



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

March 16, 2017

7:30 p.m. Science SN2067

Agenda

1. Minutes of 2016 Annual General Meeting – Rita Anderson
2. Annual Report – Rita Anderson
3. Treasurer's Report – Marjorie Evans
4. *The Osprey* – Justin So and Sarah Penney-Belbin (Editors)
5. Motions?
6. Resolutions?
7. Nominations and Election of Board – Carolyn Walsh
8. Call for volunteers:
Helping the editors of *The Osprey*
Other activities; suggestions
9. Any other business



1. 2016 AGM Minutes
March 24, 2016, 7:31 pm
Present: 23 members

Review of Minutes from last AGM: March 19, 2015: Approved.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT:

President (Rita Anderson): Highlights:

Programming/Educational Outreach- more than 900 people reached this year!

Nature Nook at The Rooms (seven 3-h session)

Tuck-Walters Award (2 recipients this year, Rita Anderson & Andrus Voitk)

Wild Things Scholarship

Conservation Questions for provincial elections developed

Parks and Natural Areas, Protected Areas Forum in May (co-sponsored with CPAWS-NL)

Comments/consultations on various Environmental Assessment registrations

Organization (expansion/improvements)

Minutes continued:



TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer (Marjorie Evans)- Report as per December 31, 2015

2015 and 2014 Assets are similar

Zero liabilities at present

Balance is slight surplus

Moved to accept report; John Jacobs seconded; approved

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

Nominations – elected by acclamation as per slate; many thanks to Allan Stein for supporting the organization virtually since its beginning

Elected to 2016-17 Board of Directors:

President Rita Anderson

Past President Michael Collins

Vice President Doug Ballam

Secretary tbd

Treasurer Marjorie Evans

Directors John Jacobs, Margie McMillan/Laura King, Paul Regular , Megan Boucher, Elizabeth Andres, Justin So

Minutes continued:

VOLUNTEERS

Valued Volunteers recognized

Call for Volunteers- helping Editors of *The Osprey*



ANNOUNCEMENTS & ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Species-at-Risk Registry Review; Call for consultation on website- discussed by John Jacobs
The Osprey- can copies be sent to the NL Provincial civil service; promotions for Province,
and Policy decision makers; Judy Gibson

Suggested that website link to Nature NL be put on Provincial Tourism website

Selling Nature NL sweatshirts/t-shirts through the website

Display to some Environmental Fairs- we do Earth Day, and Portugal Cove/St. Phillip's
Environmental Fair

GIS mapping services offered by Randal Greene

Outings focused on contribution to Citizen Science projects (e.g., Marine debris tracker
program)/ PlantWatch/ Baillie Bird-a-thon/ Young birders Scholarship for Workshop at Long
Point, ON

Next meeting in April will be a lecture by Alvan Buckley

Feather Atlas website mentioned by Bobbie Mayer; useful for identifying tail feathers, etc.

Nature Observations discussed

Business Meeting Adjourned at 8:28 pm

MEMBERS'/FRIENDS' SLIDE SHOW



2. 2017 Annual Report Rita Anderson

Thanks to the efforts of our board and volunteers, this was a very good year.

PROGRAMMING – EDUCATION/OUTREACH

- We reached ~1056 people this year!
- September to June: Well-attended, entertaining and informative **public lectures** on natural history, including one Engaging Evening session at The Rooms, thanks to the efforts of Michael Collins (Rooms Coordinator), Rita Anderson, suggestions from the Board members, and help with announcements from Justin So, Paul Regular and Len Zedel.
- *The Osprey*: In 2016, Justin So and Sarah Penney-Belbin (Editors) produced two gorgeous issues and have a tribute issue in the works. Reflecting changes in use of media, 2017 will see an alternative format for *The Osprey*.
- **Field trips** to appreciate our plant, fish, marine, mammal and bird life, past and present, variously led by Jared Clarke, Catherine Barrett, Alvan Buckley, Allan Stein, Michael Collins, Megan Boucher, Mac Pitcher, John Jacobs, Lori Fleming, Liz Andres, Justin So, and James Shewmake.



