



NIAGARA  
PARKS  
FOUNDATION

# YEAR-END IMPACT REPORT

2021-2022



A CARING  
*commitment*  
TO PRICELESS PARKLANDS

Our conservation work is driven by a caring commitment to the founding principals of one of Ontario's original environmental organizations.

The heart of our mission lies in preserving the priceless nature and heritage along the Niagara River corridor for the enjoyment of the public and future generations.

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A MESSAGE FROM  
*the Chair*

As Chair of the Niagara Parks Foundation, it is my pleasure to present the 2021/22 Year-End Impact Report on behalf of our board governors, as well as our donors and the dedicated volunteers who have served tirelessly to further the critical projects of our beloved Niagara Parks.

This past year, we were saddened by the loss of Niagara Parks Chair Sandie Bellows, who was instrumental in the initial work to re-launch the Niagara Parks Foundation. I was and continue to be honoured to carry on the work that Sandie started, with the successful re-launch of the Niagara Parks Foundation on Earth Day, 2022.

Our donors have spoken, by supporting the matters they care about most. We are mindful that every dollar we receive represents their collective goals and embrace our responsibility to ensure the contributions of our donors are invested into meaningful projects that support the 120-plus-year legacy of stewardship at Niagara Parks. We are equally mindful, that the lasting impactful changes we are striving for will take time.

As we collectively emerge from the challenges of the past several years, the level of support needed for environmental stewardship, research and conservation, heritage restoration, improved accessibility, programming, and active living, has never been greater for Niagara Parks. Residents from across the Niagara region, visitors from afar and corporations, answered this call in 2021/22, with generous donations to the Niagara Parks Foundation and we are grateful for their support.

We are delighted to already see the direct impact of our donors' generosity, through investments in initiatives such as tree planting, having supported Niagara Parks in reaching its annual goal of planting 5,000 trees. I am incredibly proud of the results generated in our first year of operations following our re-launch in April, with over \$500,000 dollars received in donations and future commitments!

To all our donors, partners, advisors and others who have given generously, along with the Niagara Parks staff members who have made essential contributions to our success; on behalf of our dedicated board, I offer my sincere gratitude. Thank you for joining us in supporting cultural and environmental stewardship at Niagara Parks.

Deborah L. Whitehouse  
Chair

Board  
OF GOVERNORS

The Niagara Parks Foundation Board of Governors consists of the following members:



**DEBORAH WHITEHOUSE**  
Chair



**DAVID ADAMES**  
Treasurer/Secretary



**ANNE CHARETTE**  
Governor



**APRIL JEFFS**  
Governor



**BLAIR MCARTHUR**  
Governor



**KIM VINEY**  
Governor



**LOIS GILES**  
Governor  
Until August 2022



**ROBERT ORSINI**  
Governor



**SYLVIE CHARTRAND-RAFI**  
Governor

Special Advisors to the Board of Governors also include Robert Brooker and Robert McIlveen.

[NIAGARAPARKS.COM/FOUNDATION](https://niagaraparks.com/foundation)

E [niagaraparksfoundation@niagaraparks.com](mailto:niagaraparksfoundation@niagaraparks.com)

# About US

The Niagara Parks Foundation works to support the advancement of the Niagara Parks Commission's mandate as the environmental and cultural stewards of the 56km Niagara River corridor.

The Niagara Parks Foundation is a registered charity directed by a Board of Governors, established to support and advance stewardship initiatives of Niagara Parks. The Foundation provides a unique opportunity for members of the public and corporations to actively contribute to one of the world's most beloved public spaces, while generating additional funds to support Niagara Parks' many environmental and cultural stewardship initiatives.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Preserving the priceless nature and heritage along the Niagara River corridor for the enjoyment of the public and future generations: a caring commitment to priceless parklands.

## what WE DO



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP & CONSERVATION



HERITAGE RESTORATION



ACCESSIBILITY ENHANCEMENTS



PERFORMING ARTS & MUSIC



STEWARDSHIP-FOCUSED RESEARCH



ACTIVE LIVING

# Commitment

## TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL STEWARDSHIP

The Niagara Parks Foundation offers a unique opportunity for members of the public, including corporations, to actively contribute to one of the world's most beloved public spaces. Niagara Parks operates as a self-supporting, operational enterprise agency of the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport. The agency generates revenue from operating guest experiences including attractions, retail shops, restaurants, golf courses, museums, events, as well as transportation and parking services. The Niagara Parks Foundation provides an essential new funding source to advance environmental and cultural stewardship along the Niagara River corridor for the enjoyment of residents and visitors, today and for future generations.



