



Forever Wild

2022/23 GRATITUDE REPORT

nsnt.ca

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a purple jacket and an orange life vest, is seen from the side, sitting in a kayak on a calm body of water. The background shows a sunset with a warm orange glow and silhouettes of trees and land in the distance. The water reflects the sunset colors.

A message from our Executive Director

Bonnie Sutherland

The past year has been one of hopeful transition. In the face of growing crises and threats, we have been humbled and inspired by new resolve and momentum for environmental action. The COP15 Convention on Biological Diversity galvanized global commitment to halt biodiversity loss. Nature-based solutions stepped into the spotlight as critical strategies in stemming and mitigating climate change. Growing community support, innovative collaborations, and substantial government investments are fueling positive change. Ambitious targets are driving protected areas action globally and nationally (30% of land protected by 2030) and provincially (20% by 2030). The land trust movement is flourishing, led by a new national alliance.

Thanks to our generous donors, passionate volunteers, caring, community-minded landowners, and dedicated conservation partners, we have been able to step up even more this past year, advancing the ambitious goal of doubling our protected spaces for nature. Another 16 of Nova Scotia's most important natural areas are now protected forever, bringing our network of conservation lands to 173 sites and over 22,000 acres, ever closer to *Twice the Wild*!

Together we saved more rare and unique habitats and landscapes, essential homes for endangered species and habitats for nesting, overwintering and migrating birds. We advanced essential landscape connectivity and wildlife corridors, and preserved natural areas that provide critical ecological services, from sequestering carbon, filtering air and water, to mitigating storm impacts and flooding.

To ensure the Nature Trust meets the promise of "protected forever" we continued to strengthen capacity to effectively steward our rapidly growing conservation lands network, adopting innovative technology and expanding our province-wide team of conservation volunteers. To build resilience and sustainability, we continue to invest in community education, engagement and partnerships. We continued our reconciliation journey, building our understanding, and creating meaningful connections with the Mi'kmaq and supporting Mi'kmaq-led conservation.

While the environmental alarms ring ever louder and competition and costs for land grow, our optimism remains high. It's irrefutable now that a key solution to the crises we face is protecting land--and protecting land is what we do best! With your support we will continue to heed that urgent call, bringing more and more good news for nature.

We hope you enjoy and take pride in reading about all you made possible this year, making a tangible, important and lasting impact, for nature, and for people too. We are deeply grateful for your generosity, for believing in our work and our organization, and for stepping up for the land we love.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bonnie Sutherland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bonnie" being more prominent than the last name "Sutherland".

Bonnie Sutherland



The Nova Scotia Nature Trust works to protect the province's outstanding natural legacy through private land conservation.

CURRENT STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Pace



We will significantly accelerate biodiversity conservation in Nova Scotia.

Permanence



We will be a leader in stewardship, ensuring all lands in our care are truly protected forever.

Resilience



Our enduring and reliable revenue model paired with engaged community support will together sustain our operations.

People



The unity of our staff, partners and volunteers will provide the resources needed to realize our strategic plan.

YOUR CONSERVATION IMPACT

BIG WINS FOR NATURE

CONSERVATION
LANDS SAVED

173

TOTAL ACRES
PROTECTED

22,252

NEW ACRES
THIS YEAR

2,046

SPECIES AT RISK
PROTECTED

33

LANDS SAVED FOR

AT RISK TURTLES

38

AT RISK PLANTS

38

AT RISK LICHENS

14

AT RISK BIRDS

43

IMPORTANT
SEABIRD COLONIES

12

2,000 ACRES OF AWESOME!

Thanks to you, another 16 outstanding and irreplaceable wild places were added to Nova Scotia's protected areas network this year. These achievements begin with essential conservation science and strategic planning that ensures we focus on the most ecologically important and imperiled lands and allows us to coordinate efforts with other land trusts, Mi'kmaw and government partners, maximizing synergies and impact of our collective conservation work.

We target priority lands within key 'focal areas' that are the most critical places for preserving rich biodiversity, habitats and species at risk, landscape connectivity and nature-based solutions to climate change. Through ongoing education, engagement and technical support, we work with priority landowners to protect nature on their lands, using voluntary stewardship or permanent conservation through donation or sale, conservation agreement (easement) or bequest. With your support and landowners who share our conservation vision, another 2,000 acres is now protected, forever.

ACRES OF CRITICAL HABITAT PROTECTED

FOR SPECIES AT RISK	11,832
FRESHWATER	27,969
COASTAL	10,896
OLD FOREST	8,098
KARST	1,202

NEW SUPPORTERS

DONORS	427
MONTHLY DONORS	43
CHAMPIONS OF THE WILD	14
PROPERTY GUARDIANS	60
LEGACY GIFT DONORS	19

New Conservation Lands



SAINT MARY'S RIVER

A small but valuable island was added to the spectacular “ribbon of green” protected along the St Mary’s River. Conservation lands here protect rare Acadian floodplain forests and old growth hardwood and hemlock forests, providing a haven for wildlife, including endangered Wood Turtles and diverse at-risk species of birds. Together with conservation partners, over 9,000 acres and 50 kilometers of important riparian shoreline is now protected on this beloved river, with more on the way.

