



# The Bridge

Member News Winter Edition



[www.fivebridgestrust.ca](http://www.fivebridgestrust.ca)

## Fast Facts

### about FBWHT:

- Established 16 years ago, in 2001.
- Secured designated wilderness status in 2011 from NS government for the public lands bound by HWYs 103 and 333 on the Chebucto Peninsula.
- Mandated to protect and preserve the vast natural space covering 27,000 acres and five distinct watersheds.
- Non-profit run by volunteers with a love for nature.
- Supported by 150+ Members who pay \$10 annually - the same fee as in 2001.
- 174 followers on Facebook.

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## Message from the Chair

As Chair of the Trust for the past six years, it is always my pleasure to share news of our projects and activities with Members.

Like many organizations these days, we tend to use social media including Facebook and the website [www.fivebridgestrust.ca](http://www.fivebridgestrust.ca) as the most immediate ways to provide updates. But, we also know, there is still a thirst for information in newsletter formats too, so we'll happily oblige.

Within this issue, you'll get a sense of what a busy and productive year 2017 has been for the Trust, thanks in no small part to the dedicated volunteers who manage projects and make things happen. Thanks to regular funding from the local Bay Treasure Chest



**Trust Chair Harry Ward (centre) in the thick of the May Fair crowds. More than 150 attended the free event and for the first time in 11 years, there were no hot dogs left.**

50/50 lottery, we continue to invest in our community with grants to support other like-minded, boots-on-the-ground organizations as they tackle trail improvements and education that helps the community and preserves the environment. Never before has the Trust's influence

extended so far and so wide. It's wonderful.

New forged partnerships continue to be a strength for the Trust and we've made a few new ones this year as well. Partnering with others seems always to offer a way forward that achieves more for less. Nova Scotia's Learn to Fish program, three HRM library branches and the Meet Up Halifax Outdoor Adventurers Hiking group are just a few examples of new connections we'll continue to grow and work with in the future.

We'd like to work with you too! The Trust is currently seeking new volunteer Board Members. Interested?

Get in touch. It's a wonderful way to give back to your community.

*Harry*

## Nine Mile River Bridge Project Completed

A river runs through it and a safe bridge now passes over it.

The new Nine Mile River Bridge is complete and ready for travelers. This milestone project that took five years from inception involved hundreds of volunteer hours and effort and the support of many. Mike Marriott, Trust Board volunteer and President of the

Safety-Minded ATV Association and his SMATVA team deserve our thanks and credit. They led the charge to create this wonderful new link that allows multi-use trail access from Goodwood to Glen Margaret, across the Old Coach Road and the Old St. Margaret's Bay Road, a 30 km journey.

**Party Alert: Spring 2018**



Everyone is invited to join us to celebrate and visit the new bridge.

Stay tuned for details spring 2018.



# The Bridge

## Spreading Volunteer Love



**John Cascadden (above left) was part of the volunteer team at most Trust events over the past 10 years. Thanks for everything John.**

**Also present, from left to right next to John, are past and present FBWHT Board members Bob Angus, Peter Lund and Beth McGee, Kathryn Klutz (Board of BLT Rails to Trails), Timberlea-Prospect MLA Iain Rankin and FBWHT Chair Harry Ward.**

With regret and fondness, the Trust said goodbye this year to long-standing volunteer Board Member John Cascadden.

John had served many roles over his 10 years of service with the Trust. He worked closely with the Otter Lake Community Monitoring Committee and various HRM groups, managed the website, liaised on behalf of the Trust with government and made lots of friends along the way.

His keen love for preserving and protecting nature, his technological skills and kind manner brought lots to the table over the years.

John was presented with a Lifetime Membership Certificate. We hope he'll keep in touch and share news of his next adventures.

