



NATURE TRUST
of NEW BRUNSWICK

Fondation pour la
PROTECTION DES
SITES NATURELS
du NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK

**Conserve Y(our)
New Brunswick:
Protect The Places You Love**





What does your first memory in nature look like?

Were you walking along coastlines discovering marine life that travelled in with the tide? Searching for frogs in a local wetland? Or perhaps, admiring wildflowers in the yard of your childhood home?

And what are your favourite ways to connect with nature today?

Do you love the smell of the ocean breeze as the fog rolls in? The freshness in the forest after a spring rain? Or the simple magic of looking at the birds outside your kitchen window?

Here at the Nature Trust, we envision a New Brunswick where future generations can explore and enjoy natural spaces, forever. To accomplish this, we have launched our Conserve Y(our) NB: Protect The Places You Love campaign. With your help, the Nature Trust currently protects 8,000 acres of ecologically significant land in our beautiful province. Together, we will raise \$10 million to increase the amount of land the Nature Trust protects to 15,000 acres by 2030.

To reach this goal, we will be raising funds through gifts of land, financial gifts and pledges, and also gifts in your Will. When you choose to leave a gift in your Will, or in your lifetime, to the Nature Trust, you are protecting natural spaces, old growth forests, and picturesque coastlines and shorelines for future generations to enjoy and for endangered species to find refuge.

What you are holding now is a collection of stories showcasing a few ways which New Brunswickers connect with the natural landscapes in our beautiful province. As you read these stories, I hope you will reflect on your own story and feel inspired to connect with us to learn more about how you can be part of our story too!

