



Stories of Giving



Gift to Treasured Places

"As a resident of Windermere, I have the good fortune to enjoy British Columbia's spectacular natural surroundings. Please join me in supporting The Nature Trust of BC with an annual gift to ensure places like the Columbia Valley continue to be treasured for years to come."

Dr. Bill Ayrton

Annual Donation

"As a native son, who has had opportunity to travel much of the province, I very much appreciate the work of The Nature Trust in preserving natural habitats in British Columbia. I especially appreciate the White Lake Basin Biodiversity Ranch. It demonstrates the Trust's commitment to sustaining biodiversity and demonstrating that resource use can be a significant part of sustaining diversity. Thank you,"

Fred Bunnell, Professor Emeritus, UBC

In Honour Giving

"When I was very tiny my dad started a tradition in our family. On our birthdays we were to give our mother a small gift – a token of thanks for all she did for us. I did this until she passed away in 1973 and felt she really enjoyed this. Today I am 89 years and have decided I would like to do this. I am aiming for 105 years so hope you will be hearing from me for a few years yet."

Mrs. Cathleen Scott



2014 Annual Giving Campaign

Annual giving is the most effective way to ensure The Nature Trust of BC continues to sustain our special natural surroundings in British Columbia. Your dollars will go to work immediately to help us acquire ecologically significant land and care for it. If you would like to make a donation to our 2014 Annual Giving Campaign, please donate online or call 604-924-9771 (toll free 1-866-288-7878). Remember a monthly gift allows smaller increments with one tax receipt per year. www.naturetrust.bc.ca



Lower Mainland crew member



Okanagan crew

Conservation Youth Crews

This summer The Nature Trust of BC hired enthusiastic young people in five regions: Vancouver Island, Lower Mainland, Okanagan, Kootenay and Peace River. These crew members learned about conservation across the province while restoring habitat, monitoring wildlife, installing signs and removing rubbish on over 80 properties.

The Nature Trust was pleased to have HSBC Bank Canada as the title sponsor of the HSBC Conservation Youth Crew program for the eighth year.

Other sponsors included the BC Hydro, BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program, Great-West Life, the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, HRSDC, Shell Canada and The Tony Cartledge Fund.

"I wanted the chance to learn more about the Kootenays and have the opportunity to work out in the mountains."

Angus DeCosse, Kootenay crew

"I loved the idea of working outside doing manual labour because of its direct ecological restoration impact."

Fiona Beaty, Lower Mainland crew

"It is fascinating to be able to remove a noxious weed and see the effect this removal has on enhancing the natural ecosystem."

Anika Engel, Okanagan crew

Priority Project

The Nature Trust of BC is fundraising to acquire the last privately owned lot at Wigwam Flats near Elko in the Kootenay and create a land management endowment. The Wigwam Flats area is one of the most strategically significant and important wildlife habitat sites in the East Kootenay. The natural complex of grasses, shrubs and forested ecosystems provides a first class winter range for elk, mule deer, white-tailed deer and bighorn sheep. To donate, visit our website at www.naturetrust.bc.ca or call 604-924-9771 (toll free 1-866-288-7878).





Tim Clermont, Jasper Lament, Minister Shirley Bond and Bruce Harrison



Ian McTaggart-Cowan's niece Alison Apps and Ian's daughter Ann Schau at the new WMA

Celebrating Wildlife Management Areas

By Matt Cuddeford, volunteer

The Nature Trust of British Columbia is working with partners to create Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) across the province to connect and enhance conservation lands. We are putting pieces of the ecological puzzle together to improve the health of wildlife, plants and people.

WMAs are lands designated for the benefit of regionally to internationally significant fish and wildlife species or their habitats. The management and conservation of fish, wildlife and their habitats are the priority but other compatible land uses may be accommodated. More than 242,000 hectares (598,000 acres) in BC are designated as WMAs.

This past spring six WMAs were created or expanded by the provincial government, three of which were partially comprised of land owned by The Nature Trust.

On March 15th, the Parksville-Qualicum Beach WMA on Vancouver Island was expanded by the addition of 93 hectares (230 acres) of leased Nature Trust land which includes habitat along the Englishman River that is important to steelhead trout and a growing Roosevelt elk population with the coastal portions of this WMA key staging grounds for Brant geese.

On March 19th the McTaggart-Cowan/nsək'niw't WMA was

created on the east side of Skaha Lake in the South Okanagan, including 116 hectares (287 acres) of Nature Trust land. This WMA was designated to honour the late Dr. Ian McTaggart-Cowan, a renowned conservationist, zoologist, educator and director of the Nature Trust board for more than 30 years. This WMA is most important for protecting, among other species, the area's California bighorn sheep.

The site for the WMA is also important to the Penticton Indian Band who have provided a Syilx language name for the site. The word, nsək'niw't, is roughly translated from the Syilx language as "a gash on the side." The name refers to the portion of the trail used by First Nations winding up and alongside a steep walled canyon south of the Skaha Bluffs for travel, trade, and to access medicine gathering areas.

