



# Island Nature Trust Update

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## Land, Land, Land!

No, we are not about to run aground, but we are at capacity when it comes to accepting land from generous donors. Not only that, but for the first time in many years we are purchasing land—really spectacular land!

It doesn't look like we are slowing down anytime soon either. 2014 looks like it is going to be as busy in the land acquisition realm as 2013 has been.

By the end of this year, the Nature Trust will be the proud owner of 18.5 acres in the Caledonia area. Hemlock and pine dot the shallow ravine along a stream in this property and nearby properties have similar woodland. The current owner, Emily Carrington has been discussing this property with the Trust for many years. We are delighted to be securing this parcel after such a long "getting to know you" period.

We are in the final throes of acquiring land on Bunbury Island (see the article on Page 5) and nearby Gunning Shore—both in Malpeque Bay.

We are steadfastly working through accepting a donation of portions of three properties on Indian River, near Kensington. With the survey of this slightly complicated donation out of the way, we are awaiting the subdivision approval from the province, approval as an Ecologically Sensitive property from the EcoGift program,

the appraisal, and finally approval of the appraised value through EcoGifts. Only then will we actually receive the land! Phew! I am tired just writing that all out! But, this landowner has been great throughout all this, and knows that there is a few hurdles to come before we sign the deed some-time in the new year!

We are working to buy part of the Candidate natural Area known as Canavoy Oaks. Many of the Trust's Board members toured this property a few weeks ago and agree it is well worth protecting. The owners are planning on splitting the property and selling one half to the Trust. We are going to have to do some serious fundraising to get this one! It is so worth it! Identified in the 1982 UPEI Candidate Natural Areas Survey, this site is threatened by subdivision and development for cottages and clear cutting for the view. We need to protect this site now, while we can. The owners are more than willing to help us do this, and have been patient in their negotiations.

So, the Nature Trust is wrapping up lots of lovely land gifts for itself this Christmas!

We wish you and yours a lovely Christmas and Holiday Season. May you enjoy nature in all her glory this winter.

Jackie Waddell, Executive Director

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### We Are. . .

*Island Nature Trust is a non governmental, registered charity dedicated to permanent protection of natural areas on Prince Edward Island. We acquire lands through purchase and donation and help private owners protect their own properties. We also protect species-at-risk, ecological restoration and public education. Donations are always welcome.*

## Our Board of Directors

Island Nature Trust is governed by a Board of Directors of 12 to 16 members. Each member serves up to two three-year terms.

**The Board of Directors of the Trust includes the following:**

**The Executive:**

<b>Fiep de Bie</b>	President
<b>Judi Allen</b>	Vice-president
<b>George Mason</b>	Treasurer
<b>Jennifer Roma</b>	Secretary

**Group Representatives**  
**Four Island groups have representatives on the INT Board:**

<b>Marina Silva-Opps</b>	UPEI Biology Department
<b>Tom LeClair</b>	Museum and Heritage Foundation
<b>Randy Dibblee</b>	Natural History Society of PEI
<b>Vacant</b>	PEI Wildlife Federation

**Remaining members of the Board:**

**Sandra McConkey**  
**Dwaine Oakley**  
**Kathleen MacNearney**  
**Donna Gill**  
**Paul Smith**  
**Carol Horne**  
**Charity Hogan**

## Celebration of Land at Long River

In celebration of the donation of two parcels of land, the Nature Trust hosted an event in Long River on the Southwest River on September 21. Our guests included the donors; Dr. Paul and Mrs. Katherine Schaefer. Island Nature Trust President Fiep de Bie attended the event and joined all of us in thanking the Schaefers for their very generous gifts.

We have profiled the Alaska properties in an earlier newsletter, and the Long River property is about as different as it can be. The entire property as owned by the Schaefers was the entire peninsula, and the first portion, 25 acres on the river, was donated in August 2012. Threatened by heavy development, this site is particularly important to wildlife and species conservation as subdivisions spring up around it.

