PRESERVING RVCA'S ACCOUNTING
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA)

" I COULDN'T BE HAPPIER WITH THE RESULTS "

In picturesque Ontario, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA), an inter-municipal environmental protection and advisory agency, strives to protect and preserve the Rideau Valley watershed. They provide several conservation programs such as reforestation, water quality testing, flood forecast ing and warning, landowner incent ive programs, landowner information services, septic system approval and inspections, plan review and watershed planning. Underlying all these programs is the goal of having clean water, natural shorelines, and sustainable land use for generations to come. With 35 conservation areas across Ontario, RVCA serves the general public through education centers, camps, resources centers, and centers where people can apply for building permits.

Polluted Expectations
Although RVCA had always used Sage ERP Accpac software, they were in need of an upgrade from an older DOS version they were using. RVCA realized that its computer system was antiquated and wasn't capable of doing what they wanted it to do. As the Conservation Authority grew, its accounting became more complex. The accounting department needed to be able to organize grants, cash from parks, user fees, and permit fees. The current system couldn't handle that volume nor keep up with their demands. RVCA placed an ad in the newspaper that they were looking for a new supplier for their software needs. A company contacted them and won the bid to upgrade the system. However, during the installation of the new system, the company with which RVCA was working experienced

its own business failure and could not complete the installations promised. Understandably, this created undue stress for RVCA Finance Officer, Angela Maisonneuve. At the time of the other company's collapse, BAASS Business Solutions Inc. was contacted by RVCA to finish the job. The team at BAASS made sure they understood the goals of RVCA and what their requirements were. Maisonneuve appreciated their skill and knowledge as an accountant because they could "speak her language."

Utilizing Resources
The upgrade to Sage ERP Accpac went extremely smooth. BAASS Business Solutions Inc. introduced a new reporting program to specifically fit the needs of RVCA. With over 3,000 different accounts, 16 separate managers in seven various departments, and many different projects within those departments, the financial reporting requirements for RVCA were quite extensive. Several people needed to be able to look at budget reports for each department and see exactly where money was used. Previously, Maisonneuve was creating her own reports by manually inputting information from the General Ledger into Excel spreadsheets. Unfortunately, this took a lot of time and when managers had a question about an amount or transaction, they had to go back to Maisonneuve to find all the details. To solve this problem, BAASS installed Financial Link Pro. This program allows Maisonneuve to create individualized reports for each department, but since it is directly linked to the General Ledger, managers can drill down and look at the details on their own, rather than constantly having to go back to the accounting and finance

team for information.

Conserving Time
"I couldn't be happier with the results." reports Maisonneuve. "Reports that were taking me a week to complete can now be generated within hours. Also, the managers for whom the reports are created are empowered to make more timely and informed decisions concerning the budget because they have real-time information." Another benefit that has surfaced is an increase in efficiency across the entire staff. With everything streamlined, bookkeepers can put out invoices and pay bills more efficiently. Since the modules interact with the General Ledger , bookkeepers can send the Accounts Receivable directly to the General Ledger. Also, the staff that works at the front desk can immediately print out receipts so that customers don't have to wait. Lastly, users can look at the financial database directly instead of having to wait for a staff member in accounting to obtain information. "I was really impressed with the way all the modules tie together with the General Ledger so smoothly, as well as the adaptability of Sage 300 ERP , " comments Maisonneuve. Under taking a system upgrade can be daunting for any business, even more so when they feel abandoned by the software company in which they put their trust. BAASS Business Solutions Inc. was able to continue where the other company had left off, restoring faith and the implementation. Maisonneuve recalled that when BAASS came in they were able to calm the RVCA team down when they were in a crisis. BAASS took the implementation step-by-step and got things up and running within three weeks. As any business owner knows,

customer service is imperative to your business. The service that BAASS provided for RVCA was the kind of service that keeps customers coming back. Maisonneuve explains, "My technical support is the team at BAASS. I'm talking to people locally who are just a phone call away. Even today if I have a problem, I can e-mail or phone them and they get back to me right away and solve our problem." That's service you can count on.

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About BAASS Business Solutions Inc.

BAASS is a full service technology firm with twenty-five years of industry experience. With a broad client portfolio, BAASS currently serves over 2500 clients across North America and the Caribbean. With a past record of successful system implementations, BAASS has been recognized within the industry on numerous occasions. Recognitions include being ranked in Accounting World's Top 100 VAR's, Accounting Technology Magazine's Pacesetters Award, two consecutive Business Partner of the Year recognitions from Sage Software Inc, and eight consecutive Sage President's Circle awards for being a top performing Business Partner.

With an experienced team of IT and business application and design consultants, BAASS offers a comprehensive range of services including needs assessment, management consulting, system design and configuration, software training and technical support in accounting, ERP, CRM, e-business, custom web solutions, and specializing in Sage 300 ERP, Sage ERP X3, Sage CRM, Sage HRMS, Sage WMS, Sage BI, Deltek, BambooHR, and NetSuite products.