

# The Bridge

Co-Chairs

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**February 2016**

*Trust memberships make a great gift for those interested in conserving public land in its natural state for public use. Membership for that special person can be obtained by contacting Beth McGee*

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**Message from the Co-Chairs**

Dear Trust Members and Friends,

We note another productive year for Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust. Members of the Board and volunteers have achieved progress on a number of initiatives:

- The infusion of the much appreciated funds. Bay Treasure Chest has afforded the Trust the opportunity to plan funding of projects for the Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Area (FBLWA).
- Undertake a reprinting of the 2010 Trust publication "A Walking Guide to the Old St. Margaret's Bay Road" with publication set for early 2017
- Undertake the making of a film and short film pieces about the Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Area Our film maker is Kent Martin. Releases are set for 2017.
- Conducted seasonal surface water sampling programs, with a grant from RBC Bluewater Fund, at key locations in the upper watershed of Nine Mile River to ensure human developments do not impact habitat.
- Hosted MayFair at the Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park, assisted by a grant from RBC and donations from Sobeys.
- Sponsored the Annual Warbler Walk at Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park.
- Assisted Ecology Action Centre through funding and volunteer support with the Hike the Greenbelt Initiative, which will bring benefit across HRM to future generations.
- Provided funding support to remediate damage to the rocks at Cranberry Lake
- Partnered with Beechville-Lakeside-Timberlea Rails to Trails and Woodens River Watershed Environmental Organization to fund the creation of the lovely murals on the bridge overpass near Exit 4 of Hwy103.
- COCO meetings continue to be scheduled and held in the months of January, March, May, September and November. On occasion they are postponed due to weather.
- The Trust is a member of the Five Bridge Lake Wilderness Area Coalition (FBLWA C)

We acknowledge with much thanks our Community partners: Royal Bank of Canada, HRM Community Grants, Sobeys, St. Margaret's Bay Regional Tourism Development Association, Department of Natural Resources, Sage Environmental Program, NS Environment, our colleagues at the FBLWA Coalition and Bay Treasure Chest

At this time we would like to invite you to attend our **Annual General Meeting** to be held from 2-4 p.m. **on Sunday, March 20, 2016 at the Estabrooks Centre, 4408 St .Margaret's Bay Road, and Lewis Lake.**

Together, We can make a Difference! ... *Harry and Peter*

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**Jeff Parks**

**Andrew Parsons**

**David Patriquin**

**Iain Rankin**

**Wayne Rogers**

**Allan Shatford**

**Hans Toom**

**Ralph Wheadon**

**Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust held its AGM on March 25, 2015**

The Five Bridge Wilderness Heritage Trust held its annual meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup> at the Lakeside Community Centre.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to outgoing Board Members Afton Doubleday, Ron Brown and Scott Guthrie and to David Patriquin for his work in setting up our new website and for being our webmaster. A special Certificate of Appreciation was presented to the Safety Minded ATV Club in recognition of the tremendous amount of work their members did in 2013-2014 to upgrade the Joshua Slocum Trail and the Old St. Margarets Bay Road where each road passes through the Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Area. Certificates of Honorary Lifetime Membership were awarded to a number of persons with long standing association with the Trust and in appreciation for their years of service as volunteers. Recipients were; Allan Shatford, Barbara Allen, Beth McGee, Bill Estabrooks, Catherine King, Catherine Klefenz, Eleanor Lindsay, Gary Armsworthy, Geoff Leboutillier, Jeff Parks, Mike Marriott, Ralph Wheadon, Richmond Campbell, Tom Musial, and Wayne Rogers.

Through monies received from Bay Treasure Chest (BTC), we will now be able to plan for the creation of a film to highlight the attributes of the Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Area and with the help of BTC and other funds we are planning a reprint of the book "A Walking Guide to the Old St. Margarets Bay Road". Through the generosity of an RBC Bluewater Grant we will continue with our water sampling project on the Nine Mile River.