KESPUKWITK WILD

The traditional Mi’kmaw district of Kespukwitik, Southwest Nova Scotia, is recognized as a Priority Place for Conservation in Canada for its exceptionally rich biodiversity. Thanks to you, we’ve saved five new conservation lands comprising over 700 acres of forests, lakeshores and wetlands providing critical habitat for rare and endangered species of trees, plants, lichens, turtles, birds and snakes.

The first to be protected on Salmon Lake, our new 350-acre conservation land safeguards an important population of the beautiful but at-risk Pink Coreopsis. Three properties add to growing assemblages of land trust and government-protected lands at Hectanooga (180 acres supporting rare Eastern White Cedar), Ponhook Lake (140 acres) and Deep Brook Bog (40 acres). The latter, near Pleasant River, was generously donated by Wayne and Bertha Fiddes. Thanks to their vision and foresight, an important home for endangered and much-loved Blanding’s Turtles is now protected, forever. Conservation and community-minded landowners, Larry and Greta Goodwin, also made an exceptional and much-appreciated gift to nature this year, donating 160 acres of old forest, habitat for rare lichens and birds, and a wonderful nature trail in Acaciaville.

SOUTH SHORE ISLANDS

With nearly 90% of our coast in private ownership and facing intense pressures and habitat loss, saving the best of what remains is critical. Thanks to your support, we secured Blanche and Green Islands, important stopovers for birds on their migration journeys along the Atlantic Flyway. The islands build on a growing assemblage of protected coast and islands in a region globally significant for the conservation and recovery of birds. Green Island was protected thanks to a generous land donation from Donnie Jacquard, Leo LeBlanc and Neil LeBlanc.



MABOU HIGHLANDS

With majestic highlands, cliffs and meadows, old-growth hardwood forests, brooks, ravines and wild coast, the Mabou Highlands provide one of most intact, ecologically rich, contiguous unroaded coastal wilderness areas in the province. With your help we added 370 acres to the growing assemblage of nearly 6,000 acres of protected land trust and government protected lands preserving a magnificent natural, cultural and wilderness hiking legacy. Special thanks and recognition to Bob and Lee Ann Kinzer. Beginning in 2012, this passionate and pioneering pair has made three significant gifts of conservation land and easements, protecting in all 365 acres to date, with three more gifts of land and 250 more acres on the way! What an inspiring legacy.

BEAUTIFUL BRAS D'OR

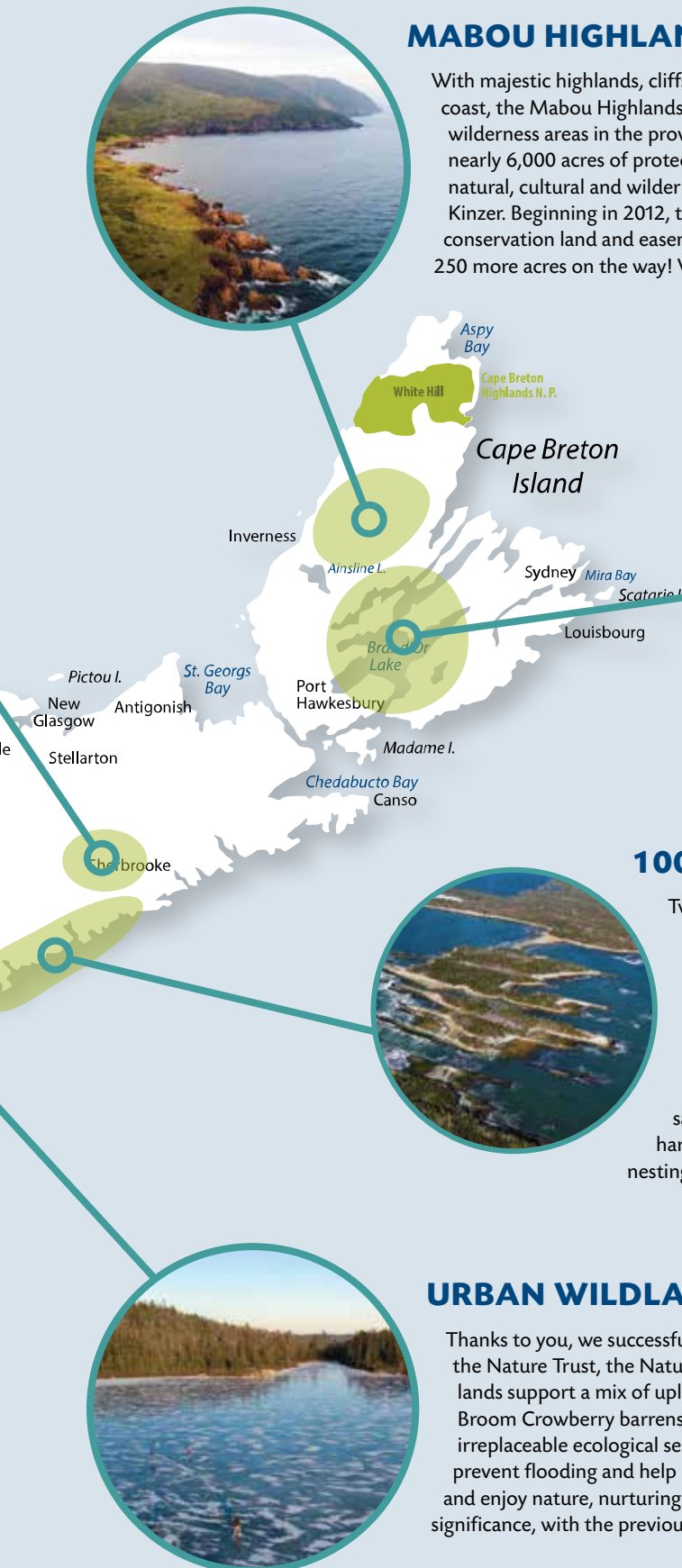
The unique Bras d'Or Lake, Canada's largest inland sea, is recognized globally as a Biosphere Reserve and as a Priority Place in Canada for conservation. In Maskells Harbour, a beloved sailing anchorage, the acquisition of 450 acres at Pony's Point protects over three kilometres of intact shoreline, old forests and unique karst landscape. It connects adjacent land trust and provincial park lands, in all preserving over seven kilometers of lakeshore and 1,200 acres of contiguous coastal protected area.