**We'll miss you John.**

**Sunday, May 27  
May Fair 2018  
Mark the date!**

## May Fair Fun



**Erin Soosaar (back left) and her family enjoyed the beautiful day and many activities offered at May Fair.**

Celebrating the outdoors and sharing outdoor fun is something the Trust does well. The 11th annual May Fair in the Park was no exception.

Sunday, May 28th was a busy picnic day at Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park. With displays and so many things to do for children, the event was very popular with area families. You could enjoy a hot dog BBQ and drink at a picnic

table, cast a line and maybe catch a fish from the dock thanks to the "Learn to Fish" program. You could do some outdoor/nature crafts, go searching in the woods as part of a scavenger hunt, sit in the front seat of a fire truck, take home a white pine seedling to plant in your own yard and get your face painted while relaxing in the sun.

Many thanks to all the community groups and volunteers who helped make this busy event so enjoyable.



## Annual General Meeting 2017



**The Annual General Meeting is a great time for people to connect over news and future projects.**

Getting together to discuss the business and financial position of the Trust is always an enjoyable time for Trust Board volunteers who get to showcase the work of the Trust and connect with you - the Members and community.

The Sunday, March 5th event held at the Estabrooks Centre brought together about 45 people who enjoying hearing the details of the

Trust's work. With hearty thanks, Harry presented long-time Trust supporters and Board Members Beth McGee and Barb Allen flowers and certificates of thanks for their years of dedication. Both have moved to Trust Advisor status and remain engaged.

Following the business portion of the meeting, a presentation about the history of the Greenhead Road settlement was provided by historian Bruce Stewart. See the website for a copy of the AGM presentation and the guest speaker one as well.





## Walking Guide Takes Off

Author Wayne Rogers met Members and many outdoor enthusiasts at four book launches arranged to publicly celebrate the second edition printing of *A Walking Guide to the Old St. Margaret's Bay Road*.

With new colourful maps and updated trail descriptions and information, the public was eager to get free copies and showed up with interest at every event.

The Trust also shared books with community groups like the Scouts, Girl Guides, Seniors Association and other nature focused organiza-

tions. The entire print run of 4,000 copies was distributed by the end of the summer.

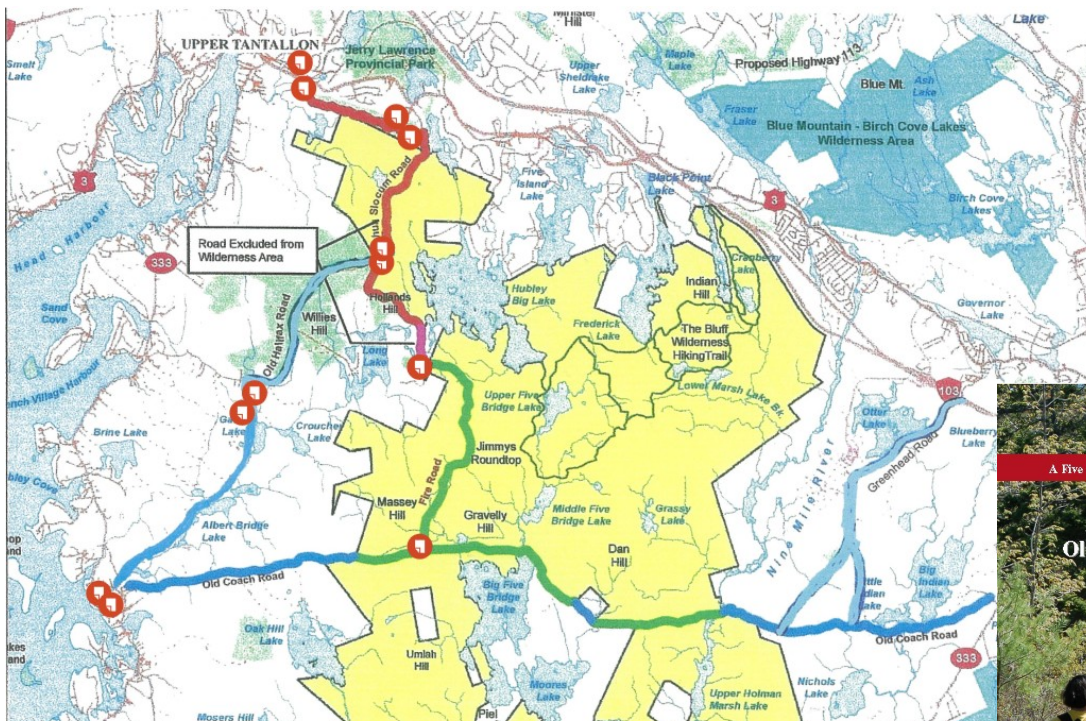
Volunteers were kept busy resupplying the libraries which helped with distribution to the community. Publicity for the book included an interview with Wayne on CBC Radio's Information Morning program and an article in the Chronicle Herald's books section.

