



THE BLUE HERON

The Bras d'Or Stewardship Society

P.O. Box 158, Baddeck, Nova Scotia B0E 1B0

VOLUME 22

JANUARY, 2017

NO. I

Once again, it is that time of year when one reflects on the past by looking forward to the future. There seems to be more uncertainty flying about, as the news has been full of stories which leave one to believe that we are facing a tsunami of changes on the global scene as international politics consume our attention on many fronts. The word 'adrift' comes to mind which literally means being 'lost at sea' where uncertainty reigns and hopeful rescue becomes fainter each hour, by the day or month that we sense that the future is growing ever more precarious.

An issue which has been ripe in the social media news channels during the recent upheaval in US politics during the Presidential campaign has been the notion of 'fake news'. Not a day goes by where the press, supposedly

respected prominent individuals and all consuming social media are fingered of spreading 'false news' of one form or another. The other word that has arisen to popular discussion is the notion of 'untruth'. All of this form of news generated subversive mania serves to promote confusion and populist distraction sowing the seeds of public unrest, dissension and polarization.

From an environmental perspective, we have been told that climate change is a "hoax" perpetrated by the Chinese by the individual who soon will become the President of the United States of America. In Canada, we have a young robust Prime Minister who is bent on introducing a carbon tax, promoting the reality of climate change and redressing the blatant lack of concern for the environment by the previous Harper government who dismissed the dangers of global warming and the scientific evidence to the contrary. (www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/)

Recently, I listened to a CBC radio interview between a representative of the NS Department of Natural Resources and an employee of

the Ecology Action Center on the status of Nova Scotia's forests. The Province has conducted a public survey regarding the current management strategy for Nova Scotia's forest resources. The government representative stated that favorable public opinion had been received regarding the issue of clear cutting, but it was not on the public radar screen. The Ecology Action Center interviewee argued just the opposite stating that clear cutting has ravaged Nova Scotia's forest resources. Deliberately disregarding previous adopted forest management policy guidelines. The question that arises after listening to such an interview is "Who is telling the truth?"

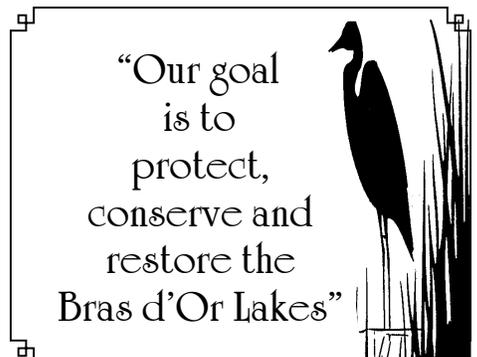
This constant barrage of what one

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This edition of the Blue Heron is dedicated to Dr. Teresa MacNeil for her efforts in overseeing the designation of the Bras d'Or and its watershed as a UNESCO Biosphere. We all owe her much gratitude.



"Our goal is to protect, conserve and restore the Bras d'Or Lakes"

NOTICE

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017 AT 10:00 A.M.

AT THE MASONIC HALL IN BADDECK

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AS WELL AS INTERESTED CITIZENS WHO ARE CONCERNED WITH THE FUTURE STEWARDSHIP OF THE BRAS D'OR LAKES.

must label as 'citizen deception' serves no purpose other than to sow uncertainty and doubt to add to the growing cynicism that undermines the democratic process and the longed for trust that we accord those who we chose to be our leaders at all three levels of government. No one likes to feel 'trumped' by those who occupy positions of power. Nor does one need to suffer fools willingly! Fooling the public has become a growing obsession.

Who are we to believe? How will problems be solved when you cannot trust what someone tells you? To benignly accept falsehoods is tantamount to an unspoken betrayal of standing up for the principle of truth.

The core issue is the certainty that it is becoming more difficult to deal with reality when we are constantly told that 'fake news' and 'untruths' rule the day. The seeds of discontent and distrust become more deeply embedded in the public psyche undermining and enhancing the discounting of the factual information that is required to deal with the problems we must face and resolve for the future of the all i.e. our common good! We should own the truth, not be held hostage to spurious and deceitful information.

