bay to places in southern Ontario, like Presqu'île. Observing flagged birds in locations away from James Bay, or in subsequent years, helps us to learn about migration patterns and survival rates.



Digiscoped photo of Semipalmated Sandpipers at Presqu'île Provincial Park on September 30. Photo by Mike Burrell.

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## The Hills and Dales of Cavan Millbrook

### Submitted by Lynn Smith

On Sunday Sept 24th, eight people joined our leader, Scott McKinlay, in Cavan for a trip around the area making strategic stops at various habitats.

First stop was a wetland along Syer Line where we were greeted with a flock of about 100 European Starlings. Fifteen elusive Wood Duck 'ducked' in and out of view amongst the vegetation. A Green Heron, Belted Kingfisher, Swamp Sparrow and Red-winged Blackbird were additional highlights.

Our next stop was where Baxter Creek crosses Hutchison Road with marsh and agriculture surrounding. Forty Red-winged Blackbirds, 3 Blue Jays, 3 Gray Catbirds and 4 Swamp Sparrows led the cacophony with the background song of an Eastern Meadowlark. One particularly productive tree accommodated 3 Eastern Phoebe, 2 American Goldfinch, 1 Blue-headed Vireo and a Gray Catbird.

We made a quick stop at Briar Hill Bird Sanctuary where 15 Canada Geese and 1 Great Blue Heron had the large pond to themselves.

On we went to Millbrook Conservation Area. Scott gave us some history of the Millbrook Dam which will soon be updated and we viewed the newly painted Needler's Mill.



Photo by Lynn Smith

For anyone wondering what the difference between the Spotted Sandpiper and Solitary Sandpiper is, we watched two very co-operative individuals forage side by side. With binoculars or the scope, we were able to study the two species in clear view. Millbrook Pond is known for Canada Geese and it didn't disappoint with an estimated number of 150.

With the day ramping up to be one of the hottest this year, we made a couple more quick stops which added Ruffed Grouse and Turkey Vulture to our growing list. We finished our day with a scenic drive up the Omemee Esker and into the hills of Cavan.

Our total bird count was 32:

Canada Goose	Blue-headed Vireo	Gray Catbird
Solitary Sandpiper	European Starling	Belted Kingfisher
Turkey Vulture	Common Yellowthroat	American Robin
Wood Duck	Blue Jay	Killdeer
Mallard	American Crow	Spotted Sandpiper
Great Blue Heron	Black-capped Chickadee	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Green Heron	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Northern Flicker
Ring-billed Gull	Yellow-rumped Warbler	Ruffed Grouse
Mourning Dove	Eastern Meadowlark	Eastern Phoebe
Downy Woodpecker	Swamp Sparrow	American Goldfinch
Pileated Woodpecker	Red-winged Blackbird	

## Winter Finch Forecast for Winter of 2017-18

By Ron Pittaway

Prepared for Ontario Field Ornithologists, September 21

**GENERAL FORECAST:** Cone crops in the Northeast are bumper in 2017. It is the best cone crop in a decade or more. This will be a banner winter to see boreal finches in central and northeastern Ontario, Quebec, Atlantic Canada, northern New York, and northern New England States. White-winged and Red Crossbills and Pine Siskins have moved east to areas of abundant seed crops. The Big Question is: will finches concentrate in areas of highest cone abundance (more likely) or be spread out across the Northeast? This is not an irruption year south of traditional wintering areas in the Northeast. Cone crops are generally low west of a line from Lake Superior to James Bay extending west across the Prairie Provinces, British Columbia and Alaska. See individual finch forecasts below for further details.



Hoary Redpoll in Sundridge area. Photo: Stephen O'Donnell

**PINE GROSBEAK:** Most should stay in the north because the mountain-ash berry crop is good to excellent across the boreal forest from Alaska to Newfoundland. Some should get south to Algonquin Park. At feeders, they prefer black oil sunflower seeds.

**PURPLE FINCH:** Most Purple Finches east of Lake Superior should stay north this winter because of heavy seed crops on eastern conifers and mountain-ashes. They prefer black oil sunflower seeds at feeders.

**RED CROSSBILL:** There will be a good showing of Red Crossbills in Ontario and the Northeast this winter. Red Crossbills comprise about 10 "call types" in North America. Matt Young of The Cornell Lab of Ornithology reports that Eastern Type 10 is currently the most common type from the Great Lakes through Ontario into the Maritime Provinces and Northeastern United States. This year Matt also reports that Type 2, Type 3 and Type 4 and a few Type 5s from the west are moving east, the latter is a vagrant east of the Rockies. This movement started in late June/early July, presumably linked to poor or failed crops on several conifers in the western U.S. and Canada. Most types are impossible to identify without analyzing recordings of their flight calls. Recordings can be made with an iPhone and identified to call type by audio spectrographic analysis. Matt Young (may6 at cornell.edu) will identify types for you if you email him your recordings or upload them to an eBird checklist. This helps his research. He is particularly interested in recordings from Maine, Vermont, Michigan, Ontario and the Maritime Provinces. Red Crossbills probably will be breeding this winter into next spring. Expect to hear them singing and to see streaked juveniles.

**WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL:** This crossbill flooded into the Northeast over the summer, drawn here by the bumper cone crops. Winter trips to hotspots such as Algonquin Park, Laurentians and Adirondacks are guaranteed to see this crossbill. They probably will be breeding this fall and winter. Watch and listen for their loud trilling songs given from tree tops and during circular slow-flapping display flights. Expect to see streaked juveniles in the flocks.

**COMMON REDPOLL:** Redpolls should move south because White Birch and alder seed crops are below average in northern Ontario. However, as redpolls move south they likely will be slowed or stopped by abundant conifer seed crops and better birch crops. If they get into southern Ontario south of latitude 45, good seed crops on birches and European Black Alder, and an abundance of weedy fields this year will attract them. When redpolls discover your nyger seed feeders, feeding frenzies result. Feeders are best for studying fidgety redpolls. Watch for the larger and darker "Greater" Common Redpoll (subspecies *rostrata*) from Baffin Island (Nunavut) and Greenland.



Common Redpoll. Photo: Stephen O'Donnell

**HOARY REDPOLL:** Watch for Hoaries in flocks of Common Redpolls. The "Southern" Hoary Redpoll (nominate subspecies *exilipes*) breeds south to northern Ontario and is the subspecies usually seen in southern Canada and northern USA. Watch for "Hornemann's" Hoary Redpoll (nominate *hornemanni*) from northern Nunavut and Greenland. It is the largest and palest of the redpolls. Hornemann's was formerly considered a great rarity south of the tundra, but recently it has been documented in the south more frequently with better photos. See link #2 for photos and identification of Common and Hoary Redpoll, and their subspecies.



Pine Siskins at nyger feeder.  
Photo: Drew Monkman.

**PINE SISKIN:** Siskins will be frequent and locally common this winter in the Northeast, drawn here by abundant cone crops, particularly on White Spruce. Feisty siskins prefer nyger seeds in silo feeders. See link #3 which discusses siskin irruptions related to climate variability.

**EVENING GROSBEAK:** Most should stay in the north this winter because of abundant conifer seed crops and increasing outbreaks of spruce budworm. The most reliable spot to see this spectacular grosbeak is the feeders at the Visitor Centre in Algonquin Park. In 2016 the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) assigned the "Evening Grosbeak as a species of Special Concern due to

strong population declines occurring mainly in central and eastern Canada.”

**THREE IRRUPTIVE PASSERINES:** Movements of these three passerines are often linked to movements of boreal finches.

**BLUE JAY:** Expect a much smaller than usual flight of jays from mid-September to mid-October along the north shorelines of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. The acorn, beechnut, hazelnut and berry crops are generally good in Ontario.

**RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH:** This nuthatch is now in areas with high cone abundance. Its presence indicates that White-winged and Red Crossbills, Pine Siskins and Purple Finches will be in the same areas.

**BOHEMIAN WAXWING:** Only a small flight south is expected because native Mountain-ashes have good to excellent berry crops across the boreal forest from Alaska to Newfoundland. In recent times Bohemians have been coming south more frequently probably due to now reliable annual crops of introduced Buckthorn berries. When they come south, Bohemians relish European Mountain-ash berries and small ornamental crabapples. It was historically called “Bohemian Chatterer” because flocks make a continuous “buzzy ringing twittering”.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** Our fascination with nomadic Winter Finches is a long-standing love affair. Here is an edited note titled WINTER VISITORS by A.M. Ross (1873) in The Canadian Ornithologist Vol 1, No 1, Toronto, Ontario. Current names are in brackets. "The past winter was remarkable in the unusual variety of rare northern birds which visited this section of Canada. During the month of January 1873, which was remarkable for the extreme cold and stormy weather, we observed small flocks of Red Crossbills, White-winged Crossbills, Bohemian Chatterers (Bohemian Waxwing), Pine Grosbeaks, Pine Finches (Pine Siskin), Lapland Longspur. Our regular winter visitors also appeared in greater numbers than usual with large flocks of Snow Buntings, Lesser Redpolls (Common Redpoll), Snowbirds (Dark-eyed Junco) and Shore Larks (Horned Lark). The appearance of so many rare northern birds in this section was doubtless owing to the extreme cold weather in northern Canada during last winter." This last sentence is a persisting myth still often repeated to explain the southern occurrences of northern birds in winter.

