This past year has been another busy and successful one for the Friends' volunteers working with the CRCA in helping to conserve and enhance Lemoine Point's natural environment.

This report gives a brief overview of our activities and achievements this year. The work is done entirely through volunteer labour, and that is vital to our success.

And many thanks to all our members and other supporters who enable our activities through their financial and personal support.

**Financial Report**

The Financial Statements for October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019 are attached to this Report.

We had a net revenue of $10,189 as the result of much appreciated donations, and our expenses of $6,530 supported projects such as our Nursery operation and our tree planting.

The net surplus for the 2018 - 2019 year was $3,659. The assets of the Friends of Lemoine Point now total $68,262 of which $3,536 is in cash.

Our overall financial picture is solid. The attached Financial Statements have been reviewed and approved by Brian Melady.

The above figures do not include the Nursery’s finances that are managed separately by the CRCA. Nor do they reflect the value of our many hours of volunteer labour.

**Reforestation**

This year we decided to reduce our planting events to one planting per year, and in the fall. The reason is that at the previous rate of two per year we would run out of planting space in a number of years, and by doing it only once a year we will still be holding large planting events for about ten years or so. That will also ease the spring workload for our Nursery team. All planting will continue to be within deer fencing that enhances survival rate, though rabbit and vole predation and summer drought will continue. After those events our tree planting will focus on infilling within the existing forest.

On October 5 we planted about 520 native species of mixed evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs in the north site adjacent to the Nursery, with all the planted stock having been grown in the Nursery. Site preparation was done by Rick Knapton, CRCA Forestry Coordinator, which makes the job much easier. It was a very successful community event.

**Native Plant Nursery**

The Nursery raises the stock for the Friends’ tree planting activities as well as for our spring public plant sales. We have about 20 volunteers that faithfully come out Wednesday mornings during the growing season, doing typical yard work such as building and repairing potting beds, weeding, watering, lawn mowing, potting, repotting and repotting and at the end of the season, winterizing and protecting the stock from rodents and winter. We have cultivated 63 different native tree and shrub species, not counting wildflowers, and this fall we have 48 species in stock.

In addition, the Nursery last fall got a much-needed roofing job.

Our Nursery has come a long way in growing planting stock and we are still learning.

You are welcome to come and browse or buy when there is a volunteer there such as on Wednesday mornings. Those wishing to join us in volunteering can also drop by …you will be very welcome.
**Invasive Plant Control**

Our small volunteer team again this year worked to limit the growth of invasive plant species in some areas of Lemoine Point. We cleared Garlic Mustard in much of the north end of the Point as well as some Dog-strangling Vine, both of which are established and difficult to control.

Our Board also started planning to establish an invasives-free demonstration area in that northern part of Lemoine where, in addition to Garlic Mustard and Dog-strangling Vine, we also plan to remove and control the Buckthorn that is threatening the health of the forest.

**Trails and Access**

We work with the CRCA as required to keep the trails open and enjoyable for visitors.

**Conservation of Biodiversity**

Our Biodiversity efforts were unfortunately again thwarted by severe flooding at the north end of Lemoine that made it impossible to do anything about installing the osprey nest or to deal with the turtle nesting site, which was under water for most of the summer.

The CRCA is considering making modifications next spring to the Barn Swallow nesting structure in the south meadow to try to attract more than the two nesting attempts so far.

**Advisory Role**

The Friends’ Board seeks to advise the CRCA on various issues affecting the Point, such as in the development or application of operational policies.

**Membership**

The support of our members is critical to our success as an organization. At the end of the fiscal year we had 160 paid members.

**Board of Directors**

The members of the 2018-19 Board of Directors of the Friends of Lemoine Point:

- President: John Diemer
- Past President: Peter Butler
- Vice President: Jane Murphy
- Secretary: Paul Marriott
- Treasurer: Ron Bettney
- Members at Large: Paul Musioli; Karen Samis