To this end, this issue of the Blue Heron features a recent article (1/14/2017) in the "Opinion" section of the Chronicle Herald by Donna Crossland dealing with the issue of clear cutting in Nova Scotia's forests. It is up to us all to determine the truth and act accordingly!

Henry W. Fuller, Editor

NEWS ITEMS:

CEPI People of the Lakes Conference: Sustainable Development within the Bras d'Or Watershed:

A conference was held in early November organized by CEPI and the First Nations to address the issue of sustainable development in the Bras d'Or watershed. It was a two and one half day event, culminating with a key note address by David Suzuki, the noted Canadian biologist. Presentations were made by various groups and individuals regarding what type of initiatives are required to promote sustainable development and a healthy economy that would allow for sustainable job creation opportunities. First Nations students eloquently voiced their concerns about their future here in Cape Breton. Dan Christmas, recently appointed to the Canada's Senate, spoke passionately about the future needs for sustainable development to shore up the local economy and provide good jobs. At the heart of this debate is the growing marginality of the stability of Cape Breton's economy. (CEPI stands for Collaborative Environmental Planning Initiative)

The Bras d'Or Lakes Biosphere Reserve:

Dr. Teresa MacNeil who spearheaded the campaign to achieve the UNESCO Biosphere designation for the Bras d'Or

Lakes and its watershed was the original chair of the Bras d'Or Laks Biosphere Committee. Recently, Dr. MacNeil was feted in Sydney on the occasion of her birthday as well as for her long term commitment to Cape Breton, once serving as the CEO of Cape Breton Development Corporation. We are all indebted to her for the long hours and arduous work she undertook to overcome the obstacles that was required to make the Bras d'Or watershed a part of the global biosphere domain. Included in this newsletter is the piece "Strength in Differences" by Dr. MacNeil previously printed in the Cape Breton Post in November 2016

Bras d'Or Watch 2016:

Bras d'Or Watch is a project which was launched by the Bras d'Or Lake Biosphere Reserve Association in 2015 to enable and support citizen based monitoring in the Biosphere. 'Bras d'Or Watch Field Day' was held on July 16, 2016 at seven sites around the Bras d'Or Lake. Simultaneous sampling of several ecosystem properties took place on the lakeshore and in the shallow waters of the Bras d'Or Lake. Sampling at each site was overseen by an ecologist. Many other activities took place at these sites on the day. Based on this field day a report card for the Bras d'Or Lake and a plan for future sampling will be created.

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CB Tourism Summer 2016

According to observation and statistics tourism in Cape Breton, 2016 was a banner year. Better than any since 9/11! The website www.iftrumpwins.com created much attention by would be tourists and others regarding Cape Breton Island. Baddeck hosted three street festivals which closed the main street bringing and influx of locals and tourists significantly lifting spirits and exposure to the village community. It was agreed that these three street events made this new venue a huge success. Plans are to continue the festival in 2017!

Race the Cape 2017

Race the Cape is an event, a sailing regatta for boaters, their families, and friends that unfolds over a week each July on Cape Breton Island. Race the Cape is seven days of challenging point-to-point sail racing, both inland and coastal ocean, broken into five legs of up to 40 nautical miles through the island's amazing Bras d'Or Lakes and along Cape Breton Island's rugged Atlantic coast leading to the Cape Breton Highlands.

Race the Cape 2017 will not take place in 2017 for reasons unknown. The Race the Cape web site (www.racethecape.ca) is inactive other than noting the cancellation of this event! The funding assistance may have run out.

Blue Dot Designation:

As a result of the key note speech by David Suzuki (see

insert) at the CEPI conference on sustainable development, Victoria County Council has agreed to embrace the Blue Dot movement which seeks to enshrine in principle that all citizens have the right to a healthy environment. More information can be accessed at www.bluedot.com.