## environmental STEWARDSHIP

Niagara Parks is one of Ontario's original environmental organizations. Since its founding in 1885, Niagara Parks has served a mandate that includes the preservation of the globally significant natural habitat along the Niagara River corridor from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario. This diverse ecological environment includes dense forests, vast grasslands, coastal wetlands and many other unique environments that are home to thousands of plant and animal species. Through funding, the Niagara Parks Foundation supports Niagara Parks' steadfast commitment to the environmental conservation of these precious lands.



## cultural STEWARDSHIP

The Niagara River corridor is home to a rich and diverse cultural landscape, which stretches back over millennia to its first Indigenous inhabitants, through formative in our nation's history, including the War of 1812 and inspiring stories of the freedom trail that saw enslaved people make their heroic journeys to freedom. The Niagara Parks Foundation seeks to preserve and celebrate this remarkable history through initiatives including heritage restoration, indigenous programming and stewardship-focused research.



2021/2022

*accomplishments*  
AT A GLANCE



APRIL 22, 2022

## FOUNDATION RE-LAUNCH CEREMONY AT BUTTERFLY CONSERVATORY

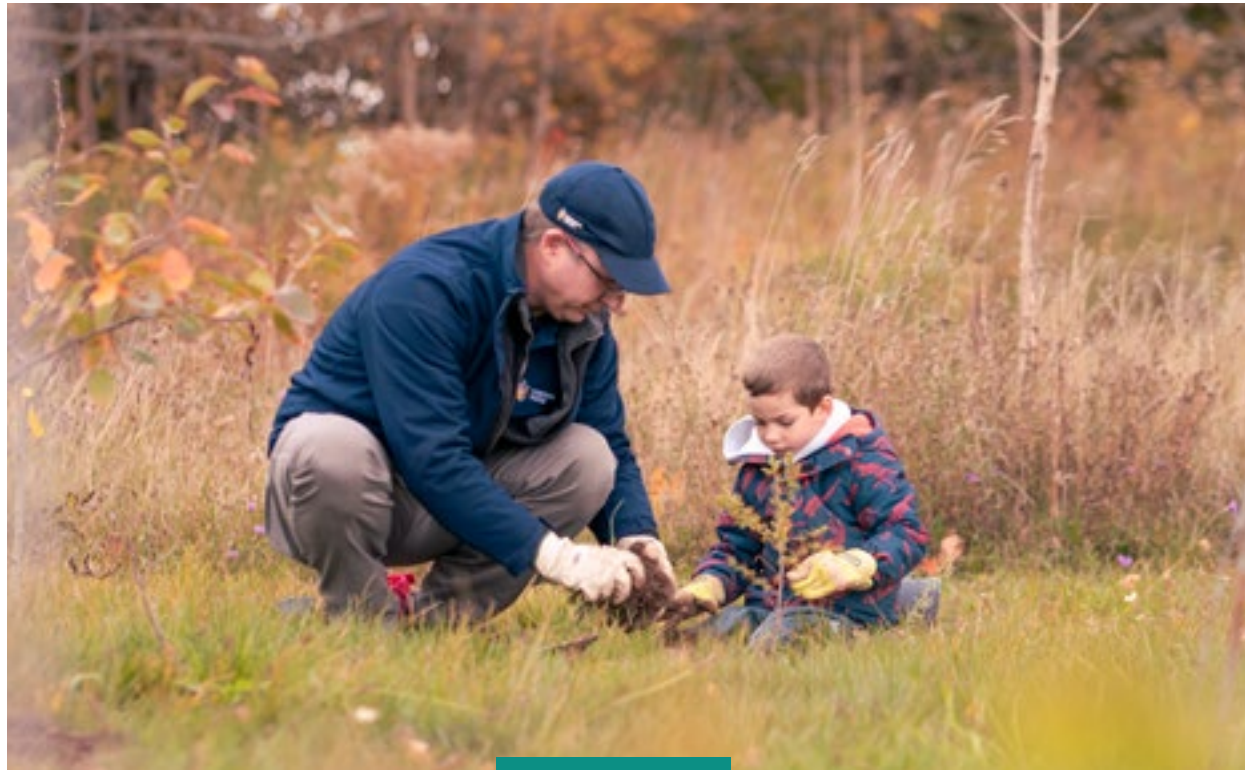
Earth Day 2022 saw the formal announcement and re-launch of the Niagara Parks Foundation. The event which included remarks from Foundation Chair, Debbie Whitehouse, Niagara Parks Chair, April Jeffs, and others, concluded with a ceremonial tree planting, held in front of the Niagara Parks Butterfly Conservatory. Chair Whitehouse announced that an anonymous donor had agreed to match the day's total donations, up to \$5,000, providing the Foundation with a strong start toward actively supporting key stewardship projects at Niagara Parks.



