



Island Nature Trust Update

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Summer Projects Up and Running

Plovers, Bobolinks, Barn Swallows, Project Web Foot, land management and acquisition, fundraising, educational events all over the place and more! That is a quick and dirty summary of the entire summer and part of the fall for seven people at the Nature Trust.

Shannon Mader is back at the Trust as our Program Coordinator and hit the ground running with the plover program, Project Web Foot, Adopt an Eagle and the Farmland Bird project.

Julie-Lynn Zahavich and Nicole Murtagh are also back at work at the Trust, protecting the Piping Plover on provincial beaches.

So, we have three people on for the Piping Plover Program thanks to funding from Environment Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk (HSP), donations from two private sources, Canadian Wildlife Service, Island Nature Trust through our contract with the Province of PEI and the Nature Trust's generous donors. We will be watching over what we hope is plenty of plovers on beaches from Cascumpec to East Point. Already plovers with flags and bands have been spotted and photographed.

Shaylyn Wallace has returned to the Farmland Bird project thanks to funding through the new Prevention Stream of HSP and will have an expanded role of monitoring breeding success for swallows through the many volunteers that have already asked to be involved this year. We are hoping Shaylyn will have a

field assistant through Young Canada Works Languages Program in July and August. We really hope we help a community or two build free-standing structures for Barn Swallows this year!

The PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund has provided funding for both of the above projects, ensuring we have adequate matching funding and stronger projects as a result.

We will be coordinating through Bedeque Bay Environmental Association to do some careful management on the tiny but important Norboro property on the Wilmot River, and will have more planting of trees and shrubs on the Morrell River properties at Bangor.

Our long time partner on the Jenkins Complex along the 48 Road is Ducks Unlimited Canada. DUC will be working to improve some of the nine structures on ponds in that huge complex.

There is almost no doubt that another project will arise, so watch our website (www.islandnaturetrust.ca) and our facebook page for more news.

We also hope to have two celebrations of land this summer - one about the donation of land on Peter's Road at Elmwood and another about Canavoy Red Oaks coming to the Nature Trust in January 2015. So, watch for those events on-line.

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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 Generous Donors to the 31st Annual Fundraising Dinner in 2014

"North Rustico" & Victoria Photographs Mel Gallant	"Bell's Point" Original Watercolour Richard Vickerson
Garden Bench, Flower Box, Gnome Home, Bird House & 2 Bird Feeders David Murphy	Lunch with the Premier Hon. Wade MacLauchlan
"The Capes at Cabot Park" Original Watercolour Sally Blake Hooff	"Sunrise" Original Acrylic Joan Thompson
"Orca" & "Eagle" Native Carvings Pat & Cathy Chan	Precious Memories Box John Somers
"Reflection of PEI" Original Mixed Media Sandi Komst	Grackle Original Acrylic, Snowshoe Hare Photograph, & Yellow & Magnolia Warbler Photographs Shirley Gallant
Triangular Chest Keith Wornell of Lex Econ Woodworking	Swedish Castle Cradle Jim Crombie
Chickadee Original Pencil Drawing Jerrica Coady Farrell	"North Shore PEI" Original Watercolour Sharon Smith
Pink Lady's Slipper Wall Hanging & "Snowy Field" Fabric Landscape Art Dianne Skinner	Original Acrylic by Adam Sultan Brackley Beach Gallery
Original Watercolour, Sr. Joan MacNeill Orysia Dawydiak	"Old Dory" Original Watercolour Mel Giddings
Lunch with Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party Rob Lantz	8 - One Gallon Tree Gift Certificates & 2 - Fishing Licences PEI Dept. of Agriculture & Forestry
North Shore in Winter & "Young Flicker" Original Watercolours Shelley Burton	\$50 Gift Certificate PEI Preserve Company
Milk Maiden & Goat Figurine Sharon & Dario Zannier	\$25 Gift Certificate Famous Peppers
Great Blue Heron Photograph Shelley Gallant	10 Pounds of Blueberries Paul Gallant
"The Scolding Chickadee & Screech Owl" Ltd. Ed. Repro. A/P #61 Robert Bateman	2 Cases of Honey Island Gold Honey
Hudsonian Godwit, Blue-winged Teal & Great Blue Heron Carvings Dave Broderick	30 Pounds of Mussels PEI Mussel King
"Where the Buoys Are" Original Acrylic Arlene Rice, Details Past & Present	Cheese Tray, Owl Cheese Set, Necklace & Earrings, Photo Album, Cable Knit Poncho, Mens Travel Kit, Wine Goblet & <i>Wild Island</i> Bill Bowerbank & Evelyn Martin
Tricycle Planter Billy Dowling, Riverdale Weldcraft	Preserve with Pottery Serving Dish, Epicure Spices & Metal Apple with Candle Linda Lowther
\$100.00 Gift Certificate Jewell's Country Market	6 Bottles of Wine with Custom INT Labels Rossignol Winery
	Proctor Silex Food Chopper & Water Bottle Island Nature Trust
	Footstool by Kevin & Janice Holloway Ranchboy Leather
	Crow Pendant by Jim Aquilani Vitamin Sea Studio
	\$50 Gift Certificate Vesey's Seeds