#### FINCH INFORMATION LINKS

1. Finch Facts, Seed Crops and Irruptions  
<http://www.jeaniron.ca/2012/winterfinches.htm>
2. Subspecies of Common and Hoary Redpolls – ID Tips and Photos  
<http://www.jeaniron.ca/2015/redpollsRP.htm>
3. Climatic dipoles drive two principal modes of North American boreal bird irruption  
<http://bit.ly/1UrmTsl>
4. Interview with Ron Pittaway in OFO News 34(1):1-3, 2016  
<http://jeaniron.ca/articles/FinchForecasterFe2016.pdf>

*Editor Note: This is an abbreviated version of the full report prepared by Ron Pittaway. For the full report, please consult <http://jeaniron.ca/2017/wff17.htm>.*

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## OMB Decision Saves Blanding's Turtle Habitat on Stoney Lake

### Two Provincially Significant Wetlands and 6.2 km Undeveloped Shoreline Protected

Press Release from 'Friends of Fraser Wetlands'

Peterborough – The last significant undeveloped shoreline in the Kawarthas has been saved from a 58-unit housing development on Stoney Lake, immediately adjacent to Burleigh Falls.

The Vancouver-based developer Burleigh Bay Corporation ("BBC") had planned to build the community, plus 72-slip marina, fitness facility, clubhouse, guest cottages, swimming pool, parking lots and internal roadway system in two provincially significant wetlands ("PSWs"), containing the habitat of the "Threatened" Blanding's turtle and muskellunge.

"We're elated. This gives the Kawarthas a breathtaking opportunity to preserve an extraordinary natural setting that can't be replaced," said Heather Brooks-Hill, a third-generation Stoney Lake resident and Director of the Friends of Fraser Wetlands ("FFW").

The Ontario Municipal Board cited the location of the development in and around the PSWs as one of the most "compelling" reasons for denying approval. The Decision endorses the testimony of FFW expert Mr. Gord Miller, former Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, who testified that wetland complexes must be afforded a higher degree of protection and cannot be isolated. The Board held, "As Mr. Miller stated, 'the stakes are high' given the significance of endangered species, a complex ecological system of entwined elements and functions and highly sensitive wetlands" on the site.

The site is believed to contain over 450 different species, a number of which are endangered or threatened. The Board also accepted FFW's expert Mr. D. Janus' opinion that 95% of the site is habitat for the Blanding's turtle, a threatened species.

The developer's expert, "without basis upon any ecological or scientific fact, arbitrarily 'guesstimated' wildlife movements," and critically failed to mitigate negative impacts.

"Our Elders asked us to save this wilderness and all the species in it, to respect the ancestors and the land they frequented many years ago. These historic reminders were told at Council and at the hearing, and evidence is still in abundance all along the north shore of Stoney Lake," said Chief Phyllis Williams of Curve Lake First Nation, a party to the 19-day hearing, supported by the Alderville, Hiawatha and Scugog First Nations. The hearing took place partly on the Reserve, a first for the OMB.

The development was proposed on 273 ha (675-acres) of mostly forest and wetlands, in Peterborough County. The site is believed by local First Nations to be connected to the Lovesick Lake fishing weirs, local rock cairns and the Petroglyphs, known as the Teaching Rocks.

Dr. Ken Howard, dubbed the "Wayne Gretzky" of hydrogeology, testified for FFW at the hearing that the aquifer is far too weak to sustain the domestic water needs of the proposed development and that water-taking could interfere with local wetlands (PSWs) and wells. He estimated the aquifer's safe yield will only service 4 residents, not the hundreds expected on peak, summer weekends. Mr. B. Parsons testified to serious concerns remaining with sewage disposal and stormwater management.

"This is a spectacular result for residents, First Nations' rights, their relationship to the land, and the environment, on par with great place-names of Ontario environmental victories like Temagami and the Oak Ridges Moraine," said David Donnelly, counsel to FFW and Curve Lake First Nation.

"The decision is a new roadmap for land-use protection for Provincially Significant Wetlands and Blanding's Turtle habitat," Donnelly added. "Given that the Township produced no environmental evidence and there is no Conservation Authority in the area, the decision vividly underscores the necessity and value of citizen group participation in protecting the planet," Donnelly added.

*Editorial Note: The founding meeting of the Peterborough Field Naturalists took place on this property on May 20, 1940.*



Blanding's Turtle near Sandy Lake Road, Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Twp, Peterborough Cty on June 11, 2012. Photo: Martin Parker

## From the Archives – Highlights of the '70's

### Submitted by Martin Parker

Extracted from PFN History 1940 – 1980 by John B. Fitzgerald

1970

We turned into the Seventies with Gerry Seabrooke again President and Dudley Hewitt still editor (of The Orchid). That year Martin Parker, who was to follow Gerry Seabrooke as President, started setting up the archives of the club. Must admit after reading what he needed, he did a pretty good job.

This was also the year that the Club honoured Dr. Smith and Dr. Hunter of the Peterborough Pet Hospital for their great assistance, free of charge, in Larry and Kay McKeever's work with the owls. Unfortunately, this was also the year the McKeever's left these parts to carry on their great work in the Niagara area. (Ed. Note – they founded The Owl Research and Rehabilitation Foundation).

In 1971, Martin Parker was elected as President and served as President for 1972 as well. In 1971, the Peterborough Field Naturalists incorporated in accordance with Provincial Legislation.

