



News Release – For Immediate Release

May 06, 2022

Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre launches Ontario Turtle Conservation Network

Supporting the creation of an online resource for turtle research and conservation in Ontario

Peterborough, Ontario - The Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre (OTCC) is pleased to announce the creation of the Ontario Turtle Conservation Network, an exciting new initiative that will support knowledge gathering and sharing of best conservation practices with experts, and the public, in order to facilitate turtle protection work throughout the province.

The creation of the Ontario Turtle Conservation Network is being supported by Parks Canada through a recently signed three-year contribution agreement with the OTCC. The creation of an Ontario Turtle Conservation Network will facilitate connections with other organizations across the province and help further engage the public in the work taking place at Parks Canada administered places.

Eight species of turtle are found in the province of Ontario, all of which are species at risk federally and face population declines. The Ontario Turtle Conservation Network is an online resource that offers public access to educational resources to learn more about turtle conservation and get involved with local turtle conservation initiatives. The network will facilitate learning, coordination of efforts, and open new opportunities for members of the public to engage with local organisations to help ensure turtle population recovery.

With approximately 100 individual organisations working across the province to help protect turtles, the creation of the Ontario Turtle Conservation Network will help bring these organisations together with an internal platform for conservation professionals to collaborate and share knowledge and research actions and results.

Members of the public can access the Ontario Turtle Conservation Network here. Organizations or individuals in Ontario working on turtle conservation that are interested in joining the internal network for conservation professionals can request access by contacting: otcn@ontarioturtle.ca.

“We are delighted to be working with Parks Canada on this new initiative, that will help connect turtle conservationists across the province, and facilitate collaboration and exchange of ideas. We are very appreciative of their support, that made this project possible.”

Dr. Sue Carstairs, Executive & Medical Director, Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre

“Parks Canada is pleased to work with partners like the Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre to help conserve species at risk like the native species of turtles found in Ontario. By sharing knowledge and adopting a regional approach to conservation, we are in a much better position to achieve our wider conservation goals. We’re stronger together. After all, protected areas are not self-contained islands, but rather components of broader landscapes and ecosystems.”

Louis Lavoie, Executive Director, Ontario and Waterways – Parks Canada

Quick Facts

- The Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre is a registered charity whose goal is to protect and conserve Ontario’s native turtles and the habitat in which they live.
- The OTCC operates the Kawartha Turtle Trauma Centre, a turtle hospital that treats, rehabilitates, and releases injured turtles. They also perform extensive research in the field to further conservation initiatives, and they run a comprehensive education and outreach program.
- Parks Canada contributes to heritage conservation through its leadership in conservation and presentation and its participation with conservation organisations across the country to foster a better understanding of issues and take actions to help protect and restore healthy, resilient ecosystems, and contribute to the recovery of species at risk.



Related Links

- [Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre](#)
- [Ontario Turtle Conservation Network](#)
- [Parks Canada](#)

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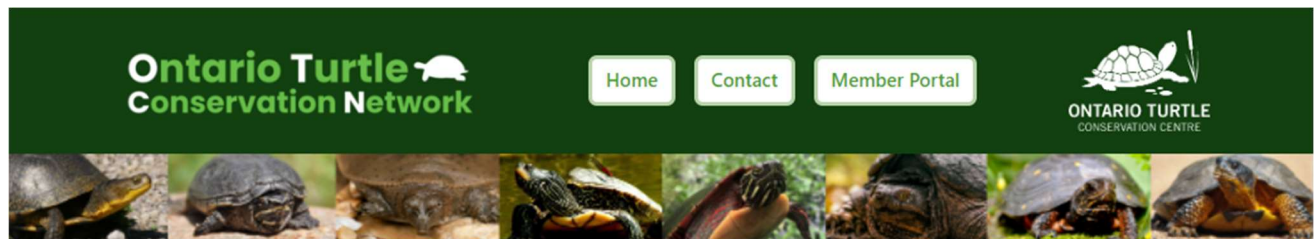
For further information contact:

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Charitable Registration # 85752 4409 RR0001 (registered as Kawartha Turtle Trauma Centre)

Image courtesy of Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre



Who we are

Ontario Turtle Conservation Network (OTCN) is a joint project between the Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre (OTCC) and Parks Canada. The Network facilitates sharing of turtle conservation knowledge among non-profits, businesses, educational institutions, and grassroots organizations. Use the Map View or List View below to find organizations doing turtle conservation work near you and across the province.

Advocacy Education Habitat Nests Rehab Research Roads Volunteers

