



## **OPG's Approach to Biodiversity and Stakeholder Engagement**

**Barbara Reuber**

**Vice President, Environment**

**Ontario Power Generation**

**Third Meeting of the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity**

**October 3, 2013**

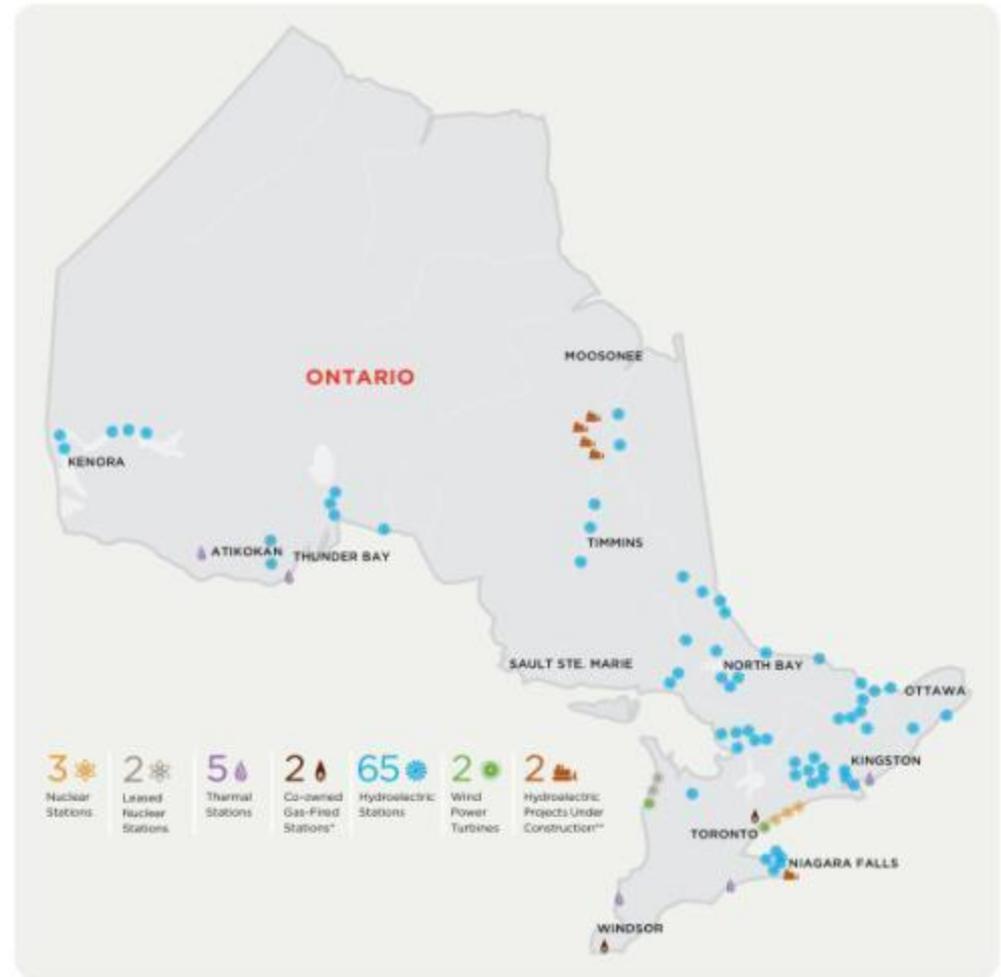
**Montreal, Quebec**

**ONTARIO POWER  
GENERATION**



# OPG Profile

- 19,051 MW generating capacity
- 65 hydro, 2 nuclear, 5 thermal
  - 2 leased nuclear stations
- Produces about 60% of Ontario's electricity
- 10,800 employees
- 2012 net income – \$367 million
- 2012 revenue – \$4.7 billion
- Over \$37 billion in assets
- OPG is Ontario's lowest cost electricity producer, and helps mitigate the cost of electricity for Ontarians.





# OPG's Environmental Policy

***“ OPG shall manage its sites in a manner that strives to maintain, or enhance where it makes business sense, significant natural areas and associated species of concern. OPG will work with its community partners to support regional ecosystems and biodiversity through science-based habitat stewardship. Where disruption is required, OPG shall take reasonable steps to manage the residual impact to these areas and species.”***

Other Policy requirements:

- establish an environmental management system
- work to prevent or mitigate adverse effects on the environment
- set environmental performance targets
- communicate its environmental performance to employees, governments, local communities, and other stakeholders.

