



Bringing Back The Bay

Number 31
October 2000
BARC
Newsletter

THE RAP STAKEHOLDER PROCESS AND TOXIC CONTAMINATION: *Lessons Learned from the Rennie Street Landfill*

By Lynda Lukasik

Recent citizen success in charging the City of Hamilton for allowing the discharge of contaminants from the old Rennie Street landfill leaves a bittersweet taste when considered within the context of the Hamilton Harbour RAP.

East Hamilton activists are still puzzled over how the serious problems at the Rennie site were allowed to fester for so many years, and RAPers should be feeling the same way. How is it that an active stakeholder in the harbour remediation process was not forthcoming with information on this problem site? As harbour stakeholders, we are all very much aware that PCBs have and continue to be a major concern in the ongoing effort to de-list Hamilton Harbour as an Area of Concern. Many of our restrictions on consumption of harbour fish, for instance, are a direct result of PCB contamination. To think that, while we struggle with this reality, the City of Hamilton has been knowingly allowing the continuous flow of PCBs, along with other problem contaminants such as aldrin and metabolites of DDT, into the harbour watershed is difficult to accept.

On a positive note, the City has finally been forced to do the right thing, and is investing substantial dollars into cleaning up the site. An integral part of this process is the City's commitment to establish a Community Liaison Committee (CLC) to oversee the progress of the remediation. The CLC will provide an important opportunity for anyone concerned about the impact of the Rennie site on the larger harbour watershed to obtain

information, make their concerns known, and ensure that all steps are taken to protect the harbour watershed from the impacts of this site. Open dialogue on this issue is definitely a step in the right direction.

continued on last page ...

REMIEDIATING RENNIE

By Reg Meiers, P. Eng.,
City of Hamilton/Region of Hamilton-Wentworth

The former Rennie Street Landfill is an old City "Dump". It contains about 400,000 m³ of waste and was created by filling in the floodplain on the west bank of the Red Hill Creek in the 1950's and 1960's. Dillon Consulting Ltd. has been retained by the City of Hamilton to undertake the remedial actions to prevent the discharge of contaminants from the site.

Remedial Actions

Based on the results of the environmental investigation and
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Ensuring Safe Groundwater Dates To Remember *plus RAP Office Update*

Bay Area Restoration Council of Hamilton-Wentworth and Halton Regions Inc.
Monitors of the Remedial Action Plan for Hamilton Harbour and its Watershed

REMIEDIATING RENNIE (cont'd from front page)

an evaluation of the alternatives, the recommended remedial actions for the site are:

- control leachate generation by placing a low-permeability cover on the landfill and collecting groundwater before it enters the landfill;
- collect leachate that seeps through the bank in a horizontal collector; and
- prevent erosion by expanding the floodplain and relocating the Creek away from the landfill in a naturalized channel.

These actions are subject to a Federal Environmental Screening under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act and are expected to be completed by the Summer of 2001.

Interim Controls

There are several interim controls currently in place including the installation of localized leachate collectors at two of the most severe seepage locations along the west bank of the Creek.

For More Information

For more information, please contact Reg Meiers, Operations Engineer, Department of Public Works, City of Hamilton/Region of Hamilton-Wentworth at 546-4297 or e-mail: rmeiers@city.hamilton.on.ca, or call the BARC office for a copy of the Executive Summary. □

FROM THE BARC PRESIDENT

By Mark Sproule-Jones

The Hamilton RAP is acclaimed throughout the Great Lakes as a success story. We have made major advances in improving our ecosystem - in fish and wildlife habitat and in access to the shoreline for example. We still have difficult problems - in water quality and sediments - but we can be proud of our accomplishments. When I first became involved with the Harbour in 1982, we had anaerobic conditions in the bottom few feet of the Harbour year round! We have come a long way.

Compared with most Areas of Concern, our great advantage has been community involvement. BARC is at the centre of this involvement. We are to be honoured for this success at the SOLEC 2000 (State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference) to be held at the Hamilton Convention Centre from October 17 through 19.

