

1906

Ottawa, December 1, 1906.

Sir:-

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of
The Ottawa Improvement Commission for the fiscal year
ended 30th June 1906.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) Stephen E. O'Brien,

Secretary.

The Honourable

The Minister of Finance,

Ottawa.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the fiscal year
ending 30th June, 1906.

R E C E I P T S

Balance on hand 1st July 1905	\$	666.78✓
On deposit Savings Bank, Bank of Ottawa - - - -		15,000.00✓
Government Grant		60,000.00✓
Sale of Debentures		48,272.57 x
Miscellaneous:		
Maintenance Cartier Square	186.50	
Refreshment privilege Rockcliffe Park	50.00	186.50✓
Interest		272.25 x
		<u>\$122,400.08</u>
		15,666.76
		<u>106,733.32</u>

E X P E N D I T U R E

King Edward Avenue - - - -	\$	5,245.87..
King Edward Avenue Park - - - -		7,738.32..
King Edward Avenue Maintenance - - - -		2,377.00
Minto Bridge Maintenance - - - -		2,559.61
Rideau Canal Driveway - - - -		5,505.05..
" " " Maintenance - - - -		8,394.87
Clemow Avenue - - - -		1,231.35..
Monkland Avenue - - - -		3,593.72..
Green and Maple Islands - - - -		46.20..
Strathcona Park - - - -		21,192.92..
" " Maintenance - - - -		258.77
Rockcliffe Park - - - -		4,605.22..
" " Maintenance - - - -		1,832.66
National Park - - - -		24,775.94..
Somerset St Park - - - -		32.50..
Road Machinery - - - -		1,036.96
Syenite - - - -		650.80..
Office Expenses - - - -		274.40
Printing and Advertising - - - -		86.70
Contingencies - - - -		870.27
Interest - - - -		574.10
Debentures - - - -		21,455.00
On deposit Savings Bank, Bank of Ottawa - - - -		5,000.00
Balance on hand - - - -		1,750.97
		<u>\$122,400.08</u>
		28,205
		<u>94,195</u>

(Sgd.) Stephen E. O'Brien,
Secretary.

R E P O R T
Of
THE OTTAWA IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION.

For the Fiscal Year Ended 30th June, 1906.

During the fiscal year 1905-6 the Commission disposed of three more of the series of 16 debentures to the Bank of Ottawa, the amount realized being \$46,273.57. The amount expended for property, including \$700 granted as compensation to squatters for removal from Government reserve land adjacent to the northern end of King Edward Avenue, was \$17,332.50. The expenditure on the different works in course of construction amounted to \$57,495.40 and the cost of maintenance and repairs on works completed was \$16,422.31.

Annexed hereto is a statement of receipts and expenditure and the following is a report on the work performed.

KING EDWARD AVENUE.

The remaining part of the property required in connection with the widening of the northern end of King Edward Avenue, one lot, was bought from the C.P.R. Co. for \$1332.50 and the sum of \$700 was granted as compensation to the families who had built dwellings on the Rideau Terrace reserve, which they were compelled to remove. The roadway on the widened part of the avenue was finished, the boulevard sodded and trees planted.

Amount expended — \$5,345.37.

- 3 -

King Edward Avenue Park.

A large quantity of earth filling was deposited on the site of this park and the work of grading, levelling and sodding performed. A dry stone protection wall, with concrete coping was laid along the river front and the necessary stone filling placed behind it. A macadamized roadway about 1000 feet in length, with its concrete curbing was constructed.

As the park is divided into two parts by the C.P.R. track (the old St Lawrence & Ottawa Railway) a culvert, through the embankment on which the track is laid, was built of stone and concrete, to give access from one part to the other.

The cost of the work was \$7,738.28.

Rideau Canal Driveway.

On the north side of the Driveway and just west of Bank St. lies Brown's Inlet, an arm of the Rideau Canal, from which the Driveway now separates it. Along this inlet a dry stone retaining wall, 550 feet long by 8 ft. high with concrete curbing, was constructed, and on it an iron and wire fence was erected. A quantity of earth filling was placed between the wall and the roadway, the grading done, walks laid out and covered with shale and the ground sodded and planted with trees and shrubs.

The amount expended was --- \$5,565.05.

Clemow Avenue.

The roadway was continued from Lyon St. eastwardly towards Bank St., 650 lineal feet being built. The

summary

roadway is now nearly completed.

