



Island Nature Trust Quarterly

Dedicated to the protection of Natural Areas on Prince Edward Island since 1979

Inside this issue:

*The Story of a Year in
the Life of a Land Trust:
Planning for Perpetuity* 2-3

*Sekisui Diagnostics,
Woodland Stewards* 4

*INT, ALUS, & Rural Land-
owners Protect Bobolink
in PEI* 5

*Our Generous Donors in
2018* 6-7

40 Years of Conservation

2019 is a big year for Island Nature Trust. It marks our 40th anniversary as an organization and it's promising to be one of our busiest yet!

This year we hope to add a significant amount of land to our holdings. Our target is 1,000 acres, and it looks like we are well on our way to meeting that goal. Although it sounds easy, land acquisition (even for donated land) is a time-consuming process. Appraisals, surveys, and fundraising for land purchases all take time and resources. You can read more about this process, and some of the properties we hope to acquire this year, on pages 2-3 in this issue.

Our regular programming is also moving ahead. Our long-standing Piping Plover Stewardship Program is up and running with piping plovers already nesting on some PEI beaches. Our Farmland Birds Program is also well underway with many rural landowners reporting bobolinks and barn swallows back in their usual haunts. And our land stewardship crew is already visiting properties and assessing what work needs to be done this field season.

In addition to these wonderful initiatives and programs, for the first time ever we have created a Passport to Nature. The passport is a booklet containing information on a series of events we have organized for this summer and fall. The purpose of the passport is to help Islanders and visitors to our Island experience and learn more about PEI's protected places.

We own over 4,000 acres of land in 47 natural areas across PEI—from upland hardwood stands, to forested wetlands, beaches and dunes, and nearshore islands. We hope our Passport to Nature provides you with ample opportunity to discover some of these special places!

All of this work would not be possible without our dedicated volunteers and support from our members. We hope that you will consider supporting us, whether it's through volunteering, attending our events, or signing up to become a member. Together we are stronger!

Thank you for all of your support thus far. Here's hoping our next 40 years are just as successful!

Julie-Lynn Zahavich
Stewardship Coordinator



The Story of a Year in the Life of a Land Trust: Planning for Perpetuity



Lesser yellowlegs foraging along the salt marsh edge in Alexandra. Photo by Brett MacKinnon.

The Quaker Elton Trueblood wrote in 1951: “A man has made at least a start on discovering the meaning of human life when he plants shade trees under which he knows full well he will never sit”. That sounds a bit like what it’s like to work for a land trust. Trusting in the protections we place on property, creating plans to manage risk, working with communities to foster a broader caring for the land, having faith that those who follow in our footsteps will respect the conservation ethic – this is the framework under which we work.

Sometimes views differ on how much land should be set aside and how much that land should be managed or open to the public. In all instances, the staff and board must work with good judgement, our constitutional mandate and the best available data to strike a balance. Conservation always comes first on Island Nature Trust lands.

What many might not realize is that land trusts across Canada also have their own national set of standards and practices to which they adhere. Those standards outline how to operate so that the lands acquired can be protected in perpetuity. Largely, that involves creating a stewardship investment fund for every property we acquire to cover management costs. Other costs associated with donations include legal and appraisal fees and sometimes survey expenses. In PEI, these costs are typically all borne by the land trust. In other parts of the country and the U.S., the land donor is expected to pay these expenses. Perhaps we are indeed a gentler island!

This year, Island Nature Trust turns 40. To celebrate, we are setting a target of 1,000 new acres acquired and protected. We can’t do this without your help! Several hundred-acre donations are underway, while applications are also in to the federal government and private foundations to support the purchase of other forest and salt marsh properties. With your help, this is what that 1,000 acres might look like!



Bog laurel, a beautiful plant that can be found in a peat bog property we hope to acquire through our 1000 acres campaign

Planning for Perpetuity Continued



Malpeque Bay through the trees on Courtin Island, where we hope to acquire and protect additional lands this year.



