



Thank You

We would like to acknowledge our generous funding partners on the Slokan River Island conservation property:

- the BC Conservation Foundation—
Land for Wildlife Fund
- Columbia Basin Trust
- the Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program
- FortisBC
- The Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund

We would also like to recognize the Nixon Family Farm Society, the previous owners, who donated a significant portion of the value of the land under the Ecological Gifts Program. This picturesque 142-acre parcel is located between Winlaw and Slokan in the Kootenays. ☺

Fundraising Priorities

Please help with our current fundraising priorities:

- The Nature Trust Campaign
- Conservation Youth Crews
- \$20,000 for ecogifts
in the Okanagan and Shuswap

To find out more, contact Deb Kennedy at 604-924-9771.

Year of Biodiversity

The United Nations declared 2010 to be the International Year of Biodiversity. It is a celebration of life on earth and of the value of biodiversity for our lives.

Get outdoors and enjoy the amazing biodiversity of British Columbia—and consider what you might do to ensure it survives for future generations. ☺



Bob Lenarduzzi

We are delighted to announce that Bob Lenarduzzi has agreed to act as a celebrity spokesperson for The Nature Trust. (Visit YouTube to see his video.)

"My career has taken me around the world, and without hesitation I can say we have something very special here in B.C.

"However we choose to spend our days, nature is an important part of our lives—a healthy environment contributes to our own health. I hope that what I have enjoyed will be around for my children and theirs. I'm glad to know that The Nature Trust is working every day to ensure this happens. I look forward to helping raise awareness for this very worthwhile organization." ☺



Estate and Legacy Planning

We are all busy. Our hectic schedules and ongoing family commitments often prevent us from taking the time to ensure that all of our priorities are addressed in an estate plan. After all, estate planning is far less exciting than planning the next vacation or being involved in the milestones that are accomplished by our children.

For many people, the little voice in the back of their minds never materializes into a properly prepared estate plan. I am sure that if those people could foretell the consequences of not properly planning for when they finally “cross the bar” (a sincere apology to Alfred Lord Tennyson), they would have taken the time to prepare a Will that truly expresses who they are and that addresses their priorities.

I meet many people in the practice of law who have a sense of relief when their Wills are carefully prepared, properly executed and filed away. After all, the law as pertains to Wills and their drafting is fraught with legal issues and pitfalls for the inexperienced.

Did you know that only British Columbia and New Zealand have statutes that could

see a wealthy adult child or common-law spouse apply to the Courts to have a Will varied in their favour?

I always ask my clients what their priorities are and most, after dealing with the necessities and taking the proper steps to ensure that their Will ought to survive judicial scrutiny, want to include some sort of philanthropic bequest in their plan. Your lawyer or notary will undoubtedly be happy to help you accomplish all of your objectives.

All of us have the opportunity to keep BC a special place for future generations by leaving a lasting legacy. Every time I visit a Nature Trust conservation property on Vancouver Island such as Buttertubs Marsh in Nanaimo or the Englishman River in Parksville, I am reminded of how important the gift of conservation is in estate plans. Together we can make our corner of the world a better place. 🌿

Timothy J. Huntsman is a lawyer who practices at the law office of Hunter & Company in Nanaimo.
www.hunterlawcorp.com

One way you can leave a lasting legacy for our children is to give a future gift to The Nature Trust Campaign. Through the generosity of donors like you, we have raised \$8.6 million. Consider “tucking us” in your will so that future generations can continue to enjoy our treasure of a province.

Patrick Oswald, Leadership Giving
604-924-9771, ext. 232



In Memory of Heather Johanna Saaltink

On December 17, 2008, Heather Johanna Saaltink was killed by a drunk driver who slammed his truck head-on into the Toyota she was driving to Cornwall to celebrate Christmas with her parents and sisters. She was just 22 years old. She was accompanied by her father Rik and her sister Emma who were both injured but survived.

