



Summer 2020

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Our goal for this summer was to **balance Human Health and Conservation**; to continue our vital conservation programs, keeping people safe while doing so.

Thanks to you, we have achieved this!

With adjustments, **our hospital, hatchling, education, and field studies programs, have all continued at full speed** despite our current pandemic crisis. We have continued saving turtles, hatching babies, releasing adults and hatchlings, learning from our field work, and inspiring the public.

Below: a few of the almost 1,000 turtles admitted to our hospital this summer!



Our hospital has been hopping as usual, and continues to admit new turtles daily.

Our patients have included all 8 species of Ontario's native turtles (all of which are considered Species At Risk federally).

This time last year, we came to you for help to renovate two buildings.

Our current building was stretched to the limit, and we desperately needed more room. These buildings sit on land 10 minutes from OTCC, that Mary and Gerry Young are very generously allowing us to use free of charge.

We are delighted to report that with your generosity, and a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, we have completed one building (which is now full of turtles!) and are almost finished the second. This will increase our facility by a much-needed 3,000 square feet!

OTCC FIELD WORK

Did you know?....

Our Field Studies program provides vital information to support conservation projects. We have been following a group of headstarted Blanding's turtles (hatched at the centre from injured females), for 9 seasons now!

We follow a group of similarly sized wild-hatched juveniles too.

We have found that the ones hatched at our centre compare very favorably and are adding to the population of this globally Endangered species.

This also tells us a lot about how to best release the thousands of hatchlings we hatch at the centre too, to make sure they all go out to help their populations!

Thank you for supporting our Field Work!



Yes! I want to support the OTCC's turtle hospital!

☐ \$350 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ Surprise us _____

I would like to make this donation: ☐ **This One Time** ☐ **Monthly**

Please complete if your contact information has changed

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

☐ Please charge my **credit card**

☐ Please find enclosed my **cheque**
(payable to Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre)

Credit Card type: _____ Card Number: _____

Expiry Date: _____ Code from back of card: _____

Name on card: _____ Signature: _____



One of many turtles that went home this year because of your help!

4-1434 Chemong Rd., Selwyn, ON K9J 6X2
705-741-5000
www.ontarioturtle.ca
info@ontarioturtle.ca

Left: not all admissions are due to road injuries! This spiny softshell turtle was admitted with a large fishhook lodged in her throat and required surgery to remove it. This species is considered **Endangered** and their populations cannot afford to lose any more! She has now been returned to her wetland.



Right: this clutch of Blanding’s turtles came from an injured female admitted to our hospital: 14 eggs hatched, and babies are doing well! This is 14 of many thousands that will be hatching this season! (over 4,000 eggs are incubating so far!). **Blanding’s turtles are considered Threatened provincially and globally are considered Endangered.**

While we are extremely proud of our Team and all they have done during this unprecedented summer, **we still need your help to do even more!** Please consider contributing to any of our programs – 100% of donations are used directly to support these vital conservation initiatives.

Examples of how your generous donation will be used...

- \$350 buys **one new radio transmitter** for our field work, allowing us to follow released Blanding’s turtles and monitor their progress.
- \$250 buys **one large turtle tank** for our new building, used for housing snapping turtles for their rehabilitation!
- \$150 buys **one box of suture material**, for surgery.
- \$100 buys **10 microchips**; all turtles are microchipped before release to help us learn more about them.
- \$50 buys one box of **surgery face masks**.
- \$50 buys **one vial of sedative**; enough to sedate one average-sized snapping turtle.

Thank you for continuing to help us help Ontario’s turtles!!

Sincerely,

Dr. Sue Carstairs

Executive and Medical Director,

Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre

(Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre is the operating name of the Kawartha Turtle Trauma Centre; Charity Number 857524409)

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GIFT SHOP	PLANNED GIVING
Our gift shop features many items that are both useful and fun to own – and all sales support the mission of the OTCC! Shop online at www.ontarioturtle.ca or come visit us in person to check out some one-of-a kind items. The holidays are right around the corner!	A legacy gift can have a tremendous conservation impact for years to come. It can assist in reducing taxes owed by your estate, while supporting your values & beliefs. Professional financial advice is strongly advised! For more information, email us at info@ontarioturtle.ca .
SAVE TURTLES AND TAXES – DONATE SECURITIES	DONATE EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, OR SKILLS
Donating publicly traded securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, segregated funds) may provide you with significant tax benefits. Transferring securities listed on a public stock exchange directly to OTCC means you may not pay tax on capital gains. This may provide you with a tax saving of up to 50% and may be a greater tax savings than donating the cash proceeds from the sale of the securities, and you get a tax receipt based on fair market value. Contact us for more information – info@ontarioturtle.ca	Our website "Wish List" covers it all! https://ontarioturtle.ca/donating-non-monetary/ We also have an Amazon wish list: https://amzn.to/2VYBMB We LOVE and value our volunteers. Please email us at volunteer@ontarioturtle.ca if you have time and/or specific skills to donate!