In 1972, the Lands and Forest Department (now the Ministry of Natural Resources) issued a bulletin to the effect that dogs killed 63 deer compared to 52 by wolves. Try and tell dog owners that. PCBs were also becoming a prominent danger in '72, though not yet too prevalent in the lower lakes.

Into 1974 with Gordon Berry our new President. Good old Dudley Hewitt remained as the ever-efficient editor of the Orchid. (Having perused about 35 years of said publication, his efforts were more than appreciated by this chronicler.)

In October 1973, Dudley had to retire from his editorship to take on a new post: chairman of the New Horizons Program, which is mostly devoted to producing audio-visual slides for senior citizens. Bernie and Dorothy O'Higgins accepted the post as co-editors.

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## Birds of a Feather Flock Together for Conservation

### Submitted by Monica Fromberger

When we think of grasslands, we imagine the great plains and prairies of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. When we think of grassland birds, we picture the Greater Prairie Chicken or Sharp-tailed Grouse. But grasslands are an important part of the Southern Ontario landscape too. And many grassland birds, such as the Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, and Savannah Sparrow, can be found close to home here in Peterborough, maybe even in your backyard.

The Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) is a handsome songbird, thought to be wearing his tuxedo backwards. Their song resembles the sound of R2-D2 from Star Wars, and they have one of the longest migratory routes of any North American songbird, a whopping 20,000 km round trip! They build their nests on the ground in the protection of tall vegetation, in native and restored grasslands or farmer's fields. The Bobolink also provides a valuable pest control service, as they consume numerous insects during their breeding season.

I first fell in love with this spunky songbird when I was visiting family in Millbrook, where I saw and heard a male Bobolink for the very first time. This moment sparked a deep interest to study this bird at the graduate level, especially when I realized that this species needed help. I am now a Master's student at Trent University studying



Male Bobolink. Photo by Jennie Horvat.

Bobolink nest success and region-specific information pertinent to Bobolink conservation, with Dr. Erica Nol as my supervisor.

In Ontario, numbers of Bobolinks have dropped by one-third over the last decade, and they are currently listed as “Threatened” on the Ontario Species at Risk List. Likely culprits causing this decline include a loss of breeding habitat and reduced reproductive success. As native grasslands continue to be lost, Bobolinks have adapted to nesting in pastures and hayfields. But because they nest on the ground, they are at greater risk of nest mortality due to accidental trampling by grazing livestock and destruction during hay harvesting.



Bobolink nestlings.

Photo by Monica Fromberger.

Timing is crucial for both farmers and the birds, however their schedules tend to overlap. During the last week of May, Bobolinks in Ontario will produce an average clutch size of 5 eggs. They incubate their eggs for about 12 days, and, after hatching, the young stay in the nest for approximately 10 days. This means that most young Bobolink leave the nest in early to mid-July. This breeding schedule directly coincides with cattle grazing schedules and hay harvesting dates, often resulting in nest failure.

The conservation of this grassland bird species is a challenge, as a majority of their population nests on private lands managed by farmers. It is therefore difficult to develop conservation strategies that allow Bobolinks the time they need to reproduce and, at the same time, allow farmers the ability to meet their production needs.

Though it may be difficult, conservation strategies are necessary to support both the birds and the farmer. Because the Bobolink is a migratory species and a species-at-risk, they, their nests, and their eggs are protected under the federal Migratory Birds Convention Act and the Ontario Endangered Species Act. For now, agricultural activities have been exempt from these laws, and this exemption remains in effect until December 2025.

In an attempt to solve the challenges associated with creating conservation strategies that protect the Bobolink, experts have been investigating the possible solution of delaying hay harvests. Some researchers say that a delay in cutting for about 1.5 weeks results in a 20% increase in fledging rates for the Bobolink and still allows farmers to meet nutritional requirements for beef cattle. Others suggest cutting portions of hayfields, such as the outside edges and leaving the core for the birds until the young can fly. To better allow livestock and Bobolinks to co-exist in the same fields, it has been suggested that grazing cattle at low to moderate densities can be associated with greater nest success.

Ultimately, private landowners, farmers, researchers, and government will need to work together to address this conservation challenge and continue to find effective solutions that benefit both the producer and the birds.

So what can you do to help? You can report sightings of Bobolinks to eBird, which will provide researchers and government with information on Bobolink abundance and distribution. You can spread the word and educate others about the Bobolink and the threats that this species-at-risk face, to help generate more interest and discussion about conservation. If you are a landowner and have suitable Bobolink habitat such as pastures, hayfields, open meadows, native or restored grasslands, or retired fields, you can help by learning how and when Bobolink use your land, and what some of the best bird-friendly land use practices are. You may choose to register with, and contribute Bobolink data to Grasslander. This is a citizen science project conceived by the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association to engage land owners “as the on-the-ground eyes and ears for grassland bird research”. You may also be eligible for stewardship programs that support the protection of the Bobolink.

