



ALGOMA HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

www.algomahighlandsconservancy.org

Dear friends of the Algoma Highlands Conservancy:

Well folks, we sure didn't have time to lie around the beach soaking up the sun this summer; it's been a busy one for the AHC and Stokely Creek Lodge! By now, I'm sure that you've checked out our new website at www.algomahighlandsconservancy.org – if you haven't recently, I encourage you to meet the new faces on our Board and see details on recent events, some of which we summarize below.



OTF representative, Sergio Saccuci presenting Doug Pitt, AHC President with the Award. To the left, Gaylen Biker, AHC Vice-President and to the right, Executive Director, Ted Curry

On August 30, Stokely Creek Lodge hosted a media event for the formal announcement of the AHC's receipt of a \$50,000 Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) grant! OTF representative Sergio Saccucci was on hand to make the presentation to us, accompanied by more than 70 members of Calvin College's Cross Country Running Team as they completed 4 days of training on Stokely's trails (see photo)! This grant was generously awarded to the AHC to enhance our capacity to form new partnerships and fundraise for the purchase of ecologically sensitive property for conservation, education, research, and silent sport recreation.



Executive Director, Ted Curry

Specifically, the grant will be used to support two paid positions within the AHC to bolster our volunteer Board. At the August 30 event, we introduced Mr. Ted Curry as *Executive Director* and Mr. Craig Howard as *Campaign Director*, both local to the Sault area. Some of you may remember that Ted served as Executive Director to the AHC between 2002-04 and returns to us with a wealth of experience in



Campaign Director, Craig Howard

leadership roles with *Habitat For Humanity*, *Health Check of Michigan*, and the *YWCA*. Craig served as a key member of the AHC's Technical Advisory Committee between 1997 and 2000, and brings us substantive experience from his very successful career as an entrepreneur and consultant in the natural resource sector. Over the coming months, you'll be seeing and hearing a lot from Ted and Craig as we intensify our efforts to fulfill the option to purchase King Mountain within the year that remains in our deal with Astina!

Also, the Board recently met with Brad Phaneuf and John Myles of the Sault Cycling Club to discuss opportunities for increased mountain biking activity on the Stokely trail system. There appears to be a great deal of interest in opening portions of the trail system for biking and in the development of a network of single-track trails. With the recent appointment of Sault Cycling Club member Dr. Lisa Venier to our Board, we can expect increased discussion and activity on this front. If you have any suggestions or ideas for encouraging mountain biking activity, please let us know!

Speaking of the trails, Jamie and his staff at Stokely Creek Lodge have been busy all summer making many improvements to the facilities and trails. I have to say that the place has never been in such nice shape for an upcoming ski season! Check out their new website at www.stokelycreek.com and lace up your hiking boots for a fall hike. See you out on the trails!

In closing, please circulate this newsletter to others you feel may be interested in our cause. We encourage you to email us with any questions that you have and/or provide us with your full contact information, including email, so that we can update our files and keep you better informed about new developments at Stokely. Please forward information to info@algomahighlandsconservancy.org or, if you do not have access to email, send the information to either our Canadian or American office address. We respect your privacy and will not forward your contact information without your permission.

Sincerely,

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Dr. Gaylen Byker, Vice-President