MAY 2022

## ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DAY NIAGARA GLEN TRAIL SAFETY AND ECOSYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FUNDING ANNOUNCED

Over 100 volunteers were in attendance for the annual Niagara Glen Clean-up Day on May 7, 2022, where Chair Whitehouse formally announced the new Niagara Glen Trail Safety and Ecosystem Improvement Project. Made possible through the generous support of the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, the project was developed in response to a significant increase in trail use over recent years, to enhance visitor safety at the Niagara Glen, while supporting the preservation of one of southern Ontario's most beautiful and ecologically diverse trail systems.



OCTOBER 2022

# COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING AT THE NIAGARA GLEN

In partnership with the Niagara Parks Foundation, Niagara Parks hosted its annual Community Tree Planting Day at the Niagara Glen Nature Centre on October 15, 2022. Made possible thanks to the generous donations received through the Niagara Parks Foundation, over 200 native trees were planted during this initiative, which provided an engaging and meaningful opportunity to directly support the critical reforestation of the rare Carolinian forest canopy located along the Niagara River corridor.



SPOTLIGHT

# Paradise Grove PROJECT

One of the priority projects that the Niagara Parks Foundation supports is tree planting along the Niagara River corridor.

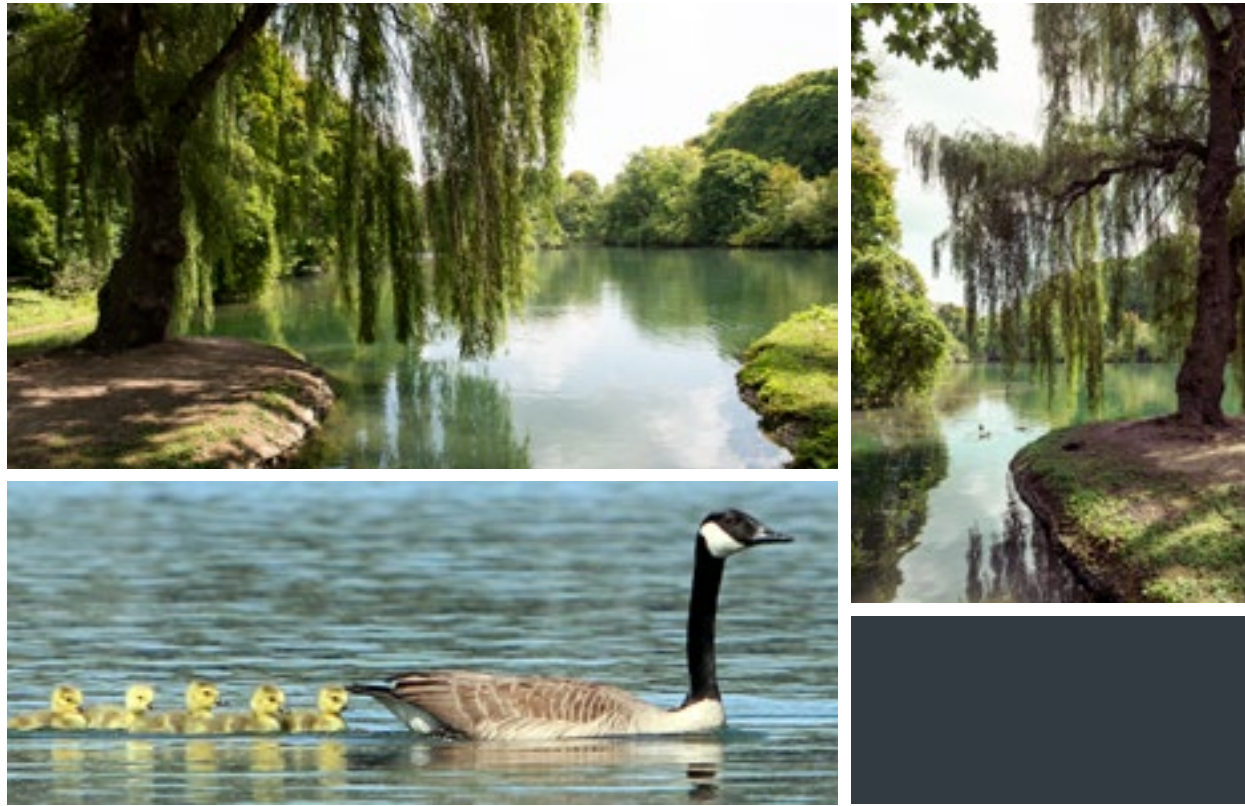
Each year, Niagara Parks has a goal of planting 5,000 trees to achieve a 35% canopy cover by 2028.