More of our Generous Dinner Donors

\$100 Gift Certificate **Kings County Construction**
Tin Rooster by Jackie Whelan **Willowbend Studio**
\$50 Gift Certificate **Bernadette's Flowers**

2 Bird Feeders **Cardigan Feed Service**
\$100 Gift Certificate **Red Lane Gardens**
2 - Beaded Bracelets **Nancy Oakes**
PEI Birds, North American Birdfeeder Handbook,
Birders Journal and Robert Bateman Birds
Sharon Clark

Bucket of Honey, Bottle of Honey & 2 Candles
Bristol Berry Farm
Pottery Tray by Ellen Burge **Clay Impressions**
Pottery Tray by Patti Hawkins
Hawkins Pottery Studio

\$50 Market Money
Charlottetown Farmer's Market
10 Pounds of Blueberries **Hallaig Farms**
"The Famous V" Original Oil &
Bas-relief Marsh Scene **Mechanics Inc.**
Nature Tour at Bonshaw Hills

Fiep be Bie & Diane Griffin
Bushnell Binoculars & *Sibley's Birding Basics*
Ian MacQuarrie
5 Sets of Hummingbirds on Driftwood
Dave McBurney
Pottery Bowl by Ron Arvidson
Arvidson Clay

Kayak Tour for Two **Outside Expeditions**
Paddle Board Lesson & Paddle Boarding
By the Sea Kayaking
2 - Two Night Camping Gift Certificates
PEI Provincial Parks

Snorkel Set **Sporting Intentions**
5 - Family Season's Passes
PEI Museum & Heritage Foundation

Writing of a Will **Geoff Gibson of Campbell Lea**
Dinner for Six
The Olde Glasgow Mill Restaurant
"PEI Rural Fox" Original Mixed Media
Julie-Lynn Zahavich



Part of the dinner proceeds will go to the purchase of this beautiful forested property at Canavoy.

Hand-knit Shawl, Scarf & Knitting Basket
Lynne Douglas of Sheep's Clothing
2 Tickets to Both Main Stage Productions
Harbourfront Theatre
One Peck of Choice Oysters **Clare Birch**
Gift Bag **Liquid Gold**
Dinner for Two **Lobster on the Wharf**
Rust Check **Charlottetown Rust Check**

Family Season's Pass & One Night in an oTENTik
Parks Canada
"Grapevine" Acrylic/Mohair/Wool Scarf by Ruth
Aquilani **Sew What?**
Jewelry Box **McAskill Woodworking**
Fox Puzzle **Parks & People**
New Holland Toy Tractor
Kensington Agricultural Services
6 - Passes **Pembroke Farms**
"Puffin Pair" Original Acrylic
David Schneider

Goodie Basket **Cardigan Farmer's Market**
\$25 Gift Certificate **Island Taylored Meats**

More and More Dinner Donations!