Annual Report continued:

- **Nature Nook:** Five 2-3-hour sessions (usually on a Sunday) in The Museum at The Rooms provided visitors the opportunity to touch and examine specimens and to ask questions about our provincial wild plants, animals and spaces. (Organizer: Michael Collins; Docents: Rita Anderson, Allan Stein, Anne Storey, Jocelyn Tucker, Megan Boucher, Laura King and others, as available).
- The **Wild Things Scholarship** recognizing volunteer efforts to promote the wellbeing of nature by a student who is or will be attending a post-secondary institution was awarded to Leanne Guzzwell. (Funded by Dave Snow and an anonymous donor; online application, Paul Regular; committee members: Rita Anderson, Doug Ballam, Chantelle Burke, Allan Stein).
- Printing and distribution of the newly updated *“Checklist (2016) of the Birds of Insular Newfoundland”* by B. Mactavish, J. Clarke, J. Wells, A. Buckley & D. Fifield.
- “Guide to Common Winter Gull Species of Quidi Vidi Lake (Adults in Winter)” by Lancy Cheng and Andrea Dicks
- **NatureNL t-shirts** (Sharon Ormiston, Rita Anderson)
- **“Connecting New Canadians with Nature: A Pilot Project”**. (Funded by WWF). Liz Andres (project director) organized collaborations with the Association for New Canadians and the Grand Concourse Authority and the help of many volunteers to put on fall and winter sessions.



Annual Report continued:

PROTECTING AND CONSERVING OUR NATURAL HERITAGE

Parks and Natural Areas; Wildlife

- Participant: “DFO Stakeholders Workshop on Fisheries Protection” (R. John Gibson)
- Submission to the Species at Risk Program, Gulf Region, supporting a federal SAR designation of “Threatened” for the American Eel (*Anguilla rostrata*). (John Jacobs)
- Submission to pre-budget consultations, “Conservation and Protected Areas in the 2016 Provincial Budget”. (Doug Ballam)
- Participant: Parks Canada 8th Province-Wide Stakeholders Consultation on Forest Health. (Lois Bateman)
- Submissions to Canadian Wildlife Service supporting the listing of Griscom’s Arnica (*Arnica griscomli*) as “Threatened”, the Yellow-banded Bumble Bee (*Bombus terricola*) and the Newfoundland caribou as “Special Concern” on SARA Schedule 1. (John Jacobs)
- Meeting with the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Perry Trimper. (Rita Anderson, Doug Ballam, Liz Andres).
- Letter to The Telegram “More land protection needed, not less” in response to the NL Prospectors Association call for a moratorium on new parks and wildlife areas. (Doug Ballam).



Annual Report continued:

Comments submitted on Environmental Assessment registrations

- Review of “Proposed Bay D’Espoir to Western Avalon Transmission Line (TW267) additional Project Description” to support the Environmental Assessment of Reg. 1803 (July 2015) expressing concerns about how construction of the transmission line through the Bay Du Nord Wilderness Reserve will affect its ecological integrity (Doug Ballam)
- Submission supporting the formal appeal by cabin owners and recreational users of the Salmonier area regarding the minister’s decision to release the “Big Triangle Pond Minerals Exploration Access Road” and asking that the review process resume (John Jacobs, Rita Anderson)
- Comments on the “Placentia Bay Atlantic Salmon Aquaculture Project” (Reg 1834) proposal expressing concerns about large sea salmon farming in Placentia Bay (R. John Gibson, Rita Anderson)
- Submission regarding the Addendum to the EPR for the Fermeuse Offshore Maine Base Project (Reg. 1773). (Allan Stein, Rita Anderson)



Annual Report continued:

- Meetings/consultations: Oil and Gas (Len Zedel, Doug Ballam; Rita Anderson)
- Member of the Forest Management Planning Committee for Forest Management District 1 (Avalon) tasked with the development of each of the past four (or more) five-year operating plans for FMD1 (John Jacobs, Allan Stein, Rita Anderson).
- Member of the ENGO Caucus for DFO Eco-management Initiatives (Liz Andres)
- Collaborations: Nature Canada, The Rooms, NLEN, CPAWS-NL
- Letters in support of project proposals by NLEN, East Coast Environmental Law (ECE LAW) and CPAWS-NL

ORGANIZATION

- Membership numbers stable; Paypal is working.
- Welcoming and nurturing volunteers (Megan Boucher, Laura King)
- Board Strategic Planning session (January, 2016). Confirmed our role as a generalist organization, dedicated to promoting an appreciation for and conservation of the natural heritage of the province. Recognized the need to seek funding to continue to function effectively, provided proposals are consistent with our mandate and goals.
- Developing effective communication with our members and the public about the value of donations, bequests and other gifts to our organization.