Thanks to the \$10,000 donation made by Miller Waste Systems, Niagara Parks Forestry team members planted 150 new trees at Paradise Grove, comprised of oak, maple and sassafras, to ensure a diversity of tree species in the area. These efforts were further enhanced through the added support of the Chautauqua Oaks Project, another local collaboration between Niagara-on-the-Lake residents and Niagara College, which donated 65 additional native oak trees.



**\$10,000**  
DONATION RECEIVED  
For Reforestation Efforts at Paradise Grove





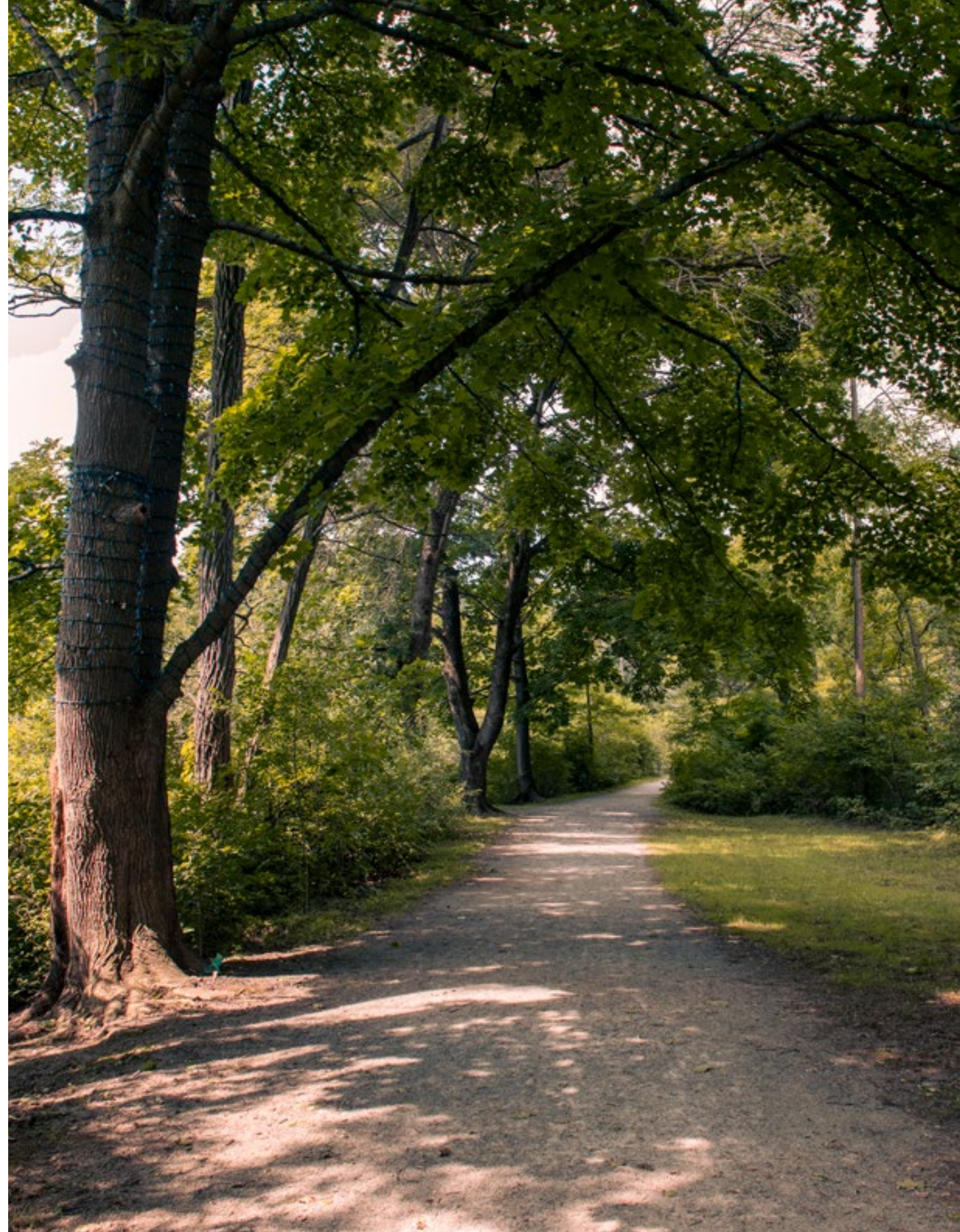
OCTOBER 2022