Heather was a force of nature. She would come upon an interesting fact or idea, and soon it would develop into a full blown passion. An honour student at Lakehead University, she studied philosophy and women's studies. Heather was an athlete. She played hockey, swam for the Sea Lions, and found a berth on the varsity running team. Her adventurous spirit and love of the wilderness and animals led her to many adventures in the great outdoors, from solo hiking on the Appalachian mountain trails, to a 1500 kilometre bike ride from the Lakehead to the family's cottage near Kingston. Heather's zest for life, commitment and energy were infectious and inspired others to emulate her daring.

Heather was dearly loved by her family and friends and by her community as testified by subsequent events. Her university held a memorial service for Heather who had just earned her degree. In Cornwall a run for Mothers Against Drunk Drivers was organized, The Heather Saaltink Memorial Run attracted a record number of participants and donations for a community

its size, and Heather was chosen to light the city's Olympic flame. It was her dad who lit the cauldron in her place—one of the few posthumous selections made.

Heather was born in BC and enjoyed exploring the mountainous landscape. One summer she planted trees on Vancouver Island, rescued a puppy and called it Sitka for the spruce. Heather had a generous spirit and helped people where she could. On one of her camping trips she gave her tent to homeless youngsters!

Her family feels that a donation to

The Nature Trust of BC in her name would have pleased her. An environmentalist whose mode of transportation, even in winter, was a bicycle, she would welcome the use of the donation to help a project to save the biodiversity of the gravel reach of the Fraser River. We are pleased to assist the project to achieve its important objective. ☸

From her parents, her sisters Robyn and Emma, her aunts, uncles, 6 fond cousins, and her grandparents, Henk and Johanna Saaltink



Leveraging Your Donation Dollar

Our tax system is very complicated for most of us. However, sometimes under our tax system, you can make a donation in a way that is almost too good to be true. Combining a flow through share purchase with a donation can provide that kind of result.

A flow through share is a share that allows the issuing company to transfer tax deductions and credits to the person buying the share. Typically the companies are mining or oil and gas exploration companies that can't use the deductions on credits.

So you can buy the flow through shares and get the tax relief, but the cost of the shares for tax purposes is nil. That means that when you sell the shares, the entire amount is a capital gain.

You now donate the shares to a registered charity like The Nature Trust. There is a special tax rule that says you have no capital gain on gifting public company shares to a registered charity or foundation. To find out more, visit www.naturetrust.bc.ca ☸

Mark A. Zlotnik, CA, CLU of ZLC Financial Group
www.zlc.net • 604-688-7208

Earth Wind Fire 2010



**Join us for an evening of
fine food, great wine and fun dancing
in Kelowna on May 29, 2010**



The second annual Earth Wind Fire event is presented by the Delta Grand Okanagan Resort with proceeds benefiting The Nature Trust.

A sparkling reception will be hosted by Summerhill Pyramid Winery. Local chefs and members of Culinary Team Canada will wow your taste buds while superb Okanagan wine will be served. Kick up your heels with some lively music.

Tickets are \$150 and reserved tables for 8 are \$1,200. Premium tables are also available with special features: Earth table \$10,000, Wind table \$5,000, Fire table \$2,500.

If you would like to purchase a table or tickets or discuss sponsorship, contact Robin Rivers at rrivers@naturetrust.bc.ca or call 1-866-288-7878.



Our Honourary Patron is Maxine DeHart. An enthusiastic community citizen, Maxine has received numerous awards recognizing her tireless volunteerism. She writes a column for the *Kelowna Capital News* called "Straight from DeHart" and is the Sales Director for the Ramada Inn.

Sponsors

Capri Insurance
www.capri.ca

Great-West Life
www.greatwestlife.com

Sotheby's International Realty
Canada Okanagan Collection
www.okanagancollection.com

Valley First for Safe Ride Home
www.valleyfirst.com

Table Sponsors

W. Tod Alstad Insurance & Wealth
for a Wind table
www.wtafinancial.com

Barkerville Gold Mines Ltd.
for a Wind table
www.barkervillegold.com

Criterion Capital Corp.
for a Fire table

Upcoming Events

Brant Wildlife Festival
March 5 to April 28

Wings Over the Rockies:
Hoodoos Hike May 8

Fore the Hoodoos
Golf Tournament May 13

Meadowlark Festival:
Hike to McIntyre Bluff May 24

Wild Festival for Youth June 8



Brant Wildlife Festival

The Nature Trust of British Columbia invites you to the 20th Brant Wildlife Festival. Come celebrate the amazing biodiversity of Vancouver Island as we join nations around the world in recognizing the International Year of Biodiversity.