100 WILD ISLANDS

Two of the last unprotected coastal gems of the 100 Wild Islands archipelago are now safe. The stunning and much-loved Little Charles Island is at the heart of the archipelago, connected by a vast white sand beach to the Nature Trust's Borgles Island. Little Harbour, on our wish-list for decades, is one of the last large, ecologically significant, intact coastal lands. Adjacent to the much-loved Owls Head, it protects extensive tidal flats and saltmarsh, coastal forest, barrens, beaches and bogs. It harbours globally rare plants and important habitat for nesting, overwintering and migratory birds.

URBAN WILDLANDS

Thanks to you, we successfully built on the growing assemblage of urban wildlands protected by the Nature Trust, the Nature Conservancy, and Halifax in the Purcell's Cove/Halifax Backlands. The lands support a mix of upland forests, wetlands, peatlands, and barrens, including rare Jack Pine and Broom Crowberry barrens. Beyond protecting biodiversity, urban wildlands like the backlands provide irreplaceable ecological services that keep our air fresh, water clean, and forests cool, store carbon, prevent flooding and help make our cities more livable. They also provide nearby space to explore and enjoy nature, nurturing health and wellness. The new lands have a rich cultural and historical significance, with the previous owner's lineage connecting to the original Purcell family.



Bigger, Better and more Connected

By Rich LaPaix

Deciding how to best plan the spatial arrangement of protected areas has and continues to be an important question. Ideally, they are designed on a case-by-case basis depending on the conservation goals of an area. However, those involved in protected areas planning may not have many choices about how to optimize the spatial configuration of a protected area. As one leading conservationist has said, “To the extent we have choices, the choices we face are more like ... how small an area can we get away with protecting and which are the most critical parcels?”

Size isn’t everything when it comes to protected areas, but the importance of large and intact reserves has long been recognized. Larger protected areas benefit from being less influenced by edge effects and other aspects of fragmentation, are critical for facilitating ecological processes, and can be essential for the conservation of species that need lots of space. There is no magic number or ecological threshold for how big a protected area should be, but “bigger is better” is an important mantra of sorts in protected areas planning and adding to the size of existing protected areas has clear value in most cases, providing a sort of added insurance.

Small, protected areas are very much also needed, being highly important for protecting some species and habitats and for facilitating connectivity between larger intact areas. The need for connectivity is of particular importance considering climate change will lead to pressures on ecosystems and species that will require them to shift distribution across the landscape. These considerations are key to the work of the Nature Trust as we look to acquire lands that complement the existing protected areas system and to build land assemblages in the rugged hills of Cape Breton, along iconic waterways such as the St. Mary’s River, or remaining intact areas of our coast such as the 100 Wild Islands.



The background of the entire image is a photograph of a large flock of birds, likely terns, flying over a body of water. The scene is captured at sunset or sunrise, with a warm orange and yellow glow in the sky. The birds are silhouetted against the bright sky, creating a dense pattern of dark shapes. The water below is dark and reflects the light from the sky. In the foreground, a sandy beach is visible, with the shadow of the person taking the photo cast onto it.

Twice THE WILD

CAMPAIGN UPDATE!