2011 **SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

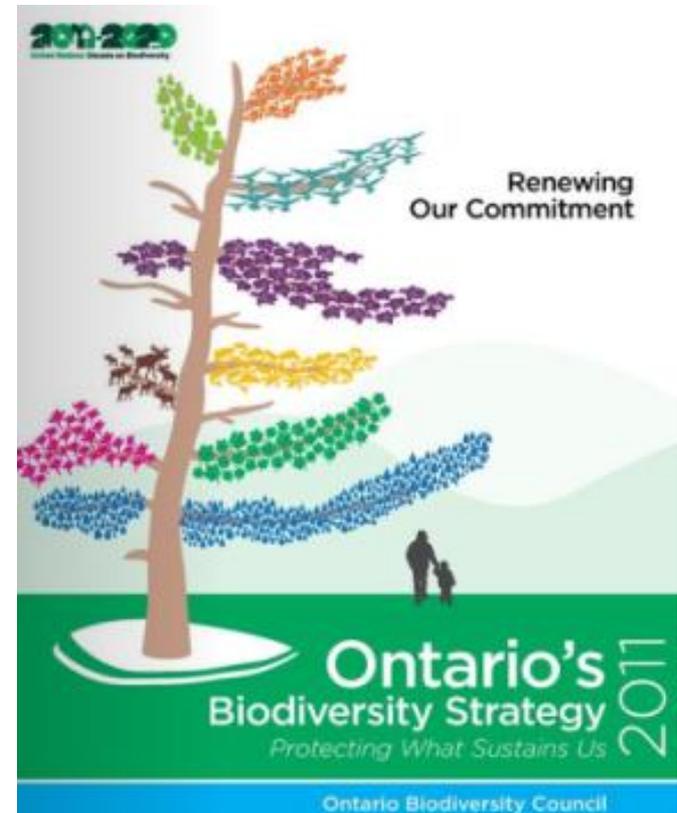


Abitibi River, below Otter Rapids GS



# Biodiversity Context

- OPG's biodiversity activities are consistent with principles and practices at the provincial, federal and international level.
- The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity: *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020*.
- In 2012, the Canadian Federal Government released the *Proposed 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada*.
- In 2011, the Ontario Biodiversity Council released *Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy, 2011*.
- The challenge for OPG and all business is to translate these principles into meaningful programs.





# Biodiversity at OPG



- Aim of OPG's Biodiversity program:
  - to demonstrate that OPG can co-exist with nature without causing or contributing to the long-term decline of species or the habitats upon which they depend, and
  - to reduce the adverse effects of our operations, while enhancing the resiliency of the ecosystems in which OPG operates.
  
- OPG addresses biodiversity at two levels:
  - Locally, at the sites and communities where it operates, and
  - on a regional level



# Examples of Biodiversity Initiatives at OPG Sites

- OPG sponsors, helps support and partners with numerous environmental community-based initiatives across Ontario.
- Examples include:
  - Saunders GS Eel ladder
  - Pickering Fish Net
  - Durham Children's Groundwater Festival
  - Construction of 5-acre wetland at Nanticoke station
  - Mission Marsh Conservation area, near Thunder Bay
  - Reintroduction of lake sturgeon to Upper Mattagami River
  - Niagara Children's Water Festival
  - Rehabilitation of Second Marsh, Duffins Marsh, Westside Marsh, Hydro Marsh, and Frenchman's Bay in Durham Region



