

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



KAWARTHA LAND TRUST



STAFF

Randall Romano

Mike Hendren
Executive Director

Ian Attridge
Lands Manager

Deanna Guttman
Development Coordinator

Zoë Mager
Program Coordinator

Jessica Rogers
Executive Assistant

BE A CONSERVATION HERO!

By pledging \$20, \$30, \$40 or more each month, you provide a dependable source of funds that will ensure Kawartha Land Trust will be there to protect the land you love day in and day out. Your monthly gift makes it possible for KLT to put more resources into core programming, including protecting significant wetlands, forests and wildlife, while decreasing fundraising expenses. It's also one of the most convenient ways for you to donate! An amount of your choosing will be charged to your credit card each month. You can change or cancel your commitment at any time.



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Director and Past Chair

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Director

Dr. Dennis Murray
Director

Katherine McInnis
Director



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Randall Romano

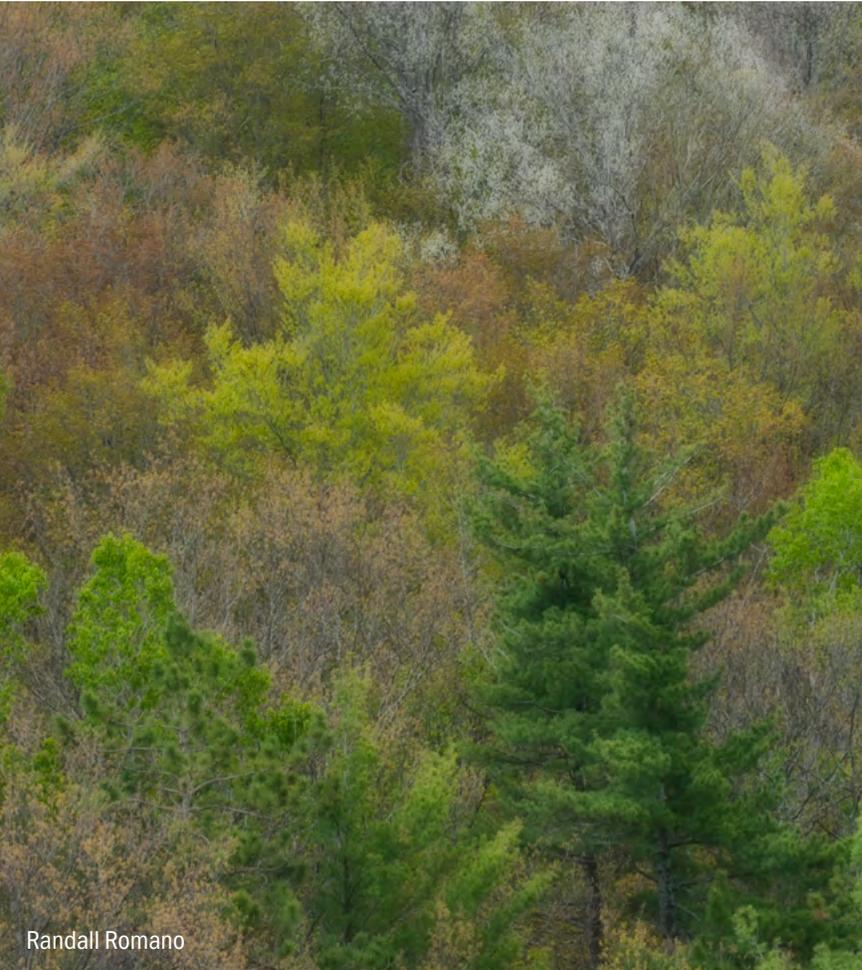
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Randall Romano

Cover photo: Randall Romano

Graphic design:
Kris Sieber, Creative Free Agent



From the Chair of the Board of Directors & the Executive Director

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2014

We are very pleased to provide you with this report of the activities of the Kawartha Land Trust. As we look back over the past year, we recognize how much progress has been made, largely due to the contributions of our many volunteers, supporters and donors. The number of volunteers and gifts has once again nearly doubled over the past year. The monthly donor challenge to double the base of monthly donors, and several other very significant gifts resulted in a new level of financial support that has enabled us to focus on our priorities and continue to work towards securing conservation lands in the Kawartha Region. We also completed eleven generous legacy bequests towards our Kawartha Land Preservation Fund for land stewardship and related operations of KLT in the future.

