



2017 Annual Report

Building an army of citizen scientists who can monitor, measure, mitigate and adapt to the local impacts of climate change in their own communities.



Our Approach

Use long-term monitoring protocols to evaluate changes in biodiversity and share the data.

Community involvement is crucial to address the issue of adaptation to our changing climate.

Everyone can learn about current issues and what ecological actions they may undertake.

President's Report

Alice Casselman, B.Sc., M.Sc. Ed.

The Association for Canadian Educational Resources (ACER) is a not for profit. In 2017, we expanded our network of Planting for Change (P4C) schools with the addition of 7 new schools. We are also getting people outdoors planting and measuring trees through our Riparian Rangers program. This year we worked with Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA), Quinte Conservation, and Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA). We created the Citizen Science program with funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) and launched it at 4 schools with funding from TD Friends of the Environment (TD FEF). We also had interns from the University of Toronto Mississauga, University of Scarborough, Sheridan College, as well as a summer student from Canada Summer Jobs. We are thankful for all our hardworking volunteers, supporters, partners and funders who made 2017 a successful year.

PROGRAM UPDATES

Planting for Change (P4C)

More schools in Southern Ontario embraced our Planting for Change (P4C) program. The P4C program allows teachers, students and community volunteers to build a climate change laboratory in their schoolyard by planting 16 trees and 45 shrubs.

In 2017, seven schools were added to our P4C schoolyard tree monitoring network. The schools were Blessed Archbishop Romero Catholic Secondary School, Central Peel Secondary School, Humberview Secondary School, Princess Margaret Public School, Diamond Trail Public School, Burnt Elm Public School, and John William Boich Public School.



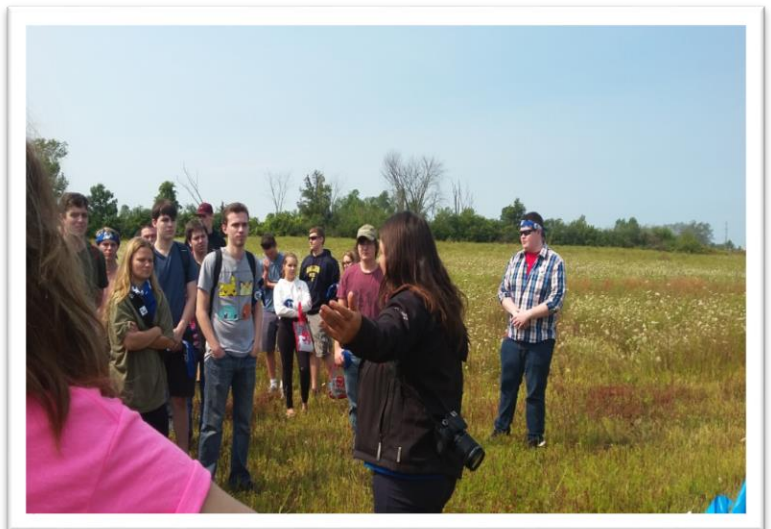
OTHER PROGRAMS

Citizen Science

ACER developed the Citizen Science (CSI) program with funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF). TD Friend of the Environment Fund funded the implementation of this project. In spring and fall of 2017, CSI was launched at 4 Planting for Change (P4C) schools; John William Boich Public School, Humberview Secondary School, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Secondary School, and Oakville Trafalgar High School.

Riparian Rangers (RR)

In 2017, ACER worked on 3 Riparian Rangers projects. ACER worked with Lower Thames Conservation Authority (LTVCA), Quinte Conservation, and Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA) in projects funded by the Great Lakes Guardian Community Fund (GLGCF). ACER worked with LTVCA to plant 1000 trees and shrubs at Clearville Creek with Boy Scouts. We also partnered with Quinte Conservation to plant 1000 trees and shrubs at Loyalist College with students. Our partnership with ORCA resulted in planting 1000 trees and shrubs at 8 sites. For each project, 10% of what was planted was measured.



ACER Interns

In 2017, ACER worked with Murat Oguzsimsaroglu, Souvik Banerjee, Faria Malik, and Kanna Sivakumar who were in the Environmental Control graduate certificate program at Sheridan College. They continued the inventory on the Sheridan College Davis campus that was started in 2015 and began an inventory at the Sheridan College Trafalgar campus. Bahy Salah from UTSC was finishing his Masters of Environmental Science. Wai Lam Leung (Alison) from UTM was finishing a Bachelor of Science degree in Geography and Environmental Science, and worked on Planting for Change.

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

Riparian Rangers Lower Thames

Planting at Clearville Creek with Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA) took place in Spring (May 27th, 2017). 90 children and 24 adults from the Boy Scouts planted 1000 trees and shrubs. 100 trees and shrubs were tagged, mapped, and measured. Some of the planting was done at an earlier date by machine.