In 2020, the Nature Trust launched **Twice the Wild**, a bold campaign to double the amount of land under our care. With 15,000 acres secured in our first 25 years, we set out to repeat that feat in only a few years. Today, we are closer than ever to meeting our goal, with less than 8,000 acres left to protect before we reach 30,000 acres by 2025!

Thank you for supporting Twice the Wild! For more information and updates, visit nsnt.ca/campaigns/twice-the-wild

Some species you're helping to save!



REPTILES

BLANDINGS TURTLE
EASTERN RIBBONSNAKE
SNAPPING TURTLE
PAINTED TURTLE

TREES AND HERBACEOUS PLANTS

EASTERN WHITE CEDAR
LONG'S BULRUSH
PLYMOUTH GENTIAN
REDROOT
WATER PENNYWORT

LICHENS

BLUE FELT LICHEN
WRINKLED SHINGLE LICHEN

MAMMALS

BATS
MAINLAND MOOSE

BIRDS

BARN SWALLOW
CANADA WARBLER
EASTERN WOOD PEWEE
OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER
PIPING PLOVER
EVENING GROSBEAK

Can you spot them?

CONSERVATION COLLABORATION IS GROWING STRONG!



The magnitude of environmental threats and challenges, alongside the urgency for land conservation action, have brought organizations and government agencies together in new, creative, and impactful ways.

Your support has helped to bring us together with land trusts and their leaders across Canada, strengthen the voice of our sector, and build land trust capacity and funding. We celebrated an important milestone for Canada's land trust community with a national land trust summit and the official launch of the Alliance of Canadian Land Trusts.

A unique biodiversity conservation collaboration unites federal, provincial, municipal, Mi'kmaw, land trust and other conservation partners, working together in unprecedented ways, advancing joint conservation planning and prioritization as well as strategic land securement. We are maximizing conservation impact through strategic use of conservation funds, sharing of information, approaches, resources and expertise.

We are in collaborative land securement projects with land trusts across the Atlantic region, an island conservation and stewardship collaboration with federal and provincial agencies, and part of a unique group in Southwest Nova Scotia, the Kespukwitk Conservation Collaborative, encompassing government, land trust, Mi'kmaw and other conservation partners advancing a two-eyed seeing approach and the Open Standards model for conservation.

We teamed up with a group of concerned and passionate volunteers, the province, and Medway Community Forest to advance a pilot project for tackling Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, an invasive pest destroying Hemlock forests. The approach is now being applied across the province through a multi-partner effort.

With your support, we're building stronger ties and partnerships with academics and other researchers too, to help solve important conservation and stewardship challenges. Some researchers are using mobile audio recorders and RDNA testing to help determine past and current bird diversity on our coastal islands.

We look forward to continued innovation, creativity, and collaboration in the year ahead!



Meaningful Milestone

This Spring, we were honoured to witness the signing of a historic agreement, a co-governance commitment for the Kluskap Wilderness Area. For the first time, both Government and Mi'kmaw knowledge, approaches, values, and beliefs will be woven together to co-manage and help reconnect communities with this sacred land. It marks an important milestone in advancing Mi'kmaw-led conservation and Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas in Nova Scotia.

Congratulations and Wela'lioq to our government and Mi'kmaw partners in conservation!

10,000 SAPPLINGS FOR HARDWOOD HILL

After multiple date changes and a hurricane, an intrepid team of dedicated volunteers and staff completed our first restoration project, planting 10,000 tree saplings on our Hardwood Hill conservation lands. The saplings were planted across ten acres of century-old farmland and included various species, such as Red Oak, Red and Sugar Maple, Black Cherry, Speckled Alder, and Black Willow. All seed was sourced locally by Green Meadow Farm, which increases the seedlings' resiliency to natural pressures as they are already genetically adapted to the area's conditions. This is a long-term project, but we've taken the first tangible step to truly creating and improving habitat for many species. Atlantic Salmon will also benefit, as they require cool water habitat; reforestation creates shade which cools the river, prevents bank erosion as the tree roots grow, and creates healthier food sources as water quality increases.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this tremendous project possible!



Ross Firth's Legacy of Success

Earlier this year, we bid farewell to our Director of Conservation, Ross Firth, as he transitioned into a well-deserved retirement. Since 2016, Ross led our Conservation and Stewardship program through unprecedented growth. His steady, strategic approach and focus on nurturing relationships with landowners, service providers, volunteers, and partners helped catalyze a rapid acceleration of protected places. He guided our initiatives and priorities and developed a team of conservation and stewardship leaders to carry the Nature Trust forward. Ross has indeed left a legacy of success for conservation in Nova Scotia. We are so thankful and wish him all the best in his next chapter!



STEWARDSHIP HIGHLIGHTS



Saving our spectacular conservation lands is only the first step of a journey that will last for generations. As a land trust, we are committed to caring for these places and the species that live there forever. The number of properties in our care is growing steadily, so it's critical to find efficient solutions that will ensure diligent annual monitoring and well-researched responses to pressures and challenges on our properties.