## \$400,000 INVESTMENT FROM TD BANK TO SUPPORT STEWARDSHIP WORK AT DUFFERIN ISLANDS

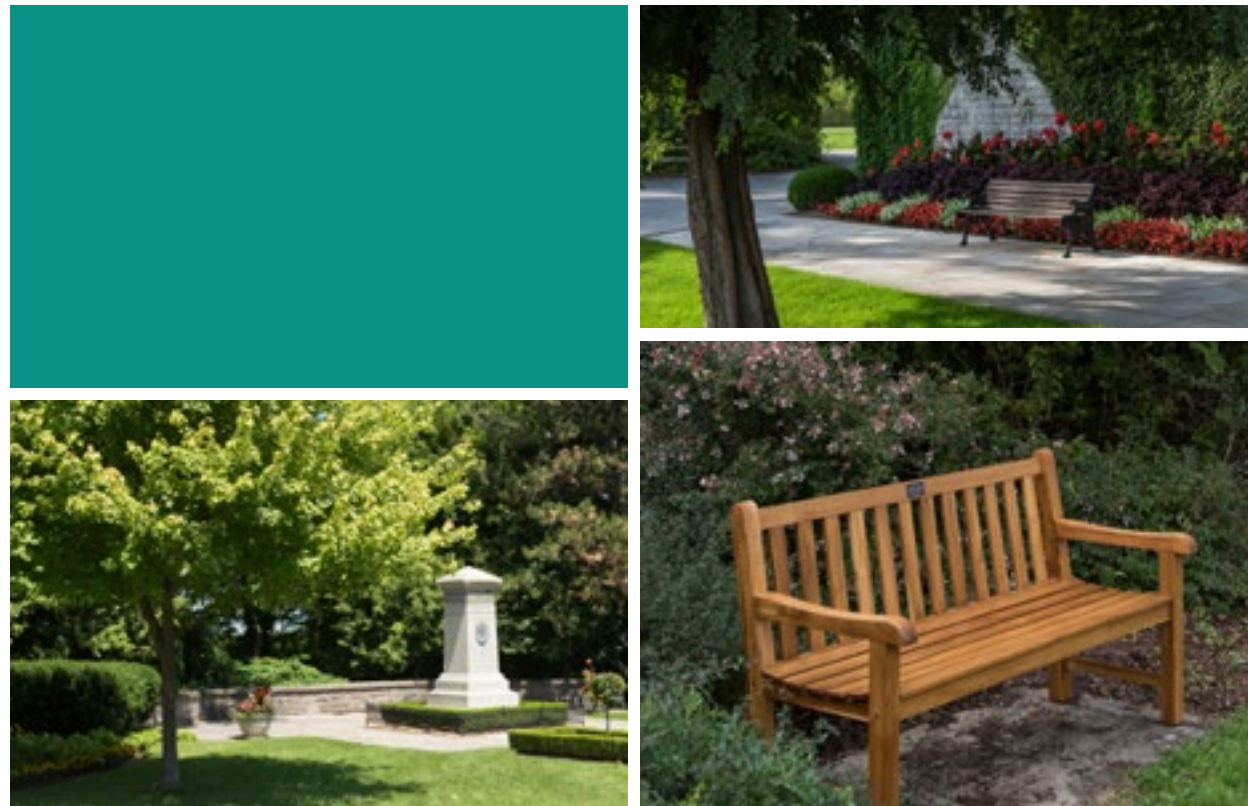
Through collaboration with the Niagara Parks Foundation, TD Bank Group has committed \$400,000 over the next three years, to launch the Dufferin Islands Visitor Experience and Ecological Enhancement Initiative. This multi-phase project, funded through the TD Ready Commitment, will strengthen the overall environmental sustainability of the site. In addition, the project will continue to support meaningful experiences for guests of all ages and abilities, who visit this treasured public park.