Durham Children's Groundwater Festival



Lake Sturgeon Relocation

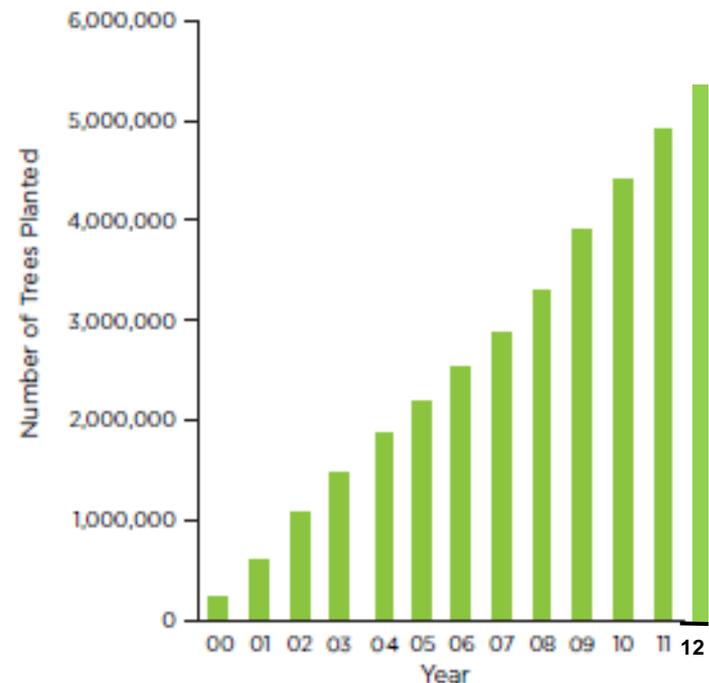


# OPG's Regional Biodiversity Initiatives



- OPG, through our conservation partners, planted nearly 500,000 native trees and shrubs in 2012.
- Since 2000, over 5 million native trees and shrubs have been planted on over 2,500 hectares of ecologically significant lands.
- OPG supports the *“Bring Back the Salmon”* project aimed at restoring Lake Ontario’s salmon population.
- OPG’s regional biodiversity program is being diversified to improve integration with OPG operations and key areas of concern (e.g., woodland restoration/creation, grassland restoration/ creation, wetland restoration/creation and lakes and rivers projects).

OPG Cumulative Tree Planting





# Some of OPG's Biodiversity Partners

- OPG can't do it alone
- Partners are critical to our biodiversity efforts
- Partners bring expertise to the table
- Enhance OPG's community involvement initiatives
- Win-Win



# First Nations Partnerships



- OPG's biodiversity efforts include partnerships with First Nations and Métis.
- These partnerships are based on OPG's acknowledgement of past grievances – including lack of awareness from our predecessors of their environmental impact.
- First Nations communities are equity partners with OPG in several new hydroelectric development projects.
- These projects provide community, commercial and long term benefits.



Apology to Taykwa Tagamu Nation



Lower Mattagami Project with Moose Cree FN

# Engagement of Business

OPG participates in organizations to promote further engagement of business in biodiversity:

- Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) - promotes and certifies habitat management and conservation on business lands.
  - ▶ *14 OPG sites have achieved Wildlife at Work certification*
  - ▶ *Six sites certified as Corporate Lands for Learning*
  - ▶ *In 2012, Pickering Nuclear awarded the Pollinator Advocate Award*
  - ▶ *In 2012, Lambton GS received the Regional Corporate Habitat of the Year award*
- Canadian Electricity Association (CEA) - Sustainable Electricity is an industry-wide sustainability initiative developed and implemented by the electric utility members of the CEA.
  - ▶ *In 2012, OPG was awarded the Sustainable Electricity Company of the Year award by the CEA*
- Canadian Business and Biodiversity Council – aims to help Canada achieve its biodiversity conservation objectives by assisting all Canadian business sectors who are prepared to show leadership in biodiversity conservation through partnerships involving business, government, non-government and academia.



# Lessons Learned

- An effective biodiversity strategy contributes to social acceptance and ‘license to operate’ – for both existing and new facilities
  - builds positive corporate reputation
  - enhances relationship with key stakeholders
- Establishing and maintaining an environmental policy:
  - Provides stability and continuity to biodiversity efforts
  - Demonstrates commitment and accountability
- Partnerships are critical to successful and meaningful biodiversity programs.
- Partnerships also provide economic opportunities for OPG partners
  - i.e. First Nations
- Engage the business community to keep up the momentum.



**Jon K. Grant, former President and CEO of Quaker Oats (Canada), speaks at OPG’s “Business and Biodiversity” workshop in May 2011**



## **OPG's Approach to Biodiversity and Stakeholder Engagement**

*More Information on OPG's biodiversity programs is available at:*

[www.OPG.com](http://www.OPG.com)

**ONTARIO** **POWER**  
GENERATION