2014 was also a year where some significant partnerships really began to bear fruit. For example, through our involvement with the Kawarthas Naturally Connected (KNC) collaborative initiative, a shared vision for the future of our landscape has been completed and has helped us to understand where our land securement and conservation efforts are likely to add the most value. KLT plays a strong leadership role in this collaborative project and will continue to lead the implementation with KNC partners in 2015, bringing this vision to reality.

Behind these and other outcomes exists a strong and expanding team of volunteers, supported by staff. Leadership and commitment are the key ingredients to the work of our volunteers, committees, the Board of Directors and our advisors, and we thank each of them for their contributions.

Nowhere is the spirit of volunteerism more evident than in the stewardship sphere. This past year, over sixty volunteers provided two hundred and twenty hours of support for stewardship activities such as property monitoring, inventories, repairs, trail clearing, data management and mapping, committee work and partnership development. Our Stewardship Committee and other stewardship volunteers are critical to delivering on the promise we've made protect those special places entrusted to us.

With over 10 years of experience on the ground and building the capacity of our organization, and with a record year just behind us, we look forward with enthusiasm and optimism for what lies ahead. We will be renewing our Strategic Plan this year, and invite you to contact us if you have comments or feedback about our organization. We also hope you will continue to support the Kawartha Land Trust and to advocate for the protection of the land we love here in the Kawartha Region.

Last fall, our Board welcomed three new members: Matthew Brackenridge, Dr. Tom Hutchinson and Amanda Newell. We thank Ron Awde, Past Chair, John Good and Dr. Dennis Murray for their contributions to the Board and wish them luck in their future endeavours.

With warm regards,

Cheryl Lewis
Chair

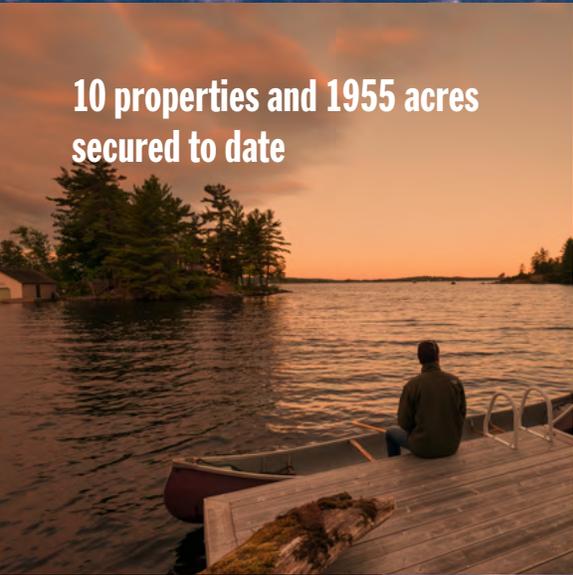
Mike Hendren
Executive Director



Shared vision for
local conservation
priorities completed



11 generous
legacy
bequests



**10 properties and 1955 acres
secured to date**



KAWARTHA LAND TRUST



**Donations more
than doubled**



Awde-Ertel Conservation Agreement secured



**More than
60 volunteers
provided 220 hours
stewardship support**

**Ron Awde and
Robert Ertel
make their
conservation
legacy with KLT.**

A HILLSIDE PROPERTY PRESERVED IN PERPETUITY

By: Bill Hodgins

There is a glorious place high in the hills near Bethany where if you climb the maple on the highest point on the farm, you can look north to Pigeon Lake, west to Lake Scugog, east to Rice Lake, and south to Lake Ontario.

Ron Awde admits he's never climbed that tree, but that doesn't matter to him. He knows it's there, elevated on the highland property he has shared with Robert Ertel for close to 30 years. It's a special place, maybe utopian, and they both feel it deserves to stay that way.

"It has the most amazing views. At one time, when the original cabin was built near the back of the farm, from the second floor you could apparently see each of the lakes."