Strength In Differences

by Dr. Teresa MacNeil

Although not as newsworthy as this appointment to the Senate, Dan Christmas undertakes another challenge as Chair of "The People of the Lakes Speak" conference. It is about sustainability practices around the Bras d'Or Lake. That says it will identify ways for people to live well; economically, socially, and environmentally within a chunk of Cape Breton Island that is home to about 22000 people.

Dan comes to this challenge as Chair of CEPI, the Collaborative Environmental Planning Initiative. Established in 2005 through a Charter signed by federal, provincial, municipal and first nations' governments, CEPI's purpose is to foster an overall management plan for the Bras d'Or watershed. The conference in Baddeck and Wagmatcook, November 8-10, is presented by CEPI. Planning for it required representation from a range of organizations. I mention two here because, along with CEPI, they reflect a special spirit of harmony. They are the Bras d'Or Stewardship Society and the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Association.

These three organizations cover the same territory, with rather similar purposes, yet work well together time after time. I say this because it is surprising to find such harmony among like-minded organizations operating within the same small territory. Anyone not watching closely would dismiss them as independent entities with strange names tripping over each other around the Bras d'Or Lake. Not so. My experience with the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve over the years reveals some reasons why. There is the usual point of generous persons who contribute time and understanding to help each organization set and reach its goals. There are joint committees where individuals get to know and trust each other. More than anything, despite their common concerns, each has a very particular and seldom mentioned difference.

Viewed closely, their differences are sufficiently important that losing any one would cripple the Lake's environmental support system. Together, they function for the Lake and its watershed much like a three-legged stool. The legs might not look the same but their respective mandates allow them to bear weight equally.

Their differences are evident in the following brief descriptions: CEPI is funded by two Federal and three Provincial departments. It has formal partnerships with provincial, municipal and local organizations with mandates related to its objectives. These resources enable CEPI to have an office and staff located in Eskasoni.

Established in 1998, the Bras

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d'Or Stewardship Society promotes appropriate strategy for conservation, restoration and protection of the Lakes. It advocates for change, supports lake-related projects and studies, and regularly circulates a newsletter. Supported by membership fees and donations, it is governed by a board of directors of volunteers and has no designated office or paid staff.

The UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Association is also a collection of volunteers. They work to fulfill its world designation as a good place to live, work and play. They oversee projects that foster sustainable economic development within the Lake and its watershed. They have no mandate to advocate for change. They rely on membership fees and donations and have registered charity status. Without an office or paid staff they convene throughout the watershed.

Together, the three comprise a remarkable strength. The Stewardship Society has the freedom to be a strong advocate. The Biosphere Reserve Association has the capacity to advance successful best practices from other Biospheres throughout the world. And CEPI's strength rests with its various institutional resources, including its First Nations base. We are indeed fortunate to have the benefit of all three.

When he leads next week's deliberations about sustainability practices around the Lake, Dan Christmas will draw upon this wealth of knowledge and good will.

Dr. Teresa MacNeil lives in Johnstown, Richmond County.

She is a retired academic and administrator, a constant volunteer, and an ardent advocate of lifelong learning.

SATELLITES REVEAL THE CLEAR-CUT TRUTH:

Forest loss in Nova Scotia is more serious than the Government would have you believe.

It's hard to know who to believe regarding the forest situation in Nova Scotia. Some folks say we need not be concerned about clear-cutting because our government is using "progressive", "ecosystem-based" forest management practices on Crown lands. Others, like me, suggest you need to be concerned, very concerned!

The clear-cut expanses from only the 13 years preceding 2014 will allow you to draw your own conclusions. Satellites do not discriminate among the causes of forest loss, whether they are clear-cuts, high intensity fires or blueberry operations.

They detect a rapid rate of forest depletion; entire landscapes denuded, with the exception of thin buffers along waterways, or young residual stands. Lofty claims recently published by Forest Nova Scotia assure us that "trees grow back" and that they actually care more about Nova Scotia's forests than you and me. Really? Forests take decades, and in some cases centuries, to grow back, especially tree species of higher value that prefer shade and naturally achieve large sizes.

