

The Nature Trust of British Columbia

2012 Annual Report









Jim Walker

Carmen Purdy and Jim Walker retired from The Nature Trust of British Columbia Board in 2012.

Carmen served on the Board for 20 years and has been actively involved in wildlife and land use issues across British Columbia for over 40 years.

Jim served on the Board for 10 years. He is known for his expertise in wildlife management and land-use management. He has held several senior positions with the provincial government.

The Nature Trust of BC acknowledges Carmen and Jim for their dedicated service and their passion for conservation.

Honourary Patron

The Honourable Steven L. Point, OBC Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

Board of Directors 2012

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John West

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Peter Speer

Kip Woodward



2012 was action packed—a year to celebrate! The Nature Trust of British Columbia continued to deliver on our mandate to conserve BC's natural diversity of plants and wildlife through the securement and management of ecologically significant land which is most at risk of being lost.

Our year began with the closing of one of the most significant land acquisitions in our organization's 42-year history: Twin Lakes. This is one of BC's top priority conservation properties with 2,000 acres (810 hectares) of grasslands, forest and wetlands located in close proximity to our White Lake Biodiversity Ranch. This acquisition doubled our conservation holdings in the area. One beautiful day in May I was honoured to join over 200 people to celebrate and

tour the property. Now we are busy preparing a management plan to guide our conservation efforts to maintain, restore and enhance this and adjoining properties.

Other conservation highlights included the donation of Northey Lake – Black Creek Wetlands on Vancouver Island, the Okanagan Falls Grassland property and the Little-Levin Lake property in the Peace River. We worked with the Regional District of Nanaimo to raise funds for a beautiful 85-acre (34 hectare) property near Nanoose Bay now called Moorecroft Regional Park. One very memorable experience was the dedication of the Slocan River property now called the Kieran Galbraith Memorial Park in memory of a young man who

A Year to Celebrate

loved to kayak on this river.

Considerable thought and time was committed to defining our agreement on leased lands with the Province. Approximately 60% of Nature Trust properties are leased to the Province and The Nature Trust performs land management on these properties. I would like to thank all the parties involved who brought this agreement to a conclusion. This was an example of collaborative partnership in action which has been at the core of The Nature Trust's success since our inception.

Under the guidance of our land management team, our Conservation Youth Crews provided young people with summer employment while performing important on-the-ground activities.



Engaging the next generation in our land conservation work is one of The Nature Trust's goals.

Our new website was launched with a fresh look and features current activities. We encourage you to visit our site at www.naturetrust.bc.ca.

Our financial philosophy has always been to operate in a fiscally responsible manner. We are grateful for donor dollars and respect the need to manage these funds prudently. We have a "no mortgage" policy and guided by our investment committee and portfolio managers, our endowment helps sustain the organization.

Our fundraising program is a reflection of our donors' kindness. Annual donations are critical to meet our operating commitments. Yet these are the hardest dollars to raise. To those who make The Nature Trust part of your annual philanthropic plans, Thank You!

Our fundraising events took us to Kelowna for Earth Wind Fire, Nanoose Bay for Tastes of Land and Sea and Vancouver for our Nature and Water Gala. We were delighted so many of you could join us. These events were a tremendous opportunity to showcase the work of The Nature Trust and have some fun raising needed dollars.

I would like to express my gratitude to those who remembered The Nature Trust with a gift in their will. We are very honoured to receive these bequests and to create a lasting legacy through our land conservation work.

Our board and staff participated in festivals across the province with presentations and guided tours at the Brant Wildlife Festival on Vancouver Island, Meadowlark Festival in the Okanagan and Wings over the Rockies in the Kootenay.

My appreciation to our staff who delivered an outstanding year. And it is with pleasure that we welcomed Dr. Jasper Lament to the position of Chief Executive Officer.

I wish to thank the board. It has been a privilege to serve The Nature Trust of British Columbia as chair. Our many achievements over the past two years would not be possible without your thoughtful guidance and professional expertise.

During my chairmanship, the work of The Nature Trust has become even more imperative to me. We live in a beautiful province and only by protecting habitat will we ensure that BC continues to be a special place for future generations. Please join me with a gift of support to The Nature Trust of British Columbia.

—Doug Christopher, Chair of the Board



"Please accept my donation to aid in your projects. While I no longer live in BC, it is my home province and I would like to help keep the 'Beautiful' in Beautiful British Columbia."

—Maureen Dodge

Annual donations to The Nature Trust of British Columbia support our conservation work across the province.

