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Federal District Commission

OTTAWA, CANADA



FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

1941 - 1942

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FEDERAL DISTRICT COMMISSION

OTTAWA CANADA

FORTY--THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

1941--1942.

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

Dear Sir:

We have the honour to present to you herewith the Forty-third Annual Report of the Federal District Commission for the fiscal year 1941-1942 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, B.Sc., M.E.I.C.
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.	Lt. Comdr. D.K. MacTavish, K.C., B.A.

J. E. Stanley Lewis, Mayor of Ottawa

STAFF

Haldane R. Cram, B.Sc., M.E.I.C. Secretary	Alex Stuart Superintendent
Alphonse Chevrier Assistant Secretary	Alan K. Hay, B.Sc., M.E.I.C. Consulting Engineer

OFFICES AND SHOPS

291 Carling Avenue, Ottawa, Canada.

Report for the Fiscal Year 1941-1942

During the year 1941-1942 the work of the Federal District Commission with respect to its parks and driveways and grounds adjoining Dominion Government buildings was confined largely to maintenance. In addition to caring for the grounds of Government Buildings in Ottawa and vicinity, the Commission is charged with the responsibility of removing snow from the sidewalks, roadways and courtyards of these buildings and sanding the same, as well as collecting and disposing of ashes and other refuse therefrom. There was a large increase in the number of these buildings due to war time conditions which now total 72. The Commission's fleet of ploughs and trucks and a large force of men were kept busy during the last winter season, in keeping the driveway system and the roads leading to Gatineau Park open to traffic at all times and free from icy condition. In connection with mosquito control operation in Ottawa and district considerable oiling of water areas together with drainage ditching and underbrushing were carried out with beneficial results. The grounds of the Ottawa Civic Hospital and Bank of Canada were cared for at the expense of these institutions.

Improvements, other than maintenance, were also carried out at the cost of the Department of Public Works in connection with the grounds of newly constructed government war buildings. In Gatineau Park, comprising about 20,000 acres, situated in the lower Laurentians approximately 15 miles from Ottawa, a small force of police, fire and game wardens were employed.

The total expenditure of the Commission during 1941-1942 including money received from all sources, was as follows:

Administration.....	\$	18,291.23
Maintenance parkway system (Funds from Statutory Grant and Vote 63).....		188,078.02
Maintenance of Government Buildings, grounds and services for such buildings.....		103,033.42
Gatineau Park Land Purchases.....		5,693.00
Mosquito Control work in Ottawa district..... (Partial reimbursement--See page 7)		7,561.65
Ottawa Civic Hospital grounds maintenance..... (Reimbursed in full--See page 7)		6,021.33
Bank of Canada Grounds maintenance..... (Reimbursed in full--see page 7)		182.14
Department of Public Works--improvements to grounds of new buildings..... (Reimbursed in full--see page 6)		12,197.43
National Research Council--improvements to grounds of new building Montreal Road..... (Reimbursed in full--see page 7)		<u>17,257.31</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE.....	\$	<u>358,315.53</u>

ISLAND PARK DRIVE

Approximately 8 acres of rocky land adjoining the Ottawa River at the Ontario approach to the Champlain Bridges were covered with top soil, graded and seeded. Some shrubs and young trees were also planted. The total cost amounted to \$ 1,956.62.

MAPLE ISLAND -- RIDEAU RIVER

This island is a link in the crossing of the Rideau River by the Minto Bridges. The wooden crib work protecting its banks, built some 40 years ago, had become badly decayed with the result that serious erosion of the shores had taken place. The banks were rip-rapped with large blocks of stone, the level of the island was raised somewhat by earth filling and the surface seeded to grass at a cost of \$ 3,993.11.

RESURFACING SECTIONS OF THE DRIVEWAYS

A number of sections of the driveways constructed more than 25 years ago were resurfaced with synite chips and asphalt binder at a cost of \$ 7,497.79, to prevent deterioration of the roadways.

GATINEAU PARK

In the year 1938 authority was granted to the Commission to acquire lands in the lower Gatineau Valley, situated between Old Chelsea and Ste Cecille de Masham, Quebec, adjoining Meach, Mousseau and Philippe lakes, for the purpose of preserving in its natural state for the use of the public approximately 20,000 acres of wooded lands, hills, valleys, lakes and streams. A few ski and hiking trails and camping sites have been developed. This park situated so conveniently to the National Capital is attracting many thousands of visitors annually who find the healthy outdoor recreation according to their fancy in all seasons of the year.