On March 28th the Cranberry Marsh/Starratt WMA was created south of Valemount in the Robson Valley, combining 99 hectares (245 acres) of Nature Trust property, crown land and privately donated land. The area features a longstanding wildlife sanctuary popular with birdwatchers. Consolidation of the area into a single WMA will support more effective ecological management.

Join Ann Schau, daughter of Ian McTaggart-Cowan and bandleader of The Dancehall Players, for a community dance at Beaver Point Hall on Salt Spring Island on November 16 from 2 to 5 p.m. Donations gratefully accepted for the Ian McTaggart-Cowan cairn at the new WMA.

Priority Project

The Nature Trust of BC is raising funds for land management on our Skaha Lake property which is now part of the new Wildlife Management Area. Please visit our website at www.naturetrust.bc.ca or call 604-924-9771 (toll free 1-866-288-7878) to make a donation.



Aerial view of Northey Lake, Vancouver Island

Northey Lake-Black Creek Wetlands Acquisition

The Nature Trust is pleased to announce the donation of Northey Lake-Black Creek Wetlands by Oscar Kreutziger through the Federal Ecological Gifts Program. This 92.7 hectare (229 acre) property on Vancouver Island features critical wetland, riparian, lake and upland forest.



If you would like to donate for a land management endowment for this special property, please call 604-924-9771 (toll free 1-866-288-7878) or visit our website www.naturetrust.bc.ca

Volunteers Repair Bridge

By Kristen Douglas/The Mirror

A handful of engineers volunteered their time to improve the safety of a popular Willow Point walking trail in Campbell River on Vancouver Island.

Crews from OnSite Engineering replaced the wooden planks along the top of the foot bridge in the Willow Creek Conservation Area. They were joined by one staffer and two conservation crew members from The Nature Trust of British Columbia. The Nature Trust is the landowner of the property which can be accessed off of

Willow Creek and Twillingate roads.

"It was a joint volunteer day," said Melissa Fietz, a junior engineer with OnSite. "They replaced the deck; the deck was rotten and it was going to be a hazard to the public."

The bridge, which was built in 1995, also underwent structural upgrades last year courtesy of OnSite. Dove Creek Timber and Windsor Mill Sales donated some lumber while OnSite donated the rest of the materials and Onsite employees volunteered their time.



Volunteers on Willow Creek bridge. Photo by Kristen Douglas / The Mirror

Seven Reasons You Need a Will

By Richard Weiland, Clark Wilson LLP
604-891-7709, RTW@cwilson.com

It has been estimated that 7 out of 10 Canadians do not have a valid will. Most people have at least a vague understanding of the importance of a will. But some find the idea of preparing for their own death troubling, and nearly everyone finds it an easy thing to put off. Based on our experiences dealing with both will-planned and intestate (no will) estates, here are seven potential reasons why you should have a will:

1. **You want your affairs handled by someone you trust.** The executor named in your will has immediate powers to deal with your estate when you die. If you die intestate, no one has the power to deal with your property until a court appoints an administrator. Disputes may arise over who will apply to be the administrator. Also, the court may require the administrator to post a bond, adding further complication and expense.
2. **You want to provide well for your family.** The distribution of an intestate estate follows a scheme set by law. For example, if you die in BC leaving a spouse and two or more children, your spouse is entitled to a modest preferential share in the estate, and one-third of the balance of the estate (to be changed to one-half in 2014). The children get the rest. Depending on the circumstances, this may not leave your spouse enough to survive on.
3. **You don't want your in-laws to get everything.** BC's intestate distribution rules can lead to unexpected results where more than one family member dies at the same time. For example, Abe and Bea are married with no children. If they die together in a car accident, Abe, who is older, will be considered to have died first leaving everything to Bea. The entire estate will be distributed to Bea's family, and Abe's family will receive nothing. Pending changes in the law will change this result but do not eliminate the possibility of unexpected results.
4. **You want to choose your child's guardian.** If you are not able to take care of your minor children, who will? If you don't designate a guardian in your will, one will be appointed by the court. Delays are to be expected and disputes over guardianship are more likely to arise.
5. **You don't want to pay more tax than is necessary.** A will provides opportunities to reduce taxes. For example, one easy way to defer income taxes on death is to leave property that has appreciated in value to your spouse. With no will, a large portion of your estate may be left to children or others, resulting in a higher tax liability to the estate.
6. **You want to benefit your favourite charities.** Leaving gifts to your charities can reduce your estate's tax bill, leaving more available to distribute overall. If you intend to make sizeable charitable gifts, get advice specific to your situation.
7. **You want to provide in creative ways using trusts.** Trusts create continuing interests that serve many purposes. For example, you might include a trust in your will to provide for minors, to delay distribution to children to a specified age, to control spendthrift beneficiaries, to keep assets within family bloodlines and away from spouses, or to create consecutive interests. Properly structured trusts can also reduce taxes in some situations.



If you would like to receive our new free Bequest brochure,
please contact Deb Kennedy at debkennedy@naturetrust.bc.ca or call 604-924-9771 ext. 231.