Clear-cut re-growth means forests

are even-aged and often nutrient-stressed, crooked and full of limbs. Our rural economy is not assisted by having entire forests removed at once, despite Forest Nova Scotia asserting that forests are "much healthier and sustainable" than before. It's best to use your filter when those who speak are catering to industry. This month, take time to reflect on these denuded sites when wildlife are seeking shelter from icy winds and freezing rains.

Forestry terms being used -- like "comprehensive ecosystem management approach" or "progressive management" -- will fool some, but not most of us. Fancy government jargon and intricate justifications can be baffling, but the outcomes remain the same according to satellite images.

By 2014, 42 per cent of the operable forest land base had been clear-cut in only 25 years. If this is the result of "progressive" ecosystem management, we don't want it. Downplaying the environmental impacts of clear-cutting is generally the rhetoric of those who prosper from our forests, who have loyalties to forest corporations or to the Department of Natural Resources. DNR has lost public trust, especially with its top foresters coming straight from the industry.

The release of a "Five-year Progress Report" updating the publicly-supported Natural Resources Strategy essentially outlines the loss of key commitments. We assess "progressive" management with increasing clarity: DNR has allowed the liquidation of too much of our forest.

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How else might one decide whether or not there is over-harvesting? A telling feature is forest age. We rarely see continuous stands dominated by large old trees anymore. We know from harvest records that large, mature trees once dominated our landscapes. We've tried to obtain age class information from DNR, but it is not readily accessible. There is a lack of government transparency.

While volunteering on the forest panel during the Natural Resources Strategy, I was bluntly informed that I didn't need to know such things: that all the required information was on their website. But stand-age information is not there. Our tax dollars pay to update forest inventory information, including stand ages, on a 10-year rotation.

DNR has set up timber models that suggest 55-year rotations. Most long-lived tree species will never achieve their full growth potential or their maximum economic value. When did this become acceptable for our forests and wildlife?

Glowing statements that "ecosystem-based forestry" will make everything right are wearing thin. Some of the new tools used by DNR reflect good work. I respect some of the knowledgeable staff who contributed to them, but it's difficult to look past some of DNR's entrenched, outdated forestry practices and its simplistic focus on fibre production.

It's best to read the fine print before accepting claims that "science" (and not industry demand) is guiding more "progressive" management of our public forests. If DNR were truly using science-based forestry they would immediately stop all

clear cutting on poor soils, since this ultimately results in further depletion of soil calcium and other essential nutrients required for healthy tree growth.

Acid-stressed, low-fertility soils, such as those in southwest Nova Scotia, dictate that partial cuts (the removal of trees in small numbers over decades) are the only way to sustainably harvest forests, in order to leave a canopy to shade forest soils and protect the organic carbon layer and nutrients.

If blow-down seems likely, a larger portion of the residual stand must remain to break the wind. If profits cannot be made from partial harvests, then wait until prices rise and long-lived trees become more valuable. I've heard all the arguments for why partial harvests can't work, but the truth is that we've done it in the past, and other places are doing it now. We can too. Put "progressive" science to good use.

Science indicates that clear-cutting lands in southern Nova Scotia will increase the acidity of waterways and eliminate any remaining trout and salmon populations.

"Progressive ecosystem management approaches" surely include consulting the aquatic scientists who research the waterways that flow through forests. But this science is ignored, similar to the piles of research on stream-buffer widths that concluded widths must be much wider than 20 metres.

We've exceeded any quota for clear-cuts based on known scientific justifications. There are no natural disturbance agents that would have incurred such frequent stand replacement destruction

to our highly diverse, multi-aged Acadian forests. DNR's natural disturbance report has been highly criticized by scientists, as it grossly exaggerates our wildfire history, which in turn is used as justification for widespread clear-cutting.

The Medway Community Forest would be forced to conduct two-thirds of its harvests by clear-cutting (against its mission and objectives) if it were to fully emulate DNR's "natural" disturbance regimes, as well according to new timber models.

More scientific research, with proper peer review, is required on natural disturbance regimes to build a solid basis for ecologically-based forestry.