BARC could not work without its volunteers. We have some spectacular successes to brag about, such as:

- the 625 volunteers who helped plant the new Waterfront Trail this Spring;
- the 70+ volunteers who regularly help replant Cootes (except this year, due to high water levels!); and
- the scores of landowners on the Grindstone and Spencer Creeks who participate in the Watershed Stewardship Program.

We could go on. What I want to do is publicly acknowledge these efforts and especially the efforts of the 30 or so

dedicated people who comprise our four committees:

- Education;
- Public Awareness;
- Access and Watershed; and
- Monitoring.

These committees are the “engine room” that drive BARC.

One of my roles as BARC President is to search for and recruit new volunteers for

If any reader would like his or her imagination and creativity to be enlisted in one of our good causes, please let me know.

our committees. Equally important is my role to continue to ensure the committees examine critical issues in advancing the RAP. The Monitoring Committee, for example, assesses and evaluates how the implementing organizations perform, and publishes its Annual Report - Toward Safe Harbours - in a way comparable to the Auditor General's Report on the Government of Canada. In this way, we continue to anchor the accountability of public and private agencies to our community. We need to address this mandate in new and innovative ways, and tax the imaginations and creativity of our volunteers.

If any reader would like his or her imagination and creativity to be enlisted in one of our good causes, please let me know. We can continue to be a “success story”. □

PROTECTING THE NIAGARA ESCARPMENT'S MISSING LINK

By Ken Whitbread, Senior Planner, Niagara Escarpment Commission

Cootes Paradise To Fall Under Province's Niagara Escarpment Plan

On May 18, 2000 the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) initiated Niagara Escarpment Plan Amendment #71 and circulated the Amendment for public and agency comment. The comment period ends on November 30, 2000.

The Amendment completes provincial planning initiatives that began in December 1990 for the transfer of about 2200 hectares (5439 acres) of land to the Niagara Escarpment Plan (NEP) from the Parkway Belt West Plan. (Both are provincial land-use plans.)

Key Natural Areas & Parks

The lands are mostly Escarpment brow and steep slopes within the City of Burlington, City of Hamilton, Town of Flamborough and Town of Dundas (Regional Municipalities of Halton and Hamilton-Wentworth). It also includes the area of Cootes Paradise recognized as a Provincial Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), a Provincially significant Wetland Complex and an Environmentally Sensitive Area in the Regional context. About 95% of Cootes Paradise is owned by the Royal Botanical Gardens. These public lands will become part of the Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Space System.

Including the Royal Botanical Gardens,

seven parks, a number of other provincially or regionally significant natural areas, earth science sites, historic and culturally important landscapes and 20 km of the Bruce Trail will be added to the NEP.

Almost half of the land in the Amendment area (over 47%) is publicly owned. Most of this becomes part of the Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Space System. The remainder is privately owned.

25 Years of Waiting

Since 1974, this area was envisioned to be part of the Niagara Escarpment Plan Area. However, the Parkway Belt West Plan was completed before the Niagara Escarpment Plan. The area needed immediate protection as a service corridor, urban separator and open space so it became

Escarpment Plan is only about 20% of the area envisioned in 1974. More than three quarters of the area being transferred is already designated as "Public Open Space and Buffer" under the Parkway Belt West Plan.

No Changes For Landowners

Landowners living in the area should not notice any difference in the way they can use their land. For example, the largest concentration of people, in the urban areas of Flamborough and Dundas, will continue to be subject to municipal zoning bylaws just as they are today. The most sensitive features and landscapes related to the Escarpment will be protected by the environmental policies of the NEP.

The Niagara Escarpment Commission was directed by the Ontario government to

Upon approval of the Amendment, the Escarpment Link lands, including Cootes Paradise, will become part of the Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Reserve.

part of the Parkway Belt West Plan (1978). The Parkway Belt West Plan has achieved its specific objectives for transportation and other urban services such as roads, hydro lines and pipelines.