Conservation is often a challenge and it requires hard work and compromise. But it is a team effort and in the words of Dr. Seuss, “Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”



Dave Milsom was in Papua New Guinea recently and took this picture of two Raggiana birds of paradise. The Raggiana is PNG's national bird.



Meanwhile, back home, Iain Rayner was taking pictures of a more modest and reserved bird, the Nelson's Sparrow at the Fairbairn Street wetland on Oct 1.

## Seeing Old Friends Again

I remember how the birds flew in waves of yellow  
From trees in our yard to my sunflower seed feeders,  
Flashing black and white wings to please any fellow,  
And how fast the feeders emptied - such hearty eaters!

Yellow males are dominant over grey females when feeding.  
Devils they are, with hornlike eyebrow stripes on a dark crown.  
They are very noisy and scrappy, the females retreating,  
But they are thrilling to see and hear, deserving renown.

Then somehow they faded, their invasion decline not well explained.  
They are an irruptive species, nomads in search of insects and seeds.  
They once bred right across Canada, spruce budworm-sustained;  
A thousand larvae will meet an evening grosbeak's daily needs.

In Ontario, these lovely birds breed mainly on the Canadian Shield.  
They abandoned areas where spruce budworms were eradicated.  
I'm in Algonquin Park with other naturalists, my joy barely concealed;  
I've missed seeing evening grosbeaks - thirty-some years have I waited!



Evening Grosbeak outside Visitor Centre at  
Algonquin National Park.  
Photo: Murray Palmer

Murray Arthur Palmer, 2017

Orchid submissions are encouraged!

The submission deadline for the next issue is **Friday, November 24.**

Send submissions to Kathryn Sheridan via email: [orchid@peterboroughnature.org](mailto:orchid@peterboroughnature.org)

or post mail to: PFN, PO Box 1532, Peterborough ON K9J 7H7



## DIY Bird Feeder for Kids

Reprinted from Frontenac Arch Biosphere Newsletter, October 5

With the weather taking a cold turn last week, our thoughts went to the birds and their upcoming migrations south. While many times we only think about feeding the birds in the dead of winter, migrating birds need to build up their reserves before the weather gets cold. So, with a quick Google search, we found a simple DIY project that is great for getting the kids involved in feeding the birds.

(<http://jugglingwithkids.com/2012/04/cookie-cutter-bird-feeder.html>)



### Bird Seed Cookies:

2 envelopes unflavored gelatin

$\frac{3}{4}$  cup boiling water

2 cup birdseed (can also include oatmeal, dried fruit, non-sugar coated breakfast cereal)

Cookie Cutters

Plastic Drinking Straw

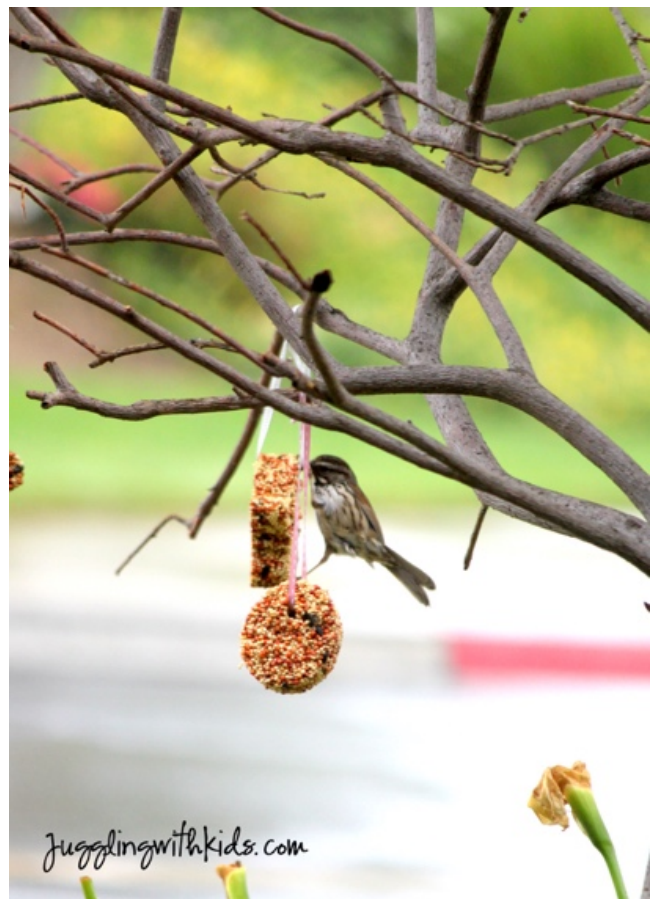
Parchment or Wax Paper

Cookie Sheet

String

Dissolve gelatin in boiling water, mix in seed and stir until excess liquid is absorbed. Let mixture sit for a few minutes until it begins to get sticky. Place cookie cutter on a lined cookie sheet and fill with mixture. Cover with parchment and press mix into cookie cutter. This is important so the cookies are solid. Continue to add mix and press until moulds are filled. Carefully insert a cut piece of straw (this will make a hole for hanging) and repack around it. Make sure it is not too close to an edge. Place tray in the refrigerator for several hours until hard. Remove and allow to dry on the counter. This may take a day or two so flip them over part way through so they dry completely. Once dry, remove from mould and carefully remove straw. Tie string through hole and hang! For long term storage, place them in the freezer, or once winter hits, in a sealed container outside.