Nature Trust Properties

The Nature Trust of BC's mandate is to:

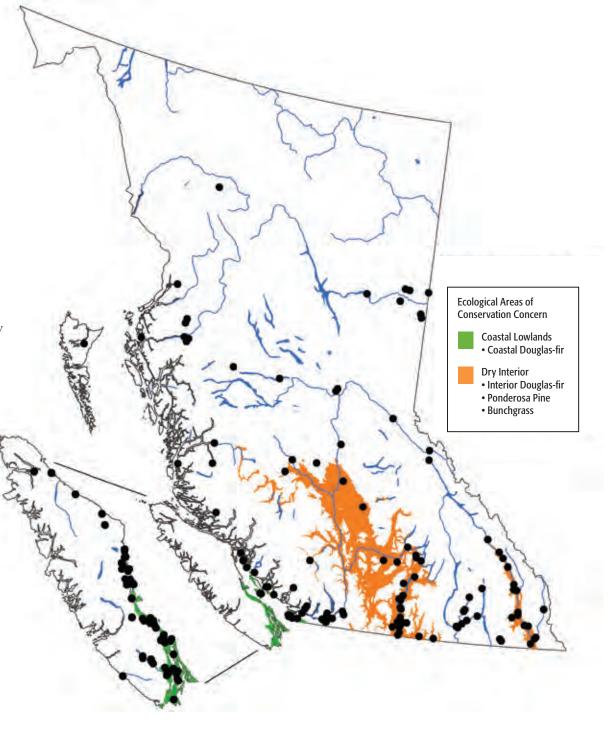
- O Secure habitats of high biodiversity values and at greatest risk of being lost; and
- O manage conservation lands as part of landscapes to ensure ecosystem resilience and connectivity

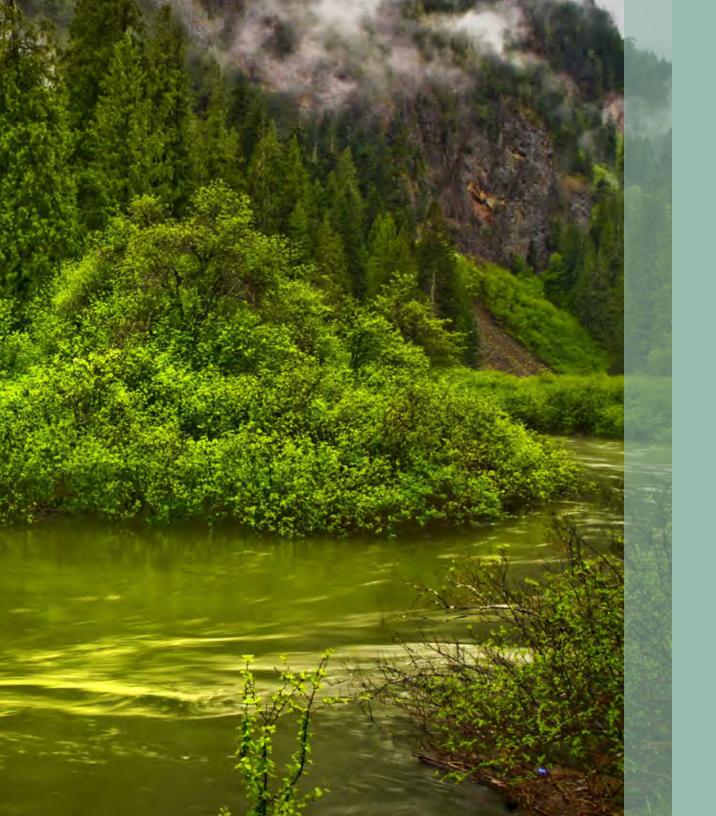
Approximately 6% of the land base in BC is privately owned. This may seem like a small amount of land but there is a disproportionate number of species and ecosystems at risk in the low elevation areas such as valley bottoms and coastal lowlands where most of the private land is located. Perhaps not surprising because this is where most of the people live.

This is where The Nature Trust plays a significant role to acquire and manage private land for conservation. We work in partnership with other conservation organizations and various levels of government to put together land assemblages that will conserve functioning ecosystems and ecological processes.

The priority regions (or biogeoclimatic ecosystem classification zones) for The Nature Trust and where we proactively identify candidate properties to secure are:

- O Coastal Douglas-fir—ranked exceptional/high
- O Bunchgrass ranked high
- O Ponderosa Pine ranked high
- O Interior Douglas-fir—ranked high/medium





"As a property owner in the Twin Lakes area, I appreciate the beauty of the Okanagan and recognize the importance of conserving these unique natural surroundings. I would like to express my gratitude to The Nature Trust of BC for many years of conservation work and for securing the Twin Lakes Ranch Conservation Area —2,000 acres of land that will remain in its natural state in perpetuity. I hope you will join me in supporting The Nature Trust of British Columbia."

