

Fondation pour la PROTECTION DES SITES NATURELS du NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK

# 2018-19

# WHAT MATTERS MOST

For over **30 years**, the Nature Trust of New Brunswick has committed to **conserving** and **stewarding** ecologically significant lands across the province and **engaging** with the public about the importance of protecting New Brunswick's unique natural heritage and biodiversity.

More than **8,000 acres (3,200 hectares)** have been conserved through land donations, in-kind donations, and other ways of support, making up **62** nature preserves across the province. Thanks to your generosity, these nature preserves continue to protect diverse lands, watersheds, shorelines, and the wildlife that call them home.

Though our successes have been fruitful, there is still more work to do. Currently, only **4.6%** of New Brunswick's total landmass is conserved. This, coupled with impending climatic changes to our planet, shows that support for nature is needed to create a greater conservation impact for the future.

Whether you are a first-time supporter of the Nature Trust or if you have been here since the very beginning, your loyalty and generous support continue to inspire our work and make an incredible impact.

Thank you for helping to ensure that New Brunswick's natural heritage and the unique places we cherish remain protected **forever**.

We dedicate this Gratitude Report to you.

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

It has been an honour to serve as President of the Nature Trust of New Brunswick this past year. I sincerely thank and praise the members of the Board of Directors for their involvement and incredible dedication. Equally, I wish to congratulate Nature Trust staff for all that they have done to make the past year a significant one for land conservation in our province.

This year, we sadly said good-bye to board member Sara Taaffe. I want to thank Sara for her many contributions to our organization and for the enthusiasm she brought and shared with us.

In November 2018, we honoured long-time New Brunswick naturalists and environmentalists, Sheila Washburn and the late Owen Washburn, with the distinction of being the recipients of the Lieutenant-Governor's Award for Excellence in Land Conservation.

As founding members of the Nature Trust, the Washburn's have made a significant impact on land conservation in New Brunswick. Owen Washburn had the honour of being the first president of the Nature Trust, and in 1999, their donation of land in Bocabec, the first of many donations, became the Caughey-Taylor Nature Preserve.

Throughout the year, board members and staff continued to carry out tasks from our five year Strategic Plan. From the plan, three key priorities have been identified, and significant progress has been made to further these objectives.

We continue to work towards increasing Nature Trust conserved land to 10,000 acres by 2022, as well as to engage the province's Indigenous communities in areas of common interest, and to increase the number of donors and financial support.

This year, we provided leadership and, along with our many partners, launched the Conserve our NB campaign, which advocated for a provincial target of 17% of New Brunswick land to be protected by 2020. Through many discussions with the provincial government, we are eagerly awaiting an announcement concerning an established target. Thanks again to all who lent their support and signed on to the campaign.

In closing, I wish to sincerely thank all donors, supporters, partners, volunteers, and staff of the Nature Trust. We are pleased with the many successes of the past year and are excited to see what role our organization will play towards the permanent protection of private land in New Brunswick in the upcoming year.

YOURS IN CONSERVATION,

I want to thank you for your generosity this year. Your support, whether it was monetary, in-kind, or through volunteering, has helped make 2018-19 a year of growth for the Nature Trust of New Brunswick.

Since 1987, you have helped us pursue our mission of conserving and stewarding ecologically significant lands and engaging with the public on the importance of land conservation. We are proud to present this year's accomplishments to you in the first edition of our Gratitude Report.

With your support, we established and conserved ten new nature preserves and added two additional parcels of land to existing preserves. You can learn more about these properties and their significance on **page 8**.

We continued to establish stewardship groups for our nature preserves which has been a lengthy, yet rewarding process and would not be possible without the hundreds of passionate volunteers.

This year, you helped us to bring over 1000 petitions to the New Brunswick Legislature and deliver over 300 letters to MLA's across the province through the Conserve our NB campaign. We look forward to working with the provincial government on an increased land conservation target next year.

We began a process of meaningful engagement with the three Indigenous Nations of New Brunswick, to work in partnership on stewardship and conservation. We are pleased to share the Indigenous engagement goals that guide our organization, which you can find on **page 20**.

Your support helped us to successfully move into a new office space, located in downtown Fredericton, which overlooks the beautiful Wolastoq/Saint John River. Together with new retention strategies, this space has been a rewarding space for staff who are passionate, hard-working individuals helping to advance land conservation in the province.

We are still facing conservation challenges in our province. For future generations to enjoy the New Brunswick nature we all know and love, it is important to continue to support New Brunswick conservation to create a lasting conservation legacy.

We are humbled and grateful for your continued support of our organization. We look forward to connecting with you in the months and years to come.

### YOURS IN CONSERVATION,



### MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

**CONSERVE:** 

# OUR CONSERVATION SUCCESSES

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HAS GUIDED NATURE TRUST CONSERVATION SUCCESSES ACROSS THE PROVINCE, FROM MIRAMICHI TO ST. STEPHEN

> WRITTEN BY: CARLI LE ROUX, CONSERVED LANDS COORDINATOR

PRESENTED BY: SANDY LODER, CHAIR OF THE ACQUISITION COMMITTEE The crisp morning air lingers under the forest canopy, as the smell of damp earth drifts up from the trail. Subtle sounds of the woods fill the air, as leaves rustle, birds sing, and insects buzz around us. The feeling of home and being deeply connected to the land sinks in. Overhead, we hear "Teacher, teacher, teacher... Teacher, teacher, teacher..."