Awde says from the moment they signed the purchase agreement, they knew they would take steps to preserve the property. Today, through a conservation agreement reached with the Kawartha Land Trust, they are assured their wishes will be followed.

The Awde/Ertel property, at just over 200 acres, is just one of more than a dozen significant natural sites in the Kawartha Region that the KLT has agreed to safeguard in perpetuity. The KLT is a non-governmental organization and registered charity dedicated to caring for the natural places entrusted to them and helping others protect the land they love in the Kawarthas.

Awde, whose relationship with the organization dates back about five years, has long believed in the conservation concept.

"With our agreement, there is a list of about 100 things that owners and others can and cannot do on the property," he says. "In order to preserve and reinforce the natural ecological features, we've put in some significant limitations about what can happen, but it still allows it to be an active farm... it could still be farmed organically in the future, and can be sold some day to a new generation of owners... it just ensures that any future owner also takes on the responsibility of being a partner in the stewardship of the property as well." In exchange for entering into an agreement with the KLT, the organization has an obligation to monitor the property to ensure those conditions are met.

Ron says there was some sort of destiny realized when he and Robert first came across the property.

It was the late '80s, he says, when they first put their footprints to their future home.

"We had actually been going out in different directions looking for a weekend property. When we started, we were looking west of Toronto then we finally moved around east of the city."

They had been spending their weekends driving back roads and had seen some interesting acreage north of Oshawa. They'd even contacted a realtor in the area. But there was a draw further east.

"We went through Port Perry and kept driving across 7A. The hills are just beautiful around there." When 7A hit Highway 35, they continued ahead. "I said to Robert, don't turn here... go straight ahead.

"Part of the way was quite drivable, and we had been driving a lot of back roads. But we got up within 300 feet or so of Beers Road and got axle-deep in mud. There were springs that come up there in early April. There was still snow on the ground and I was out there in my bare feet trying to figure out how we would get our car moving."

With the help of nearby neighbours, they were free and on their way, but a week later they were back in the area looking again. They were still open to suggestions and their realtor wanted to show them some options.

"We met in Bethany and followed her out... then we rolled into the driveway of the farm and realized it was exactly where we had gotten stuck at the top end of the property a week before."

He said they started to walk the property and even before they had seen the house, they knew they had found exactly what they were looking for.

"We just said this is it... this is the place. With the rolling hills that drop over 300 feet from west to east, a magical hardwood bush and springs and ponds...it was just perfect. It had everything we knew it would have, including an almost untouched late Victorian brick farmhouse.

"We've never looked back. It was everything we had ever hoped for."

Awde and Ertel continued to work and live in Toronto, but visited the property on weekends, gardening, working and walking the fields. Soon, they were talking to neighbours about their plans for preserving the place in the future.

"We have a lot of interest and background knowledge about the New England land trusts and how many of them had developed and how they worked. From the very beginning, we were wondering if there was any way to get a group of people in the area to do something in order to protect the natural heritage we have in the Bethany Hills area. We kind of floated the idea with a couple of the other landowners around here who we thought were interested environmentalists."

They found it a bit of an uphill battle. There were a lot of third- and even fourth-generation landowners who were apprehensive about the notion. "Many didn't really have much of an idea about what is involved in putting a conservation agreement on a piece of property and some were very cautious about limiting what might happen on their land." But over time, he and Ertel found some allies.

"We had a chance to meet Ralph McKim and Jean Garsonnin who were just in the process of completing a conservation agreement on their place one concession to the south of us."



McKim also approached Awde about serving on the KLT (formerly the Kawartha Heritage Conservancy) Board of Directors. "He made a point of the need to have more representation from the Kawartha Lakes area. With the Fleetwood Conservation Area and Ralph's property, we felt we could build on creating a larger network of properties in the area that could help link the Ganaraska forest to the south with the Pigeon River and Kawartha lake conservation areas to the east and north. Joining the board of the Kawartha Heritage Conservancy seemed like the perfect fit to help make this happen.

Awde is proud of his involvement in KLT over the years. The organization has been open to his ideas, has appreciated the direction he's suggested in the past, and even today he is an active member of the KLT Development Committee.