BBQ Bucket **Stratford Home Hardware**
 "Autumn Symphony" Original Watercolour

Noëlla Shorgan

Cows Gift Basket **Scott Linkletter**

10 Pounds of Frozen Blueberries & 2 - 5 Kg. Blue-berries Gift Certificates **Jasper Wyman & Son**

Attaché Bag **Carolyn & Charles Trainor**

2 Green Fees & Golf Cart **Belvedere Golf Course**

2 - Green Fees **Anderson's Creek Golf Course**

Hand Blown Glass Plate & Vase

Tony Reddin & Marion Copleston

Shadow Box **Niki Heddle**

2 - Pet Check up Gift Certificates

Charlottetown Vet Clinic

Pet Gift Basket **Global Pet Foods**

\$100 Gift Certificate **Phillips Agri Services**

2 - Baskets of Soap by Cindy Rice

Kettlegrove Soapworks

Cocobolo wood and Caribou antler Duck Call

Ben Hoteling

2 - *PEI Landscape & Light* **John Sylvester**

Island Clock & Pen Holder **PEI Youth Centre**

2 - Thom Swift & Scott Shea Tickets - May 13th &

2- Jerry Leger & Emilee Sorrey May 3

Trailside Café

\$50 Gift Certificate **Cape Light Restaurant**

Gift Certificate (One Month M'Ship)

Total Assets Fitness & Wellness

Fern Photo & Murray Harbour Photo by Winston

Maund **W.P. Maund Photography**

Baffin Boots **Beaton's Wholesale**

Felted Scarf & Woven Cowl **Fibre Ensemble**

2 - Dragonfly Photos & 1 - Damsel Photo

Donna Giberson

Stained Glass Dragonfly & Tulips

by Sharon Forsythe **This Is It Stained Glass**

Leather Ladies Wallet & Change Purse

by Paige Harris **Harris Leatherworks**

Wireless Speakers **Bob Waddell**

Candle Holders **Becks Home Hardware**
 "Weather the Storm" Wall Hanging

Bird Mouse Eco Furniture

\$50 Gift Certificate **Dundee Arms**

Hand-carved Platter, Teak Heron Sculpture, Bald Eagle Carving, Sandpiper Carving & Gull Carving

The Dunes Studio Gallery

Wall Art **Charlottetown Home Hardware**

Alice Through the Looking Glass Tickets (2)

Confederation Centre of the Arts

Hat, Shirt & Brunch

Red Shores Racetrack & Casino

"The Orchard" **Brenda Penak**

Indian River Festival Tickets (2)

Indian River Festival

NCC Package **Nature Conservancy of Canada**

Seaglass Necklace & Earring Set

by Barbara Nymark

Red Sand Jewelry

"Catch the Wave" Necklace & Earrings by Teri Hall

Fire & Water Creations

Flavours of Prince Edward Island:

A Culinary Journey

Holland College

Sand Castle Candle with Nature Theme

Ben Smith of Enchanted Candles

Printing of the Program

Kwik Kopy

Cash Donations

Rob & Deanne Burnett

Clark's Toyota

Rosemary Curley

Doug Deacon

Beth Hoar

Claudia Lister

Henry & Gertie Purdy

David Smith

Paul Smith

Jackie Waddell

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, fundraising and land management. Jackie is retiring in July.
exdir@islandnaturetrust.ca

Barb McDonald, Executive Assistant, operates all things financial and is responsible for office administration.
admin@islandnaturetrust.ca

Shannon Mader, Program Coordinator. Shannon started back in early April and will be coordinating most of our projects, including plover, farmland birds, educational efforts and some fundraising events.
projects@islandnaturetrust.ca

