



June 2, 2011

**GORE MUTUAL FOUNDATION DONATES \$10,000 TO GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION FOUNDATION  
TO SUPPORT OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

The Gore Mutual Insurance Company Foundation is pleased to announce that they have donated \$10,000 to the Grand River Conservation Foundation (GRCF), the charitable partner organization of the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA). Funds will support the expansion of outdoor education programs for elementary students throughout the Grand River watershed.

GRCA Nature Centres educate over 40,000 students annually, however, the demand is far greater. Thousands of students are unable to benefit from these resources because of financial restraints.

“We are pleased that our donation will significantly increase the number of children participating in the GRCA Nature Centre programs,” says Kevin McNeil, CEO and President, Gore Mutual. “Connecting children with nature has a positive impact on their future.”

Exposure to the outdoors can benefit kids from a mental and social health perspective. There is a growing body of research which indicates that experiences in nature mitigate mental and emotional health issues, promote increased attention span and co-operation and improve self-esteem.

GRCA programs are offered at four full-time and two seasonal outdoor education centres. They are curriculum-based programs, offered primarily for elementary school students. The GRCA works in partnership with most of the watershed school boards, however there are some classes that are not able to afford the program costs.

“These programs benefit the whole child – their emotional and physical well-being as well as their appreciation for our natural world,” says Sara Wilbur, Executive Director of the Grand River Conservation Foundation. “Fewer and fewer kids spend time outside these days, so they don’t get to know the outdoors as they once did. With these programs, GRCA is creating our natural ambassadors for the future, one kid at a time.”

The total cost to adopt a class for a day is \$300, while a half-day experience is \$175. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Since 2004, the Gore Mutual Foundation has donated a total of \$20,000 to the GRCF for various programs.

**For More Information:**

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**About the Grand River Conservation Foundation**

The GRCF is the charitable partner organization of the GRCA, channeling private funds for projects that have limited sources of funding. GRCF's mandate is to improve quality of life by enriching the natural values of the Grand River watershed and encouraging people to enjoy, and learn from the outdoors. For more information, please visit [www.grcf.ca](http://www.grcf.ca).

**About the Gore Mutual Foundation**

The Gore Mutual Foundation's mission is to support the communities where Gore Mutual operates. The Foundation provides funds to social services, education, health, cultural and environmental activities that are in the best interest of these communities.

**About Gore Mutual**

Gore Mutual has been offering Canadians a stable, long-term solution for their insurance needs since 1839. They distribute their products exclusively through independent insurance brokers. The company provides both personal and commercial insurance through their offices in Cambridge, Ontario and Vancouver, British Columbia. Gore Mutual is the only insurance company to be ranked above average in every performance category in the most recent survey completed by the Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario's 10,000+ members. For more information please visit [www.goremutual.ca](http://www.goremutual.ca).

