



# Newsletter 2024

Dear Members,

As winter comes to a close, we are looking ahead to another summer season in our beautiful Park.

Once again we will be selling raffle tickets (\$5 each, 3 for \$10, all proceeds supporting Park activities) for a gorgeous H2O canoe, and hosting two special events in the Park, as well as our popular Seniors Day. As always, we will be constantly monitoring the hiking trails to ensure your enjoyment and safety.

Last year we raised \$7,500, mostly from raffle ticket sales and mug and merchandise sales at the Park Gatehouse. With that money we hosted Seniors Day and sponsored shows by David Archibald and Glen Caradus, and we bought fresh wood chips for our trails and a computer for use in organizing educational programs for kids.

Finally, on behalf of the Board, I want to thank Yolande Lapointe for her 6 years of dedication as our Treasurer. It is surprising how much work it is, keeping a small organization in financial order, and she did it rigorously and with good humour. I am glad to say that Yolande will remain on the Board. Peter Kaiser, whom we welcomed to the Board last year, is our new Treasurer.

Steve Page, Chair, FCLP

## **Please Renew your Membership!**

Your annual monetary contribution helps us enrich the camping and hiking experiences offered at Charleston Lake Park, provides our local seniors with an enjoyable day in the outdoors, enhances the social and environmental learning of our youth and supports a summer student through the bursary program. And don't forget the wood chips!

Annual dues: \$20 for a single, \$25 for a family  
Pay by e-transfer ([fclptreasurer@1000island.net](mailto:fclptreasurer@1000island.net)) or cheque  
payable to Friends of Charleston Lake Park,  
148 Woodvale Road, Lansdowne ON K0E 1L0  
Donations very welcome; all payments receive a tax receipt

## OUR EVER POPULAR SENIORS DAY!



A fine day for an outing at Charleston Lake Park

## FRIENDS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

We would like to thank The Friends of Charleston Park for allowing us to be part of the gathering at the Park on Sept. 21st. The get together, the walk/tour and the meal were 'over the top!' The provision of food geared to my gluten allergy was unbelievable and much appreciated. As imminent future members of The Friends we look forward to enjoying future such events and contributing what we can to ensure the sustainability of our beautiful park and the environment as a whole.

**2023 Seniors Day Guests**

I had an amazing time and met so many new people. While at the summit, I met youth from across Ontario and was able to connect with members of Ontario Nature's Youth Council as well as many Indigenous leaders, who shared their unique perspectives on environmental issues. I was able to partake in a variety of workshops and activities while at the summit and learned a lot of interesting facts about the environment and Indigenous cultures. I was able to connect and learn from youth all across Ontario, while also having fun making lifelong memories that I will be able to think back on in the future.

**2023 Ontario Nature FCLP Youth Summit Candidate**

Since my return to the park two years ago, I feel we have accomplished a lot together in a short time. The Friends have made many contributions to make the park a better place for all visitors. With the Friends group we have today, I look forward to seeing what we can do together tomorrow. Thank you very much for all that you do!

**Tim Truesdell, Park Superintendent**

2023 was an exceptionally good year on the Park trails. The weather co-operated to give us conditions that were "just right" for park visitors heading out on the trails. As hikers encountered Trail Monitors working on the trail, frequent mention was made of their excellent condition; some going as far as to say that the trails in the Park were the best that they had experienced in their travels through other provincial and national parks - and not just in Canada. High praise indeed.



Last year was the second consecutive year that the Park maintenance crews worked hard to spread a very large supply of wood chips on the trails (e.g., Sandstone Island, Homestead, Shoreline and Quiddity).

In 2023 the directors of FCLP created new brochures, developed a 5-year Strategic Plan and updated our bylaws for the new Not-for-Profit Corporations Act.

**Join us at our Annual General Meeting  
followed by the Trail Monitors Orientation**

Saturday, April 27th, 10:00 am  
Charleston Lake Park Office, downstairs  
148 Woodvale Road, Lansdowne, ON

Read More on our Website  
<https://www.friendsofcharlestonlakepark.ca>