—Dave Brown, Contact Printing

Corporate support of The Nature Trust of British Columbia helps us to achieve our conservation goals.

2012 Projects



LeMaster Addition

- O 9.1 hectares (22.5 acres)
- O Located adjacent to The Nature Trust
 Columbia Lake Eastside-LeMaster property
 and East Side Columbia Lake Wildlife
 Management Area in the Kootenay.

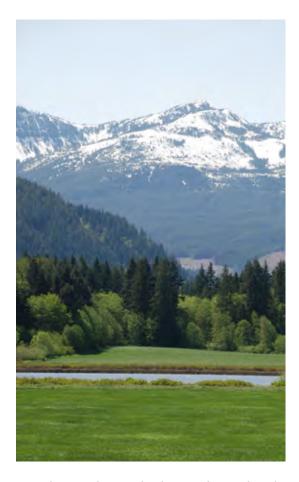
This property protects critical wildlife corridors and winter range for elk and bighorn sheep. The Nature Trust is very grateful for the donation of this property by Wendy and Blake Hiebert.



Little-Levin Lake Conservation Area

- O 64.9 hectares (160 acres)
- O Located north of Fort St. John
 This property features a lake, associated
 wetlands, muskeg and mixed forest. Margaret
 and Jim Little donated this property through
 the Federal Ecological Gifts Program.

For information on the Federal Ecological Gifts Program, visit the Environment Canada website **www.ec.gc.ca**



Northey Lake - Black Creek Wetlands

- O 92.7 hectares (229 acres)
- O Located in the Black Creek watershed on Vancouver Island

This property includes critical wetland, riparian, lake and upland forest as well as agricultural land. Oscar Kreutziger donated this property through the Federal Ecological Gifts Program.



Okanagan Falls Grasslands

- O 7 hectares (17.3 acres)
- O Located adjacent to the Okanagan Falls Biodiversity Ranch near Okanagan Falls

This property features a variety of habitats, including antelope brush, ponderosa pine forest and grasslands. Deb and Wayne Young generously donated this property through the Federal Ecological Gifts Program.



Riverside Wetlands

- O 27 hectares (66.7 acres)
- O Located on the Lillooet River near Pemberton

This property features wetland and riparian habitats in addition to Douglas-fir and Western Hemlock.

Partners were Ducks Unlimited Canada, Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program and Squamish-Lillooet Regional District.