From March 5 to April 28 the festival will host wildlife viewing adventures, learn to fish and nature camps for children, learn to bird, a Voices of Nature concert, art and woodcarving exhibits, family days, and much more in Parksville and Qualicum Beach with special events in Nanaimo, Port Alberni and Comox. For full details, visit www.brantfestival.bc.ca

The festival started because of a chatty little black goose that migrates from California and Mexico to Alaska and

the Arctic with stops on Vancouver Island shores to rest and feed. As many as 20,000 Brant and thousands of other sea birds and marine mammals may be seen in Georgia Strait at peak times during the Pacific herring spawn.

Brant symbolize our interconnectedness with nature and highlight how important nature is to our quality of life. From fresh air and clean water to places for spiritual renewal, nature provides us with many gifts.

New this year is a conservation interpreter program funded by Wildlife Habitat Canada. Interpreters will be

Brant Wildlife Festival



The Nature Trust
of British Columbia

distributing information about Brant and associated wildlife to schools and community organizations. Along with the Resource Management Officers Training students, the interpreters will be stationed on beaches in the Parkville-Qualicum Beach Wildlife Management Area in March and April to inform the public about the Brant and other wildlife they see during spring migration.

A special thank you to our supporters The Nature Trust of BC is coordinating the festival with sponsorship from BC Hydro, BC Ministry of Environment, Ducks Unlimited Canada, the Lohn Foundation and TD Friends of the Environment Foundation. We also want to thank the many volunteers and local event sponsors who contribute so much to make this festival possible. ♻️

Summerhill Supports The Nature Trust

Summerhill Pyramid Winery – recently named Canadian Wine Producer of the Year by the International Wine and Spirits Competition – is excited to present a new line of organic wines in support of the environment. The Robert Bateman Get to Know Series is a selection of five award-winning organic wines, produced at Canada’s largest and most visited certified organic vineyard and winery. Summerhill is committed to using sustainable approaches to producing wine, and, as proprietor Stephen Cipes has proclaimed, “allowing Mother Nature to speak for herself.”

This limited release is a vibrant expression of Summerhill’s unique terroir, harnessed by the vision of celebrated winemaker Eric Von Krosigk. On the palate, each wine boasts a complexity and depth

of flavour that can only be coaxed from certified organic grapes, and achieved through unhurried care and attention in Summerhill’s certified organic cellar. From the classic Cipes Rose sparkling to the Riesling and Pinot Noir Icewines, the Robert Bateman Get to Know Series is a “must-have” experience for lovers of fine wine. Each bottle is labeled with original Robert Bateman artwork.

The series is also unique because it supports two worthy organizations: The Nature Trust of BC and the Robert Bateman Get to Know Program, an organization devoted to fostering a stronger relationship between young people and nature. Together these two organizations are working towards nurturing the environmental leaders of tomorrow. ♻️



As a sign of Summerhill’s commitment to this cause as well as the efforts of The Nature Trust of BC, it is pleased to offer a 10% discount to supporters for every purchase. In addition, for every bottle sold, Summerhill will donate \$1 to The Nature Trust as well as \$1 to the Get to Know program. To place your order, go to www.summerhill.bc.ca/the_wines/bateman-get-to-know-series. To receive the discount, click on “Add a Coupon” in your Shopping Cart, and enter code ntrbc7.

Caring for the Land

In addition to land acquisition, The Nature Trust is committed to caring for our properties. Managing our properties requires considerable investment of time and money. Over 60% of our annual operating budget goes to land management. In addition, we are very appreciative of stewardship groups, volunteers and community organizations that assist us in removing invasive weeds, installing signs and helping us achieve our conservation goals on our lands across the province.