Beautiful hardwood forest in Tenmile House, in an area we hope to acquire and protect this year.



Peat bogs are incredibly old and important ecosystems. This peat bog in Portage is one that we hope to acquire this year.



The shoreline overlooking the Hillsborough River from a potential natural area in Alexandra. Photo by Brett MacKinnon.

Imagine the trees that might be standing here three or four generations from now! Who at INT will be caring for them I wonder?

If you can help us reach our target acreage this 40th anniversary year, please do! Every dollar you provide can be matched by a federal dollar. You can direct a donation toward a particular property including:

- Alaska salt marsh, dune & bog (target \$32,000)
- Alexandra salt marsh & coastal cliffs (target \$240,000)
- Portage peat bog (target \$10,000)
- Freeland cedar forest (target \$8,000)
- Courtin Island coastal forest (target \$25,000)
- Riparian forest on the Three Rivers Heritage River system (target \$30,000)
- Hardwood forest in the Lewes & Selkirk Rd areas (target \$75,000)

We are hoping to have many Celebrations of Land in the very near future!

INT Staff

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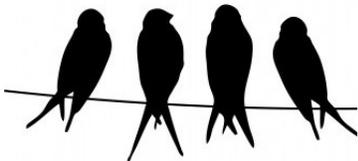
Brett MacKinnon, Forest Bird Technician

Brendan Kelly, Forest Bird Technician

Iain Crowell, Stewardship Technician

Tory Hartley-Cox, Piping Plover Technician

Become an INT Member!



Your membership with Island Nature Trust, PEI's oldest private land trust, helps immensely with the protection of sensitive lands and wildlife across the Island. It shows that we are a strong, well-supported organization and it also comes with a few perks for you, like entrance to members-only events.

You can find our membership form on our website under the header "Participate & Educate", or you can call Barb at the INT office!

Thank you! We are stronger together!

Partnerships

Sekisui Diagnostics, Woodland Stewards



INT and Sekisui staff after planting native trees and shrubs along the coast of our Neuffer Natural Area in Point Prim, May 2017

In 2018, we launched our corporate sponsorship campaign. The campaign invites companies to sponsor our work at various levels in exchange for recognition of their support and other perks as their financial commitment increases. Through corporate sponsorships, we hope to garner financial support for our species-at-risk programs and growing stewardship needs while also allowing local companies to fulfil their corporate social responsibilities and give back to the communities they work in.

In September 2018, Sekisui Diagnostics signed on to become one of our first corporate sponsors. They pledged \$2,000 for 3 years and became our first Woodland Stewards, adopting the *Jenkins Complex Natural Area* in Mount Albion, PEI.

Sekisui Diagnostics is an international corporation that focuses on developing assays and diagnostic instrument solutions which are used across the globe in hospitals and medical facilities. Sekisui has a strong corporate social responsibility policy with a focus on environmental sustainability and engaging with like-minded groups in the communities where they operate.

Prior to becoming Woodland Stewards, Sekisui staff members had been working with Island Nature Trust since 2016 to conduct beach cleanups and plant hundreds of trees and shrubs in natural areas across Queens County.

We are so pleased to have grown this relationship and we look forward to working with Sekisui in years to come as we continue to work together to manage and restore our *Jenkins Complex Natural Area*.

If you would like to learn more about our Corporate Sponsorship campaign, get in touch! We are always looking for like-minded businesses interested in supporting our work.

INT, ALUS, & Rural Landowners Protect Bobolink in PEI



Male bobolink perched overlooking a hay field in Darnley

In 2018, Island Nature Trust (INT) partnered with Alternate Land Use Services (ALUS) PEI to support the successful first year of three in the ALUS Delayed Hay Program. This voluntary program provided a financial incentive for landowners who delayed their hay cut until after July 15th. Bobolink young are raised in nests on the ground in grassland and cutting the hay before they fledge will destroy active nests and young.

