



## 2022 Annual Report



The Northumberland Land Trust (NLT) is a land trust incorporating the nature reserves of NLT and the Lone Pine Land Trust (LPLT), which merged on September 1, 2021. NLT is committed to preserving the natural 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, 2022, including NLT operational and financial information.

### **Land Acknowledgement**

We acknowledge that the Northumberland Land Trust operates across the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig (Mississauga Anishinaabeg) peoples. The Northumberland Land Trust expresses deep gratitude to past and current indigenous peoples for sharing their knowledge of the natural world with us and for always stewarding these lands and waters to ensure their prosperity for generations to come.

## **Board of Directors and Staff**

The NLT operates under the direction of a volunteer Board of Directors, drawn from across the County. At the end of 2022 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, Robert Fishlock, John Geale, George Gordon, Richard Holland, Freda Kennedy, John Davidson and Doug McRae.

We are pleased to report that as of October 3, 2022 we now have a single staff person, Laura Bozzelli, a resident of Marmora. Laura had previously been a volunteer steward for our Bonebakker Reserve. She has been working tirelessly to get to understand our nature reserves, their stewardship needs and help the Board of Directors perform their governance obligations. Finding and applying for funding for land acquisitions and our other ongoing operations has also taken up a good part of her time.

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



July 23, 2022 Annual General Meeting at Lone Pine Marsh Nature Reserve



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



Last year was another exciting year for the Northumberland Land Trust. Following the previous years merger of NLT and LPLT, the Board decided to spend a Saturday last March to brainstorm and dream a new future for NLT. We identified 5 areas of focus and assigned Board members to each. These areas are Land Securement, Stewardship, Fundraising, Membership and Outreach, and Organizational Capacity Building. All these are a work in progress with intentional goals to ensure we grow as an organization. The Board senses a window of opportunity and urgency to preserve the natural Landscape here in Northumberland County. We look to the west and see the urbanization of Durham Region and even here with the growth of our towns. Would it not be amazing if NLT could help create our own greenbelt here in our County!?

Part of our Capacity Building efforts included the hiring last October of our first full time employee, Laura Bozzelli. She is a committed and passionate addition to our efforts to grow NLT and her work is already bearing fruit.

With the Covid restrictions easing, we enjoyed a wonderful evening last October at our Gala. It was great to meet so many of you in person, enjoy the food and our guest speaker, Michael Runtz, talk of his experiences and observations in Algonquin Park. A great social event.

I want to thank our Lawyer, James McGrath for his time and effort in wrapping up the merger legal work, especially completing all the property title transfers.

You will find in this 2022 Report more details on all the activities and work done by our board members and you, our members and volunteers, that help us protect the beautiful natural areas here in our county for future generations to enjoy. A perfect legacy. Thanks so much to all.

## **Stewardship Committee Report**

With many COVID restrictions no longer in force, the Stewardship Team and volunteers were able to be quite active in 2022. Many of the usual activities continued:

- we now have over 40 bird nest boxes set up at 8 reserves; they were all cleaned out early in the year, and most were used by Eastern Bluebirds and Tree Swallows;
- dog-strangling vine, garlic mustard, European buckthorn and Phragmites continue their unwelcome presence everywhere; significant effort was put into controlling them; in particular, frequent mowing was tried along the south roadside at Chub Point, and preliminary results look promising;
- red pine plantations were thinned at Bonebakker and Pelton to allow more biologically diverse forests to develop;
- all properties are now enrolled in various government tax incentive or reduction plans except Chub Point, and work on it is proceeding; these plans save significant taxes.

At specific nature reserves, we completed the following other important projects:

- Bonebakker: Two bat houses, made and donated by Ted Van Netten, were installed, and the Property Management Plan was completed.
- Laurie Lawson Outdoor Education Centre: Students from Trinity College School have been helping every Tuesday, weather and schedules permitting, with the removal of periwinkle which has formed an undesirable ground cover in some areas.
- McEwen: David Geale conducted the annual Grasshopper Sparrow census; 4 adults were observed, all in the south field; this is the same number as in 2021 and 2019, but in 2020 eight were present, plus one in the north field.
- Munn: A contractor selectively thinned the conifer plantations, and we were paid almost \$10,000 for this harvest.

The stewards who help care for our nature reserves are: Leslie Abram (Lone Pine Marsh), Laura Bozzelli (Bonebakker), Evan Britton (Wilkinson), Stewart Britton (Wilkinson), David Geale (Jack van Nostrand), John Geale (McEwen), Paulette Hebert (de Kleer), Laurie Hill (Leckey), Doug McRae (Kennedy and McColl), James Munn (Munn), Bill Newell (Pelton), Amy Quinn (Chub Point), and Mark Rupke (Laurie Lawson Outdoor Education Centre). We thank them for their work on the reserves and for their thoughtful contributions to committee meetings.

