**DEVELOPMENT**

People continue to make the difference.

Personal contributions—our annual appeal, online, ground and mobile appeal—combined with membership, and the resources available through the Blue and White Annual Fund, program need-based endowed support, sponsored, foundation support grants and awards enabled the Society to bring specific environmental work and support ongoing work such as the

conservation of the existing Security Society, a planned giving program designed to sustain the Gardens for future generations.

— Terry Yates, Board Chair
Mark Remmington, CEO

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**EDUCATION**

Research has shown that significant exposure to the natural world is needed for healthy childhood development. Connecting kids with nature is what our education department is all about, and in 2008 we celebrated 40 years of outdoor education at our Nature Education Centre. Our autumnal to feature workshops brought together close to 40 organizations interested in working with us to combat "nature-deficit disorder" in children.

216,729 paid visitors
250,000 people used the trails and natural lands in 2008

**FINANCES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operations Grants</td>
<td>$1,316,853</td>
<td>$1,071,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process of Plants—Ministry of Culture</td>
<td>450,657</td>
<td>329,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Hamilton</td>
<td>168,469</td>
<td>167,835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Municipality of Halton</td>
<td>68,578</td>
<td>60,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers from City of Hamilton</td>
<td>3,544,085</td>
<td>3,281,483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9,413,143</td>
<td>9,024,749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$5,814,177</td>
<td>$5,061,346</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EXPENSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operations and maintenance</td>
<td>$2,886,894</td>
<td>$2,405,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building and equipment</td>
<td>1,291,112</td>
<td>1,401,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortization of capital assets</td>
<td>2,595,248</td>
<td>2,493,398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9,413,143</td>
<td>9,024,749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$5,814,177</td>
<td>$5,061,346</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Operational Contribution**

$75,000 donated to fund an elevator in the Carle and Peter Dalglish Arboretum

**AUXILIARY**

The Auxiliary has supported RBG with volunteer activities and donations for nearly half a century. Among this year's highlights:

- **80 active volunteers**
- **87,000 volunteer hours served in 43 areas that support RBG's mandated activities**
- **66 volunteers sorted and documented 14,780 plants and planted 166 elm at Kippus Garden**
- **$75,000 donated to fund an elevator in the Carle and Peter Dalglish Arboretum**

**For a complete annual report, visit**

North River Environmental Group Inc.

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**CONFERENCE**

The Conference on Horticultural Science and Education was held in September 2008.

- **356 registration fees**
- **4,769,383**

**RECOGNITION**

- **$1,504,173**
- **544,951**
- **$15,542**

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**NOTES**

1. Revenue—includes contributions from capitalized seed sales, which are subject to tax. Revenue is net of grants, donations and contributions made to the Biodiversity Fund. Revenue is also net of amounts contributed to the Biodiversity Fund. Revenue is also subject to tax. Revenue is also net of amounts contributed to the Biodiversity Fund. Revenue is also subject to tax.

2. The amount of revenue from the operations of the RBG is subject to tax. Revenue is also net of amounts contributed to the Biodiversity Fund. Revenue is also subject to tax. Revenue is also net of amounts contributed to the Biodiversity Fund. Revenue is also subject to tax.

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**ANNUAL REPORT 2008**

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

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ANNUAL REPORT 2008

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**ANNUAL REPORT 2008**

ANNUAL REPORT 2008
CONSERVATION

• Through improvements under Project Paradise in its 17th year of restoring Cootes Paradise Marsh, we have seen the re-emergence of species thought long-lost to the area. In fact, we are home to more than 50 listed rare species.
• The Fishway spawning run surged to more than 28,000 native fish, with several species noticeably increased, including the bigmouth buffalo (Ictiobus cyprinellus), virus basement species and brown (Amea calva).
• Yellow perch (Perca flavescens), a keystone species, had excellent reproductive success with more than 1 million perch produced.
• The gray tree frog (Hyla versicolor) reestablished a long-lost population in the Horseshoe Valley Sanctuary.
• For the first time in memory, bald eagles (Haliaeetus leucocephalus) spent the entire summer in Cootes Paradise and have constructed a nest there in early 2009.

HORTICULTURE

• New Helen M. Kispay Garden heralds the garden’s potential to be a garden of collections to a collection of sustainable gardens.
• Belinda Gallagher, former board member and local business leader, named new head of horticulture.

SCIENCE

Around the world, people are linking well-being, livelihoods and biodiversity. Royal Botanical Gardens’ scientific program, started over 40 years ago, was reinvigorated in 2008 on sustainability and the Canadian Institute for Sustainable Biodiversity (CISB) was launched.

Our scientific work is increasingly being directed at providing Canadians with leading-edge, practical, science-based solutions to enhance human well-being, combat the effects of climate change and protect the biodiversity that sustains us.

Year of Rejuvenation

In 2008, we opened the Helen M. Kispay Garden, completed the Camilla and Peter Dalgliesh Arboretum and made significant improvements to Hendrie Park.

MISSION

To be a living museum which serves local, regional and global communities by developing and promoting partnerships that enable Canadians to sustain, conserve and enjoy the highest quality of life on Earth.

We must continue to expand our philanthropic support to sustain and expand our work as a leading environmental, charitable organization and major provincial tourist attraction.

As Canada’s largest botanical garden and biodiversity hot spot we have both extraordinary assets and responsibilities.

WITNESS Royal Botanical Gardens has grown dramatically and is supported as Canada’s most effective change agent by providing excellent, expert, public educational programs that enable Canadians to sustain, conserve and enjoy the highest quality of life on Earth.

WITNESS Royal Botanical Gardens has grown dramatically and is supported as Canada’s most effective change agent by providing excellent, expert, public educational programs that enable Canadians to sustain, conserve and enjoy the highest quality of life on Earth.

I want to help Protect Paradise

Enclosed is my one-time gift of:

- $50
- $100
- $500
- $1,000
- $5,000
- Other $  

*A tax receipt is issued for all gifts