Under Amendment #71 the lands will be given Niagara Escarpment Plan designations (Natural – 63%, Protection – 31%, Urban – 5% and Rural – 1%).

The actual transfer of land from the Parkway Belt West Plan to the Niagara

initiate this Amendment because of the significance of this area to the Niagara Escarpment Plan. Upon approval of the Amendment, the Escarpment Link lands, including Cootes Paradise, will become part of the Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Reserve. In 1990, the United Nations named the Niagara Escarpment as a World Biosphere Reserve recognizing its international importance as one of the world's ecologically unique and special places protected for future generations under the stewardship of the NEP. □

ENSURING SAFE GROUNDWATER

By Stacey Cherwaty

Over 50 people attended BARC's Membership Meeting, "Ensuring Safe Groundwater", at the Royal Botanical Gardens on September 14th, 2000. Mark Sproule-Jones, BARC President welcomed all attendees and guests to the meeting and stressed the importance of safe groundwater.

Steve Holysh, a hydrogeologist with the Region of Halton, and our keynote speaker, began the meeting by defining the terminology associated with the water cycle and groundwater including the quality and quantity of this water, recharge areas, and aquifers. He also explained the topography and geology of our local area as they are important factors when discussing groundwater and well construction.

Four panelists provided their organization's perspectives on groundwater and answered questions from the floor. They were:

- Jamie Connelly, Ministry of Environment, Senior Hydrogeologist

- David Gale, Watershed Planner, Conservation Halton
- Robert Hall, Acting Director, H-W Region Public Health Department
- Ed Vanderwindt, Chief Building Official, Town of Ancaster Planning Department

Meeting attendees asked questions with regards to well contamination, pesticides, bottled water, water sampling, water taking permits and the results from sampling sites reported by the media.

The important message that was reiterated by all panelists is that wells cannot maintain themselves. Wells need to be sampled regularly to ensure that the groundwater is safe to drink. Public health labs offer free testing of well water samples. The results from these samples are now being reported directly to the MOE. In the past, these reports were only sent to the private well owner. Educating the public and well owners of their responsibilities in ensuring safe groundwater in their wells was emphasized by Robert Hall. There are also opportunities for the public to become involved in various aspects of the groundwater issue such as the Environmental Bill of Rights.

Halton and Waterloo Regions have taken steps to implement Aquifer Management Plans. It is predicted that all municipalities will develop and establish these types of plans in the near future. □



Photo Credit: Sheila O'Neal

Groundwater experts address audience at BARC's Membership Meeting.

NEWS BRIEFS

BARC RECOGNITION AWARDS

Carrie Daniels, Curriculum Director at the Royal Botanical Gardens' Nature Interpretive Centre designed the new Mini Marsh for BARC's Classroom Education Program this year. We thank her for her creativity; the feedback from the teachers was enthusiastic. "We couldn't visit the marsh, so this program brought the marsh to us", "Our snails had babies", and "The fish we added to the marsh survived!"

Kathy Trotter received an award for her major contributions to the Fish & Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project over the past ten years. She authored several of the excellent public relations components, specifically, an award winning slide show, and a series of full colour fact sheets on the habitat restoration sites which are now posted on the Internet.

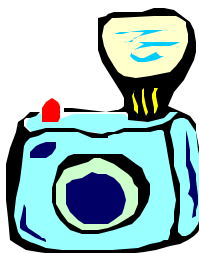
HABITAT FACT SHEETS

The full-colour Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project Fact Sheets are now available to all Internet users! Check out the descriptions of Cootes Paradise, Grindstone Creek, LaSalle Park, Northeast Shoreline and Hamilton Harbour Restoration Sites General Information. To view a copy visit www.rbg.ca.

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HAMILTON HARBOUR PHOTO CONTEST

By Kristin O'Connor, BARC Public Awareness Committee



BARC is launching a mini photo contest to expand our slide library. In many of our publications and presentations, we use images of Hamilton Harbour at both its best and at its worst. However, with the ever-changing landscape, it is hard to keep an up-to-date record of all of the progress that has been made.