Project partners have designed a plan to implement this initiative in multiple phases, over a three-year period. Key project investment goals include:

- Restoring stability along critical sections of the islands, shoreline and the surrounding moraine to protect sensitive habitats, while continuing to safely host visitors year-round.
- Thoughtfully addressing the inventory of aging infrastructure, to identify and remove barriers to increase universal access.
- Developing educational programming opportunities in nature, suited to all ages and abilities. This includes the creation of new interpretive content, in collaboration with Indigenous partners, to foster a greater appreciation of the unique history of this area



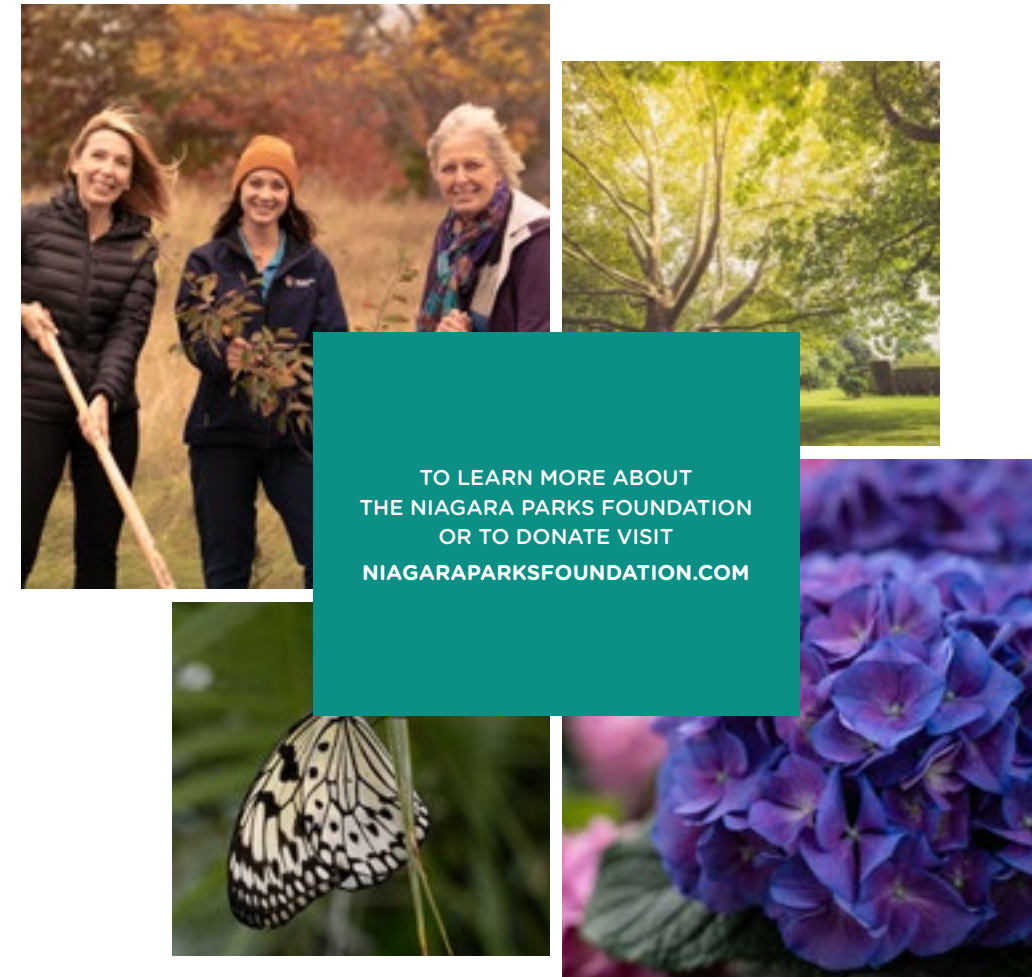




## MEMORIAL TREE & BENCH PROGRAM

Niagara Parks strives to reach its goal of planting 5,000 trees throughout its 1,325 hectares (3,274 acres) each year. The Niagara Parks Memorial Tree & Bench Program is one way for relatives and friends to take part in this important cause, by supporting the ongoing mandate to preserve and protect the natural landscape, as we host millions of guests from around the world.