At the conclusion of the business portion of our meeting we were very pleased to welcome Tristan Cleveland, Our HRM Alliance Co-ordinator as our Guest Speaker. He spoke about "The Halifax Greenbelt: Turning Local Struggles into a Regional Solution." One of the upcoming projects of our HRM Alliance is organizing Hike the Greenbelt project to promote the connecting of green spaces in HRM through a project where hikers, cyclist canoeists and others will travel on a planned hiking route on trails through the Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Area, the Western Common, and Long Lake Provincial Park to Spryfield on the Chebucto Peninsula and continue with hikes all across HRM public lands to the most eastern extremities. For more information you can contact Tristan Cleveland at: [HRM@ecologyaction.ca](mailto:HRM@ecologyaction.ca)



Gary Armsworthy (left c) and Tom Musial (below c) receiving their Honorary Lifetime Membership certificates from Co-chairs Peter Lund and Harry Ward

Photos: Mike Whitehouse



**MayFair - May 24, 2015**

On Sunday May 24, 2015 under sunny skies Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust (FBWHT) hosted their annual MayFair in the Park from noon to 3 pm at the Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park, Lakeside.

An event like this takes place with the support of many. First Thank you is to RBC Tantallon for their funds in support of MayFair. During the three hours families were treated to a BBQ with hot dogs, watermelon and drinks. Thanks to Sobey's Tantallon for donating hot dogs. Our good cooks for the day were Bob Angus and Peter Lund. The children enjoyed games under the guidance of Lindsay Berringer and Kristin MacEarchen. Rona provided materials for the bubble mix. Scott Pelton of the Indian Point Young Naturalists Club and his colleagues organised a wonderful Nature Scavenger Hunt enjoyed by adults and children alike. The volunteer Fire Fighters from Station 57 in Tantallon brought their fire truck and special guest Sparky. It is always a thrill for a child to sit in the driver's seat of the parked fire truck, wear a fire fighter's helmet, and have a photo taken while they are in the truck or with Sparky. Thanks to the volunteer fire fighters for their time. Beechville-Lakeside-Timberlea Rails to Trails (BLT R2T) as well as FBWHT had displays highlighting their work in the community and in the Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Area. BLT R2T's Nordic Walking sticks always draw some attention with adults who give them a try out.

A shout out to NSDNR for allowing the use of Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park, for advertising this event in the Park Guide, for posters and Red Spruce seedlings to give to children and their families attending the event. In the event of rain we are always grateful to the Estabrooks Centre for provision of space in the event a back-up plan is required due to rain.

It was great to have Councillor Matt Whitman and MLA Iain Rankin and their families join in on the activities at MayFair.

Best of all we wish to thank the families who came out to make MayFair 2015 such a success.



MayFair 2015; left to right: John Cascadden, Bob Angus, Peter Lund, Beth McGee, Catherine Klefenz, Iain Rankin, Harry Ward

**Warbler Walk - June 7, 2015**

**Hans Toom wrote on his website:**

I led my annual Lewis Lake Warbler Walk at Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park, June 7 starting at 7 a.m. This walk is annually sponsored by the Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust.

The weather was perfect –clear blue skies and a respectable coolness in the morning to keep the black flies down. Our group of 12 birders and naturalists was a mix of the experienced and the novice.

We found by sight or ear 13 warbler species. The Palm Warbler which breeds here in prodigious numbers was neither seen or heard. Among all the warblers here in this park it becomes the hardest to locate when breeding and rearing young begins. It remains almost totally silent.

Here is our group with two photographers unseen.



**Forest Walk - June 2015**

Trust member Melinda Spooner is an artist/instructor at NSCAD. She and her film maker friend Ariella Pahlke worked on a project called Shorelines in partnership the Prospect Road Community Centre. They planned a number of art workshops centred on the community, bringing together people of all generations to learn about the ecology of our seaside communities. One of their themes was the Forest with a forest walk originally slated for February. After several postponements due to inclement weather the walk occurred in June.