Thirty rural landowners across the Island chose to incorporate at least one of their hayfields into the program in the 1st year of the ALUS program.

A number of these landowners are part of INT's long running Farmland Birds Program and were already voluntarily delaying hay to protect the bobolink. INT visited the properties to check for the presence of bobolink and returned once more to ensure landowners followed through with the delay in a hay cut. Nineteen of the properties visited had bobolink present in at least one hayfield and 9 of these are new locations where knowledge of bobolink presence was previously unknown.

INT has also been collecting bobolink productivity data at a subset of hayfields and has assessed this data against various environmental variables at the field and landscape-scale. The ALUS Delayed Hay program relies on information from INT's study in order to determine criteria for selecting qualifying hayfields as well as determining the delayed hay target date. The results have pinpointed a few factors that may be important to consider when selecting fields for the ALUS program – openness of the surrounding landscape and closeness to a water source. INT will continue to monitor productivity and date of fledging to better inform the ALUS program as well as contributing to the management of this species at risk on PEI.

Notes & News



Photo by Dennis Jarvis

We are pleased to report that Island Nature Trust has received partial funding towards a new species at risk project that aims to engage with local fishing communities to investigate the use of small craft harbours by nesting barn swallows, while also having a focus on bank swallow colonies found in these coastal areas. And we need your help! If you've observed barn swallows or bank swallows at or near a small craft harbour, we'd love to hear about it. Get in touch through phone: 902-892-7513, email: landbirds@islandnaturetrust.ca, or social media: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

Our Generous Donors in 2018

John Andrew
 Lisa Anich
 Anonymous (10)
 Judi Allen & Dave McBurney
 Mark Arsenault
 Martin Arsenault
 Ron Arvidson
 Joyce Baily-Inwood
 John & Jean Baird
 Rose Barbour
 Joan Bartlett
 Laura Beach & Joshua Kalkstein
 Linda Berko
 Dr. Peter Bevan-Baker
 Jean Blanchard
 Bill Bowerbank
 Dr. Jules & Patti Burgevin
 Mary Burnett
 Rob & Deanne Burnett
 Marguerite Cameron
 Anne Marie Carr
 Amy Carter
 Laura Chapin
 Rev. Charles Cheverie
 L. Wayne Clark
 Sharon Clark
 Dr. Dan Coffin
 Sigrid & Perry Cook
 Rosemary Curley
 Dr. Pierre-Yves Daoust & Ann Wheatley
 Orysia Dawydiak
 Fiep de Bie
 Ruth DeLong
 Carolyn Dohoo
 Carolyn Drake
 Dr. Lawson & Eileen Drake
 Ann Dutton
 Shirley Gallant
 Anne Galle
 Linda Gaudet
 Donna Gill
 Bruce & Yvonne Gillespie
 John Gingrich
 Ellen Gormley
 Jan Greedy
 Garry Gregory
 Hon. Diane Griffin
 Megan Harris
 Sharon Harris
 Michael Hennessey
 Dr. Rosemary Henderson
 Norah Henry
 Beth Hoar
 Erin Hogg