Logs were installed in Elizabeth Lake in the Kootenays to allow Western Painted Turtles to rest



Arrowsmith Naturalists and a volunteer warden removed invasive weeds and planted trees on the Englishman River Estuary on Vancouver Island



A sign honouring Bert Hoffmeister, the first chairman of The Nature Trust, was installed at Boundary Bay



The Culligans are the new partners on the Okanagan Falls Biodiversity Ranch



The Chehalis River Fishing Trail sign was unveiled with local partners

Photo Contest Winners

Congratulations to Don Erhardt for his photo of Takakkaw Falls in Yoho National Park. The moonlit shot was a winner with our judges and people who voted in our Inspired by Nature in BC Photo Contest.

Category winners were Daphne Eze for All Living Things, Len Langevin for Renewing Nature and Kevin Lee for Nature as Art.

Special thanks to Lens & Shutter and Nikon for providing prizes, judges Graham Osborne, Andrew Klaver and Vjeko Sager, and everyone who submitted photos and voted for photos. Watch for our 2010 photo contest beginning in May! ☼



"Renewing Nature"
by Len Langevin



"Nature as Art"
by Kevin Lee



"All Living Things"
by Daphne Eze



Grand Prize Winner
"Places to Call Home" by Don Erhardt



Relkov Family

The Nature Trust would like to thank the Relkov family for their dedication and support in the protection of an important property located at Rock Creek, in the Kettle Valley.

Through a combination of a purchase and donation of this 100 hectare property, The Nature Trust is working with the Relkov family to continue long term conservation objectives on this unique habitat area. This securement will provide:

- Increased protection of Ponderosa Pine Kettle Dry Hot subzone variant;
- Valuable wildlife habitat including ungulate wintering habitat;
- Protection of several rattlesnake dens and habitat for the Immaculate Green Hairstreak butterfly;
- A protected area of which there are few in the Kettle Valley

Adjacent to 31.9 hectares already secured by The Nature Trust, this Rock Creek acquisition will encourage expanded conservation of this region. When all transactions are complete, The Nature Trust will have protected over 202 hectares in the Rock Creek area.

As these important conservation lands become more and more threatened it is crucial that The Nature Trust builds a network to protect these natural ecosystems. With the support of such thoughtful people, like the Relkovs, we can continue to protect these significant habitat areas. ☼



The Nature Trust of British Columbia

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At this time of year, the herring milt turns the ocean around Parksville a beautiful colour of turquoise.

Nature Trust News



Stephanimals

These eco-friendly, locally hand-crafted stuffed animals are unique like nature. Included with each purchase is a soft, colourful, hand-made story book. It is designed to educate children and adults alike about that particular animal, its habitat, and ways in which we can help protect the environment, as well as our own. From every item sold, \$2 is donated to a local non-profit animal or environmental organization. In 2009, Stephanimals raised \$1,600 for The Nature Trust of BC, and is optimistic that the money raised in 2010 will significantly surpass this amount. www.stephanimals.com.



New Director

We would like to welcome Judith Donaldson Hughes to the Board of Directors. She earned BSc and MSc degrees from the University of Victoria and UBC. After working as a wildlife biologist for the Northwest Territories Wildlife Service and then as Director of Research for the Baffin Region Inuit Association, she returned to graduate school, receiving a PhD from Harvard University. From there she pursued a career in finance, working as an investment analyst and then founded Donaldson Capital Management.



1% for the Planet

Since 2002, 1% for the Planet has inspired members of the business community to contribute 1% of sales to environmental groups around the world. In return, this growing alliance of companies is given the opportunity not only to see their self-worth rise, but their net worth climb as well. The Nature Trust is listed as a designated non profit. In his first year of business, Emmanuel Lavoie of Reevolution Consulting chose this program as a way to support the land conservation work of The Nature Trust.

Thank You

The Nature Trust would like to thank an anonymous donor who provided funds through the Victoria Foundation. We greatly appreciate your support!