I've been trained in Forest Ecosystem Classification (FEC), and Pre-Treatment Assessment (PTA), two of the key tools used as evidence of "ecosystem-based" forestry. The PTA model helps foresters choose a suitable harvest prescription, but all too often it points toward clear-cutting and does not encourage the restoration of late successional, valuable tree species.

If a forest stand is already poor due to past abuses, it will be given no chance to recover. The PTA will subject the site to repeated clear-cuts. Built into the PTA is the risk of blow-down, a factor that directs harvests toward more clear-cutting. Yet blow-down risk is not considered in wildlife clumps and narrow stream buffers. Risks from acidic soils, nutrient depletion and watershed considerations are not built into the PTA model.

A final test of whether DNR is

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using progressive science may be the case of the northern goshawk that nested last year in remote forest next to Kejimikujik's park boundary, now slated for clear cutting as per the PTA outcome. DNR's ecosystem-based science allocates a meagre 200-metre buffer around the nest. When it returns next year, the goshawk must somehow find sufficient prey items and raise hungry chicks under the remaining forest canopy.

And what of other rare birds, mammals or lichens and understory plants that require forests? DNR has failed to meet its legislated requirements to conserve some species at risk, such as mainland moose. Nature loses with no one to speak on its behalf. Will you speak for our forests and our wildlife?

You can find more information on forestry issues at the "Healthy Forest Coalition" website and Facebook page. Crown lands are your public forests. Contact your MLA and the premier and tell them what you think. (www.healthyforestcoalition.ca)

Donna Crossland works as a biologist and has a master of science in forestry from UNB. She is a former member of the forest panel of expertise for the Natural Resources Strategy 2010 and a board member of Medway Community Forest Co-op.

This interview by Carolyn Barber with Dr. David Suzuki originally appeared in The Victoria Standard, November 22, 2016 (Volume 24, Issue 21)

The Victoria Standard was granted an interview with Dr. David Suzuki following his keynote address at the recent 2016 Collaborative Environmental Planning Initiative (CEPI) conference hosted by the Wagmatcook Cultural Centre and the Inverary Inn. Now 80 years of age, the renowned broadcaster and environmentalist shared his candid views on the current political climate, and how it threatens to turn back the clock on decades of work by the environmental movement.

Carolyn Barber [CB]: *There is clearly so much to learn from First Nations and yet their voice is still side-lined.*

David Suzuki [DS]: Of course.

CB: *What are your thoughts for how as a nation we can better integrate Indigenous knowledge and voices in plans for environmental stewardship?*

DS: First of all they've had over two hundred years in which they've been treated by the colonizing forces as if they've got nothing worthwhile, right? Stamp out the Indian in them, make them into replicas of the dominant culture. They [dominant culture] tried to stamp out the language. So you've got all those years now to counter. I feel my job is really trying to raise their feeling about what they know, and realize that it's something of great, great value. So, I think the most important thing is for the dominant society to recognize that science doesn't replace or out-do that knowledge. That it has got to be taken very, very seriously. So the first challenge is for the First Nations to take themselves seriously and realize what they've got, but also for the dominant society as well to do more than just token recognition of their knowledge base. They have lost a huge amount of what they once knew because they were profoundly affected by

residential school and television and all that other stuff. I'm astonished here at how good their language is still. We never hear about Mi'gmaq. I thought the language would be like it is on the West Coast. On the West Coast, take the Haida who we are very involved with, the youngest person speaking Haida five or six years ago was sixty-five, so the [Haida] language is right on the verge [of being lost]. When our daughter got married and moved on to the reserve she spent two to three hours a day talking to a Haida Elder.

CB: *The Top-to-Top Organization moored in Baddeck Harbour a few weeks ago. They're sailing from the Arctic to the Antarctic raising awareness about climate change. They've spoken to over a hundred thousand students and feel great optimism.*

DS: Optimistic about what?