You can enjoy watching the birds through fall and winter and know you helped them on their way south!





## The Orchid Diary



A summary of noteworthy observations by PFN members and others in the Peterborough region.

Information is compiled from eBird, Drew Monkman's Sightings web page, the ptbosightings Yahoo group, and individual submissions.

Please submit your interesting observations to Martin Parker at mparker19@cogeco.ca or phone 705-745-4750.

Weather	Above-average temperatures continued through the month. Many bird species have departed for southern wintering destinations. Arrival of winter finches is being anticipated.
Sept 26	Luke Berg had a Horned Grebe on the Otonabee River north of Lock 25. A Black-crowned Night Heron was located by Iain Rayner in the area of Edgewater Blvd and the railway crossing. A late departing Common Tern was found over the northern part of Pigeon Lake, near Sandy Point by Iain Rayner.
Sept 27	Iain Rayner had a late departing Sora (rail) in the Fairburn Avenue wetlands.
Sept 29	American Pipits are arriving. Iain Rayner had 1 at the Fairbairn Street wetland, and Donald Sutherland had 2 on the Rotary Trail at Trent U.
NSWO banding	October was the first night of banding for Northern Saw-whet Owls at the Oliver Centre at the northern end of Pigeon Lake. Ian Fife reported on this night they caught 2 hatch-year, 2 second-year and 2 after second-year individuals. The next night they banded 5 owls. Full report in upcoming issue of 'The Orchid'
Oct 1	A Snow Goose was observed flying over the 8 <sup>th</sup> Line of Douro by Mike V.A. Burrell At the same location, Burrell has a late departing Wood Thrush. Donald Sunderland had a Red-necked Grebe on Pigeon Lake off Sandy Point. Drew Monkman had a very late departing Ruby-throated Hummingbird at his feeder in the west end of the City. Susan Paradis observed a Connecticut Warbler in her yard in the City. This is a secretive warbler, easily overlooked. Iain Rayner found and photographed a secretive Nelson's Sparrow in the Fairbairn Street wetland at the northern end of Fairbairn Avenue. This sparrow is extremely secretive and difficult to locate. It was seen by many observers the next day.
Oct 3	Jerry Ball found a Common Buckeye (butterfly) and 3 Eastern Comma along the Hasting/Land Railtrail in the Cameron Line area.
Oct 7	Sue Paradis reported the first White-crowned Sparrow at her feeder in the city. These were visitors at many feeders during the month. Karen & Stewart MacDonald found a small salamander, which they identified as a Red-backed Salamander near Catchacoma Lake. Daniel Williams had a Green Heron at the Lakefield Lagoon.
Oct 8	On the PFN Sunday outing to the farm of Bruce Kidd, the participants found 2 Eastern Bluebirds along with several American Pipits and many Yellow-rumped Warblers.
Oct 9	Don McLeod had 2 Painted Lady butterflies. Daniel Williams spotted a Long-tailed Duck on the Lakefield Lagoon. Erica Nol had a late departing Swainson's Thrush at her property in the City.
Oct 10	Dark-eyed Juncos arrived at Susan Paradis' feeder in the City. Jerry Ball had a flock of 10 Rusty Blackbirds and 1 Common Flicker along the 6 <sup>th</sup> Line of Douro.
Oct 11	At the PFN meeting, Robert Pratton reported there are lots of turtle hatchlings in the Anstruther Lake area. Most were Common Snapping Turtles along with some Blanding's Turtles. He found 6 run-over hatchling Blanding's Turtles. Mary Thomas transported an injured Green Heron to the Sandy Pines Wildlife Centre.