As a Director and committee member, he saw how important it is to not only provide the initial ecological gift of a conservation agreement or land, but to also provide a financial commitment for stewardship to ensure that KLT and future owners can maintain the agreement and preserve the property as intended. The tax deduction received for the gift of the easement will be used as part of a legacy gift that he and Robert have made to KLT in 2014.

"There is a reason that an independent non-profit trust has always appealed to me. I feel that at a certain point it is far better that you have an organization focused on land preservation that is also at arm's length from government organizations and the potential for shifting priorities according to the politics of the day...Over the last decade, I think the groundwork has been laid to position the Kawartha Land Trust as that honest broker.

"If we can continue to get enough private and public support behind KLT, we can turn it into the same kind of successful model that many of the other successful century-old North American land trusts have become... and we will have a strong and vibrant organization to carry on the important work of preserving our endangered natural heritage."

Kawartha Land Trust Statement of Financial Position

For the year ended December 31

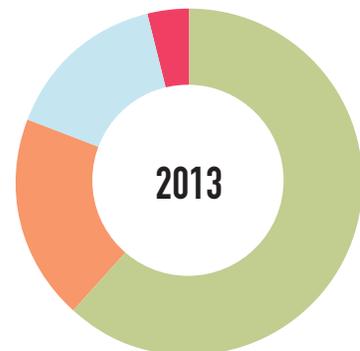
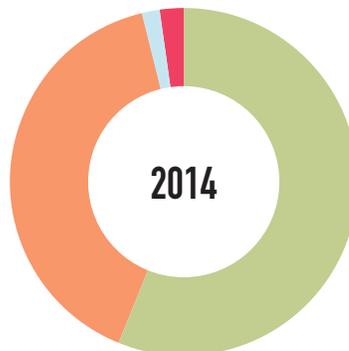
2014

2013

	Invested in Capital Assets	Land Securement Management	Unrestricted Operating Fund	Total	Total
Revenues					
Grants		13,631	171,743	185,374	184,309
Donations of Land	93,000			93,000	187,000
Donations		4,023	119,285	123,308	53,441
Restricted Donations		8,200		8,200	3,325
Fees for Service			5,310	5,310	27,525
Other Income			7,062	7,062	11,146
	93,000	25,854	303,400	422,254	466,746
Expenses					
Amortization	4,260			4,260	4,260
Community Engagement			15,587	15,587	28,712
Community Events			13,699	13,699	9,829
Fundraising			5,676	5,676	5,049
Land Stewardship		16,476	2,050	18,526	12,576
Land Securement		6,081	5,571	11,652	4,480
Operations			20,569	20,569	19,014
Professional Fees			4,365	4,365	4,365
Salaries and Benefits			179,172	179,172	167,866
	4,260	22,557	246,689	273,506	256,151
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	\$88,740	\$3,297	\$56,711	\$148,748	\$210,595

REVENUE SOURCES

Revenues	2014	2013
Grants	185,374	185,374
Donations	131,508	56,776
Fees for Service	5,310	45,519
Other	7,062	11,146



WE LOVE OUR DONORS!

Randall Romano

We can't protect the forest, fields, shorelines, and wetlands of the Kawarthas without you. Your donations help to manage sensitive natural areas, acquire key properties, retain staff and do all that needs to be done to ensure the long-term conservation of land in the Kawarthas.

YOUR LEGACY WITH KAWARTHA LAND TRUST

Have you put KLT in your will? If so, please let us know so we can discuss your conservation legacy!

FOUNDATION GRANTS

Canada Helps
Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough
Employment Planning & Counselling Peterborough
The Kingsway Foundation
Ontario Land Trust Alliance
Salamander Foundation
Sir Joseph Flavelle Foundation
United Way Of Greater Toronto

GOVERNMENT

City of Peterborough
County of Peterborough
Environment Canada
Ontario Trillium Foundation

CORPORATE GIFTS

Comstock Funeral Home & Cremation Centre
Environmental Action Bobcaygeon
Gorrud's Auto Group
Kawartha Field Naturalists
Kawartha Park Marina
Millbrook Valley Animal Hospital
Salmon Lake Cottage Owners' Association
South Pond Farms
Viamede Resort
W.J. Dietrich Ltd.

