



Nature NL Annual Report 2023

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Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Nature NL supporters,

First of all: Thank you for your continued support. 2023 was a very exciting year for Nature NL full of inspiring public talks, walks, workshops, and new programming.

We implemented two new pilot projects in 2023: our Insect Monitoring Project in collaboration with Memorial University's Biology Department, the [Botanical Garden](#), and [The Rooms](#), supported by Memorial University's [Office of Public Engagement's](#) Quick Start Fund. This project is part of a North American wide research effort to [monitor insects](#) in urban environment. The pilot project was very successful: Thanks to Nature NL members, volunteers, and staff we were able to collect and sort specimens that are now part of The Rooms' Entomology Collection. We also hosted several insect related outreach events that were very well attended. Thank you to everyone who came out in support of the project. You can read more about the project [here](#).

Last year, we also implemented our NatureHood Pilot Project NatureHood: Nature for New Canadians. Supported by Nature Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and TD Friends of the Environment, our NatureHood project is part of a [pan-Canadian initiative](#) to connect under-served youth and community members with Newfoundland and Labrador's nature. For the pilot project, we partnered with the [Association of New Canadians](#). We delivered workshops and guided walks for kids and youth and we also organized a field trip to [Terra Nova Migratory Bird Sanctuary](#). You can read more about our NatureHood efforts [here](#).

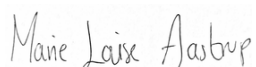
We welcomed several new volunteers and hired several new staff in 2023, including an Insect Monitoring Coordinator, a NatureHood Coordinator, a Program Coordinator, and a Volunteer and Events Coordinator.

Our AGM and Photo Night took place on March 21st, 2024. During the AGM, the Executive Director provided a report of activities in 2023, followed by the Treasurer Report, and an update from Nature NL's President. As part of the President Report, a motion was presented and passed for a special meeting (tentatively scheduled for June 2024) to adopt Nature NL's new by-laws. The reasons for this special meeting are:

- Currently working on updating our by-laws.
- Work will extend past the date of the AGM.
- Proposing to present updated by-laws at a special meeting closer to the summer.

We also welcomed three new board members, including a new treasurer and a new secretary. We said goodbye to four board members including the previous treasurer and IT board member. I would like to thank all our Board members for their tireless efforts in ensuring that Nature NL can continue to deliver high quality events and promote the conservation and appreciation of our beautiful province. During our Photo Night, friends of Nature NL shared photos of from Wabush to St. Vincent's and everywhere in between featuring mammals, birds, slime molds, and stunning landscape photos. We cannot wait for our Photo Night next year.

Thank you for your continued support,



Marie Louise Aastrup
Executive Director

Year in Review

This year, we hosted events across the province incl.:

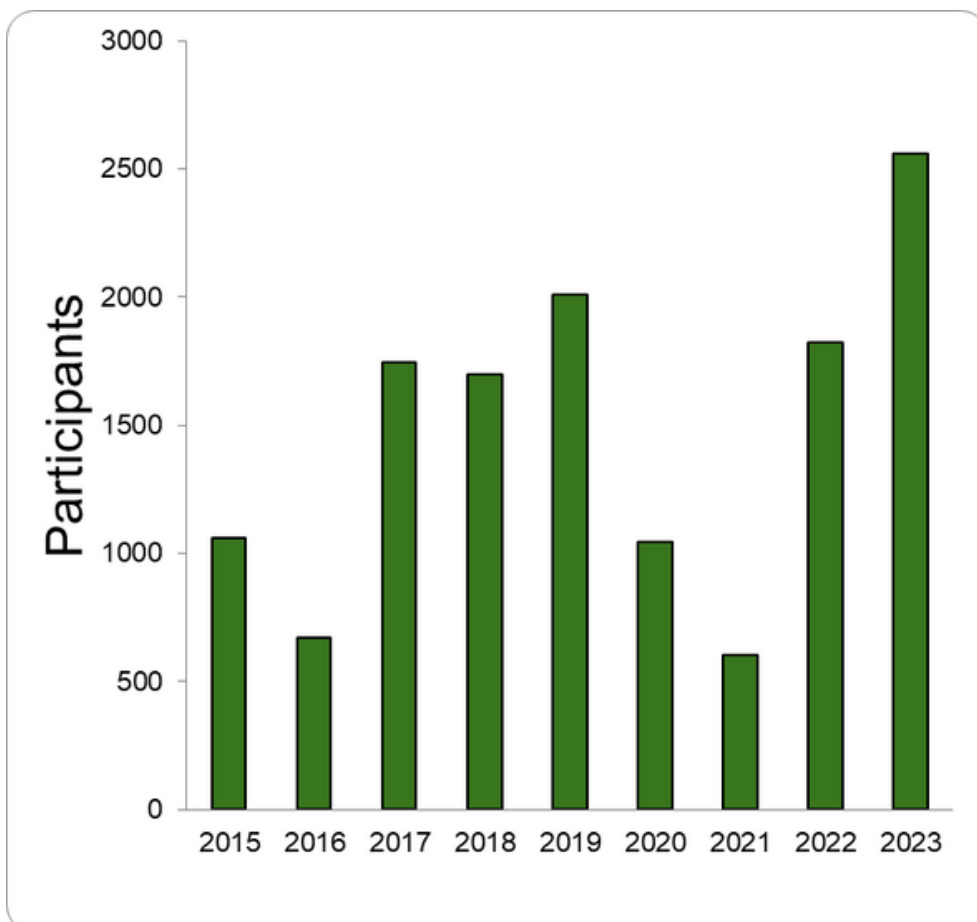
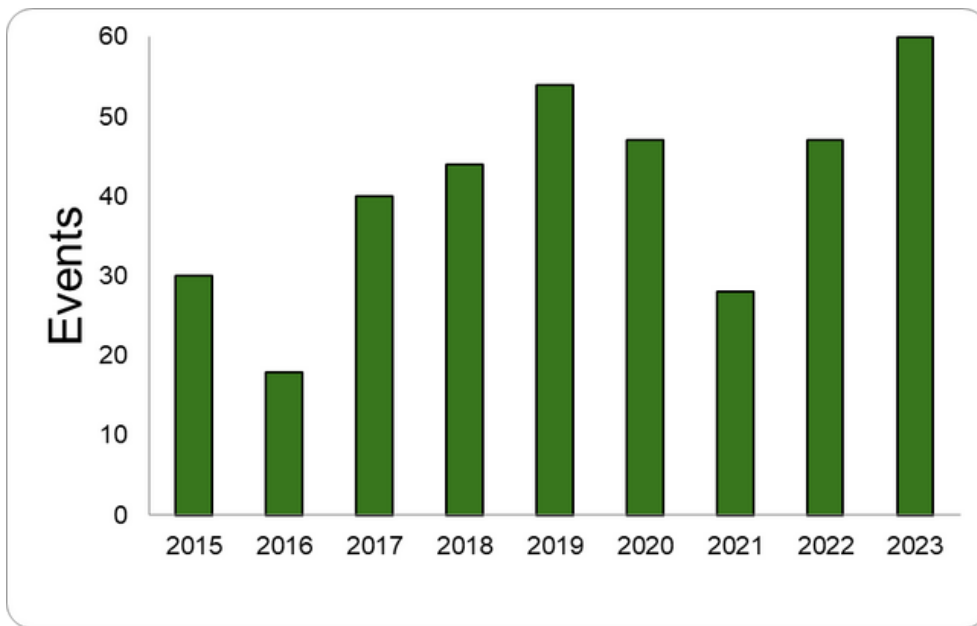
- Clarenville
- Corner Brook
- Gander
- New Wes Valley
- St John's
- Terra Nova Migratory Bird Sanctuary



Year in Review

2023 was a great year for engagement:

- **Events: 60**
- **People engaged: 2562**



Year in Review



Year in Review

Our online and in-person events included:

(incl. co-hosted events & fairs)

- Clean Ups
- Insect ID Workshops
- Guided Hikes & Walks
- Hybrid public talks
- Macrophotography Workshop
- Moth Night
- Nature Nook
- NatureHood Field Trip
- Open Houses (e.g., Biology Department)
- Panels
- Whale Festival
- Workshops

