



ISLAND
NATURE
TRUST

2021-22 IMPACT REPORT

islandnaturetrust.ca



INNT

An aerial photograph of a river winding through a lush, green forest. The river is a dark, narrow ribbon cutting through the dense canopy. In the upper right, a white bird is captured in mid-flight, its wings spread wide. In the lower right, a small, diamond-shaped inset map shows a yellow landscape with a blue line representing the river's path. The overall scene is a vibrant display of natural beauty and ecological connectivity.

RIPARIAN NETWORK

In a province with less than 50% forest cover, riparian forests – in that of the newly acquired Midgell River Riparian Zone Natural Area – play a pivotal role in free movement of wildlife by maintaining ribbon connections between highly fragmented forest stands.

Healthy riparian zones are rich in biodiversity. They filter runoff to provide clean water, control erosion and reduce the amount of sediment entering a body of water. They also manage storm water and control flooding, provide habitat for wildlife and shade to cool the water.

This year, INT eclipsed its goal to acquire a further 1,000 acres of riparian forest and wetland with significant carbon sink capacity. Many of these newly acquired properties lie adjacent to existing natural areas in fortifying our 'corridors of connectivity' objective. (See page 5)

It's hard to believe that a whole year has passed since our last impact report was published. The Board of Directors set some ambitious goals for 2021-2022. All were realized and some were surpassed thanks to the 784 individuals that contributed donations, and an army of volunteers helping to steward Trust properties and monitor species at risk.

Success breeds success and because of all the generous contributions of the last year, the Trust has been able to position itself as a major partner in land and species conservation, strengthening collaborations between like-minded government and non-government organizations.

We asked for help with our conservation goals and the response was like none the Trust has ever experienced. It has brought us profound comfort and joy to know that so many others share in our vision, mission and desired conservation outcomes. We are immensely grateful for the support and look forward to surpassing another set of ambitious goals for 2022-2023.

Gordon MacKay
President



While the world faced another unique year of challenges and uncertainty, the Trust enjoyed another record-breaking year for land and species conservation all due to the generosity of our partners, donors and volunteers. Through such support we have been able to protect and steward 66 new natural areas, harbouring an additional 1776 acres of ecologically important land and wildlife habitat. In addition to these important acquisitions, the success we were able to achieve because of donations of cash and land helped us leverage other forms of support and collaboration from government and regional conservation groups.

Operationally we have been able to expand our permanent workforce to better respond to opportunities and manage all the various forms of support we're experiencing. The Trust has increased its engagement with people living and working in the province and we were able to launch our very first province-wide fundraising campaign.

New member registrations, repeat donor activity and first-time donations continue to trend upward. Our volunteer force continues to grow. We are so proud of what we've been able to accomplish together and excited to continue to build on the momentum that so many have helped us achieve. On behalf of all of the staff at INT, thank you to those of you who trusted us with your time, land and money. Our success is your success. For those just getting to know our organization, we welcome you and look forward to working together.

Bianca McGregor
Executive Director



ACHIEVEMENTS 2021-22

784
Individual

Members & cash donors contributing to land and species conservation

\$600K

Saving Our Island campaign funds raised for natural area protection

1776 ACRES
2021-2022

+ 5680 ACRES
1979-2021

60+
Guardians
Stewarding Trust properties

60+
Natural Areas
Protected in perpetuity

7 Sponsorships
Nurturing mutually beneficial partnerships with Island businesses

12
Species Conservation

Species at risk protected by Trust programs

19
Land Acquisition

New properties secured last year

5 Ecological Gift donations

6000+
Community Engagement

Social media post interactions, in addition to participants for outreach, events and celebrations



ISLAND
NATURE
TRUST

VISION

To create a legacy of natural areas and wildlife habitats for future generations.

MISSION

We envision a network of protected natural areas across PEI, sustained by the love and generosity of Islanders today for the enjoyment of Islanders and wildlife tomorrow.

IN PROTECTING NATURE, WE ARE PROTECTING OURSELVES

For over forty years INT's 'ask' is a simple but profound one: Help us acquire and protect the natural spaces that sustain our collective wellbeing.

The natural areas INT acquired in 2021-2022 all provide ecosystem services that Islanders depend on to maintain both healthy lives and defend our communities against the effects of climate change:



Thank you to our incredible volunteers and supporters, who are enabling INT to protect in perpetuity these spaces for the benefit of both wildlife and Islanders.

On the following pages, explore a birds-eye view of the life giving ecosystems and its myriad of services that exist in our newly acquired natural areas.