Many thanks are extended to all the volunteers who helped create the new second edition content.



Author Wayne Rogers (above left) signs a copy of the new *Walking Guide* for an outdoor enthusiast at the book launch celebration event June 1 at the Prospect Community Centre.

## Trail Map



Priority OHV Routes  
Five Bridge Lakes Wilderness Area and Adjoining Lands

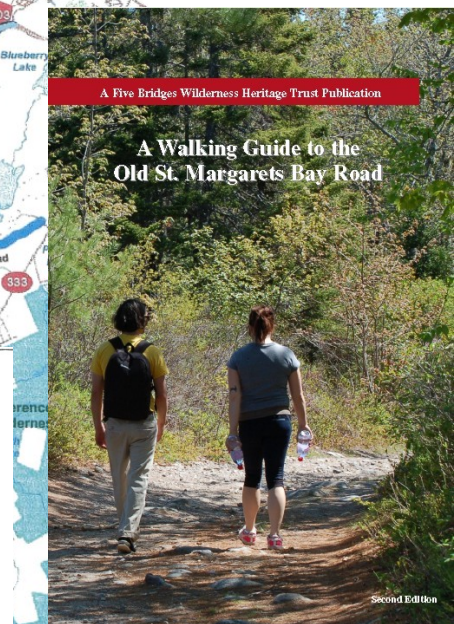
NSDNR  
NSE  
Private  
TIR

**Roads and Trails**  
Arterial; Highway  
Collector; Ramp  
Local Road  
Resource/Recreation; Abandoned Road  
Trail/Footpath/portage; Track  
Railway  
Hwy 113 (proposed)  
The Bluff Wilderness Hiking Trail

Crown Land  
Other Protected Areas  
HRM Lands

Map produced by the Protected Areas & Wetlands Branch of NS Environment, December 2011.  
The information shown here was obtained courtesy of the NS Geomatics Centre (SNSMR) and the NS Department of Natural Resources.  
© Crown Copyright, Province of Nova Scotia, 2011. All rights reserved.  
This map is a geographic representation only. NS Environment accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions contained herein.

Beautiful full-colour maps are provided in the *Walking Guide* or electronically on the Trust website.



# The Bridge

## Environmental Stewardship Grants Program



**A 2017 Grant provided to the BLT Rails to Trails Association helped fund trail improvements at this Five Island Lake bridge.**

Six community projects in the St. Margaret's Bay area are improving trail conditions and offering environmental education thanks to grants awarded this year under the Trust's new Environmental Stewardship Grants Program.

Sharing funds received from the Bay Treasure Chest, the Trust launched this exciting new grants program, worth \$40k, for the first time this past spring.

"It's a winning partnership when the Trust can provide funding through these grants to community organizations who roll up their sleeves and get to work completing important improvements that benefit everyone," says Harry Ward, Trust Chair.

Many thanks to Tom Musial (*Photo back centre*) who led the Program development, reviewed the grant applications and recommended the six chosen for 2017.

Interested in a 2018 Grant?