A force of four rangers under the Park Superintendent carried out duties as police officers, game wardens and fire rangers. Wild life in the park has greatly increased under the sanctuary afforded. Beavers placed in a number of lakes a few years ago have multiplied and they and their workings proved of much interest. Many deer may be seen in secluded valleys during the winter season. Some improvements were carried out to existing trails and roads leading to the park were snow ploughed. The total cost of this supervision and maintenance was \$ 14, 958.15.

WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE FEDERAL DISTRICT COMMISSION
FOR DOMINION GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Departments of the Dominion Government from time to time ask the Commission to carry out improvements to the grounds of newly constructed government buildings on the basis of full reimbursement for the cost entailed. The Commission has the trained personnel and the special equipment required and is therefore in the position to carry out this class of work more economically (actual cost only being charged) and satisfactorily than contractors engaged in general construction work.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

New War Building - No 3. - Wellington Street, Ottawa

The improvements of the grounds of this building consisted of:

Hard surface roadways and sidewalks 4,045 sq. yds, Concrete curbing 1,350 feet, filling 750 cubic yards, water service 1000 feet, 6 drainage catch basins and sodding and grading 2,450 sq. yds. The total cost was \$ 6,496.72.

Supreme Court Building

The large square of land in front of the Supreme Court building bounded by Kent, Wellington and Lyon Streets was filled, graded and sodded. This required 1,400 cubic yards of fill, 520 feet of concrete curbing and 7,200 square yards of sodding. The cost was \$ 3,160.00

Records Building - Experimental Farm

The improvements carried out to the grounds of this building were:

Hard surface sidewalks 580 square yards; concrete curbing 255 feet; earth and stone filling 400 cubic yards; wiring and instalation of 8 lighting standards with lamp equipment. The total cost amounted to \$ 1,054.72.

Botanical Building - Experimental Farm

A motor car parking lot was constructed for this building entailing the use of 100 cubic yards of stone and earth filling; 210 feet of concrete curbing and 580 square yards of asphaltic concrete. The work was completed for \$ 1,013.39.

Chemistry Building - Experimental Farm

Works to prevent flooding of the lower floor of this building at a grade entrance were constructed at a cost of \$ 98.83.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

To permit winter travel to the barracks of the police east of Rockcliffe Park the Commission ploughed the section of the driveway from Acacia Avenue to the Barracks at a cost of \$ 307.85.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

The highway from Hurdman's Bridge to the Rideau Military Hospital was ploughed and sanded during the last winter season at a cost of \$ 166.30

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA

The grounds of the new buildings situated adjacent to the Montreal Road about six miles from Ottawa were laid out and developed as follows:

Road surfacing 14,650 sq. yds, concrete curbing 1,240 feet, water service 3,715 feet, grading and seeding 36,000 sq. yds. and sub grade filling 1,400 cubic yds. at a total cost of \$ 17,750.00

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Mosquito control work was carried out as in past years over an area of approximately 100 square miles centered on Ottawa. The results were very satisfactory due in part to favorable weather conditions with subnormal floods in May and June. The cumulative effect from previous years' control measures is probably now beginning to show, particularly in the Gatineau River and Rockcliffe areas. The expenditure on oil as a result was considerably less than average and accordingly it was financially possible to devote more work to drainage of low areas and to underbrushing particularly in the district east of Rockcliffe and lying between McKay's Lake and the Base-Line Road. Some 25 acres were so dealt with. Similar work on a reduced scale was undertaken on Kettle Island and a few trails were cut into Dow's Lake Swamp.

\$ 7,554.06 was expended on this work of which \$ 3,200.00 was contributed by the Federal District Commission, \$ 2,000.00 by the City of Ottawa, \$ 1,000.00 by the Village of Rockcliffe Park, and \$ 200.00 from the County of Carleton. Additional revenue resulted from the renting of a truck belonging to the Mosquito Control Authority in off seasons.

OTTAWA CIVIC HOSPITAL GROUNDS

The grounds of the Ottawa Civic Hospital were maintained by the Commission at cost. \$ 6,021.33 was expended during the year on this work.

BANK OF CANADA GROUNDS

The grounds of the Bank of Canada on Sparks and Wellington Streets, Ottawa were maintained by the Commission from funds furnished by this Bank. Since temporary additions were built for the bank on this property the work consisted principally of snow removal. The Cost amounted to \$ 182.14.