Melinda wrote: Our final exhibition took place in the PRCC art room and in the main atrium on June 28th. The afternoon began with a forest walk to Nichols Lake. Thanks to Marlene Companion and Kimm Kent of the All Nations Drummers for joining and drumming with us, and to Evan Kelly of the Scouts and Beth McGee from the Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust for sharing information about the local lands and how we can respect the forest and protect and access public lands in our area. We had a great afternoon – thanks to everyone at the Prospect Road Community Centre, and thanks to our sponsors, the ROC, the Centre for Art Tapes, the Canada Council for the Arts and NS Dept of Culture, Communities and Heritage. And of course, to all the artists who were involved and to everyone who participated. Stay tuned for a notice about the interactive website we are building... and sign up on this blog for further news about this project and related news.

Here is a link to our blog, <http://www.shorelines.prospectcommunities.com/>

### **Cemeteries on the Old St Margarets Bay Road**

In May 2015, Wayne Rogers, author of the Trust publication *A Walking Guide to the Old St. Margaret's Bay Road (Published in 2010)*, was contacted by Terry Misener to assist him in locating Martha Umlah's grave site. Terry is an avid geocacher and found some of the GPS co-ordinates in the Walking Guide not to be accurate. Terry and Wayne were successful in locating the site and Terry has provided GPS Coordinates for the four cemeteries west of Prospect Road. Their latitude and longitude GPS Coordinates (WGS84) in degrees and decimal minutes, are as follows:

Otter Lake Cemetery:	N44 37.077 W063 43.889
Greenhead Road Cemetery:	N44 36.583 W063 43.781
Carmichael Cemetery:	N44 35.431 W063 44.558
John & Caroline Umlah Cemetery:	N44 36.399 W063 42.020

This information will be used to update the reprint of the *Guide* slated for later in 2016. It might also be noted the amount of regeneration that has occurred since Hurricane Juan now makes it quite difficult to find some of the sites. Terry notes that the Carmichael Cemetery, for instance, is quite difficult to get to as well as find. In fact, Terry only saw one headstone when in fact there should be two there.

It is time to gather a team to visit the remaining Cemeteries noted in the Guide to determine what cleaning up of the sites and replacement of signs placed there in 2009/2010 is required. Three other cemeteries are located in Long Lake Provincial Park, notably the Purcell Ground Cemetery, the Marriott cemetery and the resting place of John Umlah. Interested persons Please contact our Co-Chairs: Harry Ward; [harryward@eastlink.ca](mailto:harryward@eastlink.ca) or Peter Lund: [opeter-lund@gmail.com](mailto:opeter-lund@gmail.com)

Of note, for those venturing into the bush, be mindful of the abundance of ticks.

Thanks to Wayne and Terry for their information about the four cemeteries west of Prospect Road.

### **A Moose Sighting in Glen Haven - September 30, 2015**

Longtime Trust member and Advisor Eleanor Lindsay was driving north on Hwy 333 and had the privilege of seeing a young moose in Glen Haven. She notes the sighting was so sudden and unexpected, causing the car ahead of her and herself to stop abruptly she did not pay the slightest attention to where we were. She figured the moose was likely in the area between French Village and Glen Haven, standing on the driveway of a property situated up on the landward side of the road. It stood, seemingly trying to decide whether to go on up behind the house which would take it back into the woods, or come down to the road - thankfully it chose the former.

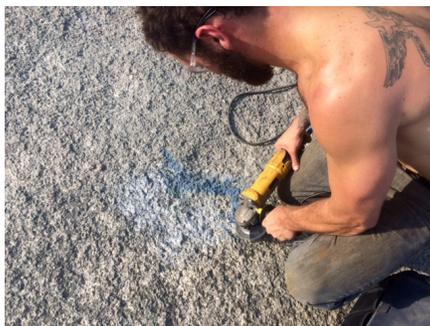
It was an antlered male and to her self avowed inexperienced eye, looked like a sleek slim young teenager with a glossy dark brown coat - not, she would say, fully grown to the massive size of a mature male.