CB: *By the creativity they've seen in the youth they've spoken to in term of coming up with solutions. That's the root of their optimism. You showed moments of optimism in your keynote address. What is the root of your optimism?*

DS: No, I have hope, that's all I have.

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CB: *What is the root of your hope?*

DS: I have grandchildren, I've got no other choice. But, you know, when Tara [wife of 35 years] and I get home alone we do cry together.

CB: *In the wake of the US election results, many are struggling to articulate how Donald Trump became "President-elect Donald Trump". Many are deeply concerned about the future. As an Elder, what words would you wrap around this new reality? What is your sense of things to come?*

DS: I can't tell you how devastating it is. In the international community, which is meeting right now in Marrakesh, trying to take the Paris agreement to the next stage, the people there are devastated. They're saying, 'this is a guy that considers climate changes a hoax'. He has said he is going to pull the United States, the second biggest greenhouse gas emitter in the world, out of the Paris agreement. The word is he's going to appoint a guy to head the EPA transition who is a pro fossil fuel climate denier. He's got a Senate and the House that have Republican majorities. He's going to appoint probably three Supreme Court justices in the next four years. He can do anything he wants and all of the people he's gathered around him don't take the environmental issues seriously. It's very, very scary and all I can say is we've got to just keep going on. The rest of the world has got the word in Paris and we've got to just keep going on. I'm getting a lot of letters from friends in the United States considering moving to Canada. I say we don't like to take rats deserting a sinking ship. You stay down there and fight. That's where the battle is now. It's a very devastating time.

CB: *Is there a stronger sense of urgency here in Canada?*

DS: What Trudeau did [in Paris] - that was unbelievable! With Harper we had nine and one-half years in which he wouldn't even mention the word climate change. He was suppressing science, attacking enviro's, he was doing everything so that he didn't have to deal with it and he was full speed ahead to support the fossil fuel industry. Then, Trudeau comes in. My god! He goes straight to Paris, commits to a maximum two degree rise [in global temperature], but closer to one and a half. That is so radical you can't believe it. We're already at one degree above [pre-industrial levels] and to say that we are only going to allow it to go up half a degree is a very radical position.

CB: *But then there is his support of the BC pipeline. Does this not signal less of a commitment to the environment?*

DS: Yes, absolutely. I wrote him. I said, look, if you're serious about one point five then you can't even be talking about pipelines! You put a pipeline in you've got to use it for thirty years. Well, we've got to be off fossil fuels by then. No more pipelines, period. He said 'I'm committed to one point five' but that action says he's being very political.

CB: *Maybe you can follow up with him, he's on the island, today.*

DS: I heard. I publish a weekly article which I give away free across Canada called Science Matters and a couple months ago I wrote an article. We all had great expectations from Trudeau because of Paris, but why is it he's committed to the same agenda as Harper?

CB: *On the topic of science, you've worked tirelessly to popularize science, to bridge that gap between science and society. In your view, how big is the gap today?*

DS: Huge. It's very huge. I think it's smaller here than in the United States

where forty percent of Americans don't believe in evolution, for example. So there's no question that I think Canadians are further along. The vast majority of Canadians accept climate change as real. But in terms of real understanding, I think we in the media are responsible. We are constantly told 'you can't be too depressing, you're going to turn people off, you're going to lose your audience so give them some optimism.' If you look at the IPCC [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change] reports they're always focusing on the most optimistic scenario. Since it was set up in 1988, every time they come out with a report it turns out the reality is way beyond what they predict in their models. They're always being conservative. In part, because we don't want people to get panicked.

CB: *Thank you for your time. Here's the article about the TopToTop Organiztion, some reading for the plane ride home.*

DS: Alright. So, they're [TopToTop organization] excited by the people? At the grass roots level there's all kinds of stuff going on, there's no question. I was in Toronto at the Planet in Focus Film Festival. It's an environmental film festival. I met twelve leaders from age twelve to twenty. I was just blown away by what they are doing.

CB: *Such as your daughter, Severn?*

DS: Well, she's an example of what young people can do. Craig Kielburger is another guy that's gone on. These young people can do a lot. The problem is the power of Exxon and Monsanto, and all these corporations and what they did is they got that election [US election], they elected their guy and that's what we're up against.

