**DEVELOPMENT**

People continue to make the difference.

Personal contributions to our annual appeal, generous donations of cars, membership renewals, and gifts made to our tribute and memorial program provided much needed on-going support.

**EXPAND**

Everyday Mirrors, our first large-scale travelling exhibition, brought in nearly 60,000 visitors to RBG from February to April, a 223 per cent spike in attendance over the same period the year before.

**NEW**

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

- 21 active members
- 48,671 volunteer hours served in support of RBG’s mandated activities
- Made a gift of $28,000 to the horticulture department to purchase a computerized botanical labeling machine

**FINANCES**

**REVENUE**

<table>
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<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
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**EXPENSES**

<table>
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<td>$4,214,316</td>
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<td>$1,289,000</td>
<td>$1,200,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**ANNUAL REPORT 2009**

**EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES**

$ 216,023

250,000 people used the trails and natural lands in 2009

12,565 members

**AUXILIARY**

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

- 22 active members
- 48,671 volunteer hours served in support of RBG’s mandated activities
- Made a gift of $28,000 to the horticulture department to purchase a computerized botanical labeling machine

**For a complete annual report, visit rbg.ca**

Defining and delivering our strategies, and realizing our vision, is achievable through the input of more than 30 stakeholders.

*Back to Nature*

In 2009, almost 50,000 people took part in 719 nature activities, programs, presentations and learning activities offered by our education staff.

**Revenue**

Provincial & Municipal Grants 53%

Earnings on Investment 4%

Membership Fees 20%

Operations Grants 8%

**Expenses**

Mandated Activities $ 4,378,081

Operations Activities $ 1,020,135

Horticulture – RBG’s mandated activities 51%

Operations Activities 49%
Year of Sustainability

In 2009 Royal Botanical Gardens embraced sustainability as a key theme in the major projects undertaken and in our long-term financial planning of the organization. The development of our sustainability strategy is aligned with the organization's mission, vision and key principles. We are recognizing the interdependence of our organisation’s financial health, water and biodiversity. Despite difficult conditions, we anticipated $2.5 million in additional revenue during the year. Our key financial indicators show a healthy financial situation.

CONSERVATION

REBUILD: Reconstructed two major boardwalks (Mush and Syphon) and upgraded several bridges.

RESEARCH: Radio tracking of two new turtle species: Blanding’s and map — showed seasonal movements at nesting and hibernation, but otherwise restricted their summer activities to half a kilometre.

RESTORE: Project Paradise — the restoration of the wetland habitats — was challenged by high water and flooding. Despite difficult conditions, thousands of new plants were added to Costes Paradise Marsh.

HORTICULTURE

CREATE: New sustainability-driven display garden — No MOW! No BLOW! No H2O!


REVITALIZE: Began three-year project on blue and yucca collections; completed renovation of Barbara Laking Memorial Herbland Garden.

OUTREACH: Bioblitz display at RLG; garden display at Successful Gardening Show; hosted Garden Writers; made more than 40 presentations to external groups on horticulture topics.

SCIENCE

PRESERVE: RBG took a pilot lead in the Costes to Escarpment project, identifying 3,700 acres of natural lands in the area that could be linked together into a major park system.

INVESTIGATE: Undertook new plant germination research. Dr. Ian Pingle, plant taxonomist at RBG, named a new plant species; the department organized a major national Symposium on Living Plants; Liveable Communities delivered on 2010.

CELEBRATE: Dr. David Gubbin, head of science at RBG, named Hamilton environmentalist of the year for 2010.

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

I want to help Protect Paradise

Excluded any non-tax gift: $1,000; $500; $250
$1,000; $500; $250
Other $1

* A tax receipt is issued for all gifts.

Would you like to receive RBG, the Garden newsletter?

Gift total $1

I've signed a cheque payable to Royal Botanical Gardens

I'd like to renew my gift: $1,000; $500; $250

Receive charge my credit card:

Visa American Express MasterCard

Mail completed form with payment to: Development Department, Royal Botanical Gardens, 1650 Stone Church Road, Hamilton, ON, L8S 1W4

Online donation available at www.rbgs.ca

Charitable Registration: 11900 0018R0001