The ovenbird's song sounds through the mature hardwood forest. A sudden flash from the green understory grabs our attention and directs it to where the oven-like nest is sheltered, between the tree-roots on the forest floor. The nest is an incredible creation, made of leaves and camouflaged from predators, holding its nestlings safe. We move away from the area carefully. The ovenbird, its nesting habitat, and the habitat of many other wildlife species are now protected in perpetuity on this almost **300-acre** nature preserve in Carleton County.

This connection to our natural world is one of many enriching moments that take place during the establishment of our nature preserves. Each property with conservation potential is surveyed in person by knowledgeable Nature Trust volunteers, board members, or staff. This past year, we made many visits to properties across the province.

These visits provide the exciting prospect of producing a broad inventory of the species, habitats, and natural features on the landscape. In the past year, we have found many **Species at Risk**, such as butternut, Eastern wood-pewee, and wood thrush, as well as numerous rare species like round-lobed hepatica and Canada wild ginger in Carleton County and Victoria County, respectively.

In Northumberland County, we observed large bog and fen wetland complexes, which could only be traversed safely in winter. We surveyed open water wetlands, which provide essential breeding and feeding grounds for waterfowl, fish, and other water-dependent species.

We experienced diverse forests, some with rich cedar swamps and rare red ash stands on the shoreline of the Skutik/St. Croix River. We traversed rare **Appalachian Hardwood Forests** with towering hardwoods and species-rich vegetation. Experiencing these magnificent places are not only documented on paper and maps, but they have been engraved in our minds forever.

The lasting legacy of these spaces and experiences is thanks to generous land donors and supporters who entrusted us with the care of their land over the last year. These properties have made an impact on donors and their families for generations. It is this love and deep connection to the land, which led to its conservation. In 2018-19, we added **10** new nature preserves to our network of conserved areas in New Brunswick. Additional parcels of land were also added to the Noloqonokek/ Neləkwənəkek Nature Preserve on Middle Island, near Maugerville, and the Minister's Face Nature Preserve on Long Island, in the Kennebecasis Bay.

These preserves will now be cared for and protected in the spirit of this legacy, while sharing them with our members, supporters, and the general public.

The success of establishing these preserves is the result of the **Preserving Land in Significant Watersheds and Improving Capacity for Indigenous-led Conservation in New Brunswick** project, funded through the Canada Nature Fund's Quickstart program. This project helped us protect more than **850 acres** of ecologically significant land in **six counties** throughout the province during its completion. The project's remarkable results have only served to strengthen our drive to protect more ecologically diverse land in New Brunswick in the years to come.

Our organization, along with other organizations, will achieve new conservation successes with the support of the Canada Nature Fund, which will contribute a total of **\$500 million** over the next four years towards land conservation in Canada. This investment in our shared natural heritage aims to propel Canada to conserve **17% of land by 2020**.

These nature preserves are places where anyone can go out in the early morning to hear the sound of the birds and the rustle of leaves, and deeply connect with the land which we are ultimately dependent on. We are ready to continue this exciting challenge of working towards a broader protected landscape and strive towards establishing connected areas of conserved land and creating spaces where wildlife and habitats can thrive unthreatened.

## We want to congratulate and thank the following funders, donors, and supporters who were a part of this successful year:

- Environment and Climate Change Canada (Canada Nature Fund Quickstart Program);
- New Brunswick Wildlife Trust Fund;
- Ducks Unlimited Canada;
- Janice Buchanan;
- Murray and Jane Watters;
- The Dolan Family, descendants of John (Doolan) Dolan;
- Nancy and Graham Holder;
- Patrick Beausoleil;
- Howard and Donna Spalding;
- Marion Cameron.



ACRES OF LAND CONSERVED IN 2018-19



ECOGIFT DONATIONS MADE IN 2018-19

**KEY ACQUISITION NUMBERS:** 



PRESERVES PROTECTING SPECIES AT RISK AND RARE HABITAT

## NEW PROPERTIES CONSERVED IN 2018-19



### **E** - Hampton Marsh Nature Preserve

This preserve protects over 15 hectares (38 acres) of partially forested wetland, which descends to freshwater wetland and protects shoreline along the Ossekeag Creek.

### F - Hidden Lakes Nature Preserve

This preserve protects 141 hectares (350 acres) of cedar and softwood wetlands, with portions of old tolerant hardwood forest uplands, and regenerated forest.

### G - Sasəkatəkok/Sasokatokuk Nature Preserve

This preserve protects 36 hectares (90 acres) of Appalachian Hardwood Forest, a forest type of which less than 1% remains of its former extent in the Maritimes.

### H - Minister's Face Nature Preserve

An additional parcel of 5.6 hectares (14 acres) was added to this preserve, located on Long Island, which lies within the Kennebecasis Bay near Kingston.

I - Nologonokek/Nelakwanakek Nature

acres) was added to this preserve, located on

Middle Island, which lies within the Wolastog/

An additional parcel of 3.74 hectares (9.24

Saint John River near Maugerville.

**J** - Noremac Nature Preserve

Preserve



### A - Armstrong Woods Nature Preserve

This preserve protects 53 hectares (130.9 acres) of old growth forest and is located in the hills east of Perth-Andover, on the eastern side of the Wolastoq/Saint John River.