GIFTS IN MEMORIAM

Robert Browne
Stuart Scott
Irving C. Harris

INDIVIDUAL GIFTS

\$5000 AND UP

David Ross
Barron Cowan Foundation
Anonymous
Bill & Gail Szego
Michael Young Family Foundation

\$1000 TO \$4999

Ronald Awde & Robert Ertel
Doug Brady
Mike & Kathy Carter
Bruce & Ann Falls
Paul Hickey
Danny McCarthy
Roslyn Moore
William Morris
Alice Sharpe
Andrew M. Stewart
Petra Unger-Feldhaus

\$500 TO \$999

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Tom Campbell
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Gordon Henderson
William Hewitt
Karen Higgins
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WE LOVE OUR DONORS!

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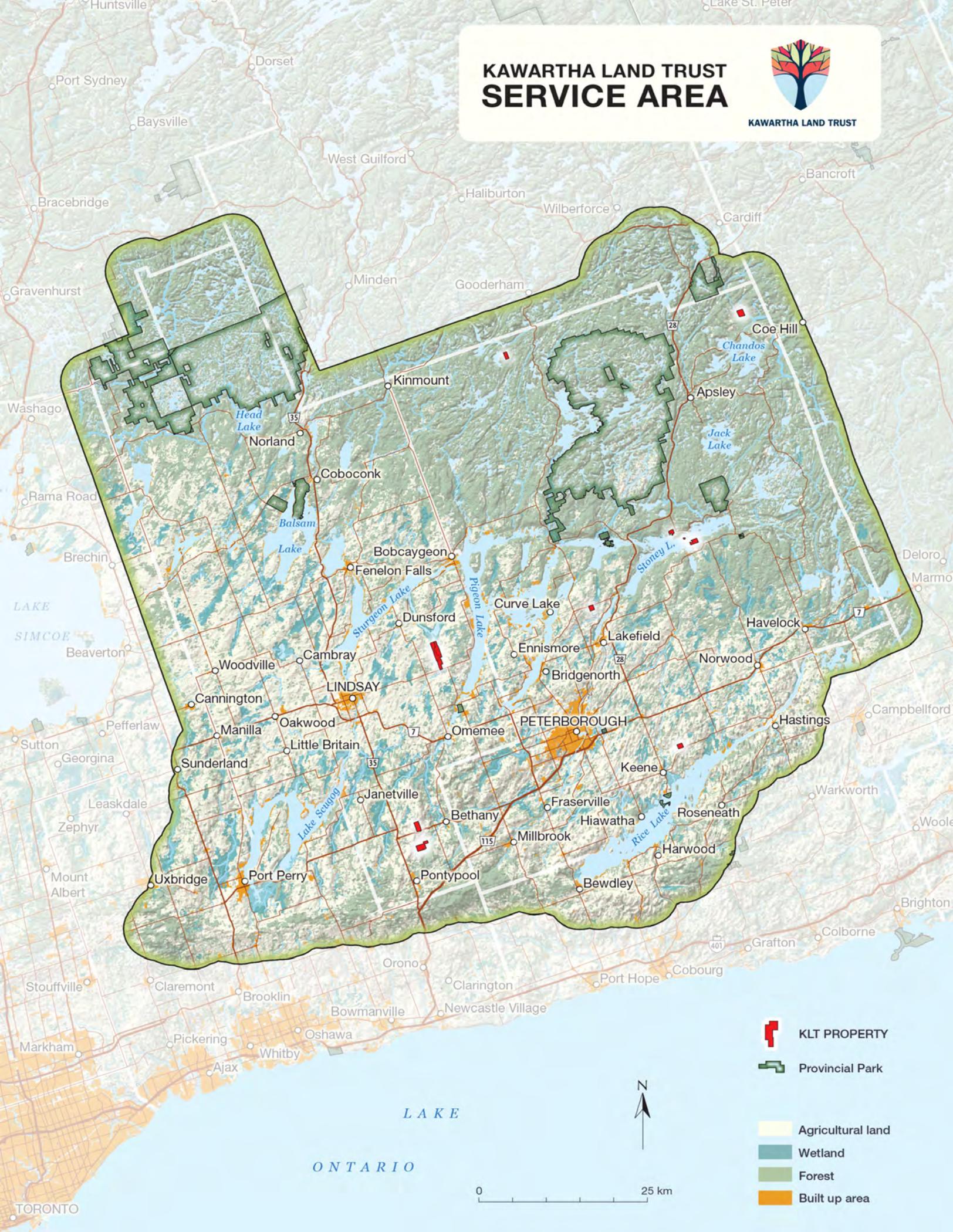