In trying to pin point the location of her sighting, on the afternoon of October 1 Eleanor drove back and forth in the general area of yesterday's moose sighting; nothing jumped out at her initially and the first house she enquired at hadn't a clue what she was talking about, but she hit the jackpot with her second try - a charming man who was both amazed and thrilled to have a moose on his property yesterday- roughly opposite Frostfish Cove. He confirmed the moose - which he also believed to be a young one - puttered around his house and finally moved back into the woods behind it.

Butch Galvez at NSDNR was notified about the sighting.

### Graffiti Clean-up on the Rocks at Cranberry Lake

Hats off to Guylaine Richer de LaFleche for organizing the September clean up of graffiti from the rocks at Cranberry Lake. Through a series of e-mails and her anxiously waiting one Wednesday to win the \$24,000 at Bay Treasure Chest it dawned upon her to connect with the volunteers at Bay Treasure Chest. Her email then came to



the Trust. Tom Musial and Harry Ward got involved with offers of help with obtaining equipment needed. The Trust paid the bills for materials.

Thanks to Guylaine and friends for a job well done.

### Otter Lake Update - February 2016

John Cascadden

Definitive specifications for the new contractual Agreement between HRM and Mirror NS, which will define how Mirror NS will operate the Otter Lake landfill without significant oversight from HRM is still unavailable. The Community Monitoring Committee (CMC) will continue to review and report on Otter Lake operations on behalf of the public and HRM Council. Mirror will soon be responsible for earning its profits from the tipping fees it receives for accepting municipal waste materials and they will be responsible for funding all operational expenses such as worker's wages, waste storage cell development, maintenance, and upgrades. Previously, Mirror was paid according to their original 1997 and supplementary contractual Agreements.

In February 2015 "Flow Control" was retired which previously ensured that no HRM municipal waste could be exported outside of HRM boundaries; as a result, the Industrial/Commercial/Institutional (ICI) sector waste materials can now be exported to waste processing facilities outside of HRM. A new wrinkle has developed; just reported Feb 3rd, 2016.... Mirror NS has filed a lawsuit against HRM, citing that HRM contravened a guarantee from HRM to deliver to the Otter Lake facility all the municipal waste gathered by contractors within HRM for the life of the 1997 Agreement, and that with the retirement of Flow Control, Mirror NS has been and will be deprived of the tipping fees for all ICI municipal waste exported outside of HRM, which affects Mirror's ability to operate in a profitable manner. Mirror NS wants the bylaw amendment that retired Flow Control to be reversed. It still needs to be tested in the courts or resolved by the affected parties prior to their day in court. 2016 will be an interesting year concerning solid waste management in HRM.

### Annual General Meeting, Sunday, March 20, 2016

Save the Date! You are invited to attend the FBWHT **Annual General Meeting on Sunday, March 20, 2016, 2-4 pm, at the Estabrooks Centre, 4408 St .Margarets Bay Road, Lewis Lake.** The doors open at 1:30 pm. The FBWHT Board will report on activities from 2015 and will share plans for projects in 2016 and beyond.

The title of our Guest Speaker's presentation is "FBWHT at a Crossroads".

Founding President Tom Musial will review the past 15 years of FBWHT activities and put the question to the membership, "Where do we go from here?" We invite you to join the discussion as we plan our way forward.

For those who wish to renew or become new members of the Trust, the 2016 annual membership fees are \$10.00 - single; \$15.00 - Family; and, \$100 for a Lifetime membership.