### **B - Beausoleil Nature Preserve**

This preserve protects 75.4 hectares (186.3 acres) of floodplain habitat and mixed forest, located along the Skutik/St. Croix River near St. Stephen.



This preserve protects 21 hectares (51 acres) of Acadian Peninsula coastline habitat, including shrub wetland and coastal marsh, which is inhabited by many species of birds.

**C - Bernie Bowie Sr. Nature Preserve** 



### **D** - Dolan Woodlands Nature Preserve This preserve protects over 16 hectares (41 acres) of mixed forest and wetland habitat, some of which forms part of the Carding Mill

Brook, a tributary of the Miramichi River.



### limestone formation, located near Grand Bay-Westfield.

This preserve protects over 8 hectares (22

acres) of Acadian Old Growth Forest and

**K - Tobique Island Nature Preserve** This preserve protects over 5 hectares (13 acres) of alluvial black ash floodplain forest,

alder thicket, and cobble-sand shoreline in the upper Wolastoq/Saint John River.

### L - Warren Kent Coleman Nature Preserve

This preserve protects over 7 hectares (18 acres) of mixed forest along the banks of the Keswick River, and is home to a species at risk in New Brunswick.







# LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY

IN DISCUSSION WITH LONG-TIME NATURE TRUST SUPPORTERS AND LAND DONORS, MURRAY AND JANE WATTERS, WHO DONATED THE ARMSTRONG WOODS NATURE PRESERVE TO THE NATURE TRUST IN 2018

> WRITTEN BY: DANIELLE ANDRUS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

PRESENTED BY: WAYNE BURLEY, ACTING CHAIR OF THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE The Armstrong Woods Nature Preserve, located in the hills east of Perth-Andover, on the eastern side of the Wolastoq/ Saint John River, conserves over **130 acres (53 hectares)** of deep valleys, old hardwoods and red spruce along Larlee Creek, which supports an abundance of wildlife. This preserve holds deep history for Murray and Jane (nee Armstrong) Watters as much of the donation was Jane's family farm and woodlot, where she grew up.

The Watters were pleased to work with the Nature Trust to honour the Armstrong family with protecting their family's land, **in perpetuity**. Our Stewardship Manager, Bethany Young, had the pleasure of speaking with them to discuss how they came to donate the land and the importance of leaving a legacy.

### Do you mind taking me back to the time when your family acquired the land and how it was decided that it should be donated to the Nature Trust?

**Murray:** Jane had a big farm and there was another one not too far from it. We bought that for less than we paid for a new car in 1970, and with that came the 25-acre piece we gave to you. The other 100-acre piece that's with you is from Jane's family... We've used it for walking through the years and looking at wildlife... I remember coming back with Jane from a 5km circuit and she said, "look at that big hornets nest up in the tree". It was a barred owl sitting right above us, looking at Jane.

It stuck in my memory... That's their habitat, they like the hardwood forest. It is representative of this area... That's a reason for doing it. Everywhere around it is being cut down and I guess that's what probably drove it home to us.

### How did you hear about the Nature Trust initially?

**Murray:** I have been a member since the 1990's... Pat O'Brien, a local here, was a member of it and her dad was quite an influence too, [Fred Tribe]. He and I were pretty good friends and Pat was on the board. And Mr. [Mike] Dillon, I knew him too.

### Did you realize how ecologically significant your land was before you decided to donate it?

**Murray:** Well I didn't know what the criteria was. I've always liked it, with the different species of wood and big red spruce. Then Aaron Dowding [Nature Trust Conservation Planning Manager] found rare species on the property... I was glad they were able to find that it was ecologically significant.

### Can you talk more about the name 'Armstrong Woods Nature Preserve' and why it was named in your family's memory?

Jane: That was my father's name and my maiden name... The Armstrongs came from Scotland. My grandmother married an Armstrong and she was from Scotland. She taught the children and grandchildren a lot about Scottish traditions.

The woodlot had a great influence on me... I can remember going out to a woodlot, and I believe it was that woodlot, with my father... This was years and years ago, when I was quite small, probably 10 or 11 years old.

**Murray:** We wanted a Scottish name [for the preserve] and gee, Armstrong is a Scottish name, so let's call it that.

### Did giving your family's property to the Nature Trust, knowing that it would be protected forever, change your life in any way?

Jane: I think we are proud that that we found this. Murray always knew about the Nature Trust, I just heard it from him, but it was a good idea, to have some land preserved.

**Murray:** I guess I found a purpose in life. And I knew it would be in good hands if we put it there [donated to the Nature Trust].

Jane: That was the way with me too. I thought, this is going to be preserved and that would be good for generations to come.

### What have you learned through this experience?

Jane: I feel good about giving this property to the Nature Trust. I really do... But I probably would never have thought about it if Murray hadn't been so interested in nature and things. And I'm interested in nature, but I never would have thought of this.

**Murray:** We always feel good about it, we are giving back a little part of the damage we humans cause. It's the closest thing to perpetuity protection you're gonna get.

Jane: All the animals that are on our property here, it gives them a safe place to live. That makes you feel good too.



**Photo:** Murray and Jane Watters speaking about their donation at a federal funding announcement in April 2019



# CREATE YOUR LASTING LEGACY

Investing in nature is the best way to ensure future generations can enjoy New Brunswick nature the way that you do. Since 1987, The Nature Trust of New Brunswick has fulfilled the legacy wishes of many land donors and financial donors. Let us help you create your lasting legacy.