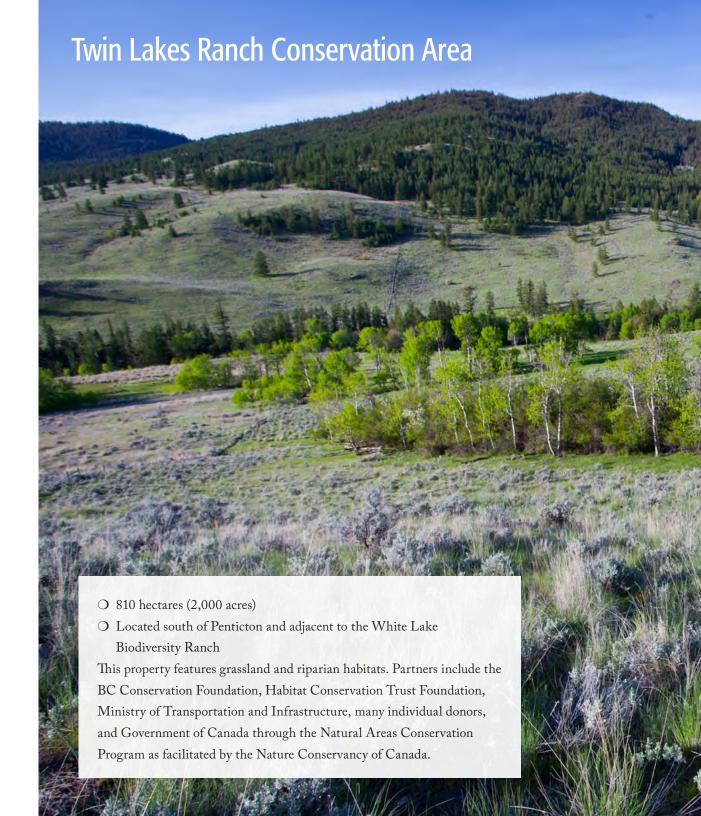
Shoreacres Beach

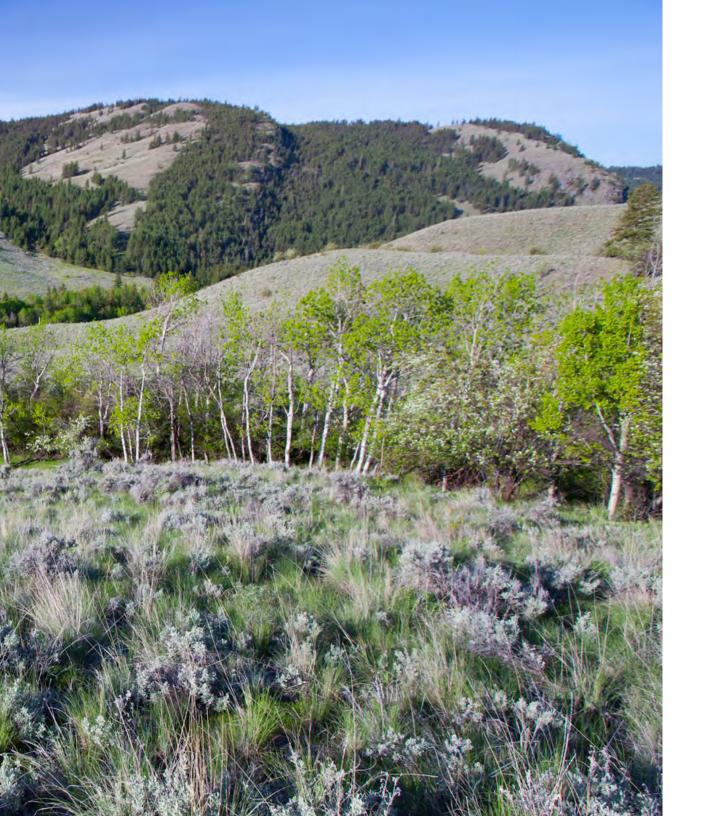
- O 0.6 hectare (1.6 acres)
- O Located along the Slocan River near Shoreacres in the West Kootenay This property includes grass parkland, mixed forest and riparian habitat. It was dedicated as Kieran Galbraith Memorial Park. Partners were Shaw Communications, George Galbraith and many other kind donors.







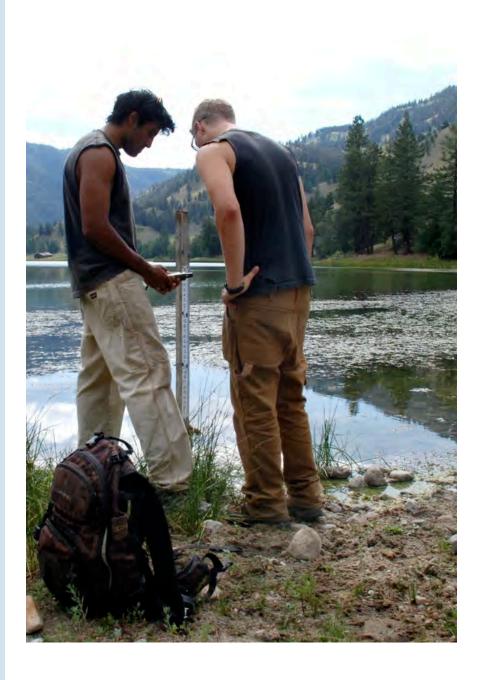












Land Management

Since 1971 The Nature Trust of BC has secured over 70,000 hectares (170,000 acres) of land across the province. While land acquisition has been a tremendous success, an equally important accomplishment has been the management of these conservation properties. We need to ensure that the integrity of habitat values identified in long term management objectives for a particular property is maintained or achieved. To meet these objectives, The Nature Trust of BC has regional land managers on Vancouver Island, in the South Okanagan and the East Kootenay. This team identifies what needs to be done and coordinates field work with the assistance of Conservation Youth Crews and volunteers such as naturalist and stewardship groups.

Most of the on-the-ground land management activities are completed by the Conservation Youth Crews each summer. In 2012, crew members worked on 80 properties across the province. Tasks included:

- O Habitat restoration
- O Fence construction to protect habitat values
- O Wildlife research and habitat monitoring
- O Trail and infrastructure maintenance and inspection
- O Community outreach
- O Rubbish removal

SPONSORS

HSBC Bank Canada was the title sponsor for the seventh year. Other sponsors include BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program, the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, HRSDC, Shell Canada, and The Tony Cartledge Fund.



Steve Godfrey, Vancouver Island
"Exploring a property for the first time is my
favourite activity on the crew. It's always great to
witness the results of land conservation directly
by discovering new habitat and learning a little
bit more about an area's ecosystem as a whole."



Jordan Pryce, Okanagan

"I have learned to do many things such as photo-monitoring which we use to analyze plant diversity, building fences which helps maintain ecological biodiversity, and plant and animal identification."