If you would like serve on the Board, a committee, or help plan an event please contact our Co-Chairs: Harry Ward: [harryward@eastlink.ca](mailto:harryward@eastlink.ca) or Peter Lund: [opeterlund@gmail.com](mailto:opeterlund@gmail.com)

**All are Welcome!!**

## Constituency Report

The hard work of local volunteers from the Lewis Lake area to keep their community centre open have paid off. The Province donated the land the centre sits on to the community group enabling the continued operations and the re-naming of the facility to the “Estabrooks Community Hall” in recognition of Bill’s service to community. A well-attended celebration event was held on Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> 2015. Bill has been one of my mentors in politics. I've always admired his ability to work with people from all parties to do what is in the public interest, and what was best for Timberlea-Prospect.



Rogues Roost is included in the recent designation of more than 100 properties as wilderness areas, nature reserves and parks, which means that 12.26 per cent of Nova Scotia's landmass is now protected.

Rogues Roost, located between Terence Bay and Prospect, has over 18km of undisturbed coastline and is representative of Pennant Granite Barrens Natural Landscape. The area has long been a safe haven for sailors and a favoured destination for kayakers. This is an incredibly beautiful area and a true community asset.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation for the dedication of volunteers who support community organizations such as the Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust.



Rogues Roost new Wilderness area



Naming of Estabrooks Hall in honour of Bill –Sept 2015



Learning about public lands with Beth McGee



My satellite office is open Tuesday's from 3pm – 7pm at the Prospect Road Community Centre

**Artwork on the Exterior Walls of Hwy 103 Overpass BLT Rails to Trails** Bob Conrad

Artists Joey Cook and Mike Burt were driven by a desire to bring more art to the city of Halifax, and in 2014 founded the Blackbook Collective of Art and Clothing. They try to engage as many local artists as they can, providing outlets for their work.

In November 2015, Joey and Mike began a project for BLT R2T to paint wildlife murals on the two exterior walls of the Highway 103 overpass where it crosses the trail. The "Collective" designed the murals, engaged a talented group of artists to do the work, and executed the project in a matter of days. Responses of Trail users have been overwhelmingly positive.

BLT Trails, the Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust (FBWHT) and Woodens River Watershed Environmental Organization (WRWEO) contributed equally to cover the cost of the murals.

Other projects by the Collective include the Estabrooks Centre in Hubley, LuLu Lemon and Ironstone Crossfit in downtown Halifax, the Deck Box on Quinpool Road and the Canal Street walking path in Dartmouth.

To see the murals park your vehicle/bicycle at the parking lot for The Bluff Wilderness Hiking Trail located on the east side of Bay Road Self Storage. The entrance to the parking lot is located at civic number 2891 St. Margarets Bay Road, Timberlea, walk south through the parking lot to the BLT R2T, turn right onto the trail and several hundred metres ahead you will see the bridge overpass with the murals.

\*\*Editor's Note - Funds for this project were provided by Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Heritage Trust from funds they received from Bay Treasure Chest. The collage of pictures is courtesy of Bob Conrad. The picture of Collen Paton with her Bay Treasure Cheque was taken by Kent Martin in front of one of the murals.



**Wetland Hot Line**

If you become aware of an action that is having a negative impact on a wetland, watercourse, or a matter that is a chronic problem, please call **1-800-565-1633**, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Give as much detail as possible so that your matter can be directed to the proper resource and addressed in a timely matter.

The Council of Community Organizations (CoCO) is an important forum to share community intelligence. The next meeting...

**Thursday, March 31, 2016**  
**7pm**  
**Lakeside**  
**Community Centre,**  
**1492 St Margarets Bay Rd,**  
**Lakeside, NS**

**Hosted by BLT R2T**  
**Next Date: May 26, 2016**  
**Everyone Welcome!**

CoCO notes can be found on the Trust website.

**2016**  
**Community Council**  
**Meetings**

**Please call 902-490-4000**  
**for time and location of**  
**the meeting.**

**Charitable Donations**

Charitable donations to support the work of the Trust may be made by contacting **Beth McGee**, [jemcgee@eastlink.ca](mailto:jemcgee@eastlink.ca). An income tax receipt will be issued for your donation. Thank you for your support!

