



## 2021 Annual Report



The Northumberland Land Trust (NLT) is a recently merged land trust incorporating the nature reserves of NLT and the Lone Pine Land Trust (LPLT), as they existed on September 1, 2021. NLT is committed to preserving the natural, historical and cultural heritage of Northumberland County. Our mandate is to establish, maintain and manage protected areas. This annual report highlights our goals and achievements for the year ending December 31, 2021, including our administrative and financial information.

## **Board of Directors**

The NLT operates under the direction of a volunteer Board of Directors, drawn from across the County. At the end of 2021 there were 9 Board members working under the leadership of President Rob Kennedy. The other current members of the Board of Directors are Leslie Abram, Grant Elliott, Robert Fishlock, John Geale, George Gordon, Richard Holland, Freda Kennedy and Doug McRae.

For profiles of the individual board members please refer to our website, [www.nltrust.ca](http://www.nltrust.ca) under the “About Us” tab.

## **Achieving our Mission**

The highlight of 2021 was without a doubt the signing of the merger agreement between NLT and LPLT in August of the year, which became effective September 1, 2021. A working group of the Board worked many hours throughout the months leading up to and following September to make the merger a reality. The Board wishes to thank the legal advice and support of James McGrath of Cobourg and the encouragement of Mark Stabb and the Nature Conservancy of Canada in bringing our two land trusts together. As a result, we are now a stronger land trust in terms of financial, natural and human resources.

## **Lone Pine-Braham Nature Reserve**



## **President's Report by Rob Kennedy**



Last year was a transformative year for the Northumberland Land Trust and Lone Pine Land Trust. Both memberships unanimously approved entering into a specific merger agreement under the NLT banner. In September we had our first new Board meeting composed of familiar names representing a 50/50 composition of the two Land Trusts. I believe we have a new enthusiastic Board whose members bring a good mix of individual skill sets to the organization. I want to especially thank Robert Fishlock who stepped down as President of NLT but remained on the Board and took on the position of Secretary. His NLT background and work experience as a lawyer is very beneficial as we move forward.

In keeping with the merger agreement, there was much to do. The NLT website has been refreshed and updated including an acknowledgement of the now former LPLT and its founder Muriel Braham. A lot of legal leg work needed to be done and we want to thank James McGrath as our lawyer for the advice, guidance and legal work completed and ongoing into 2022. We should also thank Mark Stabb and Val Deziel of NCC (Nature Conservancy of Canada) for their input and participation in the merger discussions and \$5,000 NCC contribution to help with the legal costs.

Following the merger, the NLT now has 13 Nature Reserves encompassing 1267 acres. The Stewardship committee has an out-sized responsibility in taking on this expanded role, monitoring and looking after these ecologically important properties. Our newsletter, The Preserver, is highlighting two properties with each issue to make our combined membership familiar with them. Thanks also to our members who volunteer and come out for the workdays organized for the various properties.

NLT had two major fundraising events in 2021. The first was the annual Birdathon with 130 species recorded. Thanks to our Birders and sponsors, we raised over \$7000 to help fund our stewardship activities. The other event was a letter campaign to



members and local businesses in lieu of our Gala which we decided to cancel due to COVID concerns. One anonymous local business came forward and offered to match donations up to \$25000. Our members responded with great enthusiasm and generosity and we raised just over \$64000. An amazing result and we are so thankful as this gives NLT a solid financial foundation going forward, giving it the ability to consider many options which we intend to focus on in 2022.

I would also like to acknowledge the tireless work of our member Jenny Jackman and the Joint Wesleyville Working Group, a collaboration between NLT and the Willow Beach Field Naturalists. The group has made a number of presentations to local groups, in particular the Municipality of Port Hope, highlighting the need to protect the significant ecological features of these large parcels of land containing lush ravines and wetlands that are owned by Ontario Power Generation, Hydro One and Cameco Corporation.

This past year has been a difficult one for many with all the Covid related restrictions. Event cancellations and zoom meetings became the new normal. We do want to thank you for your patience, loyalty and participation in events when that was possible. We look forward to 2022 with more in person meetings and events including a Gala dinner in October. We all look forward to being together in person again.

### **Stewardship Committee Report by John Geale**

As with so many aspects of life in 2021, COVID-19 restrictions reduced stewardship activity somewhat. However, since much stewardship work takes place outdoors, we were able to complete most of our objectives.