Designated under NAPA very recently, this land was an ideal candidate for return to forest. The Forestry division of Forests, Fish and Wildlife had planted the site in over 30,000 trees this spring. Within the next ten years, a good variety of species will grow above the grass and goldenrod and the place will start to look like a forest.

Jackie welcomed guests and Paul and Katherine and turned the proceedings to Paul, who gave a moving and passionate speech on the benefits of giving such a gift and of the importance of preserving such places. Over the next few years, the Schaefers will donate the remainder of the original 72 acre property, one third at a time. We know that the Northern Harrier, Red-tailed hawk and Bald Eagles we saw that day will all benefit from such a place being conserved in its natural state.

## Welcome to Our New Board Members!

Island Nature Trust is delighted to announce four new Board members have joined our team. We have a new depth to the knowledge, strength and energy we have on our governing body.

**George Mason** is a chartered accountant with experience in forestry and has agreed to take on the position of Treasurer -many thanks George for tackling so much right off the bet!

**Charity Hogan** is a lawyer with Campbell Lea and has had an interest in the Nature Trust for some time. We welcome Charity!

**Paul Smith** is a business man, is very involved in the tourism industry, has his own rural property and has a deep interest in natural areas.

**Carol Horne** is very involved in landscape issues, land use matters and has been engaged in marketing for tourism in the past.

## NATURE TRUST STAFF

Staff that can be found in the office and in the field for the next few months are:

**Jackie Waddell**, Executive Director, coordinates and assists all staff where required. Jackie works in land acquisition, fund-raising, land management and strategic planning. Jackie also prepares and delivers some educational events to schools, groups and the public.

[exdir@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:exdir@islandnaturetrust.ca)

**Barb McDonald**, Executive Assistant, operates all things financial and is responsible for office administration. It will be a quiet winter with just Barb and Jackie in the office. Not idle, just quiet.

[admin@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:admin@islandnaturetrust.ca)

**Shannon Mader**, Program Coordinator. Shannon is off for a year for maternity leave! [projects@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:projects@islandnaturetrust.ca)

**Julie-Lynn Zahavich**, Project Coordinator, Piping Plovers and Important Bird Areas. Julie-Lynn has just completed work with Important Bird Areas and has some time off until April 1st when we hope Julie-Lynn is back to start on plover work again! [plover@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:plover@islandnaturetrust.ca)

## Conservation Guardians

If you are interested in getting out to one of our properties and willing to do a quick inspection while there, please contact us, we would love to help you find a great site, teach you what to look for and have you learn a bit more about some fantastic natural areas. These natural area need regular inspections year-round. So you can visit on snowshoes or skis once the snow comes to stay. Now that's healthy living!

There are lots of woods road trails thanks to Ducks Unlimited in the Jenkins complex on the 48 Road and plenty of habitats to visit. Come on out and see forests, ponds, marshes and fields. There are four good access points off the 48 Road. You can snowshoe for miles in a winter wonderland. The terrain is generally flat, so it is easy going for skiers or snowshoers. Call the office to get a map or directions.

There are a cluster of 5 properties at DeRoche Pond (Blooming Point) that have some limited trails and roads that are great for winter visits. You can get maps of the properties from the office and instructions for the best access and parking.

Last, but not least, there is a long sloping trail to the Morell River on the Bangor properties that are new to the Trust's land inventory as of 2013.

## Winner of the MacLean Natural Areas Award

In September, at the INT AGM, we presented the Hon. J. Angus MacLean Natural Areas Award to a very deserving group.

The Upton Farm Trust has been working tirelessly to protect the Upton Farm properties at the corner of Upton Road and the TransCanada Highway—now known as Capitol Drive. This property is now under the groups management and they are working hard to develop a master plan that will end in the designation of most of the property under the PEI Natural Areas Protection Act.

This group has a determined core of directors, many of which attended the award presentation.