	First Great Black-backed Gull for the fall with one at the northern end of Little Lake by Iain Rayner & Daniel Williams. It was reported that Hugh Kidd trapped and released a Virginia Opossum at the eastern end of the 7 <sup>th</sup> Line of Selwyn Township.
Oct 14	Chris Risley had a Lincoln's Sparrow near the DNA building at Trent U. Anne MacDonald had an American Pipit at the Fairbairn Street wetland.
Oct 15	Susan Paradisis had a group of late departing Chipping Sparrows (at least 18 individuals) feeding in spruce and birch trees.
Oct 20	Iain Rayner had a Dunlin on the pond along Yankee Line west of the north end of the Chemong Lake Causeway. Still present on Oct. 22. Ian Sturdee had a late departing Gray-cheeked Thrush in Cordova Lake area. A late departing Eastern Towhee was spotted by Iain Rayner at the Fairburn Street wetland. Staff at the Peterborough Zoo rescued 41 hatchling Common Snapping Turtles which were emerging from a nest at the north end of the parking lot and relocated them to the Otonabee River. Kathy Parker had a Hermit Thrush in her yard in the City.
Oct 21	A Snow Goose was found on the pond north of the landfill site on Bensfort Road. Still present on Oct. 25. Rob Tonus found a Narrow-winged Tree Cricket in the grass along the Rotary Trail at Nichols Oval. Drew Monkman notes this species sings only at night, producing a mellow trill of variable length which is similar to the call of the American Toad.
Oct 22	Scott Gibson had a late departing Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in the Bissonnette Drive area of the City. A Black-backed Woodpecker was located by Donald Sutherland in the entrance area of Petroglyphs Provincial Park. In a walk around the Lakefield Lagoon, Jerry Ball and Kathy & Martin Parker spotted yet-to-depart 2 Monarch and 6 Painted Lady butterflies and a non-migratory Clouded Sulphur. The first Red Crossbill report this winter in the Peterborough area was found in the Bear Creek area by Iain Rayner. Cathy Gogo had a Pileated Woodpecker in her yard which was feeding on the berries of Virginia Creeper. Pileated Woodpeckers are known to feed on berries. Iain Rayner found a Black Scoter at Sandy Point, Pigeon Lake.

### President's Message – Parkway Redux

The Peterborough Field Naturalists has been opposed to the Parkway Project proposed by the City of Peterborough because of the adverse impacts it would have on Jackson Park, Jackson Creek, and the existing natural corridor in the "Parkway Lands". Our club was one of the eighty plus individuals and organizations which submitted a request to the Minister of the Environment for an individual environmental assessment (IEA) of the proposed project.



The Minister issued an order for an IEA on Sept. 16, 2016. Since then, the City has been considering how to respond to this order. Recently, Council voted to authorize the Mayor to meet with Premier Kathleen Wynne to request authorization to proceed with the north and south sections of the Project, and apparently to remove the road and bridge over Jackson Park from the Project.

The Board is concerned that this proposal, if approved, would ultimately lead to a reinstatement of the Park crossing. It therefore approved sending a letter to Premier Wynne objecting to this proposal. This letter follows.

Ted Vale, President

Oct 4, 2017

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne,  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Wynne,

**Re: Peterborough Parkway Corridor Project**

*The Peterborough Field Naturalists was founded in 1940 and has 220 individual members. Its objects are to know, appreciate, and conserve nature in all its forms. The club offers a variety of meetings, outings, field projects, and publications to meet its stated objectives.*

*The Peterborough Field Naturalists was a lead organization along with The City of Peterborough, The Greater Peterborough Chamber of Commerce, Parks Canada, The Ministry of Natural Resources, the Peterborough Home Builders' Association and others in the development of the Peterborough Natural Areas Strategy (Final Report – September 1996).*

*In March of 2014 our club was one of over eighty respondents requesting the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change to order an individual environmental assessment of the Parkway Corridor Project. On April 20, 2016, we also provided comment to the Minister on the City of Peterborough's response to his request for further information on the Project. We were pleased by the Minister's decision on Sept. 16, 2016 to issue an order for an individual environmental assessment of the Parkway Corridor Project.*

*On October 2, 2017 Peterborough City Council passed a motion authorizing the Mayor to meet with you to request your approval to bypass the Minister's Order and grant permission to proceed with the construction of the north and south portions of the Project, while apparently abandoning the central portion of the Project (including the road and bridge across Jackson Park).*

*The Peterborough Field Naturalists is opposed to this proposal, as it has opposed the construction of the Parkway and particularly the crossing of Jackson Park. We remain convinced that this project will do substantial environmental harm to Jackson Park and some other environmentally important sections of the Parkway Lands. Jackson Park contains extensive woodlands, an old-growth forest remnant, and a river valley, while acting as a natural corridor between the Cavan Swamp and Bog and the Otonabee River.*

*We are not convinced that the proposed Parkway will provide traffic circulation benefits to the City sufficient to justify this intrusion into the Park and the currently existing natural corridor.*

*In particular we are opposed to the City's request for the following reasons:*

- It is essentially a request to "piecemeal" the Project, something that the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change has consistently opposed;*
- It does not address the important issues raised in the original order for an IEA;*
- It assumes that there are no environmental issues in the north section of the Project which require the attention of an IEA;*
- It does not identify an alternative to the route across Jackson Park, thereby creating additional, almost irresistible pressure to eventually approve the bridge crossing Jackson Park as north and south portions of the Project both end right at the border of the Park.*

*If the City is serious about its proposal to abandon the crossing of Jackson Park, we propose the following measures to protect Jackson Park and the natural corridor contained in the north section of the Parkway Corridor before the Premier approves piecemealing the Project:*

- That the City amend its Official Plan and pass relevant bylaws to prevent development and to prohibit roadways in the Park;*
- That the City prepare a management plan for the Park, (which it has not done to date);*

- That the City transfer strips of land along the Park boundary on Parkhill Road and Fairbairn Drive where the Parkway meets the Park to a neutral third party such as a land trust or conservation authority;
- That the City adopt clear alternative plans to route traffic around the Park and to address the traffic issues created by ongoing development in the north end of the City;
- That the City adopt additional measures to preserve the existing natural corridor in the north section of the Project, such as keeping the roadway to one side of the corridor, protecting existing woodlots, ponds and streams and constructing modifications to minimize fatalities of wildlife crossing the roadway.