Our Vision for Conservation in New Brunswick

Stephanie Merrill, Chief Executive Officer

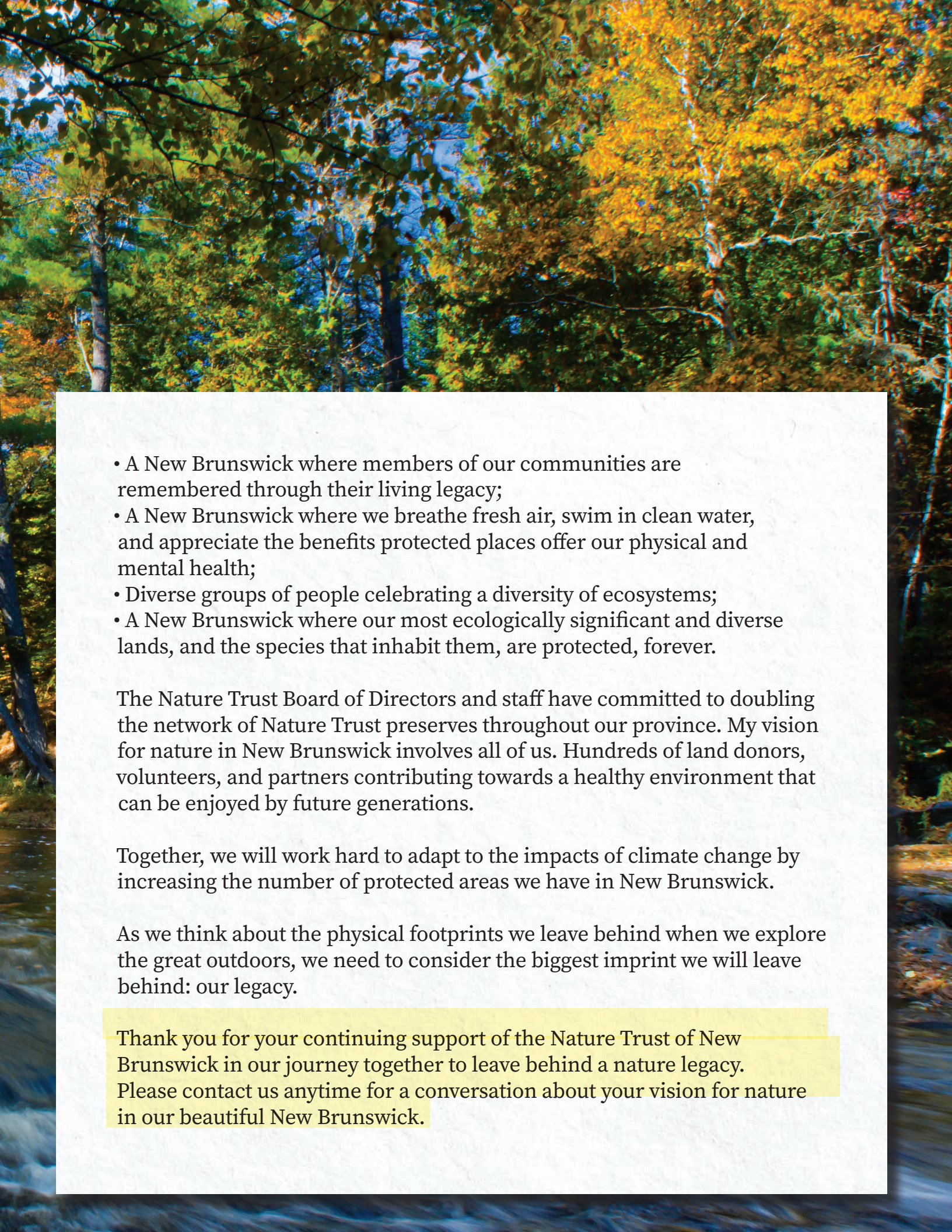


Growing up my weekends were filled with trips to our family cottage. Walking up and down the beaches, swimming in the lake, and spending time with family was so special then and continues to be the memories I cherish most. Exploring New Brunswick's natural spaces became a part of my identity and grew into my lifelong appreciation for outdoor spaces. When I am in need of recharging I return to nature to find peace and am reminded of what we have that is so important to protect.

At the Nature Trust, we are excited to launch our Conserve Y(our) NB campaign. Every day, we work to protect more of the New Brunswick you love.

We envision:

- Sandy shorelines protected from development which functions as important nesting habitat for endangered turtles;
- Young forests of fir and birch changing over time to diverse stands of maples, pines, cedar, and hemlock;
- Conserved coastlines with salt marsh buffers protecting upland areas from wave action which will help adapt to a changing climate;
- Hundreds of kilometres of trails for people of all ages to appreciate New Brunswick's natural heritage;
- Experiential, hands-on programs to teach our youth about the importance of environmental stewardship and empower them to take climate action;

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- A New Brunswick where members of our communities are remembered through their living legacy;
 - A New Brunswick where we breathe fresh air, swim in clean water, and appreciate the benefits protected places offer our physical and mental health;
 - Diverse groups of people celebrating a diversity of ecosystems;
 - A New Brunswick where our most ecologically significant and diverse lands, and the species that inhabit them, are protected, forever.

The Nature Trust Board of Directors and staff have committed to doubling the network of Nature Trust preserves throughout our province. My vision for nature in New Brunswick involves all of us. Hundreds of land donors, volunteers, and partners contributing towards a healthy environment that can be enjoyed by future generations.

Together, we will work hard to adapt to the impacts of climate change by increasing the number of protected areas we have in New Brunswick.

As we think about the physical footprints we leave behind when we explore the great outdoors, we need to consider the biggest imprint we will leave behind: our legacy.

Thank you for your continuing support of the Nature Trust of New Brunswick in our journey together to leave behind a nature legacy. Please contact us anytime for a conversation about your vision for nature in our beautiful New Brunswick.



Sheila and Owen's Story: Protecting Our Garden of Eden

My husband Owen and I grew up in New Brunswick at a time when children played outdoors, exploring woods, streams and seashores, becoming fully in tune with nature. We both worked elsewhere in Canada returning home in 1973 better appreciating the threats to the pristine land remaining New Brunswick.



One of the most fascinating places was Sam Orr's Pond which was protected from all but the highest of flood tides by a natural dam at its mouth. The periodic invasion of salt water produced a unique and rich ecosystem that needed protection. Half of the pond was owned by my father, the late Earl Caughey. He offered his portion to the fledgling Nature Trust of NB if the owner of the other half, Eugene Sharp, would give his portion. Before my Father died he deeded his share of the pond to my husband. After Dad died, Owen, my brother Michael Caughey, myself and Eugene Sharp gave land surrounding the Pond and beyond to the Nature Trust.

The giving of land was a no-brainer for Owen and my family. That this special and unique area could be developed into housing lots or commercial uses was unthinkable. In a time of global threats to the environment, it is very comforting to know that this piece of the Garden of Eden is being protected. We cannot go back in time to reverse the degradation of the environment, but we can support governments, individuals and organizations who are exploring ways to slow the process. Supporting the Nature Trust of New Brunswick is one of the most effective and satisfying ways to continue protecting our planet.

-Sheila Washburn



The Kingston Family Story: Our Living History

It is our natural spaces that hold the memories of our lives—and the stories of our family members that came before us. Our parents, from Miramichi, worked hard their whole lives and were proud property owners here. As our mother's health was failing, we were struggling with what to do with their Three Islands property. Selling it didn't feel right—it was too much a part of our family story. That's when we found the Nature Trust.

