

Federal District Commission

OTTAWA, CANADA



FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

1940 - 1941

FEDERAL DISTRICT COMMISSION

OTTAWA, CANADA

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1940-1941

Hon. J. L. Ilsley, K.C., M.P.,
Minister of Finance,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Sir:

We have the honour to present to you herewith
the Forty-second Annual Report of the Federal District
Commission for the fiscal year 1940-1941 in accordance
with the provisions of the Federal District
Commission Act.

Yours very truly,

Frederic E. Bronson

CHAIRMAN

Haldane R. Cram

SECRETARY.

FEDERAL DISTRICT COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS

Frederic E. Bronson
Chairman

R. Chevrier, M.D.

A. E. Provost

J. W. Ste. Marie, K.C.

C. J. Booth

J. B. Spencer, B.S.A.

A. Johnston, C.M.G., L.L.D.

J. A. Ewart, B.A.Sc.

D. K. MacTavish, K.C., B.A.

J. E. Stanley Lewis, Mayor of Ottawa

STAFF

Haldane R. Cram, B.Sc.
Secretary

Alex Stuart
Superintendent

Alphonse Chevrier
Assistant Secretary

Alan K. Hay, M.E.I.C.
Consulting Engineer

OFFICES AND SHOPS

291 Carling Avenue, Ottawa, Canada.

Report for the Fiscal Year 1940-1941

The year 1940-41 was one of considerable activity for the Federal District Commission notwithstanding that its work was restricted, owing to war conditions, chiefly to maintenance. In addition to the usual duties respecting the upkeep of the parks and parkways, the Commission is responsible for the improvement and maintenance of the grounds of dominion buildings in Ottawa such as Government House, Parliament Buildings, National Research Council and National Museum. Certain other services in connection with buildings of this character, which now number 71, as removal of snow, ashes and refuse, were continued. The winter's snow fall, although somewhat below average, kept the Commission's fleet of ploughs and a large force of men busy in keeping the driveways open to traffic at all times and free from icy condition. Mosquito control operations consisting of oiling, ditching and underbrushing in the Ottawa district were continued with beneficial results. The grounds of the Ottawa Civic Hospital and Bank of Canada were also maintained at their cost. In Gatineau Park a small force of fire and game wardens were employed and a limited amount of trail improvement work was carried out.

The total expenditure of the Commission during 1940-41, including money received from all sources, was as follows:

Maintenance and Administration.....	\$ 203,168.89
New Construction, Improvements, etc....	2,999.13
Purchase of Properties.....	22,210.46
Dominion Government Grounds.....	92,838.07
Gatineau Park Land Purchases.....	38,016.23
Mosquito Control.....	7,414.99
(Partial reimbursement - see page 6)	
Ottawa Civic Hospital Grounds.....	5,458.34
(Reimbursed in full - see page 7)	
Bank of Canada Grounds.....	301.13
(Reimbursed in full - see page 7)	
Department of Public Works.....	6,757.18
(Reimbursed in full - see page 6)	
Royal Canadian Mounted Police.....	2,349.02
(Reimbursed in full - see page 6)	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE.....	<u>\$ 381,513.44</u>

CONFEDERATION PARK

The completion of the landscaping of the National Memorial grounds and the widened Elgin Street area as laid out by Mr. Jacques Greber, Landscape Architect, was carried out at a cost of \$ 2,999.13.

GATINEAU PARK

In the year 1938-39 steps were taken to commence the purchase of lands in the lower Gatineau Valley, situated between Old Chelsea and Ste. Cecille de Masham, Quebec, adjoining Meach, Mousseau and Philippe Lakes, comprising approximately 20,000 acres of wood lands, hills, valleys, lakes and streams, to preserve this area in its natural state as a park for public use. To March 31, 1941, 14,553 acres were purchased for the sum of \$ 141,591.74. Survey costs and legal fees raised this total to \$ 169,983.44.

The expenditure for land purchases for Gatineau Park during 1940-41 was as follows. Agreements to purchase these lands had been entered into in the previous year.

1. 2,242 acres.....	\$ 33,829.80
2. Legal fees.....	3,825.52
3. Contingencies.....	<u>360.91</u>
	\$ 38,016.23

In connection with the maintenance of the park, four rangers carried out duties as police officers, game wardens and fire rangers. Under the protection afforded, wild life in the park has increased noticeably. Beavers were placed in several lakes and they proved of great interest to the park visitors. Some improvements were made to existing trails and roads leading to the park area were kept clear of snow. The total cost amounted to \$ 14,988.86.

WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE COMMISSION FOR
DOMINION GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Departments of the Dominion Government from time to time ask the Commission to carry out improvements to grounds adjoining Government Buildings on the basis of reimbursement by the departments for costs incurred.

Department of Public Works

Motor Car Parking Area--Records Building, Experimental Farm.--The parking area for this building was increased in size. This necessitated grading, construction of concrete curbs and some paving. Direction signs were also erected. Total cost was \$ 96.41.

Grounds adjoining Temporary War Buildings Nos. 1 and 2 Wellington Street.--The following work was carried out:
Roadways--Stone fill 500 cu. yds., grading 3400 sq. yds.
Sidewalks--1040 sq. yds. of black top surfacing.
Curbing--450 lin. feet reinforced concrete.
Sodding--2250 sq. yds. with 450 cubic yds. of filling.
Water Services--720 feet including galvanized iron pipes, taps, fillings and manholes.
The total cost of the work amounted to \$ 5,914.85.

Public Works Storage Yard on George Street.--This yard comprising 1,000 sq. yds. was paved at a cost of \$ 745.92.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police.--The grounds adjoining the new barracks of the Police at Rockcliffe were laid out and improved. This included grading, construction of driveways, planting of shrubs and seeding. Total cost amounted to \$ 2,031.62

Snow Removal.--To permit winter travel to the barracks the Commission ploughed the driveway from Acacia Avenue to the barracks at a cost of \$ 317.40.

Mosquito

Control

Mosquito control was carried out in an area within a six mile radius of Ottawa. During the last year

it was found as in past seasons to an area of approximately, from central Ottawa, field operations were confined

to oiling of infested areas as funds available were not sufficient to enable drainage or underbrushing to be carried out. \$ 7,414.99 was expended of which \$ 3,200 was contributed by the Commission, \$ 2,000 by the City of Ottawa, \$ 1,000 by the Village of Rockcliffe Park and \$ 100 by the County of Carleton. Rental in the off season of a truck belonging to the Mosquito Control Authority increased the revenue. The Division of Entomology, Science Service, Department of Agriculture, greatly assisted in the work with valuable technical advice.

Ottawa Civic Hospital Grounds

The grounds of the Ottawa Civic Hospital are planted and maintained by the Commission at cost. \$ 5,458.34 was expended during the year on this work.

Bank of Canada Grounds

The grounds of the Bank of Canada on Wellington and Sparks Streets were maintained by the Commission from funds supplied by the Bank. In summer this maintenance consists of looking after the lawns and shrubbery, and in winter the keeping of the grounds and courtyard free of snow. The total expenditure on this maintenance was \$ 301.13.

PLANTING

In the fall of 1940, tulip bulbs to the extent of 15,000 were placed in the ground for spring bloom. 1,000 were placed on Parliament Hill, 4,500 at the National War Memorial and 9,500 in Rideau Hall Grounds. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining bulbs in war time, 3,320 Polyantha and Floribunda roses were planted in principal flower beds formerly bedded to tulips and other plant material. 4,373 stock plants were taken from the Commission's nursery and placed in the various parks and parkways. Of the trees planted, 3,903 were conifers and 384 were deciduous. The balance consisted of flowering shrubs and vines. A total of 190,374 annual and perennial plants were planted in the parks and parkways during the season of 1940.

POLICING OF COMMISSION PROPERTY

"A" Division, Ottawa, of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is responsible for the policing of the parks and parkways of the Federal District Commission, and enforcing Bylaw No. 26 which regulates traffic on the driveways.

Under this bylaw the police reported the following offences during 1940-41:

Convictions.....	152
Warnings.....	177
Dismissals.....	4
Withdrawn.....	<u>2</u>
Total.....	335

In addition a total of 29 accidents were investigated by the police. None of these involved loss of life. There were also 20 investigations regarding damage to Commission property. Resulting therefrom the Commission collected \$ 580.83 to repair the damages.

Investigations were also conducted on damage to shrubs and plants, and disturbances in the various parks. Three stolen cars were recovered and a number of miscellaneous articles were found, most of which were claimed by the rightful owners.