Contact Nature Trust Chief Executive Officer, Renata Woodward, by email at **renata.woodward@ntnb.org** or call **(506) 457-2398** to discuss a gift in your will.

# SEARCHING FOR THE ELUSIVE GRAY TREEFROG

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HAS HELPED US LEARN MORE ABOUT THE POPULATIONS OF GRAY TREEFROG (*HYLA VERSICOLOR*) THAT CALL THE HYLA PARK NATURE PRESERVE HOME

> WRITTEN BY: BETHANY YOUNG, STEWARDSHIP MANAGER

PRESENTED BY: DAVID PALMER, CHAIR OF THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE Walking through a flooded forest on a spring night by the light of a headlamp is not for the faint of heart. The songs of Spring peepers are piercing, the mosquitoes are reborn and hungry, and the ground sinks and sloshes with every step you take further into the trail.

As you keep walking, you hear a different call in the distance. You are quick to stop, as it disappears as fast as it appears. It may be the call you've been waiting to hear. The call rings out again and you turn your headlamp to the nearest tree.

The bird-like mating call of the elusive and mature Gray treefrog (*Hyla versicolor*) continues to get louder as it sings out around you. You turn your headlamp to the left, and then to your right, and finally above you, where you find it, sitting securely and contently on a maple tree branch.

The gray treefrog makes its home at the Hyla Park Nature Preserve, located on Fredericton's Northside. This nature preserve conserves **8 hectares** (**19 acres**) of wetland habitat through a lease agreement with the City of Fredericton to protect the populations of gray treefrogs, other wildlife, and their habitat for future generations.

At one point in time, the Hyla Park Nature Preserve had the most north-eastern limit of distribution for the gray treefrog. This population and the populations of other amphibians helped to distinguish the nature preserve as Canada's First Amphibian Park.

Since **2017**, Hyla Park has been subject to annual gray treefrog surveys, led by Nature Trust volunteer Shaylyn Wallace, a master's student at the University of New Brunswick, who has a keen interest in the species.

With a team of **19 volunteers**, Shaylyn uses a methodology first developed in 2012 by Greg Jongsma, a herpetologist, to accurately track their population numbers in the preserve. The surveys aim to estimate the population size of the gray treefrogs at Hyla Park and obtain data that will provide information on its ideal habitat.

With permission from the Government of New Brunswick's Department of Energy and Resource Development, and taking extra special care and caution, volunteers are trained on how to appropriately interact with the gray treefrogs, which includes handling techniques. After their training, volunteers split Hyla Park up into four quadrants and survey how many adults make use of the preserve during mating season (**early to late Spring**).



**Photo:** Gray treefrogs are carefully placed in a lightbox and photographed for future identification purposes

The first two field seasons presented learning curves for Shaylyn and the volunteers, as they learned the best ways to spot and document the gray treefrogs. They discovered through trial and error that the peak time to locate the frogs was in the **late evening** during the Spring months, when they make their way down from their tree perches to find a mate near the ponds.

This timeframe also worked best to hear the calls, as the songs of the spring peepers' had quieted. They also discovered that the gray treefrogs' eyes shine in a way that the spring peepers' eyes do not. When Shaylyn and the volunteers would find a gray treefrog, they would carefully collect and photograph them in a lightbox, before bringing them back to their corresponding quadrant to find a mate.

The gray treefrog has "warty" brown/gray skin with black patterns on their backs and legs and can turn a dark greenishbrown colour when they need to hide on a dark surface, like a maple tree. Each frog also has a **varied black dorsal pattern**, similar to whales. Using the dorsal patterns, Shaylyn can identify whether they have caught the same frog in previous years and keeps records of each frog found during the survey.

Once the spring months end, the gray treefrog surveys pause until the late summer, when the volunteers return to Hyla Park to survey how many young gray treefrogs they can spot.

The commitment from Shaylyn and the volunteers to go out and identify key population numbers and trends is a great example of how vital volunteers and stewards are to help us accomplish our mission and vision.

Land stewards and stewardship volunteers are our eyes and ears on the preserves. With their help, we use their information and findings to make efficient and integral plans of actions for the perpetual management of the nature preserves.

The findings from Shaylyn and the volunteers will help inform us of any significant changes in population, any deformities, or decrease in the number of gray treefrogs. Their results for the 2019-20 calendar year will be announced later this year.

## We want to thank the following gray treefrog survey volunteers, who keep a close eye on the amphibians of Hyla Park:

- Cole Arseanult;
- Emma Billings;
- Delaney Brooks;
- Kristen Gallant:
- Kristine Hanifen;
- Brittany Hartey;
- Kristy Hutchinson;
- Robyn Lattie;
- Maria Machuari
- Maria Maclvor;

- Chet MacLean;
- Fawn Maika;
- Douglas Munn;
- Jay Phillips;
- Dylan Schneider;
- Caitlin Tarr;
- Mehrnoosh Talebi;
- Matt Warner;
- Alyse Wilton;
- Taylor Wood.



## **OUR SUPPORTERS** 2018-19

The Nature Trust of New Brunswick may provide the means for land conservation, but it is the individuals and groups featured on this list who truly make it possible. The following list recognizes the individuals and families who donated generously to our organization between May 1, 2018 and April 30, 2019. We thank you for your support.

