

# FRIENDS OF THE PETAWAWA RESEARCH FOREST

## NEWSLETTER

(#1•••• June 2002)

During the founding meeting of the “Friends of the Petawawa Research Forest” held on Saturday, February 2, 2002 at the Chalk River Lions Hall, the following items were agreed to by the majority of the members then present:

### OBJECTIVES:

- To create awareness of the valuable potential of the Petawawa Research Forest (PRF) for continuing scientific study, education, and public recreation.
- To generate support for the PRF through a non-political, non-profit organization with charitable status and at arms length from the government.
- To help secure the viability and future of the PRF.

At the same founding meeting, the following individuals were elected to form the first Board of Directors, with a mandate to organize the “Friends” into a legal, charitable entity and get it up and running:

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Position	Name	Contact
President	Kris Morgenstern	(613) 735-5638 krismo@magma.ca
Vice President	Frank Knaapen	(613) 735-4700 Local 2741 knaapef@algonquincollege.com
Secretary	Tom Stein	(613) 589-2825 tstein@magma.ca
Treasurer	Howard Keech	(613) 584-4144 hkeech@magma.ca
Board Member	Jennifer Hawley	(613) 584-3005 hawleyj@nrtco.net
Board Member	Kit Yeatman	(613) 584-1416 yeatmanc@magma.ca
Board Member	Earl Berry	(613) 584-7773 earlgwen@magma.ca
Board Member	Peter Kourtz	(705) 766-2722 pkourtz@muskoka.com

The Board has held an additional four meetings with the majority being at the PRF offices (thanks to Steve D’Eon, the PRF Forest Manager) and the following items have been initiated or completed:

FINANCES: Thanks to some very competent free professional help we are assured that the “Friends” financial books and records have been set up in such a way that once we have achieved our goal of an Incorporated, charitable organization there should be little problem in meeting the required reporting criteria and the issuing of receipts.

The latest financial report tabled on Monday, May 6, 2002 shows a total income of \$994.36 (Charitable donations & Membership dues) with expenses of \$162.30 (Bank charges, Meeting costs & Office supplies) leaving a working capital of \$832.06 in the bank account.

CONSTITUTION: At the moment, except for some minor changes, the proposed Constitution for the “Friends” has been completed. Prior to presenting this

article for a ratification vote at a future general meeting, it will be reviewed again by the Board for a “sober second look”. The final draft of the Constitution will be circulated to the Membership for review in plenty of time prior to the general meeting.

INCORPORATION: Incorporation is a fairly lengthy legal and costly item to achieve. However, again the “Friends” are benefiting from some very competent *pro bono* (free) legal help from the Borden Ladner Gervais LLP firm in Ottawa and our Incorporation under the laws of Canada is proceeding apace. It is estimated that the “Friends” will be a legally Incorporated entity by the end of this year.

CHARITABLE STATUS: For those of you who own your own business and fill out your own Income Tax, you will appreciate the amount of time and effort it takes to find out even the most simple thing in the labyrinth of the Income Tax rules and regulations. After a number of fits and starts and set-backs we have finally found the correct application forms to use for the purposes of our organization. Work is progressing on filling out these forms (by rank amateurs) which have been written by and for Philadelphia Lawyers.

MEMBERSHIP: At our last meeting (Monday, May 6, 2002) the Board decided to keep the membership drive in low gear until such time as the “Friends” are Incorporated; Charitable status has been approved and the proposed Constitution has been ratified. Without these items being finalized, it was felt that presenting ourselves to the general public (for example at a booth during the Petawawa Civic Centre Days, June 14-16, 2002) was premature. To date, the paid membership stands at 66.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST:

- Make note of the morning **Meet & Greet** celebration (with free coffee and donuts) marking the annual opening of the PRF Visitors Centre on Friday, June 28, 2002 from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Look for our book “75 Years of Research in the Woods” to be reviewed in an upcoming issue of the “Forestry Chronicle”.
- Membership and information tables were set up and staffed by Board members at the Deep River X-County Ski Loppet on Sunday, February 24, 2002 and at the PRF Sugaring-Off Festival on Wednesday, April 17, 2002.
- The Board members have agreed to participate in a “Walk in the Woods” tour with the Renfrew County Walking Club, meeting at the PRF Visitors Centre on Sunday, September 15, 2002 @ 1:00 p.m. The lead person in this endeavor is Kit Yeatman who is setting up the route, stops, timetable, information sheet(s) and looking forward to an extremely enjoyable afternoon. **Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy.**
- Background and current information about the PRF can be found on the Internet at the following website address: [www.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca/cfs-scf/science/PRF](http://www.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca/cfs-scf/science/PRF)
- The feasibility of a “Friends” web page is being investigated. Such a page would have links to many other relevant web pages plus contain all the data necessary to understand the purpose and background information forming the “Friends” program.
- The mailing address for the Friends of the Petawawa Research Forest is as follows: P.O. Box 2000, Chalk River, Ontario. K0J 1J0.

June 5, 2002