Joe Strong, Kootenay
"I feel like every day I am contributing to the local community. We provide areas for the public to recreate, and we also help to manage for more diversity and strive to bring the properties back to their historic ecosystems."



Allison Nichols, Lower Mainland
"I wanted to find a summer job where I could
work directly with the environment as well as
one that would help me reach my goal towards a
future career in the environmental sector."









Okanagan Falls Biodiversity Ranch

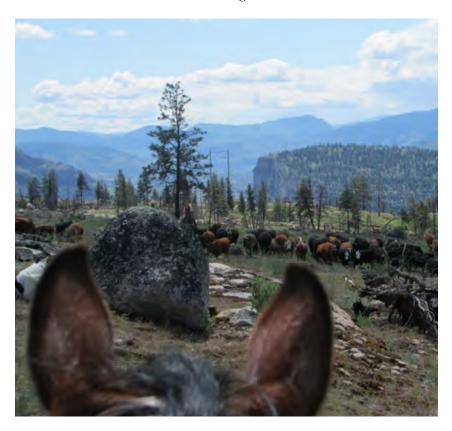
In the 1990s and 2000s, The Nature Trust of British Columbia acquired two active ranch operations at Okanagan Falls as part of its program to conserve the sensitive grassland ecosystems of the South Okanagan (one of the most threatened ecosystems in Canada) and demonstrate innovative conservation land management strategies. This complex of conservation lands totals 111,000 acres (44,914 hectares) under varying tenures, including private land, leased land, and Crown land grazing license.

Our primary goal is to maintain and restore to as natural a state as possible the grassland and associated habitats. Our premise is that a healthy, unfragmented landscape will support a diverse, thriving community of native plant and animal species as well as a viable domestic livestock ranching enterprise. We accomplish this through partnerships, scientific research, and practical knowledge in management planning.

Given the unconventional nature of this conservation project, it requires the participation of open-minded, enthusiastic, ranching partners such as Ryan and Erin Culligan who took over the ranch in 2009. The Culligans were originally from Saskatchewan and they wanted to start their own cattle ranching business. Ryan grew up on a working ranch and brought valuable experience and knowledge while Erin is a trained veterinarian and has worked with animals all her life. Their plan is to build from 250 head of cattle to 500 over five years.

Erin: I think it's really neat how The Nature Trust purchases land for the sake of conservation and how we can intertwine with them as a ranching family. And so we can work in the cattle business and be conservationists at the same time. We can partake in the conservation part as far as the rangeland is concerned with the proper management of our cows and pastures accordingly and just looking after our grass. And taking into account the wildlife that runs here and moving our cows accordingly to their patterns.

Ryan: I think any rancher wants to see his grasslands healthy and his crops grow. You need to for your livelihood. And healthy grasslands make better production off the land with your livestock and that's our living.





Erin: Ranching in this day and age, especially for a young couple like Ryan and I, is very difficult. It's hard to get into. It's hard to stay afloat. Because of this opportunity with The Nature Trust I think we stand a pretty good chance. Every day is a challenge. We're happy to face every day.

Ryan: It's a great feeling to see what you've planted or you've built grow. That's probably the best part of it.

The Culligans plan to ranch here for at least the next 25 years and hope to pass the job onto their children. In the meantime, they'll work with The Nature Trust to preserve and protect the biodiversity of the Okanagan Valley.



Stewardship Groups



The Arrowsmith Naturalists and other volunteers ready to plant over 150 native trees at the Englishman River Estuary on Vancouver Island.



The Chilliwack Field Naturalists do monthly work parties on the Camp Slough property.



The South Okanagan Naturalists' Club did a roadside clean-up through the White Lake Basin Biodiversity Ranch.



Lake Windermere District Rod & Gun Club working on the Hoodoos property in the East Kootenay



South Okanagan Naturalists' Club



"With a little help from The Nature Trust even someone on an Old Age Security pension can buy important bits of land all over the province; and solve a reluctant consumer's dilemma."

—Ted Kay

The Nature Trust of British Columbia is delighted to receive gifts in honour of special occasions, holidays and other memorable events.

The Nature Trust at Community Events



Brant Wildlife Festival: Spring Break Nature Camp



Fraser Valley Bald Eagle Festival



Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary





Brant Wildlife Festival: Brant in the Bay celebration



Scout Island Nature Centre spring program



Tastes of Land & Sea fundraiser



Brant Wildlife Festival: Herring Spawn Tour



Earth Wind Fire



Tastes of Land & Sea fundraiser



Kieran Galbraith Memorial Park dedication



Nature & Water Gala



Burgoyne Bay Celebration



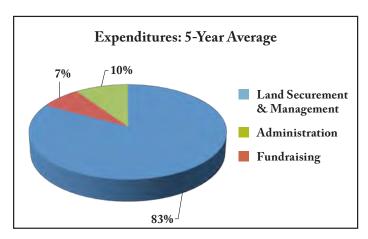
Tastes of Land & Sea fundraiser

Our Business

In 2012 we secured \$5,987,000 in property holdings and spent a further \$1,328,000 on land management. We received generous financial support from our donors and partners who contributed \$8,518,000 to The Nature Trust of British Columbia during the year. We were also able to increase our net assets by \$6,594,000, while contributing \$276,000 to our endowment fund.