All pictures need to clearly show a Hamilton Harbour watershed feature. Please indicate the approximate date and location of each shot (for historical purposes). Photos up to three years old will be considered. Slides (35mm) are the

preferred format, but 5" x 7" prints or digital shots will also be accepted. BARC will reserve the rights to duplicate and publish all entries in the Hamilton Harbour category for educational, promotional and fundraising purposes. Photographers will be credited whenever possible. The mini contest will run from now until December 31, 2000. The grand prize is a one-year membership to the Royal Botanical Gardens. Mail or drop off entries at the BARC office.

So grab your camera before you head out to enjoy the many exciting opportunities that the Harbour now offers you! ☐

NEWS BRIEFS

VOLUNTEER MARSH PLANTING (MVP)

All of BARC's programs depend on many partnerships, and this is especially true of the MVP program. In particular, Lyall Rudderham, Wetland Nursery Specialist at the Royal Botanical Gardens has provided invaluable advise and support at the Cootes Paradise sites and the for the Mini Marsh program. This past Spring was mostly rained-out, but the planting sites for next season are already chosen, and we look forward to the challenges ahead.

Membership Application Form

New Applications Only

Name
 Address
 City Postal Code
 Phone Fax.....
 Email

I am applying as a representative of an organization ☐

Name of organization

I am applying as a private citizen ☐

Please register me as a:

Member (voting) \$25.00 ☐

Associate Member (non-voting) \$20.00 ☐

Student / Other Member (voting) \$10.00 ☐

I would like to join a committee ☐

How did you learn about BARC?

.....

.....

.....

Donations

Donations

\$25.00 ☐

\$100.00 ☐

other ☐ \$

Your donation will support BARC's Public Awareness and Educational programs. Receipts for donations and membership fees are issued for Income Tax purposes. Charitable Registration Number 892936584

MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$	plus
DONATIONS	\$	equals
TOTAL	\$	

Your membership includes a subscription to this quarterly newsletter. An electronic version of this newsletter is available on our web page at:

www.on.ec.gc.ca/glimr/barc

Cheques should be made payable to:

Bay Area Restoration Council

and mailed with completed form to:

Room B130F, Life Sciences Building

McMaster University

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 4K1

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 17-19

State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference (SOLEC)

Hamilton Convention Centre

A biennial conference to report on the health of the Great Lakes Basin ecosystem. For more information visit www.cciw.ca/solec.

◆

October 25

All Candidates' Debate

Hamilton Spectator Building, 7:30 pm

The mayoral candidates are invited to comment on Vision 2020 and sustainability. Call Dave Robinson, Western Lake Ontario Environmental Coalition at 905-627-4943 for more information.

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November 1

All Candidates' Debate

Hamilton Public Library Room A, 7:30 pm

BARC will be asking the mayoral candidates about Hamilton Harbour issues, including East End access, harbour and stream water quality and port concerns. Come out and show how important these issues are to you and your vote!

November 4

Pond Workshop

Woodend, 838 Mineral Springs Road, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Have all your pond questions answered! To register call the Hamilton Halton Watershed Stewardship Program at 905-649-4427 ext. 165

◆

November 9

Hamilton Harbour RAP Forum

CCIW Seminar Rooms, 5:30 pm

All are welcome to attend the discussions on updating the RAP. Call 905-336-6279 to pre-register.

◆

November 29

Hamilton Harbour Water Quality Strategic Plan Open House

Hamilton Convention Centre, 2-4 pm and 6-8 pm

Your comments are solicited on the goals and timetable regarding the Region's plan to improve Hamilton Harbour's water quality. Call the BARC office for more information.