Stewardship is about knowledge of the place and the people who use and love it. Our stewardship team and network of volunteer Property Guardians visit our properties regularly and get to know the sites well, which shapes future stewardship priorities.

One of the challenges (and sometimes fun) of stewardship is the need to constantly troubleshoot. This year we addressed a problem on some heavily used campsites by constructing and installing three thunderboxes (outhouses without walls) at Shelter Cove.

We also hosted several work parties to remove old structures, clear away garbage, and tackle invasive species encroachment on sites, including Pennant River, North Mountain, Sand Beach, and Crow's Nest along the St. Mary's River. Thanks to the support of volunteer partners like the staff of Aviva Insurance, and student interns from the Quebec Labrador Program, we can accomplish challenging physical tasks on conservation lands, ensuring that habitats are protected for the future.

Although "spending a day in the woods" to assist with our stewardship projects might sound enticing, it is sometimes a physically challenging activity in remote locations. We could not possibly monitor and manage our 170+ conservation lands without the energy, dedication and good sense of humour of our Property Guardians, and we thank you!



VOLUNTEERS SAVING NATURE

Volunteers are the power behind our conservation efforts, amplifying our capacity to ensure our commitment to Forever Wild. This year we focused on nurturing a robust volunteer program through training, networking, and building upon our base of more than 200 existing volunteers across the province. We offered educational webinars for our volunteers and reconnected with Volunteer Hubs in four focal areas (100 Wild Islands, St. Mary's River, Annapolis Valley, and South Shore/Keji). Fourteen training sessions were hosted for Property Guardians throughout the province, and 60 new Property Guardians joined the Nature Trust. Lastly, we trained 87 volunteers on our Landscape app, bolstering our monitoring efficiency using this digital tool.

But the daily work of a land trust requires the skilled support of other volunteers too. Board leadership, office administration, committees, photography, writing, fundraising, gardening, maintaining first aid supplies, assisting with events, and sometimes being a "field buddy" for staff or Property Guardians are all essential to our organization.

Nature Trust volunteers produced impressive achievements throughout the year: removing debris from conservation lands, clearing trails after Hurricane Fiona, leading strategic planning, guiding our conservation plans, planting trees, and more. This combined effort of time and talent is helping save and protect habitat, and we are so thankful for the contributions of the generous volunteers who support our work.



Shoutout to TD Bank



The development of our volunteer program is thanks in part to the support of the TD Bank Group for providing a multi-year grant in support of Connecting Communities with Nature. This program engages local citizens to volunteer with us to help protect the outdoors they love, restore and maintain wild places, create a tangible impact on the environment, and build connections between the community and nature.

Enjoy more volunteer stories at nsnt.ca/volunteer/volunteer-stories
or share your story with us at volunteer@nsnt.ca



Celebrating Conservation in Purcells Cove

We were honoured to attend a special event hosted by the Backlands Coalition to celebrate all the conservation wins in Purcells Cove. The Nature Trust began protecting land in this area in 2008, and to date, we've saved nearly 120 acres. Nestled in the heart of HRM, the Backlands provide an urban wilderness that's been enjoyed recreationally for many generations. The area features striking granite geology, diverse landscapes and habitats supporting a multitude of bird species, as well as an uncommon Jack Pine forest. With its proximity to the

city core, this beautiful area is often under pressure for development, and we're so grateful to many partners who have helped to protect more than 500 acres in this area so far, including our friends at the Nature Conservancy of Canada, the Halifax Regional Municipality, and of course the generous families who have chosen to protect the lands that have been in their families for generations. In attendance included members from the Field, Napier, Duggan and Longard families.