December 31, 2012 and 2011	2012	2011
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Cash and receivables	596,000	1,004,000
Investments	13,748,000	12,655,000
Capital assets	599,000	618,000
Properties	80,149,000	74,221,000
	95,092,000	88,498,000
LIABILITIES		
Current	106,000	53,000
Deferred revenue	423,000	1,003,000
Promissory notes		69,000
Net assets	94,563,000	87,383,000
	95,092,000	88,498,000
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	6,594,000	3,468,000

This statement has been derived from the complete audited financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011.



Over the past 5 years we have spent 17% of donated funds on administration and fundraising. This means 83 cents of every dollar donated goes to the protection of nature in BC.





Leaving a gift in your Will to The Nature Trust of British Columbia is a very special way to leave a lasting legacy to nature and reflect your commitment to land conservation. The Nature Trust was very honoured to receive estates and donations in memory from kind donors in 2012.



Estates

Marilyn Dutton Charles Evered Poole Janet Wright

"Planning a charitable gift can bring the family together in the selection of the appropriate cause, which echoes the family's values and aspirations. With a gift to The Nature Trust of British Columbia, those echoes may include the sounds of a grandchild's laughter carried across the golden grassy meadows to the everlistening hills."

—Andrew MacKay, Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang LLP

In Memory

Harvey Baltzer Dr. Bert Brink Forbes Brown Don Burbidge Donald McEwen Carpenter Michael Clements Marilyn Dutton James Heighton Dwyer Angela Evans Charles "Dick" Farnsworth

Kieran Galbraith Dennis Goddard John Graham David Graham John Hebron John W. Husted Roland "Roly" Keller Leo Lannon

Carey Douglas McAllister Art McCarville

Hume McLennan Marjorie Mitchell

Laurie New

Norman Purssell

Ron B. Reed

Vasant Saklikar

Josephine Leontina Skuce

John Newton Woodworth

Uncle Dick

Individual Donors

Our achievements are shared with many individuals who care about conservation as much as we do. We want to thank individual donors in 2012.