Earth Wind Fire 2013



Thanks to all our guests, chefs and wineries that made our Kelowna event to raise funds for our land conservation work in the Okanagan such a success!

50th Parallel Estate Winery	Meyer Family Vineyards
Aces Okanagan Estate Winery	Oliver Twist Estate Winery
Black Hills Estate Winery	Painted Rock Estate Winery
Blue Mountain Vineyard & Cellars	Peller Estates
Calona Vineyards	Quails' Gate Estate Winery
Covert Farms Family Estate	Quinta Ferreira Estate Winery
D'Angelo Estate Winery	Recline Ridge Vineyards & Winery
Desert Hills Estate Winery	Road 13 Vineyards
Dirty Laundry Vineyard	Rustic Roots Winery
Eau Vivre Winery & Vineyards Ltd	Sandhill Wines
Ex Nihilo Vineyards	Seven Stones Winery
Gehring Brothers Estate Winery	Silver Sage Winery
Gray Monk Estate Winery	Sperling Vineyards
Hester Creek Estate Winery	Squeezed Wines
Hillside Estate Winery	Stag's Hollow Winery
Howling Bluff Estate Wines	Stoneboat Vineyards
Intrigue Wines	Summerhill Pyramid Winery
Kettle Valley Winery	Tantalus Vineyards
La Stella	The View Winery
Le Vieux Pin	Van Westen Vineyards
Liquidity	Volcanic Hills Estate Winery

"I have chosen to donate year after year to The Nature Trust of BC Earth Wind Fire over many other causes as the conservation of our lands, flora, and fauna combined with the vast involvement this non-profit organization has engaged in is close to my heart as I hold a love for the outdoors and all of its beauties."

Sarah Simpson Byrne, SIMS Jewelry Co.,
www.AreYOUwearingSIMS.com



Ronda Murdock of Pacific Rainforest Adventure Tours kindly donated proceeds from Brant tours to the festival

Brant Wildlife Festival

We greatly appreciate the dedicated volunteers who made the festival possible as well as our sponsors: BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, City of Parksville, Lohn Foundation, Mid-Island Co-op, Quality Foods and TD Friends of the Environment Foundation. The 2014 festival will run March 1 to April 21.

www.brantfestival.bc.ca



A gift of publicly-listed securities (including stocks, bonds and mutual funds) makes an excellent gift to The Nature Trust of British Columbia. Donations of publicly listed securities to charitable organizations receive the charitable donations tax credit. In addition to this, such donations to public charities are 100% exempt from capital gains. www.naturetrust.bc.ca

wild about naturegala

We would like to thank all of our sponsors, guests and donors who helped raise funds at the Wild About Nature Gala on Oct. 2 for land conservation projects across the province.



Capilano University's NiteCap provided lively entertainment



The ballroom was filled to capacity

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Save-On-Foods Store 99
Summerhill Pyramid Winery
Sundance Guest Ranch
Valley Helicopters



CTV MC Norma Reid



Guests enjoying the evening



Honorary Gala Chair Ross Beaty and Board Chair John West

Media Sponsor



Wild About Nature Campaign

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Shirley Thompson

Thank you to those who donated after this went to press.

If you would like to sponsor an upcoming event, please call 604-924-9771 or e-mail info@naturetrust.bc.ca

donornotes



Nature Trust CEO Jasper Lament receiving cheque from Keith Caughlin of the Barnet Rifle Club to support land management on the Little-Levin Lake property in the Peace River



Rob Neil of The Nature Trust receiving a \$6,000 cheque from Ray Myles of the Sparwood & District Fish & Wildlife Association



Margaret and Jim Little kindly donated the Little-Levin Lake property north of Fort St. John which includes a lake, wetlands, muskeg and mixed forest



Deb Kennedy of The Nature Trust receiving a cheque from Garrett Thiessen of Great-West Life

"Great-West Life values the important role The Nature Trust of BC plays in encouraging commitment, integrity and social responsibility in future leaders, a goal we're pleased to support through our corporate citizenship program. In educating and training youth in land conservation activities across the province, The Nature Trust is not only inspiring young Canadians to better care for and understand the world around them, it's creating valuable skills and mindfulness that serve strong careers."

Garrett Thiessen,
Associate Regional Director,
Gold Key Practices, Great-West Life

newdirectors



Doug Janz

The Nature Trust is pleased to welcome Doug Janz to the Board. Doug served more than 32 years at the Ministry of Environment. From 1982 until his retirement in 2004 he was the Regional Wildlife Biologist/Section Head.



Brooke Wade

The Nature Trust is pleased to welcome Brooke Wade to the Board. Brooke is the President of Wade Capital Corporation, a private investment company. From 1994 to 2005, Brooke was the co-founder, Chairman and CEO of Acetex Corporation. Prior to that, he was founding President and CEO of Methanex Corporation.



The Nature Trust of British Columbia

The Honourable Judith Guichon, OBC
Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia
Honourary Patron

John West
Chair of the Board

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Jasper Lament, PHD
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