First Aid was rendered to a number of people injured on the Driveways and escorts provided to notables, militia troops and convoys.

Cases of theft were looked into and turned over to the Criminal Investigation Branch of the R. C. M. Police for investigation.

F I N A N C I A L

S T A T E M E N T S

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR 1940-1941

Revenue:

Balance 1939-40 Statutory Grant...	\$ 27,368.19	
Statutory Grant 1940-41.....	200,000.00	
Miscellaneous Revenue.....	22,062.06	
From Vote No. 70.....	123,000.00	
Carried over from Vote No. 65, 1939-1940.....	18,032.79	
From Vote No. 71.....	20,000.00	
Refunds from expenditures under Vote No. 71.....	86.82	
Total Revenue.....		\$ 410,549.86

Expenditure:

Maintenance and Administration....	\$ 203,168.89	
Improvements and New Construction.	2,999.13	
Purchase of Properties (o/c #6926)	22,210.46	
Dominion Government Grounds.....	92,838.05	
Gatineau Park Land Purchases.....	38,016.23	
Total Expenditure.....		\$ 359,232.76
Gross Balance.....		\$ 51,317.10

This gross balance of \$ 51,317.10 included \$ 12,161.95 of Dominion Government Grounds Vote and \$ 103.38 of Vote 71 and \$ 12.01 of Vote 70 which were returned to the Finance Department, and the balance of \$ 39,039.76 was carried over into 1941-42.

SUMMARY OF GROSS BALANCE

Dom. Gov. Grounds.....	\$ 12,161.95	
Statutory Grant.....	39,039.76	
Vote No. 70.....	12.01	
Vote No. 71.....	103.38	
		\$ 51,317.10

COMPARISON OF ESTIMATES APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL
WITH ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN 1940-1941

	<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
<u>General:</u>		
Contingencies.....	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 7,728.31
Machinery, repairs, etc.....	13,000.00	12,081.75
Staff.....	18,280.00	18,280.00
 <u>Maintenance:</u>		
Parks, driveways, bridges, buildings, etc.	135,888.19	129,132.31
Gatineau Park maintenance.....	15,000.00	14,988.86
Nursery Operations and idle expense.....	18,000.00	14,468.38
 <u>Sundries:</u>		
Mosquito Control grant.....	3,200.00	3,200.00
Work for other organizations (refunded)...	4,000.00	3,025.87
 <u>Dominion Government Grounds:</u>		
Rideau Hall grounds maintenance.....	18,000.00	17,426.04
National Research Ground maintenance.....	6,000.00	5,395.91
Other Government Grounds maintenance.....	69,000.00	61,295.20
Contingencies and supplies.....	10,000.00	6,900.76
Repairs to Machinery.....	2,000.00	1,820.14
 <u>Improvements:</u>		
Completion of Confederation Park.....	3,000.00	2,999.13
 <u>Properties:</u>		
River edge properties in Hull.....	25,000.00	22,210.46
Gatineau Park.....	31,500.00	38,016.23
 <u>Miscellaneous:</u>		
Stock.....		263.41
Estimated deficit of statutory grant.....	17,000.00	
	<u>\$ 398,868.19</u>	<u>\$ 359,232.76</u>

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE DIFFERENT
PARKS AND DRIVEWAYS OF THE FEDERAL DISTRICT COMMISSION

Bronson Park.....	\$ 518.28
Central Park.....	3,981.21
Confederation Park.....	3,095.84
Dow's Lake Park.....	6,206.75
Dundonald Park.....	529.38
Eastview Park.....	2,245.07
Echo Drive.....	10,205.72
Experimental Farm Driveway.....	12,487.81
Fontaine Park, Hull.....	786.48
Gatineau Park, Quebec.....	14,988.86
Island Park Driveway.....	25,867.46
Jacques Cartier Park, Hull.....	1,809.18
King Edward Park and Avenue.....	5,769.85
Macdonald Gardens.....	1,984.74
Nepean Point and Lady Grey Drive.....	7,663.32
Nicholas Street Park.....	1,580.89
Rideau Canal Driveway.....	22,851.47
Rockcliffe Park.....	17,619.66
Strathcona Park.....	3,461.59
Val Tetreau Park, Hull.....	<u>467.61</u>
Total for Park Maintenance.....	<u>\$ 144,121.17</u>