Adam Hood
 Sally Blake Hooff
 David Hooley
 Dr. Peter & Melissa Hooley
 Carol Horne
 Danielle Horne
 Ben Hoteling
 Jon Hutchinson
 Shelagh Hewitt Kareda
 Heather & Garry Keast
 Herb Isherwood
 Laura Kell & Scott Burke
 Donna Langille & Ken Rodd
 Helen & Jim Larkin
 Edward & Agnes Laughlin
 Kevin Laughlin
 Pauline Laughlin
 Sean Ledgerwood
 Earle Lockerby
 Linda Lowther
 David MacCallum
 Barb MacDonald & Doug Deacon
 Gerald MacDonald
 Gerald MacDougall
 Charles MacIsaac
 Joyce MacKay
 Myron MacKay
 Tamsyn MacKenzie
 Allan MacKinnon
 Gwen MacLean
 John MacQuarrie
 Kate MacQuarrie
 Patricia Manning
 Jane Martin
 Laurie Martin
 Shirley Martin
 William Masselink
 Jan Matejcek & Carolyn Cox
 Ken Mayhew
 Brian McAskill
 Dan McAskill
 Joe McAskill
 Dr. Sandra McConkey & Dr. John Drake
 Barb & Kevin McDonald
 Brenda McDonald
 Edna McDonald
 Lorraine McDonald
 Patsy McDonald
 Brendon McGinn
 Pat McGowan & Dusty MacLure
 Jackie & Pat McIntyre
 Paul McIntyre
 Bruce McLean
 Allie McLennan

John Patrick McNeill
 Dr. Mary McNiven
 Zackary Metcalfe
 Mike Montigny
 Kevin Moore
 Mary Cameron Morneau
 Kent Murnaghan
 Doug Murray
 Elaine Nobbs
 Harry Norton
 Martin O'Grady
 Jackie Olafson
 Maryanne & Glenn Palmer
 Judy Panchuk
 Brenda Patterson
 Dr. Donald Patton
 Curtis Penny
 Brad Potter
 Henry & Gertie Purdy
 George Read
 Lynn Reddin & Gery Ripley
 Hazel & John Robinson
 Judy Rose
 Lori Rudderham
 Dr. Caroline Runyon
 Clarence Ryan
 June Jenkins Sanderson
 Nora Scales
 Ardeth Smith
 Dr. Doug Sobey
 John D. Somers
 Clive Stewart
 John Sylvester
 Dr. Kevin Teather
 Jackie Waddell
 Winifred & David Wake
 Sid Watts
 Kate Westphal
 Nancy Williams
 Ann Wooton
 Lorne Yeo

Businesses:

Christ Church, Cherry Valley
 City of Summerside
 Copson-Bell Family Foundation
 Cows Inc.
 D.C.D. Auto Electric
 HBC Law Corporation
 John Sylvester Photography
 MAW Charitable Trust
 Mid Isle Farms Inc.
 Oak Meadows Inc.
 PEI Technology Solutions

Our Generous Donors in 2018

Businesses Continued:

Phillips Agri Services
RBC Foundation
Silverorange
TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

B.J. Wedge
Lisa Wedge

Lois Constance Stevenson
Maritime Electric

Endowment Fund:

Larry & Missy Baschkin
Jan Matejcek
Sigrid & Perry Cook

Harry Baglole
Dan McAskill

Tommy Knox
Dan McAskill

Stewardship Fund

Judy Profitt

Adeline Marie Shepherd
Ken Rodd

In Memoriam Donations:

The names underlined are those that are remembered with donations from those listed below each:

Janet Barwise
Dianne Griffin

Jim Munves
Dan McAskill

Catherine (Weebe) Fisher

Sally Blake Hooff
Charles Worte
Vicki Barron
Rita Carmichael
Robin Davidson-Arnott
Shirley & Harold Hacon
Wendy Hacon
Richard Hunter
Scott Lister
Brian Steinback
Gail Richardson
Linda & Doug Thomson

Sandy Bentley
Alana Gabrielle Bentley
Robert & Rosalie Bowness
Judy & Barry Clark
Rhonda Cooper
Winston Cousins
Ruth DeLong
Julie Devon Dodd & Sandra Dunsford
Nicole & Curtis Dorian
DTS Technical
Wendy Francis
Natalie Fraser
Jamie Germaine & Greg Ross
E. Glen House Acct.
Karen & Sarah Goodwin
Wendy Grant
Daryl Guignon
J. & G. Hancock
Theresa Harvey