New Collaborations:

- Association for New Canadians
- Gander Rotary Club
- Ocean artists from across the Island of Newfoundland
- Terra Nova Migratory Bird Sanctuary
- Town of Clarenville



New Programs & Collaborations

Insect Monitoring Program:



NatureHood NL:

This project was undertaken with the financial support of:
Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier de :



NatureHood
A NATURE CANADA INITIATIVE

Nature Newfoundland &
Labrador



**TD Friends of the
Environment Foundation**

Our Team



Marie Louise Aastrup

Executive Director



Catherine Scott

Insect Monitoring Coordinator



Brianna Barrett

NatureHood Coordinator



Mercia Harris

Volunteer & Events Coordinator



Kayla Fisher

Program Coordinator

Other Updates

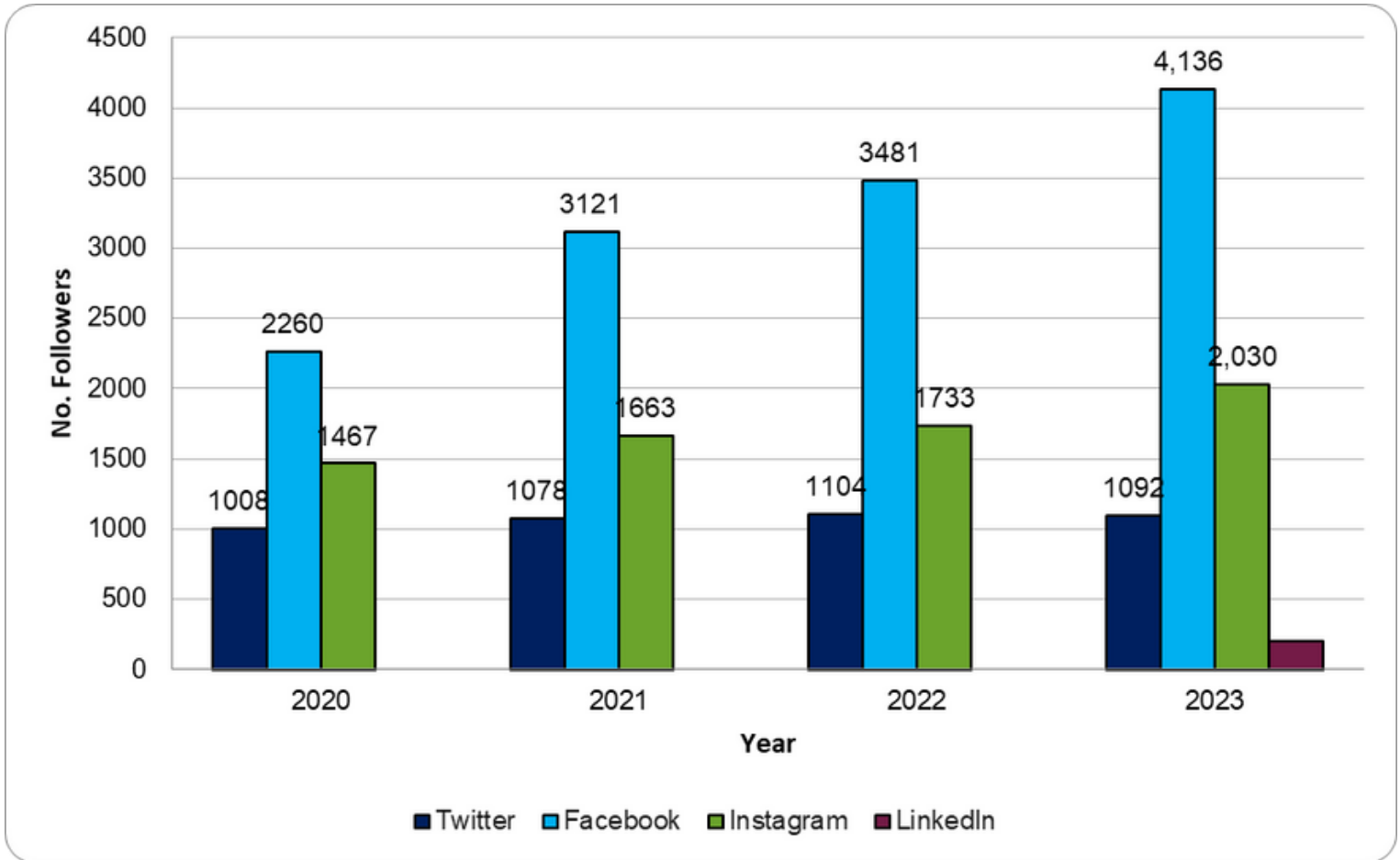


Wild Thing 2023 Recipient

Sophia Reid (Reidville, NL) is a graduate of Elwood Regional High with plans of attending Memorial University in the fall to pursue studies in environmental science with future career goals of protecting and restoring endangered ecosystems. Throughout high school, Sophia was an active member in the school Green Team, where she took part in activities such as clean ups, and creating and maintaining green spaces around the school.



Social Media Growth



@Nature_NL



@naturenl



@naturenl.ca





NATURE NL

Treasurer Report (2023)



AGM, March 2024

2023 Revenue

Category	Amount
Donations	\$79,928.44
Events	\$825.00
Grants	\$94,052.37
Memberships	\$2,166.27
Online Store	\$74.30
Wild Things	\$500.00
TOTAL	\$177,546.38



2023 Expenditures

Category	Amount
Administrative	\$3,894.75
Events	\$2,650.85
Grants	\$9,297.33
Insurance	\$1,700.85
Online Store	\$148.00
Payroll	\$44,800.16
Storage	\$3,000.00
Travel	\$1,247.72
Wild Things	\$1,000.00
TOTAL	\$67,739.66



2023 Financial Summary

	2021	2022	2023
Opening Balance	\$17,831.54	\$25,512.08	\$29,938.18
Closing Balance	\$25,512.08	\$29,938.18	\$139,744.90
Revenue	\$44,979.60	\$43,953.23	\$177,546.38
Expenditures	\$37,299.06	\$39,527.13	\$67,739.66