The Bras d'Or Stewardship Society

Addresses and telephone numbers of the Board of Directors

Henry W. Fuller,
Interim' Chairman
& Treasurer

RR#2 #1065 Big Harbour
Baddeck, N.S.
B0E 1B0
(902) 295-2664

Rosemary Burns,
Vice Chair

3042 West Bay Highway
St. George's Channel
RR #2 West Bay, N.S.
B0E 3K0
(902) 345-2896

David L. Gunn,
Secretary

2792 RR#2
West Bay, N.S.
B0E 3K0
(902) 345-2263

Jim O'Brien

RR#2 #1180 Big Harbour
Baddeck, N.S.
B0E 1B0
(902) 295-2344

Timothy Lambert, Ph.D.

Lower Ship Harbour
RR#1,
Lake Charlotte #752
Nova Scotia
B0J 1Y0
(902) 845-2189

Walter MacNeil

41 Grove St.
Sydney, N.S.
B1P 3M7
(902) 562-5434

Stephen Sober

1675 Southside
River Denys, N.S.
B0E 2Y0
(902) 756-2390

James M. Crawford

P.O. Box 277
74 Abershore Road
Whycocomagh, N.S.
B0E 3M0
(902) 756-3556

Jim Carson

RR#1
West Bay, NS
B0E 3K0
(902) 345-2268

David Harris

920 Gillis Lake Road
Gillis Lake, N.S.
B2A 4J1
(902) 828-2663

Bras d'Or Watch

to report any observed acts, incidents and violations
that threaten the integrity of Bras d'Or Lakes please call
any of the directors listed above.

Our Email: www.brasdorstewardshipsociety.org

2017

BRAS D'OR STEWARDSHIP SOCIETY

MEMBER \$15.00
FAMILY \$25.00
CONTRIBUTOR \$50.00
SUPPORTER \$100.00
LIFETIME MEMBER \$500.00

Yes, I am in favour of conserving and restoring the
Bras d'Or Lake and watershed through
responsible stewardship.

Name

Address

*Mail check or money order along with your name
and address to:*

Bras d'Or Stewardship Society

P.O. Box 158

Baddeck, Nova Scotia, B0E 1B0

Phone

e-mail

Fax



The Bras d'Or Stewardship Society

P.O. Box 158

Baddeck, Nova Scotia B0E 1B0

January 15, 2017

To Our Supporters:

First of all, the Society would like to extend its good wishes for the New Year and thank you for your support. We have a 'core group' of supporters who have been very loyal over the history of the Society since its organization in 1997. With your support, the Society has been able to achieve sustainability not requiring significant funds to maintain the vitality of shared interest in the Bras d'Or Lakes and its watershed.

Dr. Teresa MacNeil's piece printed in the Newsletter provides an overview of the three entities that play significant, but different roles in their concern for ongoing focus with regards to the challenging stewardship of the Bras d'Or watershed. There is obvious overlap in terms of common interests and those individuals who have been willing to step up to the plate as volunteers to serve on committees and boards.

My remarks on the front page of the Newsletter focused on the uncertainties that underlay our daily lives. We are constantly bombarded by every day news of issues that seem way beyond our control. It is much easier just to close one's eyes and ears hoping that someone else will find the solutions so we can go on about our ways as we have done from one day to the next. However, this does not solve our problems.....it only compounds them!

It is by working together in the best interest of the communities that have a stake in the determination of our future, the future of the Bras d'Or as a place of beauty and well being that we may have some surety that our personal future is protected. This takes much effort. Local demographics suggest that population dynamics will play a significant role in determining the future prosperity of Cape Breton. This will affect how we all will determine our role in making sure good decisions will rule in terms of creating sustainable and well reasoned choices for the future of Cape Breton. Many thanks for your support.

With all due respect,

Henry W. Fuller



"Our Goal is to Protect, Conserve and Restore the Bras d'Or Lakes"