

RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION NEWS RELEASE

FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR 2011 TRI-VALLEY CONSERVATION AWARDS

Media Release, April 3, 2012 — The finalists have been determined, and a new slate of conservation champions are about to be honoured at the 2011 Tri-Valley Conservation Awards Gala, to be held at Rideau Valley Conservation Centre in Manotick on Wednesday evening, April 18th. Master of Ceremonies for this year's Gala is LiVE 88.5 FM radio's inimitable morning show host, Katfish Morgan. Everyone is very welcome to attend and help congratulate our new conservation stars.

The annual conservation awards celebration by the Mississippi Valley, Rideau Valley and South Nation River Conservation Authorities, is designed to recognize outstanding voluntary contributions to conservation and environmental health in the three watersheds.

This year, finalists have been involved in projects that include tree planting, water quality protection, shoreline stewardship, conservation education and advocacy, land naturalization and other restorative environmental activities.

Winners will be announced at the Gala. The two finalists in each category in alphabetical order are:

Primary Schools (JK – Grade 6)
Churchill Alternative School, Ottawa
Rivière de Castor, Embrun

Individuals / Family Groups
Jim McCready, Carleton Place
Aleta Karstad & Dr. Fred Schueler, Bishops
Mills

Intermediate / High Schools
Nepean High School, Ottawa
St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Russell

Business
McGarry Family Chapels, Ottawa/West
Quebec
Parmalat, Winchester

College / University
Carleton University, Ottawa
University of Guelph, Alfred Campus

Municipalities
Community Forest Working Group (Lanark
County)
Tay Valley Township, Perth

Agriculture
Gord Garlough, Williamsburg
Lawrenceholme Farms, Spencerville

Community Groups
Friends of the Tay Watershed, Perth
Westport and Area Outdoors Association

Lifetime Achievement Awards
Mississippi Valley – Hans von Rosen
Rideau Valley – Irv Dardick
South Nation – Floyd Dingwall

While most winners will only be revealed the evening of the awards, recipients of the new Lifetime Achievement Award in each watershed are being announced today. It is a pleasure to acknowledge these three exceptional candidates- Hans von Rosen in the Mississippi, Irv Dardick in the Rideau and Floyd Dingwall in the South Nation -who have been and continue to be community environmental leaders and role models for taking personal responsibility in protecting and improving our local ecosystems here in Eastern Ontario.

The Awards Gala begins with a social hour at 6 pm followed by the presentation of awards beginning at 7 pm.

The Tri-Valley area covers the watersheds of the Mississippi, Rideau and South Nation Rivers. This 12,000 square km area – stretching from Bon Echo Park in the west to Plantagenet in the east, is home to over 700,000 people who all benefit from the voluntary environmental leadership of local businesses, schools, communities and families who work to sustain the health of our watersheds.

Organizers would like to acknowledge the support of our loyal and generous sponsors who make the Tri-Valley Conservation Awards possible: AECOM, Hawley Signs & Graphics, LiVE 88.5 FM Radio, The Monterey Hotel, Mountain Equipment Coop, Rogers TV, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation.

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