If your community group has a project in mind, watch for more information about the Grants Program on the Trust website.

Grant application information and the focus for projects for 2018 will be posted in late January.



**2017 Environmental Stewardship Grant Recipients**

**From Left Back:** Harry Ward, FBWHT Board Chair, Kimberly Berry, Bluff Trail Stewardship Program and WRWEO, Tom Musial, Chair FBL Coalition, Mike Marriott, President, Safety-Minded ATV Assoc., Lindsay Gates, BLT Rails to Trails.

**From Left Front:** Karen Sullivan, BLT Rails to Trails Assoc., Mike Lancaster, Bluff Trail Stewardship Program and WRWEO, Katherine Klefenz, BLT Rails to Trails, Alana Ziegler, GPI Atlantic Youth, Gwen Colman, GPI Atlantic Youth.



## Approved Environmental Stewardship Grants Program Projects

**St. Margaret's Bay Safety-Minded ATV Association:**

- Nine Mile River Bridge installation
- Signage across 22 km of managed trails through the wilderness protected area
- Construction of new connector trail from St. Margaret's Bay Rails to Trails to the parking/picnic area of Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park.

**Bluff Trail Stewardship Program and Woodens River Watershed Environmental Organization:**

- Education of 50 volunteers to become trail stewards of the Bluff Trail hiking area.

**GPI Atlantic Youth:**

- Wilderness Red Cross Training – education of up to 24 youth as wilderness leadership facilitators.

**B.L.T. Rails to Trails Association:**

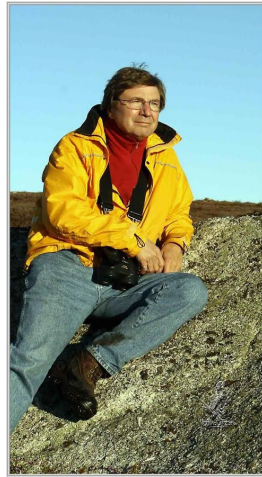
- Rebuilding of retaining wall and causeway improvement at the Five Island Lake bridge.



## Arranged Nature Hikes and Excursions

The annual **Warbler Walk** led by avid birder Hans Toom was a great success for the early morning risers who joined Hans at Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park on Sunday, June 4th.

Nova Scotia is home to 30 types of warblers at that time of year and Jerry Lawrence is a particularly good place to enjoy the birdsongs.



*Birder Hans Toom leads the annual morning hike in Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park.*

*Warbler Walk  
Sunday, June 3, 2018*

Under a new partnership with the Trust, a **Fall Hike** was arranged on Saturday, September 30th with Krista Whitehouse, leader of the Meet Up group, Halifax Outdoor Adventurers.

Krista led an eager group through the wilderness area to visit a few of the cemeteries described in the *Walking Guide*. For some participants, it was their first time in the area and they enjoyed themselves; even in the wet.

Hopefully, if interest is keen, the tradition of a Fall Hike will continue attracting new people to hiking and help spread awareness of the Trust and the Five Bridge Lakes wilderness protected area.



## Moose Watch

Mainland moose are majestic animals and an endangered species living in the wilderness areas of the Chebucto Peninsula. Poaching is a threat to the moose population and illegal in Nova Scotia.

Help save these animals. Anyone with knowledge of moose sightings, calls, spoor or antlers on the Chebucto Peninsula is encouraged to contact Butch Galvez, Dept. of Natural Resources. [butch.galvez@novascotia.ca](mailto:butch.galvez@novascotia.ca)

To report wildfire, poaching or wildlife concerns:

**1-800-565-2224 (24-Hour Hot Line)**



# The Bridge

## Bay Treasure Chest



**Toonie collection boxes are hosted by 15 retailers in the St. Margaret's Bay area and picked up every Wednesday at noon for the weekly Wednesday evening draw.**

A huge thank you to the Bay Treasure Chest which continues to fund so many of the programs and projects achieved each year.

