

# FINDLAY CREEK BOARDWALK: YOURS TO EXPLORE

2925 Findlay Creek Drive | Ottawa, Ontario

## LEITRIM WETLAND - UNIQUE HABITAT

This wetland is composed of 3 rare calcareous fen habitats characterized by streams running through peat moss and has been designated a Provincially Significant Wetland and an Area of Natural and Scientific Interest by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

This ecosystem is home to over 90 bird species throughout the year, and over 40 additional species during migration. The wetland provides habitat for interesting species such as the bug-eating purple pitcher plant, and species at risk such as the red-shouldered hawk, and short eared owl. In addition to diverse plants and wildlife, Findlay Creek's rare cold water system makes it home to a unique community of fish and invertebrates (insects).



Purple Pitcher Plant (*Sarracenia purpurea*)



Invasive Glossy Buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*) Removal

## MAINTENANCE & MONITORING

- SNC provides on-going repairs and maintenance to the boardwalk and interpretive signs.
- Glossy Buckthorn is an invasive species within the wetland. SNC annually removes the plant to support rare fen species.
- SNC has installed many wood duck boxes to provide nesting habitat for waterfowl.
- SNC monitors the ecosystem health of the Leitrim Wetland by measuring stream temperatures, dissolved oxygen levels, and benthic invertebrates.

## HISTORY

The Findlay Creek Boardwalk provides public access to the Leitrim Wetland, a 100 acre, unique habitat that feeds the Findlay Creek. The Wetland was donated by the Kellam Family to South Nation Conservation (SNC) in 1998 through Canada's Ecological Gifts Program.

Approximately 80% of the wetland has been lost near urban centers due to land conversion. SNC preserves the integrity of the habitat through an Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from the Province of Ontario, National Capital Commission, City of Ottawa, Ducks Unlimited, Tartan Land Corporation, and the community.



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