The work of the stewards is greatly helped by other volunteers. In 2022, we had a total of 26 work "parties" involving 34 different volunteers who logged over 260 person-hours engaged in field activities. We thank all these volunteers who help NLT to accomplish our objectives.



Stewardship work party at McEwen Nature Reserve

### **Fundraising Committee Report**

The Fundraising Committee would like to thank all our donors for helping us reach our fundraising goals in 2022. The annual Birding Marathon in May and the dinner Gala in October were highlights of the year. The Birding Marathon recorded 132 species on NLT properties, a new record and raised almost \$9,000 for stewardship and property management. Thank you to all the birders that participated and all those who donated! The dinner Gala was also a huge success raising \$10,000 to help with the stewardship of NLT nature reserves. Over 100 guests enjoyed the presentation by the guest speaker Michael Runtz, who entertained us with pictures and humorous stories of his time exploring Algonquin Park. A new event in 2022, "Giving Tuesday", coincided with our Matching Donation campaign in which your donations helped us raise \$21,575. Your donations and support are vital in helping us protect our nature reserves and to continue to protect more of Northumberland's natural heritage into the future.

## **Organizational Capacity Building Report**

Our committee's key achievement in 2022 was to work with our President to develop a job description for our first staff person for the newly merged NLT and LPLT. The committee is made up of Freda Kennedy, George Gordon and Robert Fishlock. Members met with Laura Bozzelli and other members of the Board to assess her experience and advise the Board on the merits of and need to hire Laura to help NLT become a success. We recognize the need to review and update NLT's governance documents and that remains a work in progress.

## **Land Securement Committee Report**

Our committee consists of Rob Kennedy, Doug McRae, Richard Holland and Laura Bozzelli. This year our Board approved a new Land Securement policy that provides guidelines on the land donation and purchase process including the application of grants to cover the soft costs (severance fees, surveys, appraisals, biological studies, etc).

This past year, we were approached by eight landowners who inquired about land donations. Some wanted information for future consideration, other lands did not meet with our policy guidelines and still others are works in progress. The good news is we signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Robert de Lint who is donating 100 acres to NLT in the Meyersburg area. A severance application was submitted late in December 2022 to the Municipality of Trent Hills and approved this March 2023. The property consists of a mixed hardwood forested ridge and a large meadow abutting Percy Creek, home to endangered Bobolinks. We hope to complete the acquisition this year. Many thanks to Robert for his very generous donation which is inspirational to us all.

## **Membership & Public Outreach Committee Report**

We had a great year of outings and were able to introduce many new people to our beautiful nature reserves and the work of the Northumberland Land Trust. Local garden clubs, photography clubs, and naturalists groups were extended an open invitation to these public events, and we had great turnout for them.

April 30: *Birding for Beginners* at the Lone Pine Marsh Braham Nature Reserve  
Led by Leslie Abram. 55 people altogether attended two nature walks this morning to learn birding basics and familiarize themselves with some of the birds at the marsh.

May 14: *Spring Wildflowers and Vernal Pools* at Laurie Lawson Outdoor Education Centre  
Led by Mark Rupke. 20 people enjoyed the spring woods and learned about the



hidden life in the reserve's vernal pools

May 28: *Walk at Lone Pine Marsh Braham Nature Reserve* for Birding Marathon donors over \$100 with Doug McRae and Leslie Abram

June 1: *Sunset Walk* at Lone Pine Marsh Braham Nature Reserve in conjunction with Willow Beach Field Naturalists, Richard Girardin, and Leslie Abram. Attended by 20 people, some from each organization and some new guests.

June 5: *Bonebakker Nature Reserve Opening Celebration*

Bonebakker Nature Reserve officially opened with an unveiling of the sign, a picnic lunch, and a guided tour of the property for about 50 participants.

September 10: *de Kleer Nature Reserve Official Opening*

A large group of family, friends, and nature lovers enjoyed a walk through the woods in our newest nature reserve, followed by a social time and refreshments

October 22: *Fall Colours Walk* at Munn Nature Reserve - led by James Munn who taught a group of 25 about forest communities and different trees on a beautiful sunny fall day.



Munn Nature Reserve

## **Financial Report**

The following statements are taken from our approved 2022 financial statements, which were reviewed by our accountants, Langhorne Irwin Coleman LLP of Cobourg. The complete statements and the Review Engagement Report are available on request.