Thank you as well to all of you in the community who play the Bay Treasure Chest and have helped it expand.

From the new Environmental Stewardship Grants Program to the Nine Mile River bridge, we can trace almost every project to Bay Treasure Chest funding.



**Fred Dolbel, (left) President, Bay Treasure Chest Assoc. hosted the pirate fun Sunday, October 22 at the volunteer appreciation event. Trust Board Members and Advisors also joined in recognizing the contribution of volunteers to the lottery.**

## Volunteering at the Counts



**How the toonie holder has grown...Beth McGee and Harry Ward hold the old toonie bin in front of the new one. Fall 2017**

Free on Wednesday afternoon?

afternoons.

As one of seven local partner groups that receive funding from the Bay Treasure Chest, the Trust is responsible for organizing the toonie count once every few weeks.

If you are a Trust Member and would like to join us on a count day, please get in touch for more details.

This is an easy, but important task and we regularly need volunteers to help. It only takes a few hours of your time on Wednesday

## Council of Community Organizations

The next meeting of the Council of Community Organizations (CoCO) is set for Tuesday, January 30 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm at the Lakeside Community Centre, 1492 St Margaret's Bay Rd, Lakeside, NS.

Host : Mike Marriott and the Safety-Minded ATV Association.

Everyone is welcome to hear the news and updates from community and environmental organizations from across the Chebucto Peninsula.

Meeting Notes and more information about CoCO are available on the Trust website.

### COCO MEMBER GROUPS INCLUDE:

- Woodens River Watershed Environmental Organization
- St. Margaret's Bay Rails to Trails
- St. Margaret's Bay Safety-Minded ATV Association
- St. Margaret's Bay Stewardship Association
- Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust

## Advisors to the Board

Barb Allen

Bob Angus

Gary Armsworthy

Afton Doubleday

Bill Estabrooks

Scott Guthrie

Catherine King

Mike Lumplugh

Eleanor Lindsay

Beth McGee

Tom Musial

Jeff Parks

Andrew Parsons

David Patriquin

Iain Rankin

Wayne Rogers

Allan Shatford

Hans Toom

Ralph Wheadon

## Save the Date:

Sunday, March 18 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Estabrooks Community Hall

4408 St Margaret's Bay Rd,

Lewis Lake, N.S.

Everyone is welcome to attend the 2018

Annual General Meeting. Join us and renew your annual Membership.

**AGM**  
Annual General Meeting

## Become a Member

Membership is an easy way for you to help the Trust continue with its work protecting and preserving our natural environment.

### Annual Membership Fees:

**\$10/Individual or \$15/Family**

- Renewable at the AGM event Cash only.
- Contact us at [fbwhbt@gmail.com](mailto:fbwhbt@gmail.com)
- [www.fivebridgetrust.ca](http://www.fivebridgetrust.ca)

Thank you for your Support!

## Share Your Story

If you have a great story to share from your adventures on the Chebucto Peninsula, we want to hear from you!

Whether it was this year or many moons ago, we are interested in your story and your photos.

Did you use the Walking Guide? Are you biking or canoeing or hiking? Did you see any wildlife?

Our Members are wonderful resources of information and tips for others on ways to enjoy the outdoors.

Send us your news by email and like us on Facebook.





Dedicated to conserving public land in its natural state for public use since 2001.



[www.fivebridgestrust.ca](http://www.fivebridgestrust.ca)

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Support the work of the Trust. Become a Member or donate today through our website or by contacting us.

Enjoy your Chebucto Peninsula.



#### Board Members

Harry Ward, Chair  
Bridget Adams, Treasurer  
John Bignell  
Peter Lund  
Mike Marriott



*From the Trust Board, we extend our warmest wishes to you and yours for a safe and happy holiday season.*

#### Nature Lovers Wanted!

The Trust is seeking new Board Member volunteers.

Please contact us for more information about joining our team.

Monthly meetings, flexible work assignments and a lot of fun.