Julie-Lynn Zahavich, Volunteer Coordinator, Piping Plovers and more. Julie-Lynn is back on the plover program after a brief break in April. She will coordinate volunteers and help keep the plovers safe from human disturbance.
plover@islandnaturetrust.ca

All staff can also be reached by phone at (902) 566-9150 or 892-7513 or Fax (902) 628-6331

Shaylyn Wallace, Project Coordinator, Farmland Birds Project. Shaylyn has returned to the Trust for the summer to run this project with new funding from the Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk Prevention Stream. The Threatened Bobolink and Barn Swallow will be the species involved and improving their nesting opportunities is the main goal. Additionally the project will monitor those sites and structures that were improved last year to try to determine the effect of this work on these declining birds.

Shaylyn's project has a new email address:

landbirds@islandnaturetrust.ca

If you have Barn Swallows or Bobolink on your property please contact Shaylyn for more information on how you can participate.

Nicole Murtagh, Field Assistant, Piping Plover Protection Program.

We are very fortunate to have Nicole return to the Trust for a second season with the plover project. Nicole will be carrying out a great deal of field work including monitoring and surveying, re-sighting banded and flagged plovers, installing protective signs and symbolic fencing, conducting outreach and education on the beaches and in more formal settings and more. Nicole can be reached through the plover program at:

plover@islandnaturetrust.ca

Young Canada Works student

We don't know who it will be yet but we are quite sure to have a student working with us this July and August on the Farmland Birds project.

You can get caught up on our activities in many ways:

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

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 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 761 "likes". That's up significantly again since the last newsletter! You can help this number grow!



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.

In the October Board meeting, the Trust elected a new Executive.

The Board of Directors of the Trust includes the following:

The Executive:

Judi Allen	President
Dwayne Oakley	Vice-president
Charity Hogan	Interim Treasurer
Donna Gill	Secretary

Group Representatives

Four Island groups have representatives on the INT Board:

Marina Silva-Opps	UPEI Biology Department
Tom LeClair	Museum and Heritage Foundation
Randy Dibblee	Natural History Society of PEI
Luke Peters	PEI Wildlife Federation

Remaining members of the Board:

Sandra McConkey
Kathleen MacNearney
Paul Smith
Carol Horne
Will Horne
Michael Walsh
Sharon Clark

Common Misconceptions about the Piping Plover and Piping Plover Monitors

Every summer we walk the beaches of PEI’s north and south-eastern shore, conducting Piping Plover surveys. Along the way, we meet many curious people who wonder what we’re up to. They ask questions and share beliefs. Here are a few of the misconceptions we have heard, and our responses to them.

Misconception 1: Piping Plover nest in Marram grass, in the dunes or behind the dunes.

Piping Plover nest in “cobble” (bits of rock and broken shell) on the dry sand of the beach. You know, that area where we like to lay our blanket down for a day at the beach.

Misconception 2: There are a lot of Piping Plover on PEI (“I saw 20 last week!”)

Many people over-estimate the number of Piping Plover on PEI. We often see large groups of sandpipers, Semipalmated Plover and other shorebirds in migration. Many of these species are commonly mistaken for Piping Plover. With only 57 Piping Plover spread all around PEI in 2014, you can be quite sure that if you see a “large” group of shorebirds, they are not Piping Plover.

Misconception 3: My dog didn’t catch the bird, so no damage was done.

Shorebirds require an incredible amount of energy to produce young and then to undertake long distance migrations. For them, feeding is serious business. The energy required to evade predators (and yes, to them Fido is a predator) is energy they would otherwise have for breeding and migration.

Misconception 4: If you’re on the beach with a shovel, you must be digging clams.

We are not digging clams with that shovel we carry (Mmm, clams). We use the shovel to dig holes for the posts that make up our “symbolic fencing”. The fencing indicates where a nest is so people know that area is off limits.

