

The Canadian Sweet Chestnut

-Newsletter of the Canadian Chestnut Council-

Issue # 83

April 2022



<http://www.canadianchestnutcouncil.ca>

Council Mission - to help restore the American Chestnut to the areas of Canada it once occupied.

Current Priorities

- 1) Breeding resistance
- 2) Breaking Isolation / Establishing Gene pool Nodes
- 3) DNA Analysis
- 4) Survey of existing Chestnuts in the wild

In this issue:

- Breeding Resistance - Tour of Ron Casier's Chestnut Plantation (Ron Casier, Neil Dunning)
- Breeding Resistance – Provincial Grant Received. (Doug Fagan)
- Late Breaking News – Stewardship Agreement (Ron Casier)
- DNA Analysis – 2022
- Lecture - Is there hope for the American Chestnut?
- Leaf Donors 2021 (Terry Anderson)

Tour of Ron Casier's Chestnut Plantation (Ron Casier, Neil Dunning)

Late last year, Neil Dunning visited the farm of Canadian Chestnut Council (CCC) Chair, Ron Casier and conducted a video interview. Neil is a Director of the CCC and the Brant Wood Lot Owners Assoc.

Ron's farm is located in Elgin County and he manages an American Chestnut tree plantation that is part of the Canadian Chestnut Council's breeding for resistance program. Neil took the opportunity to create a video of his own woodlot and Ron's farm. The video was shown to a meeting of the Ontario Woodlot Owners association in January and was followed by an online question and answer session with Ron.

With the permission of the Ontario Woodlot Owners Association, below find a link to view the interview.

Woodland Walk 'n' Talk Video

Release



[Watch Video](#)

This month, there is a special Tour by the Ontario Woodlot Association in Partnership with the Canadian Chestnut Council. Produced by OWA members Neil Dunning (Brant Chapter) and Ron Casier (Elgin-Middlesex Chapter). This film takes us on a journey of many years of American Chestnut restoration and learning in their family woodlots.

Grant Received (Doug Fagan)

The Canadian Chestnut Council is delighted to advise that it has received a grant under the Species at Risk Stewardship Program from the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. The grant, for each of the next three years, will support approximately 85% of our breeding resistance and preservation programs. The remaining funds will have to be supported by fundraising.

Late Breaking News (Ron Casier)

On March 15th, the Canadian Chestnut Council received word from the Ontario Ministry of The Environment, Conservation and Parks that it received a 15- year Stewardship Agreement under the Endangered Species Act. The agreement has been signed by the Minister.

This is an important achievement for the Canadian Chestnut Council. A full article explaining the significance of the Stewardship Agreement will appear in the next edition of this newsletter.

DNA Leaf Testing – 2022 (Doug Fagan)

We are planning on continuing the program contingent on funding and to watch the website for further details.

For further information on how to submit a leaf for testing, see the Foundation website and click on the link. [Microsoft Word - AmericanchestnutLeafSamplingPromotion \(1\) \(1\).doc \(canadianchestnutcouncil.ca\)](#)

Is there hope for the American Chestnut?

Donald Edward Davis, Ph.D. is an award-winning author, who has lectured widely in the US and throughout Europe about Chestnut trees. Recently Dr. Don Davies gave a virtual lecture to the Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust in Maine, USA. See the attached link to access the lecture.

<https://www.coastalrivers.org/hope-for-the-american-chestnut/>

Leaf Donors (Terry Anderson)

The Canadian Chestnut Council would like to recognize the following individuals for their donations in support of Council’s restoration efforts.

CCC Leaf Donors January 1 – December 31, 2021

\$30 -\$99	\$1 00 - \$249	\$250 - \$499
Jonathon Alsop Scott McPherson Patricia Baldwin Stan & Clara Wortner Murray & Karen Alward Dr Daniel LaBlanc Jocelyn Clarke Gerald Young Christopher Sharpe & Mary Jane Puxley Neil Stein Paul Faires Keith Johnston Gordon Chinnick	Adam Dale Sydenham Conservation Foundation Peter Rice Robin Cunninaham Doug Fagan Jessica Burnett Tony Jovan Stan & Anita Caveney Janet Kellam Charles Hooker Art Weller Herb Felder Brian Wheeler Greg Boland Paul King Andy Harjula Carl & Agnes Santoni Chuck Beach Edward Tuckwell Ken MacGillivray Nancy Mulholland Patricia Baldwin Judith Harris	Nancy Harbour Andrew & Sharon Pate Kerry & Laura Margetts Terry & Candace Anderson Ron Casier \$500 - \$999 William Scott Baijayanta Mukhopadhyay Christian Schroeder

Membership Dues (Terry Anderson) – a reminder that membership **dues for 2021/2022 as of the 2021 Annual Meeting**. It is the Foundation’s policy to remove members from the mailing list after three years in arrears. Dues can be forwarded to our Membership Secretary, Terry Anderson. The fee is \$25.00 and your cheque should be mailed to Terry Anderson.

Make cheques payable to: the Canadian Chestnut Council.

Please send to:

Terry Anderson
261 Sandy Brook Way,
Kingsville, ON. N9Y 0A4

Want more information:

Website - www.canadianchestnutcouncil.ca

Contact - Mr. Ron Casier Phone - 519-631-5279 Email - ronjcasier@gmail.com	Membership Secretary - Terry Anderson Address - 261 Sandy Brook Way, Kingsville, ON. N9Y 0A4 Phone - 519-733-3796 Email - andersonterry419@gmail.com
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Council Directors – Chuck Beach, Ron Casier, Gordon Chinnick, Heather Dover, Neil Dunning, Doug Fagan, John Hill, Ken MacGillivray, Nathan Munn, Stephen Penney, Christine Vey.
Interim Director – Sara Richer