### DONORS OF LAND

Janice Buchanan Patrick Albert Beausoleil Marion Cameron Shirlyn Coleman Kimberlee & Harold Dolan Nancy Holder Donna & Howard Spalding Murray & Jane Watters

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\$1,000+

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#### UNDER \$1,000

**Dolores & Gary Saunders Harry Scarth Mary Sheppard Jamie Simpson** Sedgewick Sinclair **Kathleen Small Calvin Smith Leigh Smith Robert Smith Dusan Soudek Cheryl Spring & Jean-Guy Ferlatte Cynthia Stacey Catherine Stanley Owen Steel Colette St-Onge George Strunz Jane & Richard Tarn Gillian Thompson** Lois Thompson **Jennette Tucker Julie Vincent** Susan & Daniel Voyer **Feli Wallace Shaylyn Wallace Bradley Walters** Sheila Washburn Lisa Weir **Michael Wetmore Janet Whitehead** Pam Whitty John Williamson **Renata Woodward Henry Yates Bong Yoo Bethany Young Karen & Chris Young** Mary Young **Vicki Young** Martha McClure & Vince Zelazny **Jane & Mitch Zelman** 

IN MEMORY OF THE ACADIAN FOREST

**Margo Sheppard** 

IN MEMORY OF GERALD "BUTCH" BECK

**Marche Moncton Market** 

IN MEMORY OF JAMES EDWIN BRIGGS

**NB** Power

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### IN MEMORY OF MARGARET CAMERON & JAN VOLNEY

Susan Schott

IN MEMORY OF Fred Campbell

**Cory Goodman** 

IN MEMORY OF VINCENT COMEAU

New Brunswick Department of Tourism, Heritage & Culture Vince Zelazny

#### IN MEMORY OF JOHN CORNEY

Brian Pollock

IN MEMORY OF DON DENNISON

Christie Dennison Gail Dennison

Correction of Omission from 2017-18 Annual Report: Gail Dennison

IN MEMORY OF GORDAN EMBREE

Donna Dykeman

IN MEMORY OF DR. SCOTT GIFFIN

Sally Allanach

IN MEMORY OF Adrian Hudson

James Hudson

IN MEMORY OF GERALD HUDSON

Anonymous

IN MEMORY OF BILL JOHNSTON

Anonymous Chris Regier and Family Frances Giberson

IN MEMORY OF JAMES EDWARD JOHNSTON

Mark E Johnston

IN MEMORY OF NICHOLAS KEILTY

Theresa Glanville

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES LONG

Joan Pearce

IN MEMORY OF REG MACKENZIE

The Moss Glen Fishing Club

IN MEMORY OF MAILLET FAMILY

**Michelle Maillet** 

#### IN MEMORY OF JOHN PALMER

Margaret & Angus Hamilton Amy Jefferies Claude Maurice Bob Power Ian Robertson

IN MEMORY OF RAYMA PERRY

Jane & Mitch Zelman

IN MEMORY OF RHODA & JAY SCHAFRANN

Joan & Charles Weissman

IN MEMORY OF KEN SMITH

Jo-Anne Monahan

IN MEMORY OF RUFUS SMYTH

Janet & Don Moses

IN MEMORY OF Katherine tozer

Anne DeWolfe

IN MEMORY OF FRED TRIBE

Michelle Tribe

IN MEMORY OF JAN VOLNEY

**Jim Sheppard** 

IN MEMORY OF OWEN WASHBURN

Lydia LaPointe Doris MacKnight IN HONOUR OF Lois e bateman

**Lorraine Bateman** 

IN HONOUR OF Erin Carpenter

Lori Beaman

<u>IN HONOUR OF</u> Lydia Lapointe

**Renata Woodward** 

IN HONOUR OF JAMES LEMESURIER

**CPHR NB Saint John Chapter** 

IN HONOUR OF Mary Jane Logan

**Rob Scott** 

<mark>IN HONOUR OF</mark> Marie McConaghy

Lydia LaPointe

IN HONOUR OF Sandy & Larry Ratcliffe

Sarah Ratcliffe

IN HONOUR OF Elizabeth Sheppard

**Margo Sheppard** 

IN HONOUR OF MARGO & LARRY SHEPPARD

Monika Stelzl

<mark>IN HONOUR OF</mark> Kathy & Ron Sessamen

Joyce & Robert McCavour

IN HONOUR OF RENATA WOODWARD

Anonymous Michael McEwing David Palmer Margo & Larry Sheppard

<u>IN HONOUR OF</u> Bethany young

**Travis Young** 



## OUR SUPPORTERS 2018-19

The Nature Trust of New Brunswick may provide the means for land conservation, but it is the help of individuals and groups featured on this list who truly make it possible. The following list recognizes the corporations, foundations, partnering organizations, and government departments who supported our organization between May 1, 2018 and April 30, 2019. We thank you for your support.

