

Thank you, Ganawenim Meshkiki and the Eastern Georgian Bay Initiative!

Attention: Patrick Brennan, Executive Director, Ganawenim Meshkiki

As we wrap up the first year of this grant, we would like to thank you for your generous support of the work by the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) and our partner the Georgian Bay Land Trust (GBLT) along the Eastern Georgian Bay Coast. We're delighted to share this Year 1 (2020) Interim Report with you. We have made great progress to remove Phragmites from the Eastern Georgian Bay Coast and improve Species at Risk habitat. We simply could not have done it without your support.

Our achievements over the past year:

- The generous support of Ganawenim Meshkiki and the Eastern Georgian Bay Initiative allowed NCC to collaborate with key long-term partner the Georgian Bay Land Trust. Opportunities to work with First Nations communities were limited due to COVID-19 but consultation was initiated with Moose Deer Point First Nation and Wasauksing First Nation.
- An extensive effort was made to map Phragmites along roads and shorelines between Port Severn and Parry Sound, with efforts focusing on the First Nations land where permission was granted. Over 350 patches of Phragmites were mapped as a result of these efforts.
- Approximately 8 acres of Phragmites was controlled at four key sites, Sandy and Ingersoll Islands, Giant's Tomb Island, Port Severn Wetlands and on Ogemawahj Road on the Moose Deer Point First Nation Reserve.
- Monitoring and effectiveness assessments took place over the summer months. Occurrences of Phragmites controlled in 2019 and prior using the cut and drown control method are consistently showing little to no re-growth after one year of control, and in some cases no re-growth after multiple years of control.
- Educational and outreach materials such as an educational and instructional video on how to identify and control Phragmites and an accompanying pamphlet have been initiated and updates to NCC's website about the project are underway.

Once again, thank you for your support. We have included specific information on our achievements in the attached table. We look forward to continuing to partner with Ganawenim Meshkiki and the Eastern Georgian Bay Initiative for the remaining four years of this grant.

Sincerely,

Jill Murray-Dimic
Manager, Major Gifts
Nature Conservancy of Canada – Ontario

Attachment: Year 1 Interim Report (table)

c.c. Bill Loughheed, Executive Director, Georgian Bay Land Trust