LESSONS LEARNED FROM RENNIE

(cont'd from front page)

But the Rennie experience reinforces concerns that a growing number of RAP stakeholders have regarding the most challenging problem left to be addressed within the RAP process - toxic contamination. While the "spirit of the RAP" has served us well in making incredible strides toward harbour restoration, stakeholders must consider how effective this approach will be for tackling harbour toxics problems head-on. We are now facing the reality that toxic contamination is probably the largest remaining challenge facing us in our quest to be de-listed as an Area of Concern. Is the RAP environment too conciliatory to

ensure that our toxic woes will be appropriately resolved? What do we do when it seems that some stakeholders are taking advantage of the spirit of the RAP? It's a question we need to resolve before our spirit is sapped by spending years trying to address issues only to be repeatedly thwarted, or finding that other stakeholders aren't really holding the stake. Given recent events, now is an ideal time to reflect on the present nature of the RAP stakeholder process and to determine whether it will serve us well in facing our toughest challenge yet - ridding our harbour watershed of toxic contamination. □

Bringing Back The Bay *October 2000*

Bringing Back The Bay is the newsletter of the Bay Area Restoration Council (BARC). BARC is an incorporated, non-profit, charitable organization established in 1991 to promote, monitor, and assess the implementation of the Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan. Articles in this newsletter reflect the views of the individual contributors.

Editor: Jason Thorne

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BARC Office

**B130F, Life Sciences Building
McMaster University**

Hamilton, Ontario L8S 4K1

Tel: (905) 525-9140 ext. 27405

Fax: (905) 522-6066

E-mail: barc@mcmaster.ca

Att: Marilyn Baxter, Manager

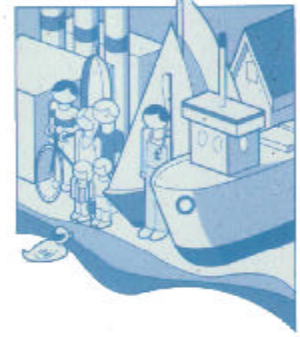
website: www.on.ec.gc.ca/glimr/barc



Office Update

Newsletter of The Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan Office

Remedial Action Plan for
Hamilton Harbour



Issue 20

October 2000

From The RAP Office

By John D. Hall, MCIP, RPP, RAP Coordinator

Our wet, wet, wet summer passed much too quickly! What did all that precipitation mean to us? On the negative side, water levels in Lake Ontario rose and drowned some of the cattails and bulrush so recently inspired to return to the Grindstone Creek estuary. On the positive side, the volunteer plantings at Hamilton's Harbour Trail prospered. Our groundwater resources, desperately low, were recharged but all too tragically we in Ontario learned that ground water contamination can kill. Around the Bay the Combined Sewer Overflow Tanks (CSOs) were worked to capacity preventing large volumes of sewage from directly entering the Harbour. But the closed beach at Bayfront Park points to the need to better define the various sources of bacterial contamination and continue the upgrades to the CSO and Sewage Treatment System.

\$40 million in upgrades and an expansion to the Region of Halton's Skyway Waste Water Treatment Plant were approved this summer. This is great progress to report. Much credit and thanks go out to the staff, consultants and politicians involved in this project. Janet Amos, Murray Charlton and former RAP Coordinator Louise Knox were just a few of the stakeholders who worked hard on behalf of the RAP. Lets continue this effort and support the new City of Hamilton in developing a strategy to implement its

water quality improvements through its CSO and sewage treatment plants!

As we near completion of the update to the Urbanization and Land Management recommendations for the RAP, it is timely to initiate implementation strategies. Recently, Conservation Halton and the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority agreed to take a leadership role in delivering four components of the Urbanization and Land Management Program. These deliverables are not new to either Authority but their commitment to specifically respond to the RAP Urbanization and Land Management recommendations will help in the delivery of a consistent and coordinated RAP program. The Urbanization and Land Management Program delivered by the CAs will include:

- RAP Input into Municipal Planning;
- Harbour Shoreline Management and Stewardship;
- Watershed Plan Implementation; and
- Watershed (Landowner) Stewardship.