In general, bird nest boxes were cleaned out and new ones were installed; control work continued for European buckthorn, dog-strangling vine, periwinkle, garlic mustard and Phragmites; turtle basking logs were installed; and some signs, gates and fences were improved. The only major project that was not completed was a proposed prescribed burn at the Pelton Nature Reserve, and we will hope to do this in 2023. Towards the end of 2021, major changes were made in the makeup of the Stewardship Committee. Russ Lake retired after many years of work, and Tom Jackman retired as Pelton Steward, although both have continued to participate in work parties - many thanks, Russ and Tom! In addition, the merger with the Lone Pine Land Trust gave us 6 new properties, so the committee now consists of 14 members with Bill Newell continuing as its Chair.



Our Stewards (and the properties for which they are responsible) are now:

Bill Newell (Pelton); Leslie Abram (Braham); Laura Bozzelli (Bonebakker); Stewart & Evan Britton (Wilkinson); David Geale (Jack van Nostrand); John Geale (McEwen); Laurie Hill (Leckey); Doug McRae (Kennedy); Paulette Hebert (de Kleer); Dave Impey (McColl); James Munn (Munn); Amy Quinn (Chub Point); Mark Rupke (Laurie Lawson).

We thank all these Stewards for their time and thoughtfulness at meetings and their work at the various reserves. Our goal is to have a management plan for each property and a steward to guide its implementation.

### **Acquisitions Committee Report by John Geale**

The NLT Acquisition Committee's mandate is to assess potential properties and make recommendations to the NLT Board regarding their acquisition. The acquisition may be by way of purchase, acceptance of a donation of title, acceptance of a conservation easement or a combination of both purchase and donation. Each potential property is assessed using a formal process of weighted criteria as well as an on-site exploration. All negotiations remain confidential. In 2021, the committee was comprised of John Geale, Robert Fishlock and Bill Newell.

During 2021, the Acquisitions Committee's activities were restricted due to concentration on the Merger with the Lone Pine Land Trust and the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, we had two inquiries regarding possible acquisitions. One of these turned out to be property outside the Northumberland County boundary, and we felt that we could not pursue it. The other is a property near Colborne, and no decision has been made regarding this one.

We continue to welcome inquiries from citizens of Northumberland County who may wish to consider donating property, and we will proactively seek out lands particularly well suited for preservation. Properties adjacent to NLT's current Nature Reserves would always be of special interest. The committee was recently renamed the Land Securement Committee and its members are John Geale, Rob Kennedy and Richard Holland.

### **Pelton Nature Reserve**



### **2021 Financial Statements**

Our 2021 Combined Financial Statements and the report from our financial reviewer, Baker Tilly, have been circulated separately in advance of the 2022 AGM. Our net income for 2021 was \$64,990.00, based upon total revenues of \$143,097.00, less total expenses of \$78,107.00.

Our total current assets (mostly cash) as of December 31, 2021 were \$365,516.00 and our total tangible capital or land assets were valued at \$1.79 Million.



### **NLT Donor recognition**

The NLT wishes to recognize the contributions of its donors who support the on-going activities of the NLT. A matrix was developed under the branches of trees as noted below. As financial donations are accumulated over the calendar year donors will advance from one branch to the next. The NLT treasurer tracks the information and the donors will be recognized on the Website and in our Newsletter. If a donor wishes to remain anonymous that would be respected. We are grateful to the generosity of all of our membership and thank everyone for their gifts. We also wish to give special thanks to those individuals who donate their time, services and expertise. Although they may not be reflected here, their gifts are valued by the NLT.

## **THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS! (January to December 2021)**

### **Mighty Oak Branch (\$5000 and over)**

Anonymous (2 donors)     Robert & Freda Kennedy     Dalglish Family Foundation

### **Sturdy Maple Branch (\$2500-\$4999)**

None to Report

### **Enduring Pine Branch (\$500 -\$2499)**

Anonymous (3 donors)	Leslie Abram	Tyne & Joanne Bonebakker
Joan Chalovich	Elizabeth Chatten	William Crins
Anita de Jong	Robert Fishlock & Urszula Kaczmarczyk	
Douglas & Cathy Galt	John & Dorothy Geale	George & Marg Gordon
James Graham	Barbara Heidenreich	Richard & Laurie Hill
Tom & Jennifer Jackman	Jane Leckey	Russell & Janet Lake
William & Rohaise Nicholls	Edmund Maidlow	Brian Maxwell
Jim & Martha Oldham	Peak Construction	Richard & Felicity Pope
Glen Parsneau & Marg Fleming		Frank Prest
Edward Saunders	Ross & Judith Wells	Cheryl Wilson & Robert Leckie