Ian Adam Brian Bindon Vickeri Cochrane Bob & Louise Dyer Vicki Gourlay Judith Albert Verena Blatter Norman & Carol Cole Linda Dymond Jill & Peter Govert David & Diana Aldcroft Gerard & Trudy Bloem Barbara Condon Lilian Edev Andrew & Melanie Graham Dan & Sara Jane Connal Lindsay Allen Ellen Bond Eileen Edgar Connie Graham Tod & Teresa Alstad Barbara Elliott Tom Grainger Rita Borkowsky Harold & Joan Copping Dr. Brent Corlazzoli Shirley Embra Dr. Gillian Graves Joan Alston-Stewart Fred Bourcier Gary Anaka Dan & Ursula Bowditch Lillie Cornwallis Bate Bob & Roxy Engle Dan & Sandy Gray R.A. Costanzo Susan Entwistle Elizabeth Anderson Keith Bower Dr. Vicki A. Green Ron & Diane Anderson **James Coutts** Ian Farish Arnold & Elizabeth Greenius David Boyd Billy Griffith Muriel Andrews Marion Boyle Hans Couvreur Maureen Fauman Mark & Kathie Angelo Tom Bradley Cynthia Crampton Sharon Fenton Stephen Griffiths Linda Annis Diane Crosslev John & Eileen Fiell Joseph Grosso Val & Dick Bradshaw Peter Arcese Dr. Bruce Brandhorst Beryl Cunningham Neil Findlay Sarah & Dustin Gumpinger & Dr. Elaine Golds Margaret Cuthbert Alan & Joan Finnie John & Wendy Gunson June Argyle Barry Brandow William S. Armstrong E. Laurenda Daniells Brenda Fischer Dianne Haag Tyee Bridge Bill Davidson Theresa Arsenault Margaret Fisher Larry & Wendy Hancock Bob Broadland Louis & Edith Davidson Susan Hannon John Ashby Stephen Fitterman Peter Broomhall & Sherry Loof Arthur Davies Rick & Libby Avis Jay Fleming Beryl Hargood-Ash Wayne Brown Diane & Grant Ayling Dr. Joyce Davies Alan & Bette Flowerdew James Harkness Georgina Brunette Steve & Kanya Baillie Judith Davis Joyce Folbigg Margaret Harney Dr. Fred Bunnell Laurie Fredricksen Merrion Harrison Joan Baker Lyndis Davis Ellen Burdett Sara Baker Peter Dawe Barbara Freitas Rhys Harrison Dr. Glen Burgoyne Bob & Bonna Dawson Jim & Nancy Balcom Francois & Nina Freyvogel Christopher Harvey Dali-Alexandre Burlington Barbara De Leebeeck Donald Ball Alana Fulton John & Mae Harvey Angela Burnett Kenneth Barr Jenny Denchfield Sue Fyfe Robert Hebbert Don & Donna Burnett David Barraclough Doreen Derreth George Galbraith & Family Joyce Hedges Rob & Sharon Butler Laurie Desrosiers Patricia Gardner Barbara Barrett Lex Hedley Daryl Calder & Marianne Nahm Robert Dickinson The Honourable Garde Gardom Harold Baumbrough David Hellman & Teresa Burns Barry & Barbara Campbell Lawrence Dingsdale Angie Bearman Chris Garrett Dr. John Henderson Bob & Lorraine Campsall William Beaton Janice & Thomas Dixon Matthew Garrey & Catherine Reilkoff Nancy Henderson Gerry Carriere Ross & Patricia Beaty Wyndom & Mary Jean Dixon Timothy Garrish William Henderson Dennis Charbonneau Ann Belither Ron & Carolyn Dodd Robert Gayton Susan Henwood Rod Charlesworth Bill Gileo Bruce & Jean Bell Maureen Dodge Catharine Herb-Kelly Mia Chorney Carol Bell Barrie Donaldson Brigid Gillis Doug Herchmer Lorraine Bell Doug & Eva Christopher Caitlin Hill Bruce Dragan Dr. Scott Gilmore & Cathryn Abbott Gordon & Mary Christopher Jan Bell-Irving Wilfred Dreher & Susan Denny Peggy Gilmour Eugene Hodgson Andrew Berryman & Stephanie Innes Wing Len Chu Corinne Dulberg Jim & Anne Ginns Audrey Hoeg Dr. Craig Clarke Jovce Beveridge Jim Duncan Lynne Glata Rod & Patricia Hoffmeister Alan Clutchey R. Ivor Dunham Pamela Glen Ed Beynon Heather Holden & Doug Leung

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Harbour Air Seaplanes

Hillside Estate Winery

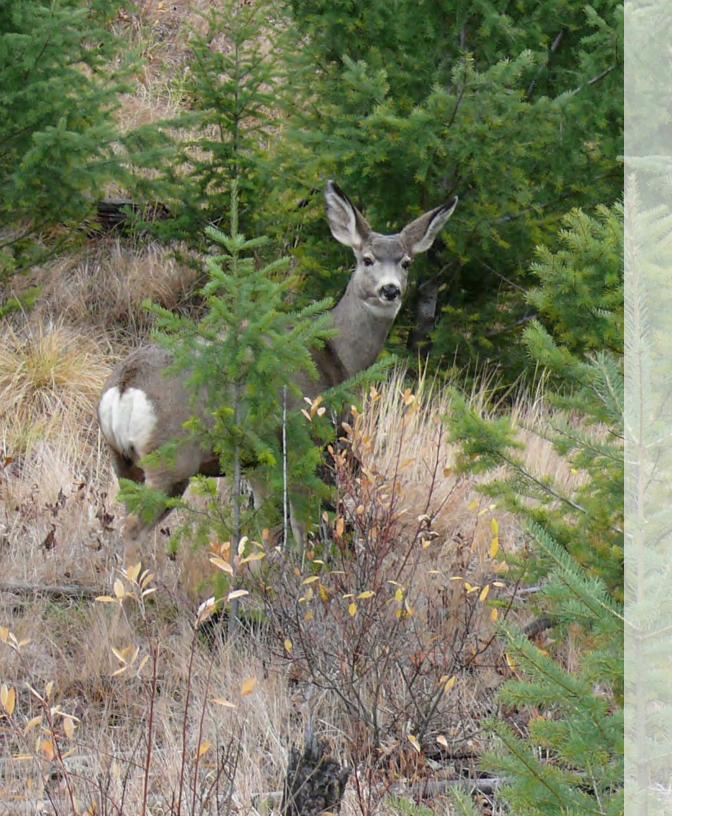
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Spotlight



Endeavour Silver provided key event support in 2012.



Fasken Martineau is a proud sponsor of The Nature Trust and supports its mission to conserve BC's biological diversity.