684
 **Volunteer Hours**
Spent on Riparian
Rangers Lower Thames

Riparian Rangers Otonabee

In 2017, ACER worked in partnership with Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA) to plant 1000 trees and shrubs. ACER tagged, mapped, and measured 184 trees and shrubs at 8 sites, Airport, Bear at Marina, Dance Property, Hague Blvd., James Stevenson Park, Riverview Creek 2009, Riverview Shoreline 2013, and Riverview Shoreline 2016. Volunteers for planting and monitoring included students from Crestwood, Immaculate Conception, and St. Anne's. Bears at Marina, Dance Property, Riverview Creek 2009, Riverview Shoreline 2013, Riverview Creek 2016 were planted in previous years but tagged and measured in 2017.

184
Trees and Shrubs Measured
During the Riparian Rangers Otonabee



 **666** **Hours**
Spent on Riparian Rangers
Otonabee

8
 **Number of Sites**
In the Riparian Rangers
Otonabee

 **427**

Native Trees and Shrubs
Planted at P4C schools in 2017

Planting for Change (P4C)

Seven schools were added to our P4C network in 2017. Blessed Archbishop Romero Catholic Secondary School, Central Peel Secondary School, Humberview Secondary School, Princess Margaret Public School, Diamond Trail Public School, Burnt Elm Public School, and John William Boich Public School were added to the Planting for Change (P4C) school network in 2017. We would like to thank our green spark teachers at these schools; Lorina, Vanya, Rob, Heather, Nancy, Andrew, and Katrina.

 **7 Schools** joined
Planting for Change (P4C)

The P4C schoolyard-monitoring
network grew to

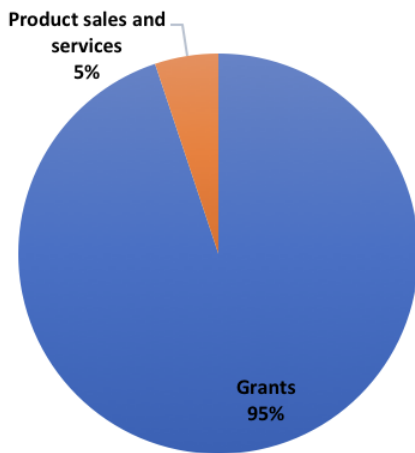
57 Schools

Riparian Rangers Quinte

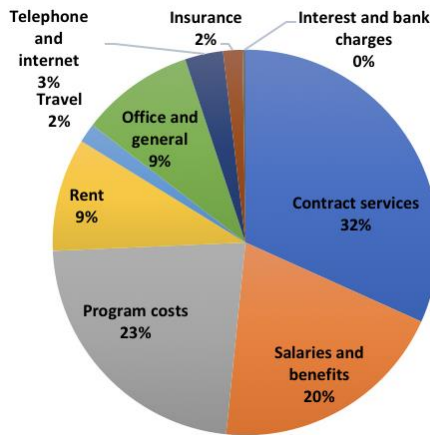
ACER worked with Quinte Conservation to plant 1000 trees and shrubs at Loyalist College with students. 181 students and adult volunteers planted 13 species. Planting took place on September 5th, 2017, September 13th, 2017, and September 20th, 2017. 100 trees and shrub were measured.

415
 **Volunteer Hours**
Spent on Riparian
Rangers Quinte

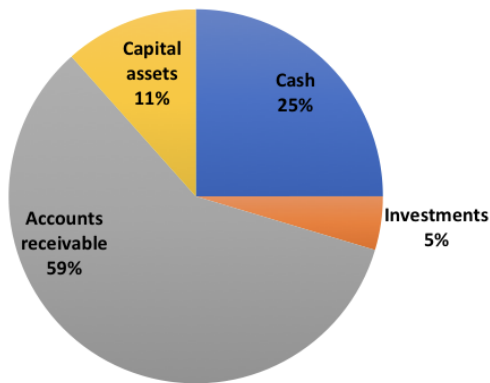
2017 Total Revenue: \$156,230.37



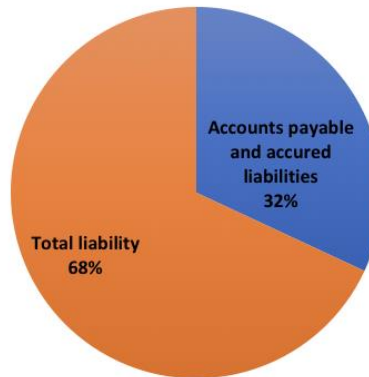
2017 Total Expenses: \$116,751.79



2017 Capital Assets: \$235,264.24



2017 Liabilities and Net Assets: \$235,264.14



Board of Directors 2017

- Sonya Wieler
- Alice Casselman
- Irene Katkov
- Madelyn Webb
- Kasey Livingston
- Dana Ghadban

Special Thanks

Special thanks to Murat Oguzsimsaroglu, Souvik Banerjee, Faria Malik, Kanna Sivakumar, Bahy Salah, and Wai Lam Leung (Alison) our interns from University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC), Sheridan College, and University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM), as well as Anudakshi Basnayaka. We wish them the best in their new endeavors.

Special thanks to our project partners Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, Quinte Conservation, and Otonabee Region Conservation Authority.

The condensed financial statements are extracted from the financial statements of Glenn Byington, G.S.D Consulting. A complete set of the financials is available upon request.

Thank you!



This project was undertaken with the financial support of:
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