### **Graceful Ash Branch (\$100-\$499)**

Anonymous (2 donors)	John Apostolides	Jennifer Atkinson & Thomas Becker
Kenneth Bagshaw	Micheline & David Beevis	
Michael Bedford Jones*	Harriet Binkley	James Blackhall
Laura Bozzelli	Judith Cabrita	C.D. Cameron
Karen Chalovich	Sanglae Cho	Robert & Beverly Carman

Connie Corbett	Nancy & Arthur Dalgarno	David & Catherine Chambers
John Davidson	Dorothy Delisle	Diana & Edward Cunnington
Lillianne Denis	Karin Fawthorp	Jane Garthson
Linda & Blair Gilmour	Richard Girardin	Jim Glover
Frank & Tish Godfrey	Sheila Goering	Marie Gordon
Reginald Gordon	Patrick Gray	Paul Gray
Michael & Joan Hanlon	Michael Harding	Hastings Valu-mart
Paulette Hebert	John Henderson	Richard & Sarah Holland
Dave Impey	Mike & Jill Irwin	Gil & Denise Johnson
Janette Johnston	Harry Knapper	Elizabeth Kellogg & Roger Frost
Susan Knowles	Susan Laing	Sandra & Donald Lane
J. Mary & Robert Lee	James LeNoury	Lighthouse Wealth Management
Gordon Ley	David Lindsay	Shannon & Pat Linton
Jane & James McGrath	Virginia McLaughlin	Sue McColl & Ozzie Schmidt Simone
& Tom Merey	William Mills	Robert Moorcroft
David Moore	Kit & Barbara Moore	Claire Mowat
James Munn	Roger Nainby	Bill Newell
Janice Newson	Eva Nichols	Deborah Panko
Carolyn Pratt	Amy Quinn	Ruth Redelmeier
Margot Reid	Lucy Reid	Maureen Riggs
Shelley Rutherford	Margaret Ryerson	Iain Scott
Terry Self	Shawn Sheppard	Jay Sherwin
Mary Singer	Jenna Stephens-Wells	Sue Stickley & Ted Hunt
Cindy Stone	Nancy Stopps	Terry Stopps
Nina Szpakowski	Aisla Thomson	Johanne Tummon
Richard Tyssen	John Urquhart	Ted & Hilda Van Netten
Susan Vivian	Rae & Marilyn Waring	Marlynne Warling
Audrey Wilson	Lynda Yielding	Patricia Whitney & Ken Strauss
Jane Zednik		

#### **HEARTY ACORN (LIVING BEQUEST)**

George Gordon	Robert Fishlock	Doug McRae
John Davidson and Irena Orlowski		
(*deceased)		



**Laurie Lawson Outdoor Education Centre**



## NORTHUMBERLAND LAND TRUST: MEMBERSHIP FORM

Our members make the conservation work of the Northumberland Land Trust possible. We hope we can count on your support. Members receive:

- A tax receipt (minimum \$20 donation);
- Newsletters and invitations to events such as our dinner, hikes, and lectures;
- The right to vote at the Trust's annual meeting if paid before May 31;
- Memberships are for a Calendar Year - January to Dec or any portion thereof;

If you prefer, you may now submit your membership online using Paypal at <http://nltrust.ca> and select the How You Can Help" Icon. Otherwise

**Please fill out the form below, make cheques payable to**

**Northumberland Land Trust and mail to: P. O. Box 1153, Cobourg, ON, K9A 5A4**

Or donate online through our web site at [www.NLTrust.ca](http://www.NLTrust.ca) and click on the "pay Your Membership" button near the bottom of the home page.

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Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New membership \_\_\_\_\_ Please contact me to volunteer \_\_\_\_\_

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ First name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Individual: \$25 \_\_\_\_ Family: \$40 \_\_\_\_ Supporting: \$50 \_\_\_\_ Corporate: \$100 \_\_\_\_

Donation: \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to remain anonymous \_\_\_\_ The NLT recognizes its supporters in print and online. If you wish your membership or donation to remain anonymous, please indicate this at the time of your contribution. To view the NLT privacy policy please visit our website at <http://nltrust.ca>.

***The Board Members of the Northumberland Land Trust would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support and contributions. Your volunteer support and guidance is critical to our success as we protect significant natural ecosystems across Northumberland County.***