Health Employee Fund, Dept. of Health & Wellness
Sandra & Nelson Hurry
Donna Langille
Donna Lavoie
Luanne Leeman
Jill Lightfoot
Stacey Burns MacKinnon
David MacNevin
Mary Marsh
Anne & Perry Neatby
Wendell Nicholson
Joan Petersen
Judy Profitt
Debra Ramsy
Nancy Reddin
Marie Ridole
Nora Scales
Ann Schurman
Sport PEI Inc.
Evelyn & Ian Stewart
Strait Crossing Bridge Ltd.
Jim & Nancy Supler
Wendell Taylor
Becky Tramley & Daniel Lee
Daniel Tweel
Elda Ward

Adeline Shepherd
Maritime Electric

Lowell Huestis
Joan Bowness
Fred Horne
Joyce Nicholson
Sandra Colohan

Upcoming Nature Events

INT Events are happening throughout the summer and fall! Check out our Passport to Nature (available on our website) for more info!

June 8th — Plants of Prince Edward Island with Kate MacQuarrie (Macphail Woods event) — 10am to 11:30am at Macphail Woods in Orwell. Kate will focus on many of the plants, both native and non-native, that you commonly encounter, plus a look at lots of rare trees, shrubs, wildflowers and ferns. You won't want to miss this one.

June 9th—Debunking Forest-Wildlife Myths with Bob Bancroft (Macphail Woods event) — 2pm to 3pm at Macphail Woods in Orwell. The well-known CBC Radio Noon guest and advocate for nature throughout the region will explore some of the myths surrounding forests and wildlife. Bob will offer insights into how we can protect and enhance our forests by being a better-informed public.

June 30th — Fishing Derby at Andrews Pond Wright's Creek (Hillsborough River Association event)— A free family event. Registration at 3 Oakland Drive, East Royalty, opens at 8:30am. Fishing from 9am to noon. Fishers must supply their own supplies and bait. Prizes, draws, and a BBQ provided. Contact pisquidwatershed@gmail.com for more information.

July 27th — Tracking the Mammals of PEI (Macphail Woods event) — 10am to 11:30am at Macphail Woods in Orwell. Learn about the native and introduced mammals found on PEI, as well as a brief look at some of the mammals we've lost. After a brief slideshow, we'll head off to the woods looking at a variety of animal tracks and signs.

Board of Directors

Island Nature Trust is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors of 12 to 16 members. Each member serves up to two three-year terms. Board members participate in a number of committees that help guide the work of Island Nature Trust.

Executive:

Judi Allen	President
Laura Kell	Vice-President
Rob MacKay	Treasurer
June Sanderson	Secretary

Group Representatives:

Linda Berko	Museum and Heritage Fdn.
Gerald MacDougall	Nature PEI
Kevin Teather	UPEI Biology Dept.
Keila Miller	PEI Wildlife Federation

Remaining Board Members:

Sharon Clark	Carol Horne
Joyce Dewar	Adam Hood
Jan Matejcek	Michael Walsh

We are...

Island Nature Trust is a non-profit, private registered charity dedicated to permanent protection of natural areas on Prince Edward Island. We acquire lands through purchase and donation for protection and help private landowners protect their own properties through legislation and promotion of good land management practices. We also protect species-at-risk, restore lands and undertake public nature education.

Donations are always welcome.

Contact Us:

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Fax: 902-628-6331

E-mail: admin@islandnaturetrust.ca

Find Us Online:

www.islandnaturetrust.ca



@peinaturetrust



Island Nature Trust



islandnaturetrust

INT T-Shirts Available!



Do you want to support the work we do here at INT and look good doing it? Well we have the answer for you! INT T-shirts are now available for sale at our office in Charlottetown.

Shirts are unisex, 100% cotton, V-necks. On the front is the INT logo and an outline of a blue jay contributed by local birder and INT supporter, Ron Arvidson. On the back are the words that guide our work, "Conserve Protect Engage".

T-shirts are available in sizes: small, medium, and large, and cost \$25 each.