Randall Romano

KAWARTHA LAND TRUST SERVICE AREA



KAWARTHA LAND TRUST



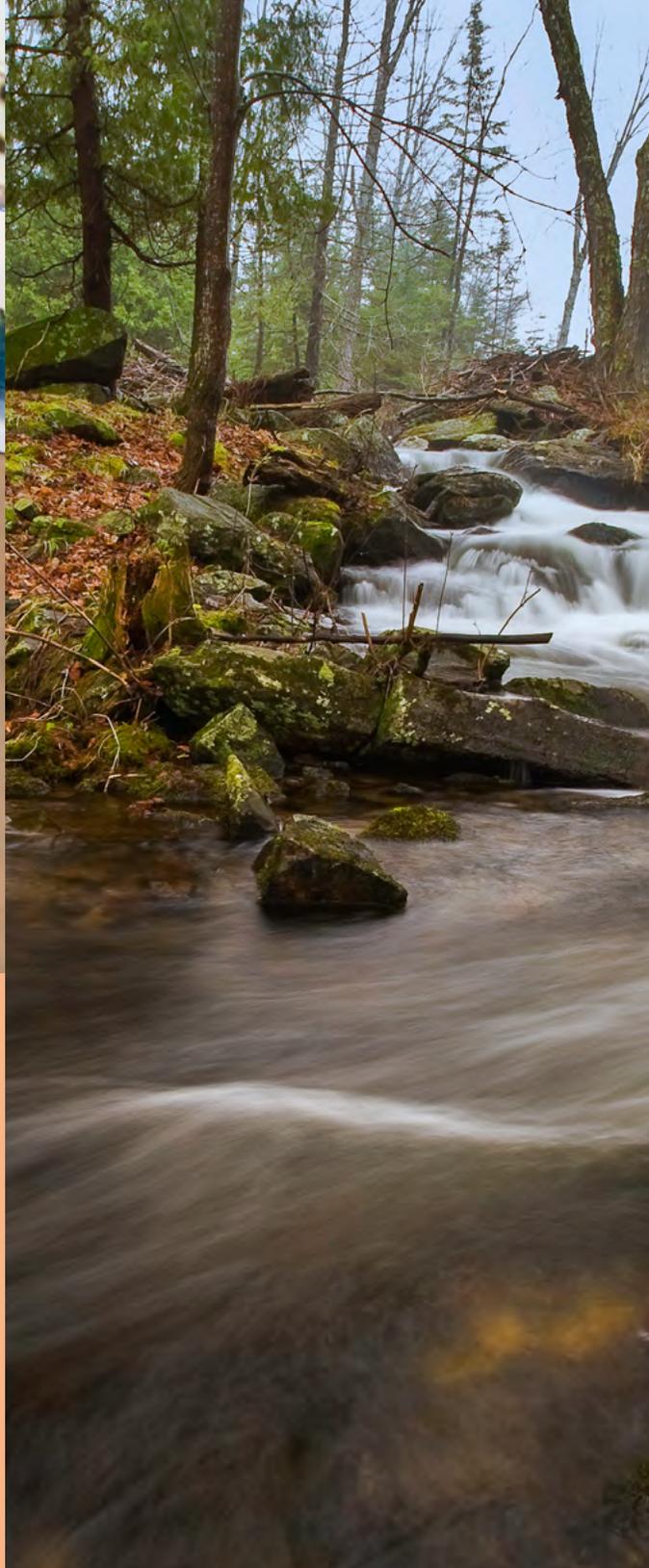
-  KLT PROPERTY
-  Provincial Park
-  Agricultural land
-  Wetland
-  Forest
-  Built up area



0 25 km

LAKE
ONTARIO

TORONTO



KAWARTHA LAND TRUST

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