These program areas will be coordinated with the municipalities, provincial and federal agencies, and use will be made (among other groups) of the existing RAP Watershed Planning Network and Watershed Stewardship Steering Committee.

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CHEMICAL DUMPING REDUCED IN TORONTO'S SEWERS

By Shelley Petrie, Toronto Environmental Alliance

Toronto residents can applaud their City Councillors for getting tough with polluting industries and protecting the City's local drinking water supply.

In June, Toronto City Council passed a By-law that severely restricts the amount of toxic heavy metals and organic chemicals that industries can dump into Toronto's sewer system. The new law is considered one of the most protective water quality laws in Canada, and is expected to be copied by a number of municipalities across the country.

Bacteria levels can quickly close a Toronto beach for the day, and this year's petroleum spill into Black Creek killed hundreds of fish in under four hours. However, the daily sewer dumping of similar hazards by industry is legalized across North America.

Like homes, Toronto industries are hooked up to the city's underground sewer maze. Companies that use or produce toxic substances during their operations inevitably flush a certain amount down the drain. Sewage treatment plants are not designed to degrade or capture these chemicals which in Toronto are released to Lake Ontario. During heavy rains many of these chemicals overflow from Toronto's undersized sewers directly into the Don and Humber Rivers and other Toronto creeks.

Toronto's Public Health Department warns that mercury from the neighborhood dentist, oil and grease from the corner autoshop, and toxic chromium from a local metal finisher can pose a health risk to swimmers and

boaters after it is dumped into Lake Ontario. Many of these chemicals persist in the environment over decades and dissolve in fatty tissue. Therefore, higher doses bio-accumulate up the food chain from fish to wildlife and eventually humans.

Some industries reacted to the new By-law with resistance. For example, the makers of nonylphenols and phthalates (known endocrine disruptors which mimic estrogen in wildlife and humans and are used in the manufacture of detergents and plastics respectively) wanted these chemicals dropped from the list of controlled pollutants under the By-law.

Preventing Pollution

The most innovative feature of the By-law is the requirement for each company to produce a Pollution Prevention (P2) plan. Instead of controlling discharges, industries will be encouraged to use and produce less toxic substances in the first place. Each company must submit a work plan for implementing operational efficiencies and chemical substitutions to meet the new discharge limits. P2 planning can eventually reduce chemical discharges from a single business to zero -- the intended target.

In four years the new limits will be reviewed and industries' ability to comply assessed. In the meantime city staff will conduct three P2 cost-benefit analysis case studies, and determine the financial, environmental, and social gains clean water can provide industry and Toronto residents. □

RAP Forum Update

By John D. Hall, MCIP, RPP, RAP Coordinator

The Next meeting of the RAP Forum is November 9th, 2000. By that time we will be in the heat of municipal elections. November 13th, 2000 is voting day. Our RAP stakeholders are movers, shakers and leaders in the community. With all the business of this November, don't forget to get out and vote and come out to the RAP Forum.

The RAP Forum Executive met in August and developed initial guidelines and a timeline for the Fish and Wildlife Task Group. The Task group will assess and analyse the current health and habitat of the fish and wildlife community in Hamilton Harbour. It will confirm existing recommendations and targets and formulate any new recommendations for approval by the RAP Forum. The RAP Forum Executive Committee specifically asked the Fish and Wildlife Task Group to:

- recommend any studies and ongoing monitoring required to address the delisting criteria set out in the RAP which refer to the fish and wildlife communities, and
- review the delisting criteria and targets for fish and wildlife health and habitats contained in the RAP Stage 2 Report and confirm or update.

An initial report will be received from the Fish and Wildlife Task Group at the RAP Forum's November 9th, 2000 meeting. Fish and wildlife projects often interact with recreation, public access and port industry; the RAP Forum Executive Committee challenges this Task Group to secure a broad base of membership. If you would like to be a member of the Fish and Wildlife Task Group, please contact the RAP Office at 336-6279.