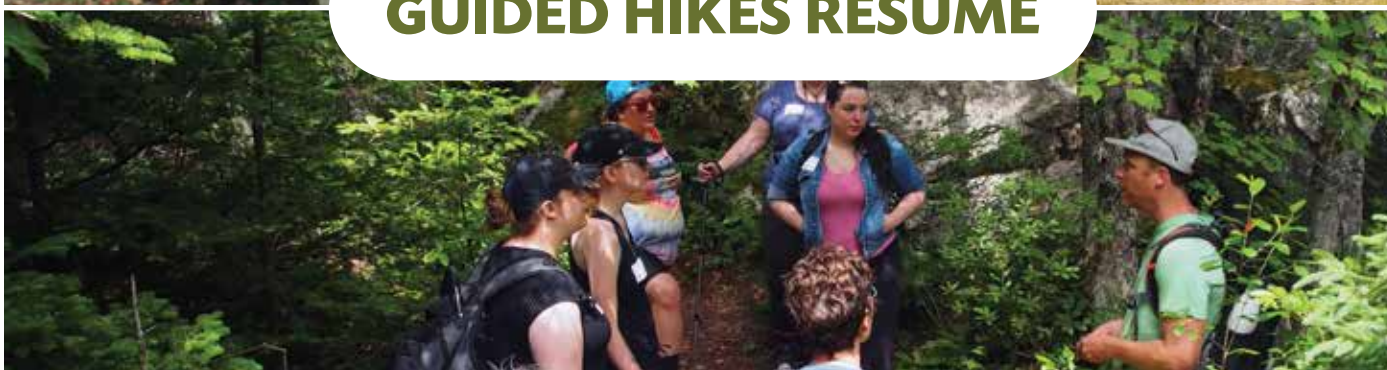
STAFF RETREAT SUCCESS

Planning and team building are important to any successful organization. The Nature Trust invests time annually to discuss our objectives and goals for the year ahead and explore new ideas that will help us advance our mission to protect Nova Scotia's natural legacy. It's an integral part of our year and gives us the opportunity to develop and learn together. We were very fortunate this year to see one of our most spectacular conservation wins in person when we visited Little Charles Island, one of the last remaining gems of the 100 Wild Islands, now protected. Our sincere thanks to our hosts at the Deanery Project for providing a fantastic location for our retreat and to Murphy's Camping on the Ocean for their generosity in boating us to Little Charles.





GUIDED HIKE RESUME



It's been more than two years since we've hosted guests on our conservation lands, so we were delighted to finally resume guided hikes to several properties this year. It was a treat for staff, volunteers, donors, and friends to come together in some beautiful locations across the province to see the impacts of our collective conservation efforts in person. The Cape Mabou Hiking Club joined us for a trek into the highlands, we hosted the Invasive Species Council of Nova Scotia for an informative hike on our North Mountain Woodlands property, and we held our first "Pride at Pennant" hike as part of Pride Month celebrations. Lastly, we invited some special supporters for a private guided hike on one of our recently acquired conservation lands near St. Croix. This visually stunning property has unique forests, sinkholes and rare flora characteristic of the unique Karst landscape. Our deepest thanks to all the donors who helped us secure these lands, the landowners who made these conservation achievements possible, and the Property Guardians who now help care for these special places.



**Thanks to Nature's Way Canada
for yet another major contribution
to the Nova Scotia Nature Trust.**

Last year, their team approached us with an offer to create new signage to test on properties with public access trails. We were so pleased to see the first sign come to life at the trailhead of our Pennant River property. Be sure to check it out on your next hike!





F. Towne Allen

F. Towne Allen has been an honoured member of our Legacy Circle for his donation of a 155-acre ecological wonder in Long Cove made 18 years ago. Although Towne lives in New York, he has strong family ties to Nova Scotia dating back a century. In 2004 Towne's sister, Tara "Tuck" Allen, bought a coastal property in Long Cove, which she had hoped to donate to the Nature Trust. Sadly however, Tara passed away before her dream of protecting these lands could be realized. After inheriting the land, Towne worked with the Nature Trust to fulfill Tara's wishes and donated the land in 2007 via a "split receipt" land donation. This year, Towne partnered with the Nature Trust again by making a significant charitable gift to our *Twice the Wild* campaign, helping to double the acres of land under our protection!

OUR INCREDIBLE DONORS

We are so fortunate for all of you supporting our work across the province.

Thank you for being heros of conservation in Nova Scotia!



Wayne and Janet Clowery

Wayne and Janet Clowery have lived all over the world, although never in Nova Scotia. Over 27 years, their globe-trotting ways brought them from Guinea to New Zealand, Surinam, Colombia, and Costa Rica. Throughout their travels and over the years, they fostered an array of interests and stories that could fill several books, but a common thread that developed regardless of where they were was an interest in conservation. After many adventures in incredible locations, they eventually settled in New Brunswick, and after returning it wasn't long before they heard about the work of the Nature Trust. After seeing various approaches to conservation in other countries, they were inspired to make their first gift after learning of our focus to save and protect coastal areas. Although located in the neighboring province, their connection was immediate, as the idea of preserving beautiful and ecologically important landscapes excited them. We're thankful to count the Clowerys among our extended community of friends dedicated to saving nature!

Enjoy more inspiring donor stories at nsnt.ca/giving/donor-stories
or share your story with us at donorstories@nsnt.ca



LiLynn Wan

For 11 years, LiLynn Wan has been the talent behind WaterDragon Pottery, based in Portugese Cove. From the inception of her business, LiLynn made the commitment to give something back. Each year, she organizes an fundraising sale of her products, donating proceeds to a local organization. Most recently, LiLynn chose to support the Nature Trust to help save more natural places and educate others about conservation. From “being the kid with a picture of David Suzuki in her school locker and the one and only member of the Environmental Club”, LiLynn’s lifelong love of nature is as strong as ever!



Ron Kuwahara

Throughout his life Ron Kuwahara has always loved drawing and painting, but was also deeply interested in the sciences. He’s managed to maintain both passions in his life today, selling his nature-themed paintings through the Secord Gallery in Halifax. This year, Ron created a Legacy Gift by naming the Nature Trust as a beneficiary in his will, which ensures his estate will donate all his unsold art to the Nature Trust. These paintings celebrate all the beauty of nature and we’re honoured Ron chose the Nature Trust to receive them, and allowing us to keep or sell them to raise the funds needed for future land conservation.