Congratulations to the Upton Farm Trust for their remarkable work to protect over 100 acres as green space.

Since the award presentation, the Macphail Woods project has agreed to plant a 10 acre Confederation Forest on this site. Nothing like thousands of native trees and shrubs being planted to help an area reach its potential as a natural area!



# The Daryl Guignon and Ian MacQuarrie Graduate Scholarship in Science

A project is underway to raise funds for a scholarship at the University of Prince Edward Island to support a first year student in a Master of Science program who will conduct research focused on ecology and/or wild-life and who displays strong scholastic ability. The scholarship is named in honour of two retired biology professors, Ian and Daryl, who were the first two presidents of the Island Nature Trust, and who have been major contributors to land and wildlife conservation.

Island Nature Trust members, Rosemary Curley, Dan McAskill and Diane Griffin are heading up the establishment and fund raising for the scholarship. The goal is to raise a minimum of \$60,000 to support the annual scholarship. Charitable receipts will be issued to donors.

For further information, contact Diane at 569-2343.

If you would like to donate to the fund, please contact Kim Roach ([kroach@upe.ca](mailto:kroach@upe.ca) or 894-2888) to make a pledge or fill out the form below and mail it with your cheque or credit card information to: Kim Roach, Gift Processor, Steel Building, 550 University Ave., Charlottetown, PE C1A 4P3. Make cheques payable to UPEI, but note on the memo line that it is for the ‘Guignon – MacQuarrie scholarship.’

Thank you!



## Contribution to the Daryl Guignon & Ian MacQuarrie Graduate Scholarship in Science

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Payment: ( ) Visa ( ) MasterCard ( ) American Express ( ) cheque  
( ) cash

Credit card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



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## Ways to get caught up on our activities

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This newsletter works well for many of our members, but we have a number of other ways to let you know about our work, events, news and more.

Our website is:  
[www.islandnaturetrust.ca](http://www.islandnaturetrust.ca)

This site is updated regularly. Be sure to check it out for more in depth information than that available on social media.

Follow us on twitter  
[@peinaturetrust](https://twitter.com/peinaturetrust) to get instant updates on what we're up to and what we're interested in.



Don't forget us on facebook! This is a great way to learn about upcoming events and get updates on all of our programs.

We now have over 440 "likes"  
You can help this number grow!



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## Big Courtin (Bunbury) Island

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Island Nature Trust has slowly and very determinedly worked to secure much of Bunbury (Big Courtin) Island in Malpeque Bay. The Trust currently owns approximately 2/3s of the island. We have been purchasing and accepting donations of land on this 265 acre island since 1986. Today, we are in the process of securing another property—35 acres of really special land on this important Candidate Natural Area.

There are a surprising number of properties on this island, and they change hands fairly often—even more of a surprise to us. The entire island is covered in old hardwoods, with patches of spruce and fir throughout.

In early September, Jackie Waddell and Fiep de Bie visited the island with appraiser Jan Wicherek of ARA - Atlantic Realty Advisors - to inspect a property that was offered largely as a donation—a split receipt. The weather forecast was good—but wrong! We got over to the island just fine with the expert navigation of Lawrence Chaisson in his oyster dory. The trip back was wetter thanks to un-forecasted rain showers whipping our faces. It was also a rougher ride and a little longer than the trip out. Lawrence sure knows his boat and how to get through rough weather. All ended well, we made it home! We know the rule—when out on Malepeque Bay—expect the worst!

The forest on the island is beautiful, with large red and sugar maple, yellow birch, lots of beaked hazelnut and huge areas with almost nothing but yew (ground hemlock to some). The yew made walking quite difficult at times, like marching in a high step for hours on end. Progress was slow but the area was so fascinating, we tended not to notice the pace. The mosquitoes were quite bad too and we used no small amount of repellent. The 35 acre property showed little sign of ever having been harvested for wood, although there is some anecdotal evidence of wood cutting many years ago. We did see some red maple stump growth that would suggest this as well.