=GOLDCORP

Goldcorp completed their 4 year, \$1 million donation to The Nature Trust of British Columbia.



HSBC Bank Canada was the Title Sponsor of the Conservation Youth Crews in 2012.

Conservation Partners

Community & Conservation Groups

Arrowsmith Naturalists

Buttertubs Marsh Liaison Committee

Canadian Land Trust Alliance

Coastal Invasive Plant Council

Comox Town Residents Association

Cowichan Valley Naturalists

Ducks Unlimited Canada

Elkford Rod & Gun Club

Estuary Working Group

Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program

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Friends of French Creek Conservation Society

Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team

The Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund

Lake Windermere District Rod & Gun Club

Lower Nipit Improvement District

Mid Vancouver Island

Habitat Enhancement Society

Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Reserve

Nanaimo Fish & Game Club

Nanoose Bay Conservancy Society

Nanoose Naturalists

Nature Conservancy of Canada

North Island Wildlife Recovery Association

Okanagan-Similkameen Parks Society

Pacific Salmon Foundation

Parksville Fish and Game Club

Pinetree Secondary Environmental Club

Raincoast Education Society

Somenos Marsh Wildlife Society

South Okanagan Naturalists' Club

South Okanagan Similkameen

Invasive Plant Society

Sparwood & District

Fish and Wildlife Association

Sustainable Forestry Initiative

TELUS Community Engagement

Foundations & Trusts

BC Conservation Foundation

Central Okanagan Foundation

Charlton Smith Foundation

Columbia Basin Trust

David & Dorothy Lam Foundation

Grayross Foundation

Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation

Joan Ford Charitable Society

Joseph Segal Family Foundation

Kaatza Foundation

Ken & Eva Hansom Fund

Lohn Foundation

McCarthy Tétrault Foundation

The Real Estate Foundation of BC

Sitka Foundation

Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation

TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

Vancouver Foundation

The Victoria Foundation (anonymous donor)

Government

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

BC Ministry of Forests,

Lands & Natural Resource Operations

BC Ministry of Transportation

& Infrastructure

Canadian Wildlife Service

Capital Regional District

Cariboo Regional District

Central Coast Regional District

Central Okanagan Regional District

City of Campbell River

City of Coquitlam

City of Courtenay

City of Kelowna

City of Nanaimo

City of Parksville

City of Penticton

City of Port Moody

City of Powell River City of Prince George

City of Salmon Arm

City of Surrey

City of Williams Lake

Columbia-Shuswap Regional District

Comox Valley Regional District

Corporation of Delta

Cowichan Valley Regional District

District of 100 Mile House

District of Chilliwack
District of Peachland

District of Feachian

District of Saanich

District of Squamish

District of Tofino

Environment Canada

Fisheries & Oceans Canada

Fraser Valley Regional District

Metro Vancouver

Nanaimo Port Authority

North Cowichan District

Parks Canada

Peace River Regional District

Powell River Regional District

Provincial Employees Community Services Fund

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

Regional District of Central Kootenay

Regional District of Central Okanagan

Regional District of Comox

Regional District of East Kootenay

Regional District of Fraser-Fort George

Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine

Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

Regional District of Mount Waddington

Regional District of Nanaimo

Regional District of North Okanagan

Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen

Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District

Strathcona Regional District

Summer Career Placement

Program (HRSDC) Sunshine Coast Regional District

Thompson-Nicola Regional District

Town of Bella Coola

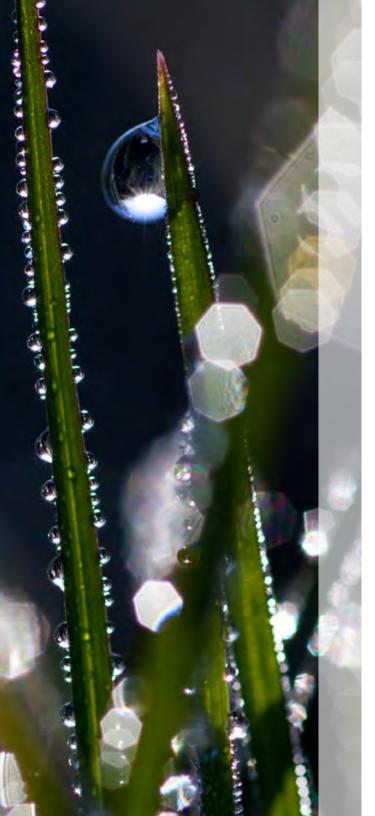
Town of Comox

Town of Naramata

Town of Oliver

Town of Qualicum Beach

Village of Canal Flats



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Tom Reid: Vancouver Island Conservation Land Management Program

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