PLANTING

Messrs. Seymour Cobley Ltd., bulb growers, England, very kindly donated free of charge 27000 tulip bulbs for planting in the parks of Ottawa as a token of gratitude of the English people for Canada's War effort. 19000 additional tulip bulbs and 74150 annuals, perennials, foliage plants, vines etc., were set out in various parks in the fall of 1941. Also 2450 deciduous trees and shrubs and 1780 conifers were transferred from the Commission's nursery to the parkway system.

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 By law No. 26 which regulates traffic on the driveways:

Under this bylaw the police reported the following offences during 1941-1942:

Convictions.....	273
Warnings.....	262
Dismissals.....	<u>21</u>
Total.....	556

In addition a total of 31 accidents was investigated by the police. None of these involved loss of life. There were also 48 investigations regarding damage to Commission property. In this connection the Commission collected \$ 775.45 to repair the damage.

Investigations were also conducted on damage to shrubs and plants, etc. and disturbances by children 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.

One case of theft was looked into and turned over to the C.I. Branch of the R. C. M. Police for investigation.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR 1941-1942

STATUTORY GRANT & VOTE # 63

Revenue

Carry over from 1940-1941.....	\$ 39,039.76
Statutory Grant 1941-1942.....	200,000.00
Miscellaneous revenue.....	15,045.45
Vote 63-Govt. Grds. Maintenance....	<u>132,500.00</u>
Total Revenue.....	\$ 387,585.21

Expenditure

Statutory Grant-Parkway Maint.....	\$ 186,856.58
Vote 63-Dominion Govt. Grds Maintenance.....	<u>131,439.09</u>
Total Expenditure.....	\$ 318,295.67
Balance.....	\$ 69,289.54
Balance of Vote 63 refunded.....	<u>2,060.91</u>
Final Balance.....	\$ 67,228.63

The Final balance of \$ 67,228.63 was carried over to the fiscal year 1942-1943 to the credit of the Commission.

COMPARISON OF ESTIMATES APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL
WITH ACTUAL EXPENDITURES IN 1941-1942

STATUTORY GRANT

<u>General</u>	<u>Estimates</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
Contingencies.....	\$ 13,604.46	\$ 13,503.48
Machinery, gasoline, repairs etc.....	16,000.00	11,336.66
Staff.....	18,300.00	18,291.23

Maintenance

Parkway system, buildings etc.....	146,535.30	120,051.65
Gatineau Park.....	15,000.00	14,958.15
Nursery operations and idle expense.....	16,000.00	12,420.42

Sundries

Mosquito Control.....	3,200.00	3,200.00
Accounts Collectible.....	2,400.00	2,360.14

Properties Purchased

In ward 5 Hull.....	15,000.00	
Gatineau Park.....	8,000.00	5,693.00

VOTE # 63

Rideau Hall Grounds Maintenance.....	19,000.00	18,575.87
National Research Grounds Maintenance...	6,500.00	6,340.75
Other Dominion Grounds Maintenance.....	69,500.00	69,372.28
Contingencies & Supplies.....	9,000.00	8,035.39
Repairs to Machinery, etc.....	1,000.00	709.13
Island Park Drive Improvements.....	2,000.00	1,956.62
Maple Island Improvements.....	4,000.00	3,993.11
Resurfacing older sections of driveway..	7,500.00	7,497.79
	\$ 372,539.76	\$ 318,295.67

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

1941--1942

Island Park Drive.....	\$ 16,852.40
Experimental Farm.....	10,200.59
Confederation Park.....	3,844.24
Dow's Lake Park.....	6,443.84
Rideau Canal Driveway.....	23,695.46
Echo Drive.....	10,518.54
Central Park.....	5,447.19
Jacques Cartier Park.....	2,256.31
Bronson Avenue Park.....	602.00
Somerset Street Park.....	630.26
Val Tetreau Park.....	784.59
Flora Lake Park.....	886.27
Dow's Lake Boathouse.....	155.54
Rockcliffe Park.....	14,627.28
Lady Grey Drive.....	6,777.39
MacDonald Gardens.....	2,656.54
C.N.R. Park.....	2,028.03
Strathcona Park.....	4,177.42
King Edward Avenue Park.....	5,155.10
Eastview Park.....	<u>2,312.66</u>
	<u>\$120,051.65</u>