We did not see signs of cormorants on the island although they have been reported to be at least roosting there, if not nesting, this past summer. This island has supported a colony of great blue herons in the past. All in all, this is a property we want to protect through ownership by the Trust and then designation under NAPA. That should happen in 2014. Watch this space for updates on this important acquisition.

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## Confederation Forests Planned for Two INT Properties

The Macphail Woods project has received word that they have been successful in getting funding for their Confederation Forest project. The Nature Trust is really benefitting from this project by having two 10-acre forests planted on our land! Gary Schneider has started the plans for each and hopes to have lots of volunteer help next spring and summer.

The first is going in on the Bangor Road properties donated last year by Jim and Barbara Munves. Ten acres of old field will be planted in native species suited to the soils, the site and the climate. This site will be adjacent to an area that will be managed for Bobolink - grassland in other words. The new Confederation Forest will be a very welcome improvement within and near the Morell River Conservation Zone and will further reduce runoff, nutrient loading, and will improve the forest diversity of the area.

The second will go on the Fernwood property known as "Windswept", donated last year through the estate of Elaine Harrison. This site is small but very much open, with lots of opportunity for creative planting in a windy place atop a high cliff.

Both forest plantings will incorporate trails and opportunities for education.

## Hand-carved Heron Raffle!



Tickets for this beautiful hand-carved Great Blue Heron are \$5 (or 5 for \$20). There is a pack of 5 of them in your newsletter envelope. Dave Broderick of Alberton carved this masterpiece just for the Trust. Wouldn't it look great in your home?

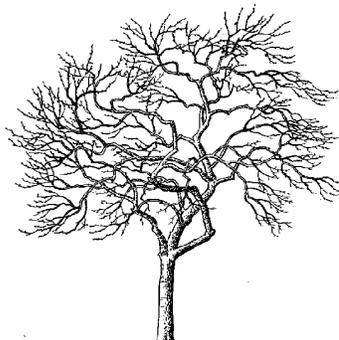
Send in those tickets!

Draw will take place at the INT Annual Dinner and Auction, April, 2014.

*Tickets are available at Ravenwood or by calling 892-7513*

## Electronic Island Nature Trust "Update" Newsletters Save a Tree!

You can help us save paper and get information faster! You can achieve all of this by getting your INT Update via E-mail. If you forward your e-mail address to Island Nature Trust, we will send you the newsletter electronically as a "PDF" file. 118 members currently receive their newsletter this way, and we would like to see that number climb to much higher levels. Email us [admin@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:admin@islandnaturetrust.ca) to request your newsletter in electronic form.



**Thank you!**

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# Christmas Gift Ideas—Naturally

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Look no farther than Island Nature Trust for some terrific ideas for Christmas Gifts. Gifts that give to nature as well as the recipient are always well received.

How about a gift membership? Only \$20 for a single membership and \$25 for a family. More members means greater strength for the Trust.

Perhaps a stocking stuffer? A few tickets for the raffle for the hand-carved great blue heron. \$5 for one ticket or 5 for \$20. We have delivered one pack of 5 to those members who get the newsletter in hardcopy—hint, hint. The draw for the heron will be at this year's INT dinner at Red Shores on April 25, 2014.

How about a book of amazing Island photos by one of the best in the business—John Sylvester. John's book *Wild Island* is available here at Ravenwood for \$32.95. Photos of some of the wildest places on PEI grace its pages.

Perhaps a donation in honor of your gift recipient? You can ask us for a personalized certificate or a Christmas card explaining this lovely gift.

Land. Well, a plot on a map on one of the Nature Trust lands on the Selkirk Road. Go to our webpage for this one, click on the "links" and go to Trees in Trust. For \$35 your gift recipient can "own" a plot of land in

eastern PEI and make a contribution to the Trust's work. You can print off a certificate personalized for your gift recipient. Complete with GPS points should you wish to locate the plot yourself. This is a unique gift that gives back to land conservation.