Jason Roth and Cheryl Steadman-Roth

Dedicated supporters of the Nova Scotia Nature Trust for 20 years, Jason Roth and Cheryl Steadman-Roth want to inspire conservation in others. This year, they generously offered to add a \$500 donation to the Nature Trust for each new monthly donor! We are so thankful for these very special Champions of the Wild!

Our Generous Supporters

NEW LAND DONORS

Wayne & Bertha Fiddes
Larry & Greta Goodwin
Donnie Jacquard
Bob & Lee Ann Kinzer
Leo LeBlanc
Neil LeBlanc

NEW LEGACY GIFT DONORS & ESTATES RECEIVED

Greg & Suzanne Amos
Linda Bedwell
The late John Black
Lesley-Jane Butters
Pat Campbell
Elizabeth Crocker
The late Gloria M. Fletcher
Joan Fraser & Peter Kerswell
The late Judith Grant
Christopher Hopgood
The late Marjorie Kildare
Ron Kuwahara
The late Jean E. Marsh
Carole Milligan
Max Moseley
Helen Painter
Julie Palmer
The late Terrence Paris
Karen L. Pass
Judy Robertson
Wayne Ryder
The late Robert B. Stailing
The late Jim Wolford

& those who wish to remain anonymous

MAJOR SPONSORS

East Coast Credit Union

MAJOR SUPPORTERS - ORGANIZATIONS

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Bend Beauty Inc.
CIBC
Clayton Orthodontics Inc.
David and Faye Sobey Foundation
Donner Canadian Foundation
Environment and Climate Change Canada

Farnell Packaging Limited
Firefly Digital Media
Murphy's Camping on the Ocean
Nature's Way Canada
Nova Capital Inc.
Nova Scotia Crown Share Land Legacy Trust
Nova Scotia Habitat Conservation Fund
One Tree Planted
Open Sky
O'Regan Halifax Ltd.
Rainbow Development Holdings Ltd.
Sabourin Family Foundation
Scotiabank
Southwest Nova Biosphere Reserve
TD Bank Group
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Greg & Suzanne Amos
Tom Anderson
Donna Assh
Pat Campbell & Joanne Gallivan
Wayne & Janet Clowery
Henry & Elizabeth Cooper
Carl Crawley
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W. Hardy & Barbara Eshbaugh
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John Gourley
Mary & Steve Griffiths
David Gunn
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Karen Henderson & Joe Moore
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Martha McCain
Mary C. McLaren
Chris Mills
Eric & Anne Mills
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Bruce & Sue Moxley
C. Jocelyn Pascoe
Pearre Family
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Marlene Puffer & Lucas Middleton
Andrew Ritcey & Virginia Veinot
William B. Ritchie
Judy Robertson
Beverly Sears
Janet & Lorne Simpson
Kathleen & Eric Smith
Nancy & Bill Smith
Dusan Soudek
Cindy Staicer & Alan Pinder
Stanley Van Dyke & Linda Cameron
Bob Williams & Glenda MacKinnon
Chris Wilson
Gregor Wilson & Erica van Vulpen
Rose Wilson
& those who wish to remain anonymous

CHAMPIONS OF THE WILD

Shelley Adamo & Matthias Schmidt
David & Seely Alder
Jane Allen & Rochelle Owen
Karen Beazley & Ken Crowell
Alison & Larry Bogan
Debra Burleson
Anne Campbell & John Lindsay
Alain Chamagne & Valerie Evans
Fred & Nancy Chipman
The late Allyn Clarke

Adam Cornick

Michel & Trudy Comeau
Byron Corner & Patricia Robertson-Corner
Corinne & Jack Duffy
Rick & Mary Emberley
Judy Farnell
Chris & Hiya Field
Bill Flemer
Henry W. Fuller
Anne Gillies & Nathan Brett
Helga Guderley
Verna J. Higgins
John H. Himmelman
Christopher Hopgood
Klaus & Joan Jensen
Louisa Jones
Susan H. Kashanski
Richard Landzaat & Heather Kramers
Stewart Lindsay
Keith & Dany MacIntyre
Judy Manchester & David Stevenson
Bob & Peggy (Colthart) McCalla
Wendy & the late Bob McDonald
Donna McGrath
Catherine A. Milne
Jean Milne
Wayne & Hilary (Sears) Paquet
Richard Rachals
Paul & Diane Raymond
Jason Roth & Cheryl Steadman-Roth
Tom Rudolph & Debby Farnell Rudolph
Alastair Saunders & Chris Corston
Paul & Susan Scott
Susan Sherwin & Richmond Campbell
Graham A.J. Smith
Whipple Smith & Jim Kanellakos
Darlene Stone
John Webb
Rick & Janet Whitman

**NEW & INCREASED
MONTHLY DONORS**

Taylor Andrews
Maxine Barrett
Brenda & Geordie Bell
Elinor Benjamin
Mike & Debbie Blaesing
Paul & Mary Bottomley
James & Carolyn Boyer
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*Thank you to all of our valued donors.
Your support and thoughtfulness have
truly made a difference!*

A lasting legacy.