### **Statement of Financial Position as at December 31, 2022**

	2022	2021
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash	\$ 78,193	\$ 358,438
HST receivable & prepaid expenses	4,047	4,292
Investments	<u>328,022</u>	<u>2,786</u>
	<u>410,262</u>	<u>365,516</u>
<b>LONG-TERM</b>		
Beneficial interest in endowment fund	25,000	25,000
Investments	-	23,548
Protected lands (nature reserves)	<u>1,798,606</u>	<u>1,790,188</u>
	<u>\$ 1,823,606</u>	<u>\$ 1,838,736</u>
<b><u>TOTAL ASSETS</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,243,312</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,224,636</u></b>
<b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b>		
<b>CURRENT (accounts payable &amp; accrued liabilities)</b>	<b>\$ 6,514</b>	<b>\$ 4,899</b>
<b>DEFERRED REVENUE</b>	<b><u>101,127</u></b>	<b><u>103,564</u></b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b><u>107,641</u></b>	<b><u>108,463</u></b>
<b><u>NET ASSETS</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,135,671</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,116,173</u></b>

### **Statement of Operations for the year ended December 31, 2022**

	2022	2021
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Donations	\$ 55,856	\$ 131,600
Fundraising income	23,618	7,588
Interest & investment income	4,595	2,426
Grants & land rental	<u>9,437</u>	<u>2,500</u>
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b><u>93,506</u></b>	<b><u>144,114</u></b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Property maintenance & taxes	30,332	48,398
Wages & benefits	15,727	-
Fundraising expenses	6,619	-
Professional fees	6,029	23,235
Insurance & memberships	3,529	4,216
Office & other expenses	6,248	1,596
Deemed interest, service & bank charges	<u>3,003</u>	<u>1,679</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b><u>71,487</u></b>	<b><u>79,124</u></b>
<b><u>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</u></b>	<b><u>\$22,019</u></b>	<b><u>\$64,990</u></b>



## **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 greatly valued by NLT.

### **THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS! (January to December 2022)**

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

Robert de Lint      Anonymous donor

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

None to report

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

John Davidson & Irena Orlowski

Robert Fishlock & Urszula Kaczmarczyk

Doug & Cathy Galt

Dorothy & John Geale

George & Marg Gordon

Graeme Harris

Barb Heidenreich

Helen Kennedy

Wilhelmina Kennedy

Russell & Janet Lake

James & Martha Oldham

Virginia (Mary) Maclean & Roger Nainby

Charlie & Hayley Martin

Brian Maxwell

Virginia & Peter McLaughlin

James & Martha Oldham

Shrew Solutions-Doug McRae Ltd.

Glen Parsneau & Marg Fleming

Peak Construction Group

Ruth Redelmeier

Ted & Hilda Van Netten

Lois Wells

Ross Wells & Judy Stephens-Wells

Audrey Wilson

Cherlyn Wilson & Robert Leckie

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

Alexandra Abram

Leslie Abram & Ruth Buchanan

John Apostolides

Linda & Tony Armstrong

Baltimore Valley Ltd.

Brenda Beck

Patricia Beeson

Harriet & Greg Binkley

Tyne & Joanne Bonebakker

Laura Bozzelli & Joe McKeown

Madison Bozzelli

Andrew Buntin

Marion & John Castleton

Joan Chalovich

William Crins

Olga Cwiek & Bill Wilkerson

Camilla & Peter Dalglish

Anita de Jong

Harold de Kleer

Janet & Helmut Enns

Isabel Evans

Karin Fawthrop

Richard Girardin

Frank & Patricia Godfrey

Sheila Goering

Reg Gordon

Eric Gormley

James Graham

Julia Green

Grey Willow Gifts Inc.

Linda Hallatt

Bob Hambly & Barb Woolley

Michael Harding

Richard & Laurie Hill

Wallace Hobbs

Brigitte & Dennis Hogarth

Richard & Sarah Holland

Jordan Hoogendam

Dave Impey

Kris Ito

Tom & Jennifer Jackman

Gil & Denise Johnson

Robert & Freda Kennedy	Len & Cathy Kuipers	Elizabeth Kellogg & Roger
Frost Harry Knapper & Dorothy DeLisle		Susan & Hugh Laing
Jane Leckey	Shannon & Pat Linton	Lauren Maclean
Mandy Martin	Barbara McCuaig	Jim & Jane McGrath
Emily Mills & Fernando Salgado-Bierman		Sam McKeown
Robert Moorcroft	Barbara & Kit Moore	Bill Newell
Eva Nichols	William & Rohaise Nicholls	Jeanette Pasiuk
Richard & Felicity Pope	Michael Perley & Jayne Fry	Frank Prest
Probus Club of Presqu'île	Amy Quinn	Gail & Tony Rayment
Stewart Richardson & Nancy Oliver		Linda Rumpf
Mark Rupke & Wilma Van Barneveld		Janet & Bert Sedgewick
Shawn Sheppard & Mary Campbell		Maureen Simmons
Margaret Stephenson	Rebecca Stephens-Wells	Sue Stickley & Ted Hunt
Nancy & Terry Stopps	Marlynne Warling	Rick & Yvonne Vandertoorn
Patricia Whitney & Ken Strauss	Bill Zeran	

#### HEARTY ACORN (LIVING BEQUEST)

George & Margaret Gordon	Robert Fishlock	Doug McRae
Irena Orlowski & John Davidson		

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## 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.***