In conclusion, the Peterborough Field Naturalists urges you not to accept the City's proposal unless the City makes firm commitments as listed above to protect The Park and the natural corridor in the existing Parkway lands. If the City is not prepared to make these commitments, we urge you to let the order for an individual environmental assessment stand.

Sincerely,

Edward Vale, President  
Peterborough Field Naturalists

Cc: The Honourable Chris Ballard, Minister of the Environment and  
Climate Change Clerk, City of Peterborough  
The Honourable Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs

PFN Board of Directors				Other Volunteers	
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<b>Meeting Co-ordinator</b>	Marie Duchesneau	duchesneau13@hotmail.com	874-5739	<b>Orchid Diary, Citizen Science Projects</b>	Martin Parker
<b>Outings Coordinator</b>	Paul Elliott	paulelliott@trentu.ca	740-0501	<b>Miller Creek Stewardship</b>	Jim Cashmore, Jim Young, Brian Wales
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<b>Special Projects</b>	Rene Gareau	rene.gareau@sympatico.ca	741-4560	<b>Petroglyphs CBC</b>	Colin Jones
				<b>Peterborough Butterfly Count</b>	Jerry Ball
Peterborough Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 1532, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7H7					



# PETERBOROUGH FIELD NATURALISTS

[www.peterboroughnature.org](http://www.peterboroughnature.org)

## membership application form

Memberships may be obtained by mailing completed form and cheque to  
Peterborough Field Naturalists  
PO Box 1532, Peterborough, ON K9J 7H7

### CONTACT

Name (s):		Home Tel:	
		Work Tel:	
Address:		Receive Orchid by:	Email(s):
		<input type="radio"/> snail mail <input type="radio"/> e-mail <input type="radio"/> both please	

### MEMBERSHIP TYPE & FEE SCHEDULE

Please make cheques payable to *Peterborough Field Naturalists*

1. Single Adult \$25 ☐ 2. Single Student \$15 ☐ 3. Single Child\* (age 5-12) \$10 ☐

4. Family (couple or family with children\*) \$30 ☐

\*Please give the name(s) and age(s) of the children you wish to be enrolled in the PFN Junior Naturalists

Name	Age*	Name	Age*

### MAIN INTERESTS

<input type="radio"/> Birds	<input type="radio"/> Butterflies/insects	<input type="radio"/> Botany (Wildflowers/trees/shrubs)
<input type="radio"/> Astronomy	<input type="radio"/> Aquatic Life	<input type="radio"/> Geology <input type="radio"/> Field Trips
<input type="radio"/> Hiking	<input type="radio"/> Conservation	<input type="radio"/> Other (specify)

I (name \_\_\_\_\_) am knowledgeable in the following areas \_\_\_\_\_ and would be prepared to

☐ lead an outdoor session ☐ give a presentation ☐ prepare an article for The Orchid

### I am interested in the following:

☐ Joining the PFN Executive ☐ Sitting on research or conservation committees ☐ Working on field projects  
☐ Helping with refreshments at meetings ☐ Please have a member of the executive call me

### AGE GROUP

This information helps us to understand the needs of our members. If a family membership, please check for each adult

<input type="radio"/> Under 20	<input type="radio"/> 20-29	<input type="radio"/> 30-39	<input type="radio"/> 40-49	<input type="radio"/> 50-59	<input type="radio"/> 60-69	<input type="radio"/> 70-79	<input type="radio"/> 80< over
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### DONATIONS

Membership fees cover the general operating costs of the club while other sources of revenue are needed to fund special projects such as ecological restoration. You can assist the club by making a donation to help further our work in such areas. The PFN is a registered charity and issues receipts for income tax purposes. All donations are gratefully received and any member of the executive will be happy to speak to you concerning the use of such funds.

### LIABILITY WAIVER

In consideration of the Peterborough Field Naturalists (PFN) accepting this application, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns forever release and discharge the PFN, their officers, directors, servants and agents from any liability whatsoever arising from my participation in PFN activities, whether by reason of negligence of the PFN or its representatives, or otherwise. I affirm that I am in good health, capable of performing the exercise required for field trips or other activities in which I participate, and accept as my personal risk the hazards of such participation. As a member of the PFN and/or as a parent/guardian of a member under 18 years of age, I have read and understood the above, and accept its term on behalf of all of my underage children.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_