Farmland Birds

We are once again working with landowners and volunteers to monitor and create nesting habitat for the threatened Bobolink and Barn Swallow with our Farmland Birds project.

Thanks to the many volunteers and landowners who participated last year, the dry hay harvest was delayed on over 400 acres of grassland!! This is done to allow Bobolink chicks time to fledge.

For Barn Swallow, over 50 nest ledges/boxes were installed in rural outbuildings. These may provide Barn Swallow with a place to build their mud nests where they are free from cats and other potential predators.

Volunteers also participated in monitoring both species by tracking them over the summer using our Farmland Birds Calendar. Data collected in these calendars will be important to our future efforts.

We are looking for more rural landowners and volunteers to do it all again this year!

Contact Shaylyn at landbirds@islandnaturetrust.ca to learn more.



Mowing an abandoned field well after the nesting season to improve nesting habitat for Bobolink and other grassland species.

Electronic Island Nature Trust

“Update” Newsletters

Save a Tree! Help us save postage costs to spend conservation dollars on conservation!



You can help us save paper and get information faster 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. 150 members currently receive their newsletter this way, and we would like to see that number climb to a much higher level. But even at that, we now print 580 less pages, send 145 less envelopes, and spend more of our hard earned cash on natural areas, not postage and paper!

Email us at: admin@islandnaturetrust.ca
to request your newsletter in electronic form.

Thank you!

Environmental Calendar

June 14 - Canadian Rivers Day - a great opportunity to plant a tree or shrub or to enjoy an excursion on a river.

July 14—Hummingbird Garden at Victoria Park—**A Walk and Talk about Hummingbirds** by Cindy Cartwright of Ontario—a humming bird expert. Meet at the parking lot off Brighton at the ball fields at 6:30 PM.

July 15—Hummingbirds—A joint presentation by Brenda Penak and Cindy Cartwright of Ontario. Learn how to offer hummingbirds native plants for food and how to provide the safest feeder too. The biology of hummers will be outlined with amazing facts on the migration and wintering grounds of these tiny birds. 6:45 PM—7:45 PM at Confederation Centre Public Library. All are welcome, free of charge.

July 16—Hummingbirds—A similar presentation by Cindy Cartwright and Brenda Penak but at Bites Café in Hampton. 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

July 25—Clean up at Murray Islands—Kayaks only, The Nature Conservancy of Canada is organising this event. These are astoundingly beautiful islands in the mouth of the Murray River. Watch social media for more. Contact Julie Vasseur to register or for more information at 902-569-8400 ext. 173 (office), 902-213-5944 (cell), Julie.Vasseur@natureconservancy.ca

August 8—Spider workshop—more details to follow.

September 16th - Wednesday night at 7:00 PM Megan Harris will present for the first time at Confederation Centre Public Library. Join Megan for a presentation on **Structures for Wildlife For Dummies**. Everyone is welcome, no charge.

Oct 6th - Island at the Centre of the World: The Geological Evolution of Prince Edward Island - John Calder, President of Atlantic Geoscience Society, will be the feature speaker for this joint AGS/Nature PEI presentation. 7:30 PM at Beaconsfield's Carriage House, corner of West and Kent, Charlottetown.

October 21 - Confederation Centre Public Library, 7:00 PM—Megan Harris will present **Wildlife After Dark!** Just in time for Halloween!

Nov. 3rd - Astronomy - Nature We Can See But Not Touch - YET - Chris Vessey, Sidewalk Astronomers of Charlottetown, will be Nature PEI's feature speaker for our monthly meeting. 7:30 PM at Beaconsfield's Carriage House, corner of West and Kent, Charlottetown. YN

November 18th - 7:00 PM, all welcome, no charge! Confederation Centre Public Library with Megan Harris. **Winter Wildlife: How They Make it Through**

Membership Form

Single Membership (\$20) Family (\$25) Student (\$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*).

GO GREEN! Please let us know by checking this box, that you want your newsletter by email! Thanks!

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.