The Kingston Family Nature Preserve, in memory of Paul Kingston and Lydia Byrd Kingston, is a remote and gorgeous place—mixed woods, conifer stands of white spruce and jack pine, and it also protects riparian zones of brooks that run through the property, and the riparian zones of the Northwest Miramichi River.

It is our hope that people will enjoy this beautiful piece of near pristine wilderness in New Brunswick and pause to think about how their lives today benefit from those who came before them. We all need to think about how we can contribute to our collective future prosperity. Our choice was to honour our parent's lives through the gift of land and the story it tells.

-Dennis Kingston





Reg's Story: Remembering a True Frog Symphony

"I remember spring nights being lulled to sleep in my bed in the upstairs bedroom by thousands of frogs croaking and peeping like a vast symphony.

Of mist creeping from the marsh on summer evenings across the lower meadows and pasture land."

— M. Reg Bonney

"Reg was an enjoyable person to be with. He was extremely curious about everything, and we had long conversations about every topic imaginable. He loved being outdoors and felt happiest there, and much of that feeling originated in his childhood when he spent much of his time tramping about the land. We often spent hours talking about his youth spent on the land in New Brunswick—starting from age two, no less!"

— Bob Saunders, climbing companion and friend of Reg's for over 20 years.

We are deeply grateful that Reg named the Nature Trust as beneficiary of his estate, including the 3.6 hectare (8.5 acre) property in the Lower Kingston region, now recognized as the Reg Bonney Nature Preserve, located 30 kilometers from Saint John, New Brunswick.





What Are The Places You Love?

You and I and our fellow New Brunswickers find joy and wonder in a variety of unique and precious habitats. Here are five of the habitat types we are working to urgently protect:

Appalachian Hardwood Forest

The Appalachian Hardwood Forest is different from all other hardwoods in New Brunswick. In them, you'll find basswood, elm, and butternut, along with wildflowers and other plants that are extremely rare in the Maritimes. While you venture through old-growth stands in the late spring, you'll be greeted by a symphony from forest birds returning for the warm months. Tall forests of sugar maple, beech, and ash are accompanied by lush green understory. Only 1% of the original Appalachian Hardwood forest is standing in New Brunswick.

Old Growth Acadian Forest

A mix of coniferous and deciduous trees in the Acadian Forest gives us visions of green all year long. This resilient forest type supports a diversity of wildlife with colours bursting in every season. While enjoying a serene walk through the Acadian Forest, you'll be sure to see New Brunswick's provincial tree, the Balsam Fir.



Bay of Fundy Coast/Islands

Known for high tides and an abundance of marine life, the Bay of Fundy is a culturally integral area of the Maritimes and attracts visitors from around the world. Preserves like the Frye Island Nature Preserve near St. George contain cliffs, rocky beaches, and saltwater marshes. These coastal ecosystems are essential to the diverse marine and terrestrial life we see in New Brunswick and are true New Brunswick treasures.

Wetlands

Our province's natural sponges, wetlands help us combat floods and extreme weather events. New Brunswick's wildlife depends on wetlands for nesting, raising their young, migrating, and foraging. By investing in the protection of wetlands, we invest in our natural heritage and for future generations, of wildlife and people, to enjoy.

River Shorelines

With changing rivers, our shorelines require protection now more than ever. Important nesting sites for reptiles, a hotspot for vulnerable species, and areas of high recreation value, riparian zones are home to fifteen of New Brunswick's rarest species. Protecting our natural shorelines conserves essential wildlife habitat and the picturesque views we know and love.

What's Your Story?

We love connecting with our donors like you. We would be happy to talk anytime, in confidence. Whether on a trail enjoying our protected nature preserves, or at a sit-down meeting, we'd be delighted to learn about you, your legacy vision, and answer any questions you may have about gifts in your lifetime and gifts in your will.

Nature Trust representatives will be guided by the following principles during our time together:

- We respect your privacy. Any information you share with us will be in confidence;
- If you wish, we would be happy to send your loved ones updates on how your gift is contributing to nature conservation in New Brunswick;
- We will discuss your areas of interest to ensure your gifts aligns with your vision for conservation in New Brunswick;
- We will provide you, and those close to you, with opportunities to learn more about the Nature Trust through guided excursions and donor appreciation events;
- You can contact Sabarah or Stephanie at any time as we value your input, your questions, and your gift to conservation efforts in New Brunswick.

We're here to help! Please contact us anytime for a confidential conversation.



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