The gift of a tree is a lasting tribute that benefits the community and natural environment, and memorial benches offer a unique remembrance of a loved one in one of provides a restful stopping point to pause and reflect, surrounded by the sights and sounds of the picturesque environment of Niagara Parks

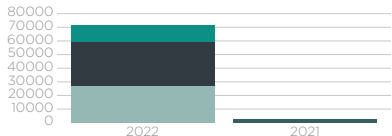


TO LEARN MORE ABOUT  
THE NIAGARA PARKS FOUNDATION  
OR TO DONATE VISIT  
[NIAGARAPARKSFOUNDATION.COM](http://NIAGARAPARKSFOUNDATION.COM)

“A CARING  
*commitment*  
TO PRICELESS PARKLANDS

# 2021/2022 financial STATEMENTS

TOTAL DONATIONS RECEIVED  
**\$71,379**



DISBURSEMENTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES  
**\$44,709**



### EXPENDITURES



EXCESS OF REVENUE  
OVER EXPENSES  
**\$20,771\***



FUNDS HELD FOR FUTURE ACTIVITIES  
**\$438,859**

2021 - 2022

## FINANCIAL RESULTS

Donations Received: \$71,379

Disbursements on charitable activities:  
\$44,709

- Tree Planting: \$11,975
- Memorial Trees and Benches: \$32,734

Operating Expenses: \$5,979

Excess of Revenue over Expenses: \$20,771\*

Funds held for future activities: \$438,859

\*Funds held for future activities

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT

	OCTOBER 2022	OCTOBER 2021
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$86,510	\$-
Cash - Membership Share	\$25	\$-
Accounts Receivable	\$401,898	\$2,401
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$488,433</b>	<b>\$2,401</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$26,459	\$-
Deferred Contribution	\$438,860	\$-
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$465,318</b>	<b>\$-</b>
<b>ACCUMULATED SURPLUS</b>	<b>\$20,771</b>	<b>\$2,401</b>

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

### YEAR TO DATE RESULTS

Nov 2021 - Oct 2022

12 Months

	ACTUAL
<b>INCOME</b>	
UNRESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED	\$26,591
GRANT REVENUE	\$-
INTEREST REVENUE	\$160
MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$32,734
DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS - ALL OTHER	\$11,975
ALL OTHER INCOME	\$-
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$71,460</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION	\$300
TRAVEL AND VEHICLE EXPENSES	\$-
INTEREST, BANK CHARGES AND PROCESSING FEES	\$2,478
LICENSES, MEMBERSHIPS AND DUES	\$1,988
OFFICE SUPPLIES AND EXPENSES	\$-
PROFESSIONAL AND CONSULTING FEES	\$-
MEMORIAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$32,734
EXPENDITURES ON OTHER CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	\$11,975
INSURANCE EXPENSES	\$1,214
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$50,689</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$20,771*</b>

\*Funds held for future activities



# Looking AHEAD

## PRIORITY PROJECTS

In addition to on-going initiatives such as the Memorial Tree and Bench Program, the Niagara Parks Foundation is focused on raising funds to support the following priority projects in 2022/2023 and beyond:



**PLANTING**  
5,000 trees per year across the 56km Niagara River Corridor



**PRESERVING & PROMOTING**  
The 1764 Fort site at Old Fort Erie



**REBUILDING**  
The Niagara River Recreation Trail



**SHARING**  
Indigenous history, stories and teachings



**DEVELOPING**  
Education programs and supporting class visits



**CREATING**  
A Children's Garden at the Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE PROJECTS AND TO FOLLOW THEIR PROGRESS VISIT [NIAGARAPARKSFUNDATION.COM](http://NIAGARAPARKSFUNDATION.COM)



# WAYS YOU CAN *help*

Support The Niagara Parks Foundation to advance the mandate of the very special Niagara Parks. Make a one-time donation, monthly gift or dedicate a tribute to a loved one.



## ONE-TIME DONATION

One-time donations can be made online or at Tip Tap Pay stations located across Niagara Parks.



## MONTHLY DONATION

Monthly donations can be made online with a tax receipt issued annually.



## COMMEMORATIVE TRIBUTE

Tribute gift to the Niagara Parks Foundation to mark a special occasion or to honour the memory of a loved one.



NIAGARA  
PARKS  
FOUNDATION