Balance	\$7,680.54	\$4,426.10	\$109,806.72





NATURE NL

President Update

AGM, March 2024



Thank you so much!

Staff:



Mercia Harris

Volunteer & Events Coordinator



Kayla Fisher

Program Coordinator

Board of Directors:



Julia Sparkes

Treasurer



Sohil Pramij



Alison March



Jennifer Blundon

BOD Election 2023

Nature NL is presenting a slate of candidates for our Board of Directors.

Members in good standing of Nature NL may run for a position on our Board

Board members:

- Plan and lead events
- Write and manage grants
- Do committee work
- Design and execute outreach projects
- Represent Nature NL in the media
- Handle major projects
- Travel for Nature NL; engage in advocacy
- Supervise part-time staff
- Run the membership and financial aspects
- etc



Elected Board of Directors:

Returning Executive Board Members:

President: Farah McCrate

Vice-President: MacGregor Parent

Past President: Laura King

New Executive Board Members:

Treasurer: Leah Curnew

Secretary: Jeannine Valerie Boudreau

Returning Directors at Large:

Director: Jared Clarke

Director: Abdul-Latif Alhassan

Director: Sarah Wilkins

Director: Sean McCann

New Directors at Large:

Director: Kris Mulcahy



Thank You!

to our sponsors, donors, partners, members,
& volunteers:

Association for New Canadians

Board of Directors

Birds Canada

Café AVIA Bird Friendly Coffee

Canadian Wildlife Federation

CB Nuit

Echo Foundation

Environment and Climate Change Canada

Gander Rotary Club

Government of Canada: Community Services Recovery Fund

Memorial University Botanical Garden

Memorial University Department of Biology

Memorial University Grenfell Campus

Memorial University Study & Stay Program

NAACAP

Nature Canada

Nature NL Members

Nature NL Staff & Volunteers

NL Hydro

Ocean Artists: Michael Flaherty, Troy Mitchell, Janet Davis, Spirit Horse

Therapeutic Arts

Private Donors

Public Talk Series Speakers

TD Friends of the Environment

The Johnson Geo Centre

The NL Public Library

The Rooms

The Town of Clarenville

UnSmoke Canada