We also have packages of lovely note cards in three types and prices.

Come and see us or visit our webpage for more information—[www.islandnaturetrust.ca](http://www.islandnaturetrust.ca)

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## INT Lands Designated Under NAPA

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Last year the Trust accepted 7 parcels of land as donations. Usually the land is designated under the Natural Areas Protection Act (NAPA) after it is acquired by the Trust, but in the case of two parcels on the Morell River donated by Barbara and James Munves, the land was protected by the owners first, then donated.

Paul and Katherine Schaefer donated land at Alaska which is now designated under NAPA. Designation is just complete for a Long River property also donated by the Schaefers.

A property at Foley's Pond in Central Kildare donated by Edward Laughlin is also now designated under NAPA.

A parcel at Sherbrooke bequeathed by Errol Laughlin is also just designated, as is a parcel donated by the Estate of Elaine Harrison at Fernwood.

Once lands are protected under this Act, they are removed from the

aggregate total of lands for the Trust for IRACs purposes and they are exempt from provincial property taxes. Our undesignated lands currently stand at 105 acres. This is a very flexible figure that changes as lands are acquired and designated.

Photo: Sherbrooke property, August, 2013



## Environmental Calendar

**December 13—Deadline for submissions for the PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund logo contest!** \$500 prize for the winning entry as selected by the PWI WCF committee. Contact Jackie Waddell at 566-9150 for more information.

**December 31, 2013**—The last day you can make a **charitable donation** that will benefit your 2013 personal income taxes! Island Nature Trust’s Executive Assistant, Barb McDonald, will make the trip from home to the office in most weather conditions to accept last minute donations in person. The Nature Trust is a registered Canadian Charity. We issue tax receipts for all donations of cash. Check out <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/charities/> to see all registered Canadian Charities. You can donate through Canada Helps on our web page—[www.islandnaturetrust.ca](http://www.islandnaturetrust.ca)

**January 1**—Island Nature Trust **membership renewal time!** Renew you 2014 membership now! Not sure if you are paid up for 2014? Call or email Barb McDonald and she can tell you very quickly. If you have a life membership, you never have to renew again. Individuals- \$20, family - \$25. Please complete the form below for new members or those with changes to addresses etc.

**January 14—Feeding Wild Birds in Winter.** Jackie Waddell will be presenting this illustrated topic at the Tyne Valley Library in the basement of the clock tower. 6:30 PM, everyone is welcome—no charge.

**February 15 through 22—Phillips Agri-services Bird Food Sale,** get you bird food at even better prices at Phillips. Jackie will be in the store on Sat. Feb 15 from 9:00 to noon. A portion of the proceeds of all wild bird food goes to the Nature Trust—all year round!

**April 9—First Class at Seniors College** for the Birds and Plants of PEI course taught by Jackie Waddell and Diane Griffin at AVC—get more information on this course and others and how to register at [www.seniorscollege.ca](http://www.seniorscollege.ca)

**April 25—The Island Nature Trust 30th Annual Fundraising Dinner—Red Shores, Charlottetown. Watch for announcement of tickets sales for this event in a new and very exciting venue!**

### Membership Form

Single Membership (\$20)     Family (\$25)     Student - **NEW!** (\$10)     Sustaining Membership (\$50)

Active Membership (\$100)     Supporting Membership (\$250)     Life Membership (\$500)

My donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ towards the Trust’s work is enclosed (*tax receipts are issued for all donations*).

**Students:** Please let us know what School /University/College you are attending: \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to pay via:     Visa     MasterCard     Cheque     Money Order

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_    TEL.: \_\_\_\_\_    E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

CARD NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_    EXPIRY DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return to: Island Nature Trust, P.O. Box 265, Charlottetown, PEI, C1A 7K4.*