**ACAP Saint John Alcool NB Liquor Community Foundation** Andrew & Laura McCain Art Gallery **Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre Bird Studies Canada Beaver Scouts Canada Bottomless Bingo Brewer Foundation** Bruce Trail Conservancy **Canada Summer Jobs Canadian Freshwater Alliance** Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - New Brunswick Chapter **Canadian Rivers Institute Canadian Wildlife Service Canoe Kayak New Brunswick** CBRE **City of Fredericton Clean Foundation COJO** Diving **Community Forests International Connors Bros. Clover Leaf Seafoods Company Conservation Council of New Brunswick** Cooke Aquaculture Inc. Couchiching Conservancy Crane Mountain Enhancement Fund **Ducks Unlimited Canada** Eastern Charlotte Waterways Inc. **E&I Engineering Ltd. Elgin Eco Association Environment and Climate Change Canada Environment Canada Habitat Stewardship Program Esgenoopetitj Watershed Association** Fluor **Fredericton Garden Club Fundy Community Foundation Get Outside! NB** Government of Canada **Government of New Brunswick:** Department of Energy and Resource Development Department of Environment and Local Government . **Environmental Trust Fund** . Department of Tourism, Heritage & Culture Department of Post Secondary Education, Labour and Training (Work Ability Program) Habitat Stewardship Program - Prevention Stream **Grand Manan Art Gallery** Grand Manan Museum **Grand Manan Trails Association** GTFO **Huntsman Marine Science Centre IBM Canada's Employees Charitable Fund** 

Iris Center **Jolly Breeze Whale Adventures Maliseet Nation Conservation Council** Maritime DayTripping McCain Foods Canada **McInnes** Cooper Meduxnekeag River Association Inc. Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn Inc. Nashwaak Watershed Association Nature NB New Brunswick Environmental Network **New Brunswick Museum New Brunswick Wildlife Trust Fund NB** Power **Northhead Bakery Opal Family Services Outward Bound Canada** Paddlefest Parks New Brunswick **Peskotomuhkati First Nation** Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance **RBC Foundation Redrock Adventures & Shipyard Cafe** Remsoft **RL Hunter Holdings Second Nature Outdoors Sunbury Shores Arts & Nature Centre Sir James Dunn Foundation** St. Thomas University **Stantec Consulting** Sustainability Network **Tabusintac Watershed Association TD Partnership in Conservation** The Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup **The Gosling Foundation The McCain Foundation** The Nature Conservancy of Canada The New Brunswick Trails Council Inc. The Ocean Conservancy **The Tides Foundation** Town of Florenceville-Bristol Town of Grand Bay-Westfield Treecologic **Tri-County Ground Search and Rescue** University of New Brunswick **UNB Harriet Irving Library** United Way: **Central New Brunswick** Greater Moncton & Southeastern New Brunswick Saint John, Kings, and Charlotte Counties Venture for Canada Village of Blacks Harbour

Wildav Realty Ltd. Wildlife Habitat Canada

**Young Canada Works** 

# KEEPING NEW BRUNSWICK'S SHORELINES CLEAN

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HAS HELPED THE NATURE TRUST CLEAN MARINE DEBRIS FROM SHORELINES ACROSS NEW BRUNSWICK FOR OVER **25 YEARS** 

> WRITTEN BY: CHEYENNE CURRIE, ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR

PRESENTED BY: WAYNE BURLEY, ACTING CHAIR OF THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE When I was growing up, the smell of saltwater was a foreign one. I was familiar with migratory birds stopping over in local wetlands, rather than witnessing them nest along the shore. I observed ocean life through the television, not binoculars.

Living near the shorelines of Lake Ontario, plovers and sandpipers were outnumbered by geese and gulls, and the tides did not dramatically change on a twelve-hour cycle. I spent most of my childhood admiring the wildlife that congregated near the water. It was no surprise that I was drawn to the stunning ecological features of the Bay of Fundy.

One of the first nature preserves I visited when I moved to New Brunswick in 2018 was the **Pagan Point Nature Preserve** in St. Andrews. I remember walking to the end of the trail and emerging from the mixed forest to the rocky shoreline. The nearby salt marsh was buzzing with song sparrows, gulls, and a killdeer scurrying along the shore.

From the birds' behaviours alone, one would think their habitat was in pristine condition allowing for proper foraging, breeding, and nesting. However, as I walked the protected shoreline, my eyes were drawn to the artificial intruders I had grown accustomed to on the Lake Ontario shore.

While home to many, shorelines across New Brunswick and around the world continue to combat a common threat: **marine pollution**.

The importance of the Bay of Fundy has been known to New Brunswickers, Atlantic Canadians, and our organization for decades. It is an ecologically significant and culturally integral area of the Maritimes. High tides bring essential minerals and nutrients that are integral to the maintenance of the ecosystem and the many species (some rare or endangered) that call the bay and its' shorelines home.

Our coastal shorelines are part of rich marine environments and support globally-significant shorebird and seabird habitat.

They also support some of the highest biological diversity in the province, from rare lichens, to iconic raptors like the Bald eagle and Peregrine falcon, to species of seals, porpoises, and whales. Since the majority of the species living in coastal habitat cannot live inland, the protection of their habitat is critical.

The Nature Trust has hosted nature preserve shoreline cleanups since the early 1990s, where staff and volunteers would visit and clean preserves, primarily island sites like the Western Isles Nature Preserve, which are frequented by floating marine debris and plastic waste.

The work with the Bay of Fundy shorelines continued throughout the early and mid-2000s, with cleanups and the launch of the **Campaign for Coastal Lands** in 2007, which was formalized to help protect New Brunswick's beautiful and remote islands and shorelines.