The amount expended was -- \$1,221.35.

Monkland Avenue.

A large quantity of earth filling was deposited in Patterson's Creek to raise to the level of the Avenue, the embankment on which the roadway will be constructed.

Amount expended -- \$2,592.72.

Strathcona Park.

Considerable grading, levelling and sodding was done on the lower level of the park. The grading of the terraces at the northern end was finished, a large part of the lower slopes being faced with boulders and the upper ones sodded.

The boulder wall protecting the river bank, and the concrete coping were completed.

About 1000 lin. feet of macadamized roadway was constructed and concrete gutters laid on both sides. The walks were covered with shale and with limestone from the stone crusher.

Stone walls with concrete coping were built around the two lakes and the islands in them, as well as along the sides of the narrow canal which joins them. The canal is spanned by a small bridge of boulders and concrete.

The work of laying the intake pipe to supply water to the lakes was finished, and the tile and main drainage of the park completed.

Along Salisbury Avenue, which forms the western boundary of Strathcona Park, the ground was raised and

scaped and a concrete walk laid.

Flights of concrete stairs were built leading down the terraces from Laurier Avenue and the end of Charlotte Street.

A row of hard maples was planted along each side of the roadway and a large number of shrubs of many kinds were planted singly and in clumps under the direction of Dr Wm. Saunders.

The summer house in the center of the park was finished and a concrete floor laid in it.

Part of the river front was cleaned up.

Some grading was also done at the southern end of the park where a large playground is to be made.

Amount expended — \$21,192.92.

Rockcliffe Park.

About 3500 feet of properly drained roadway, 24 feet wide, was constructed. A set of concrete stairs was built, and 200 feet of stone wall with concrete coping and an iron and wire fence erected.

Their Excellencies, the Governor General and the Countess Grey, who are both skilled in the art of landscape gardening, have taken a keen interest in Rockcliffe Park and have offered many valuable suggestions for its improvement, for which the Commission seizes this opportunity of expressing their thanks. By personal direction of His Excellency, a number of trees have been felled and underbrush removed, where the growth was too thick, thus giving picturesque glimpses of the river flowing past the park and opening up beautiful vistas of the Laurentian Mountains in the distance.

The expenditure amounted to — \$4,805.99.

National Park.

A block of land containing 40 acres, which was required to complete the park area, now comprising 111 acres, was purchased from Mr Thos. C. Keefer, for \$15,000.00.

The roadway leading down from Rockcliffe Park was completed, and a substantial iron and wire fence erected on the river side of the walk which borders the road.

The work of excavating, filling, grading and draining the park was continued.

A further length of over 7,000 lineal feet of well drained roadway was constructed on the river front and alongside the deep ravine that runs north to the river from Hemlock Lake. Over this ravine and near Hemlock Lake a bridge composed of boulders and concrete was built. All the stone employed in the roadway was obtained from a quarry in Rockcliffe Park.

Amount expended — \$24,775.94.

Somerset St. Park.

A further quantity of earth was deposited on the site of this park, at an expenditure of \$82.50.

Syenite.

The amount expended ~~expended~~ in drawing syenite from the quarry at Ironwides, Que., to Rockcliffe Park was \$350.90.

Maintenance.

On each of the parks and driveways a force of labourers, under a sub-foreman who understands gardening, was employed during the summer months in taking care of the grounds, planting flower beds, cutting the grass, weeding, etc., and making whatever repairs were required from time to time.

The expenditure on Minto Bridge was incurred in painting the bridge, renewing the plank flooring and repairing the roadway between the spans.

A by-law for the protection of the Commission's works and the regulation of traffic on the driveways was approved by Order in Council of the 7th May 1903. One policeman, paid by the Commission, but under the control of the Chief of the Ottawa Police force, was employed to patrol the Rideau Canal Driveway, the other works being taken care of the city police.

The expenditure for maintenance amounted to \$13,422.91, as follows:

King Edward Avenue Maintenance	\$ 2,377.00
Minto Bridge Maintenance	2,559.81
Rideau Canal Driveway Maintenance	8,294.87
Strathcona Park "	258.77
Rockcliffe Park "	1,832.86

Respectfully submitted.

(Sgd.) H. N. Bate,
Chairman.

(Sgd.) Stephen T. O'Brien,
Secretary.

Ottawa, December 1, 1903.