What form will updated Stage 1 and 2 RAP Reports take? The RAP Forum Executive Committee thinks updates should be dynamic and current. A method of continuously updating the RAP documents was suggested that would allow chapters in either document to be updated as work is completed by the various Task Groups. Working documents will be created using a three ring binder format with a footer for each chapter that would allow a reader to determine the chapter's version and revision date. These *working documents*, will complement the "approved" Stage 1 and 2 reports that have received formal approval of the International Joint Commission.

In an effort to connect researchers and coordinate data, two initiatives are being considered. The first is to hold a Harbour Researchers Forum during January 2001. This event, similar to one held by the Royal Botanical Gardens each winter to review progress in Cootes Paradise, will be a day-long session. Researchers will be asked to provide an overview of their research hypothesis, a short précis of their 2000 field season and some insight into their findings. Those involved with ongoing monitoring will be asked to make similar presentations. This forum will help in monitoring harbour conditions, identifying information gaps and most importantly promote linkages and collaboration among researchers and monitors.

The RAP Forum Executive has asked that the RAP Office determine if it is possible to archive at the RAP Office copies of environmental data sets that are produced on an ongoing basis. This may be possible with the filling of the RAP researcher/report writer position. □

From The RAP Office

(cont'd from first page)

Hamilton's Convention Centre will be host to the 2000 SOLEC Conference (State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference) on October 17-19. This bi-annual conference examines the state of the Great Lakes and focuses on particular issues of concern. BARC is acting as the registrar for the conference. It is preceded by the Annual Meeting of the Great Lakes Commission on October 16. This is a great opportunity for our RAP to show what we have accomplished and identify the challenges that face us. Volunteers, staff of the RAP Office, BARC, City of Hamilton, Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG), McMaster University, and Federal and Provincial governments are involved in conference presentations, tours and workshops. Both the RAP Office and BARC have prepared new displays to tell our story and a power point presentation will provide insight into progress and next steps. Several tours will be available to conference delegates focusing on industrial abatement, sewage treatment, sediment remediation and public access.

I am pleased to report that Brenda Axon, Manager of Watershed Planning at Conservation Halton is taking over as the Project Manager of the Fish & Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project. Brenda will assume her responsibilities on a part-time basis as she continues

with her conservation work. After almost ten years in office space at The Hamilton Harbour Commissioners office on James Street North, the Fish & Wildlife Restoration Project will move to the end of Ferguson Street across from Eastwood Park. Similar to our last space, this new office is provided by the HHC, a great friend and partner to the Project. Perhaps the Fish & Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project's new letterhead should read "The Fish & Wildlife Restoration Project Office, *in the heart of the Port.*" Congratulations to Brenda I know her colleagues look forward to working with her.

Welcome to Dr. Patrick Colgan, the newly appointed Director of Research and Natural Lands at the RBG. This new position was created through an anonymous endowment. I know both RBG staff and the RAP stakeholders are very grateful that someone cared enough to make this investment in the natural lands and science of the RBG. Also from the RBG, but on a very sad note, we mourn the death of Ron Stuart, the Director of Finance. Ron cared very dearly about the natural environment from his youthful days as a Queen's Scout to his work on Project Paradise. Ron was a gracious, helpful colleague who inspires us all to do our best. □

RAP Office Update October 2000

RAP Office Update is the newsletter of the Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Office which coordinates implementation of the measures identified to restore and protect the Hamilton Harbour Watershed ecosystem. The RAP Office tracks and reports on progress, manages issues which, if left alone, could impede progress, and supports continued public involvement and communication. Articles in this newsletter may reflect the opinions of individual contributors.

Editor: Jason Thorne

RAP Office

**Canada Centre for Inland Waters
867 Lakeshore Road, Box 5050
Burlington, Ontario L7R 4A6
Tel: (905) 336-6465
Fax: (905) 336-4906
Att: John Hall, RAP Coordinator**