By the mid-2010s, many Nature Trust preserves contained Bay of Fundy shoreline, which meant that the removal of marine debris from these conserved spaces remained a priority. To streamline efforts, restore and increase the ecological health of New Brunswick shorelines, and to engage with communities, industries, and other organizations, the Nature Trust formalized the **first Great Fundy Coastal Cleanup** initiative in **2016**.

The first organized coastal cleanup began with an ambitious **ten nature preserve** shorelines. It was recognized early on that tackling marine debris was a collaborative effort that required the support of partnering corporations and organizations.

With the help of over **15 partners** from various industries, non-governmental organizations, provincial government departments, and other sectors, over **100 volunteers** were successful in their mission to travel to remote islands, lead cleanups, and remove harmful marine debris.

Over **300 garbage bags** of marine debris were collected from the shorelines the first year, overflowing with rope, various plastic waste, aquaculture netting, and other unusual items. The Nature Trust realized more work was needed to be done to increase awareness and to help bring recognition to this problem.

Gaining momentum, the second annual Great Fundy Coastal Cleanup (2017) and the third annual Great Fundy Coastal Cleanup (2018), added **eight** and **ten** cleanup sites respectively and **doubled** the number of volunteers and new supporting and partnering organizations.

Volunteers and staff continued to collect hundreds of bags of marine debris from the shorelines, and at some sites, saw an increase or a decrease in marine debris from the previous years.



Photo: One of the first Nature Trust shoreline cleanups took place in 1993, at the Western Isles Nature Preserve, located in the Bay of Fundy



Photo: Volunteers help clean the shorelines of the Navy Island Nature Preserve, located in St. Andrews, at the 3rd Annual Great Fundy Coastal Cleanup in 2018

The Great Fundy Coastal Cleanup supports national and provincial shoreline cleanup initiatives, including the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup and the Huntsman Marine Science Centre as a part of their Debris Free Fundy initiative. Data of items collected at the cleanup is provided to both initiatives to offer a picture of the state of New Brunswick shorelines and how they are impacted by marine debris, year after year.

The cleanup presents an opportunity for individuals to be part of the marine debris solution. It is not the act of physically picking up garbage that makes this event our most popular volunteer initiative.

It is that through this initiative, New Brunswickers are making a difference by stewarding and protecting some of the most beautiful pieces of untouched land our province holds, while seeing how our choices and consumer behaviours impact our most sensitive species and their critical habitat.

Looking back at my first visit to Pagan Point, I fondly remember the wildlife that surrounded me, the scenery that inspired me, and the dedicated volunteers who took the time to steward the coastal preserve. Though it was impacted by marine debris at that time, I am happy to report that on my most recent visit in 2019, I only collected a small handful of garbage.

The Great Fundy Coastal Cleanup would not be possible without the generosity of donors, members, supporters, partnering organizations and corporations, dedicated stewards, communities, staff, and volunteers.

Thanks to your support, we will continue to admire New Brunswick's beautiful coastlines and the symphony of wildlife that call it home for years to come.



**Photo:** Volunteers remove large amounts of rope from the Frye Island Nature Preserve, located near St. George, at the 2nd Annual Great Fundy Coastal Cleanup in 2017

### RECONCILIATION AND INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT:



The Nature Trust recognizes that all nature preserves are located on the traditional territories of the Wolastoqey, Mi'gmaq, and Peskotomuhkati Nations. As such, we are committed to working with these Indigenous Nations in our mandate to conserve and steward nature and biodiversity.

The Nature Trust has developed and is continuing to rework three main Indigenous engagement goals through engaging with Indigenous people in New Brunswick.

**First**, we aim to build meaningful relationships with Indigenous peoples and support Indigenous rights by discovering common values to guide cooperative work. We recognize that Nature Trust preserves are on traditional Indigenous lands and respect Indigenous Traditional knowledge systems.

**Second**, we aim to collaborate with Indigenous groups to increase land conservation in New Brunswick through supporting Indigenous groups' involvement in achieving the Canada Target 1 – Pathway to Biodiversity 2020.

**Lastly**, we aim to engage Indigenous groups in the shared stewardship of nature preserves. This includes sharing information about nature preserves with interested Indigenous groups and gathering input on traditional activities and management requests for significant sites.

Stay tuned to our **2019-20 Gratitude Report** for more information on our Indigenous Engagement work.









SOCIAL MEDIA STATISTICS:



### 2018-19 Frog Walk Results:











HYLA PARK



**3RD ANNUAL GREAT FUNDY COASTAL CLEANUP RESULTS:** 

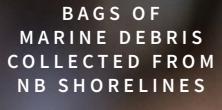


CLEANUP SITES ALONG THE BAY OF FUNDY









200

FINANCE:

# **FINANCIA REPORT** 2018-19

WRITTEN BY: BRANDI RIDEOUT, FINANCE COORDINATOR

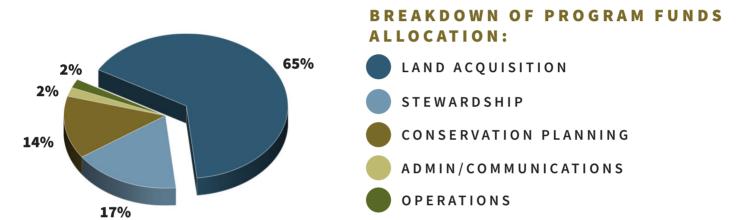
PRESENTED BY: WALTER EMRICH, CHAIR OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE We continue to ensure that the majority of funds raised are allocated towards maintaining our mission of **conservation**, **stewardship**, and **engagement**. We take immense pride in the **stewardship** of the existing network of nature preserves, allocating **17% of total revenues** to their continued management. This is done by the countless volunteers, stewards, and dedicated staff through hands-on engagement and outreach. The charts below show a further breakdown of revenue allocation for five categories: **Land Acquisition**, **Stewardship**, **Conservation Planning**, **Administration and Communications**, and **Operations**.