3. Financial Statement as of 31 December 2016

Assets (Note 1)	2016	2015
Bank balance	\$ 10,811.36	\$ 7,286.16
Cheques written not yet cashed	- 441.95	- 450.00
Coin on hand	3.50	
PayPal balance (fees deducted)	<u>783.03</u>	<u>491.70</u>
Total assets	\$ 11,155.94	\$ 7,327.86
Liabilities zero		
Net Assets at end of financial year	\$ 11,155.94	\$ 7,327.86
Revenue	\$ 11,118.96	\$ 4,833.71
Expenses	<u>7,290.88</u>	<u>4,604.72</u>
Surplus or (Deficit)	3,828.08	228.99

Note 1: The Society owns a number of back issues of the Osprey, a spotting telescope, a pair of binoculars and a display board. It also owns a display tripod lent to NL Environment Network.

Marjorie Evans, Treasurer 25 January 2017

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Memberships	\$ 2,175.00	\$ 1,425.00
Donations; personal, receipted	2,520.00	1,850.00
Donations, not receipted	76.46	195.93
Donations; United Way	312.00	416.00
Subscriptions to printed copies of The Osprey Bird Studies Canada	447.00	377.00 360.69
The Rooms presentation fee	.00	225.00
WWF/New Canadians project grant	4,200.00	
Sale of T-shirts, bird checklists	885.50	.00
Misc., insurance rebate	126.00	
Growing Health liability forgiven		<u>25.77</u>
<u>TOTAL REVENUES</u>	\$ 11,118.96	\$ 4,833.71

Breakdown of WWF/New Canadians project expenses

Wages	\$ 1,650.00
MERCs	81.78
Bus	402.50
Food	258.75
'Swag bags' & contents	453.01
Field guides	<u>150.00</u>

Project total cost to date	\$ 2,996.04
WWW grant to date	\$ 4,200.00

<u>PAYMENTS</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Rent	\$ 480.00	\$ 440.00+
Insurance	1,064.00	1,400.00
Bank charges	67.18	43.05
PayPal commission	35.02	28.06
P.O. Box rental	176.28	169.50
Registry of companies	30.00 *	10.00 *
NLEN membership	60.00	60.00
Printing advertising cards, signs	101.70	312.67
T-shirts, bird check lists	704.28	.00
The Osprey print & post: Jan.	195.23	
May	202.64	
Dec.	178.51	591.44
Wild Things Scholarship	1,000.00	1,000.00
Donations: CPAWS Protected Areas Forum	.00	800.00
Growing Health, Nature Conservancy	.00	450.00
WWF/New Canadians project	<u>2,996.04</u>	<u>.00</u>
TOTAL PAYMENTS	\$ 7,290.88	\$ 5,304.72
Payment of past liabilities: Growing Health		- 200.00
Wild Things scholarship donation		<u>- 500.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$7,290.88	\$4,604.72

*Non-receipted cash donations did not go through bank or account book, but listed in revenue.

+January 2015 rent of \$40.00 was paid in advance.



4. *The Osprey* – Justin So and Sarah Penney (Editors)

5. Motions?

6. Resolutions?



2017 - 2018 BOARD NOMINATIONS

Special thanks to John Jacobs and Paul Regular for years of valuable service on the board. We look forward to their continuing involvement as Valued Volunteers.

Positions	Incumbent	Nomination
President	Rita E. Anderson	Doug Ballam
Past President	Michael Collins	Rita E. Anderson
Vice President	Doug Ballam	Laura E. King
Secretary	Chantelle Burke	Elizabeth Andres
Treasurer	Marjorie Evans	Marjorie Evans
Directors	Megan Boucher Emma Bocking Michael Collins Justin So Anne Storey	



VALUED VOLUNTEERS

Membership Secretary Carolyn Walsh

Humber Representative Lois Bateman

E-mail/Oil-Gas Len Zedel

Webmaster, Consultants Paul Regular, Aaron Goulding, Dave Fifield

Parks and Natural Areas,

Forestry John Jacobs

Naturalist Allan Stein

THE OSPREY EDITORS

Sarah Penney-Belbin

Justin So



8. Call for Volunteers

Helping the editors of *The Osprey*

Other activities, suggestions

9. Announcements and any other business?

Business Meeting Adjourned

Nature Observations?

Members/Friends Photo Show