**Moose Watch**

Anyone having knowledge of moose sightings, spoor or antlers on the Chebucto Peninsula is encouraged to contact Butch Galvez, Nova Scotia Natural Resources. [Butch.Galvez@novascotia.ca](mailto:Butch.Galvez@novascotia.ca)  
**902-861-2560**

**The Bridge**

*Edited by*  
**Peter Lund**

and

**Beth McGee**

**Layout - Jeff Parks**

If you would like to receive an electronic copy of **The Bridge**, please send an email to

[fbwhtb@gmail.com](mailto:fbwhtb@gmail.com)

and type "subscribe" in the subject line.

**Hike the Greenbelt activities came our way!!**

With financial support from a number of sources including FBWHT Tristan Glynn of Our HRM Alliance lead a series of hikes, paddles and biking activities in August, 2015 to highlight the natural public landscapes and waterways in HRM. Green belting is a strategy used to promote connectivity between blocks of public lands to allow for connectivity from one area to the next. We are most fortunate to have areas like Long Lake Provincial Park, the Western Common, the Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness area and the Terence Bay Wilderness area. The Backlands in the Herring Cove area is also a special place. The first three areas have contiguous borders. Terence Bay Wilderness Area is very close to Long lake Provincial Park. Connectivity is important for the survival of many species in the plant and animal world. Moose and other animals like to roam over wide areas. Connectivity also helps people move easily from one area to the next. On the Chebucto Peninsula it is possible to get on your bicycle or walk from the Armdale area along the Chain of Lakes Rails to Trails, then the Beechville Lakeside Timberlea Rails to Trails(BLTR2T), the St. Margaret's Bay Rails to Trails( SMBR to Trails) and on via rails to trails to many points in NS. BLT R2T and SMB Rails to Trails also allow ATV riders. The Old St Margaret's Bay Road from Glen Margaret to Goodwood affords the hiker, ATV traveller the possibility of many adventures, including visits to the resting places of our forefathers, stops by lakes and streams, riding through a variety of habitats. At this time the portion of the Old St. Margaret's Bay Road that passes through Long Lake Provincial Park to Spryfield is available to hikers. The Old St. Margaret's Bay Road is an historic road built in the early 1800's to move troops and supplies from peninsular Halifax to the South Shore of the Province.

Here is a list of the Hike the Greenbelt activities that occurred in our area:

**August 8, Halifax to the Bike & Bean by Bicycle:** Tristan Cleveland and Tristan Glynn lead a bicycle ride from downtown Halifax to St. Margaret's Bay almost entirely on an old rail bed. They rode on a safe and quiet trail along lakes and through forests ending at the Bike and Bean where they enjoyed a BBQ courtesy of the St. Margaret's Bay Stewardship Association.

**August 9, Bike Old Saint Margaret's Bay Road:** A group of hardy souls rode mountain bike straight across the Chebucto Peninsula on a historic route dating back to the late 1700s! With rivers to ford, old cemeteries to explore, and the opportunity to see moose, this trail will not let you down.

**\*\*NB- The Minister of the Environment gave special permission for bicycles to ride across the portion of the Old St. Margaret's Bay Road as it passes through the Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Area for the August 9 Hike the Greenbelt event.**

**August 12 - Run or Hike: The Bluff Trail:** Participants ran and hiked through several landscape types; from hardwood forests to wetlands to granite barrens. Biologist David Patriquin gave a presentation on the natural history of the area and interpreted the hike.

**Tapping the Sweetness of our Community**

Trust Board member John Bignell, who lives in Sheldrake Lake subdivision, writes,

Our community taps, collects and boils maple syrup. It's a family project I started about three years ago with our home owners association (HOA) and it has grown beyond our HOA. If you think it would be of interest, it would be great to connect the youth and families to this project. We have partnered with Acadian Maple and use their professional equipment. Last year we gave each family that participated about 2 Litres of finished Maple syrup. For more information see:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1135905313101024/>