**65% of total revenues** were used for **Land Acquisition**, including revenues consisting of funds raised for the establishment of ten new nature preserves, two extensions of existing preserves, baseline reports, as well as negotiations, management plans, legal fees, appraisals and purchase/donation of land and planned gifts for future land acquisition purposes.

**14% of total revenues** were used for **Conservation Planning**, including revenues associated with project management and field surveys. This includes projects related to conserving **species at risk** and rare and threatened habitats in key planning regions as well as the **Landowner Stewardship Program**, which encourages positive land stewardship.

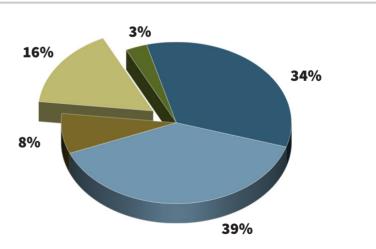
Administration and Communications (2%) include revenues for charitable activities of the organization, communications, and public engagement. **Operations (2%)** include revenues for charitable activities of the organization, such as rent, technology, and other office expenses.

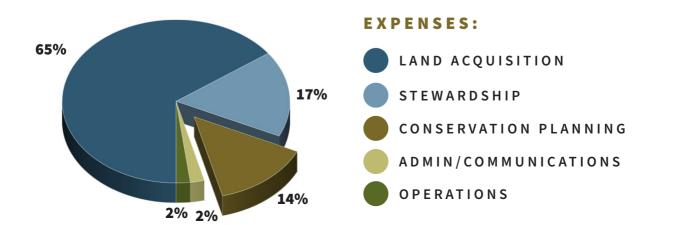
## The charts below show the breakdown of program funds allocation, revenue sources, and the breakdown of the expenses from May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019.



### **REVENUE SOURCES:**

CHARITABLE DONATIONS
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
FOUNDATIONS
OTHER REVENUE





### SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF

APRIL 30, 2019

AFRIL 50, 20	1 9	
ASSETS:	2019	2018
CASH	\$296,844.00	\$352,576.00
CAPITAL ASSETS	\$26,807.00	\$2,598.00
INVESTMENTS	\$3,282,119.00	\$2,590,883.00
INTERFUND BALANCES	\$1,778.00	\$823.00
CONSERVATION LANDS/EASEMENTS	\$9,770,697.00	\$8,872,297.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$13,378,245.00	\$11,819,177.00
LIABILITIES:		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/ACCRUED LIABILITIES	\$50,361.00	\$56,144.00
DEFERRED REVENUE	\$45,775.00	\$100,100.00
INTERFUND BALANCES	\$1,778.00	\$823.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$97,914.00	\$157,067.00
NET ASSETS:		
UNRESTRICTED	\$139,477.00	\$164,947.00
INVESTED IN CAPITAL ASSETS	\$26,807.00	\$2,598.00
INVESTMENT IN LAND/CONSERVATION EASEMENTS	\$9,770,697.00	\$8,872,297.00
STEWARDSHIP FUND	\$1,331,949.00	\$807,253.00
ENDOWMENT FUND	\$2,011,401.00	\$1,815,015.00
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$13,280,331.00	\$11,662,110.00
TOTAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	\$13,378,245.00	\$11,819,177.00
SUMMARY OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES		
FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 2019		
REVENUE:	2019	2018
PUBLIC SUPPORT END REVENUE	\$2,074,975.00	\$1,442,171.00
INVESTMENT INCOME	\$83,462.00	\$74,050.00
CHANGE IN MARKET VALUE OF INVESTMENT	\$236,886.00	\$0.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$2,395,323.00	\$1,516,221.00
EXPENDITURES	\$1,675,502.00	\$1,077,268.00
CHANGE IN MARKET VALUE	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,675,502.00	\$1,077,268.00
EXCESS OF REVENUE (EXPENSES) FOR THE YEAR	\$719,821.00	\$438,953.00

### THE NATURE TRUST OF NEW BRUNSWICK GRATITUDE REPORT 2018-19

Nature Trust of New Brunswick 649 Queen Street, 2nd Floor P.O. Box 603, Stn. A Fredericton, NB E3B 5A6 www.naturetrust.nb.ca Phone: (506) 457-2398 Fax: (506) 450-2137

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HONOURARY DIRECTORS: Jessie Davies Robert Stewart

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NATURE TRUST

PROTECTION DES SITES NATUREES

Terre protégée

THIS PAGE, PAGES 2,6,8-10,14,21,22,26 BACK COVER: Dutch Elm Studios PAGE 11, BACK COVER: Peter Gadd PAGE 20: Nick Hawkins Photography BACK COVER: Maureen Boone BACK COVER: Brigitte Noel

HIDDEN LAKES NATURE PRESERVE WILLIAMSTOWN

NOLOQONOKEK / NELƏKWƏNƏKEK NATURE PRESERVE MAUGERVILLE

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