NOVA SCOTIA
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When you name the Nova Scotia Nature Trust as a beneficiary in your will, you are creating a natural legacy that will endure forever. Your gift, no matter what size, will save and protect important wild places for nature and for people too, for now and for generations to come.

To learn more about leaving a gift in your will visit
nsnt.ca/giving/leave-a-legacy or call 1.877.434.5263



Big Thanks to the Conservation Game-Changers

Environment and Climate Change Canada

The Government of Canada has committed to protect 30% of Canada's land by 2030, to save nature and to advance nature-based solutions to climate change. They have backed this ambitious promise with billions of dollars in conservation funding - the largest investment in nature conservation in Canadian history. The Canada Nature Fund and the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund encourage and support land trusts, community organizations and Indigenous groups in advancing land conservation nationwide.



The Nova Scotia Crown Share Land Legacy Trust

Nature in Nova Scotia received great news this year when the province agreed provide \$20 million to extend the Nova Scotia Crown Share Land Legacy Trust. Established in 2008 with an initial \$23 million investment, the fund has been a game-changer for land trusts and for the pace and scale of private land conservation. In the fund's first 14 years, it helped land trusts protect over 35,000 acres across 179 of Nova Scotia's finest wild spaces.



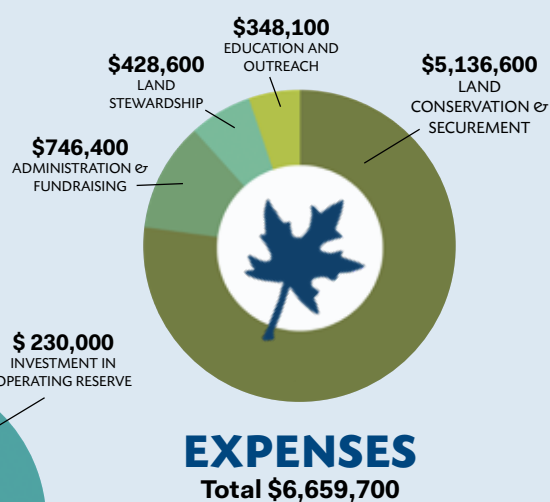
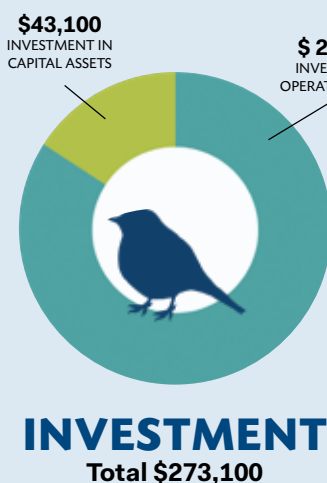
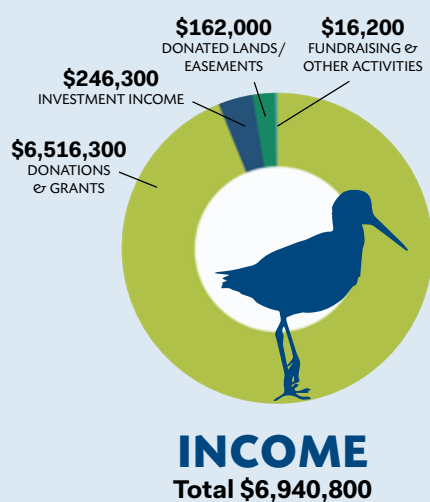
**Thanks to both our major partners for helping us to grow the pace and scale of conservation,
getting ever close to Twice the Wild!**

Financial Accountability

In the past year (April 2022-March 2023) we expended \$5.9 million (89% of expenses) in charitable programs and initiatives, advancing our conservation mission through private land conservation, land stewardship and management as well as education and public engagement in conservation.

Our balance sheet remains positive and strong, with no long-term debt and \$28.8 million in conservation lands and easements. Our endowment funds have grown to \$18.3 million, providing operational stability and the security to meet our long-term stewardship commitments to the lands entrusted to our care. We added \$230,000 to our operating reserve fund, helping to stabilize finances, ensure sustainability for the organization, a cushion against unforeseen events, losses of income or large unbudgeted expenses.

Our financial statements are audited annually by an external auditor. Investments are managed by Connor, Clark, and Lunn, overseen by an Investment Committee, and are subject to our investment policies.



Keep up with the Nature Trust by signing up to receive **Landlines**, our monthly newsletter, at nsnt.ca/about/newsletter

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Thank you!

**For all the hope you have given
to nature in Nova Scotia!**