LANDS SAVED



MATCH A PATCH

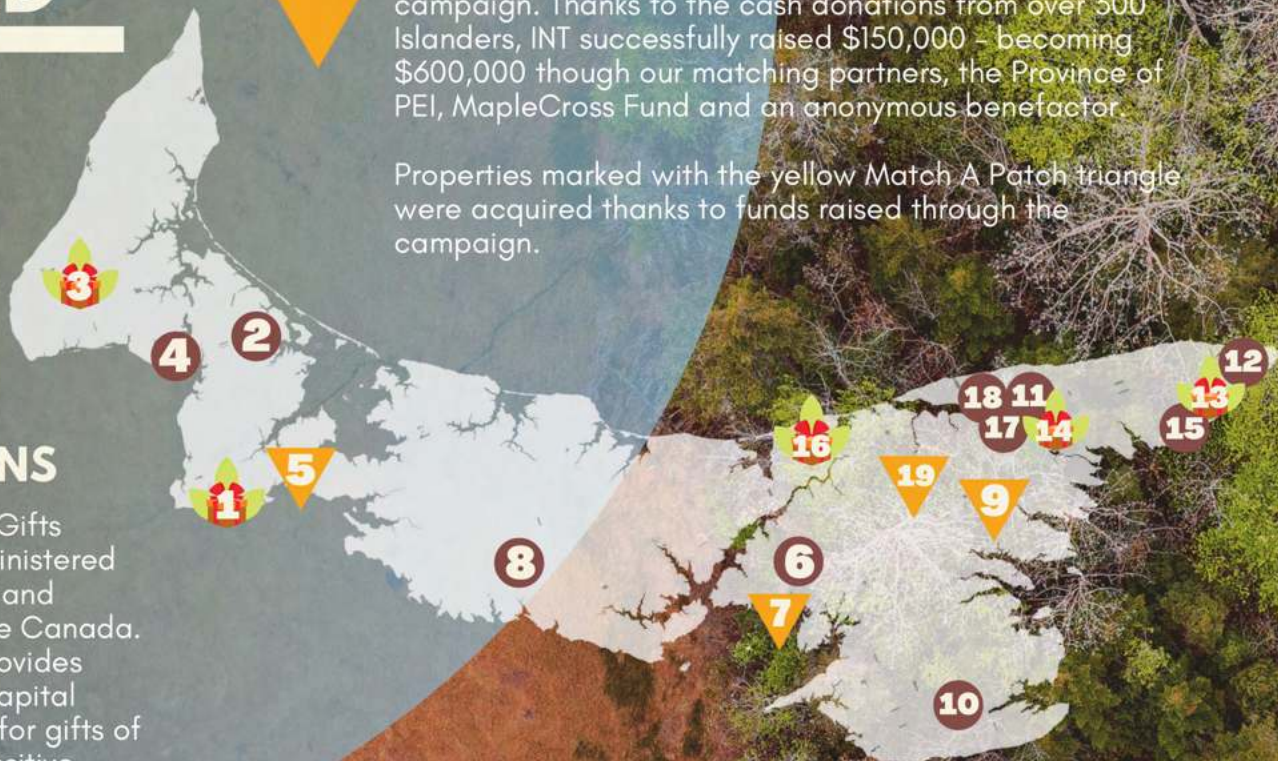
In Fall 2021, INT launched its first major public fundraising campaign. Thanks to the cash donations from over 300 Islanders, INT successfully raised \$150,000 – becoming \$600,000 though our matching partners, the Province of PEI, MapleCross Fund and an anonymous benefactor.

Properties marked with the yellow Match A Patch triangle were acquired thanks to funds raised through the campaign.



ECOGIFT DONATIONS

The Ecological Gifts Program is administered by Environment and Climate Change Canada. The program provides Islanders with capital gains tax relief for gifts of ecologically sensitive land.



ECOSYSTEM
LEGEND:
See page 12

1 COOK-ROUSE



Located in the greater Halidimand River Watershed, this property contains several black spruce wetlands with rich understories. This region has been recognized for its high level of biodiversity by the PEI Habitat Conservation Strategy.

Donated by Perry & Sigrid Cook

58 ACRES



2 MOUNT PLEASANT WOODLAND

Consisting of mature mixed-wood forest and wetlands, this property contains ideal habitat for many rare species, including spring ephemerals and black ash.



50 ACRES



3 JEAN & STEWART MACKAY



269 ACRES

This donation consist of mature forest, wetlands, and a rare stand of jack pine. The Canada holly shrub swamp present is ideal for the federally at-risk Canada warbler and other migratory songbirds. Several seeps and swales can be found within the property that feed groundwater into Dalton's Brook.

Donated by the MacKay family



4 ALASKA FOREST

These parcels contain mature mixed wood forest, a beaver dammed marsh, and an open bog. The ecosystems present are ideal for several rare species, including Canada warbler and olive-sided flycatcher. The parcels neighbour several protected properties, including INT's Acadian Marshes - Percival River Salt Marsh Natural Area.



239 ACRES



5 NEBRASKA CREEK RIPARIAN ZONE

This property is an addition to INT's natural areas within the Miscouche bog region, which is known for rare species richness and carbon sequestration potential. Also within the parcel is lowland forest passing through Nebraska Creek and a coastal salt marsh that borders Grand River.

The riparian ecosystems along the river are providing many services to Islanders in the form of flood protection, fresh water, climate regulation and carbon storage.



6 JENKINS COMPLEX

This property connects to INT's largest natural area, the Jenkins Complex. The new parcel expands on the important native lowland forest and wetland ecosystems that will be protected in perpetuity.

93 ACRES



7 CROWN POINT WJI'KIJEK

MapleCross
Investing in Canada – Investing in Nature

65 ACRES



This property is an extension to the existing Crown Point headland acquired in 2020. It hosts coastal Krummholz forest and a freshwater marsh that once connected to Jardines bay. The parcel's edge contains coastal bluffs that supports one of INT's focus species-at-risk, the bank swallow. Crown Point is associated with considerable cultural significance. Wji'kijek translates to "the place where stumps are found."

In addition to funds raised from the Match A Patch campaign, Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) provided financial support to acquire this addition.

25 ACRES



8 WESTMORELAND RIVER

Protecting the west branch of the Westmoreland River in Queens County, this property consists of unploughed, mature upland hardwood. Steep terrain can be found along the river with mature Eastern hemlock and a rich understory.

9 MIDGELL RIVER RIPARIAN ZONE

This is an addition to adjoining protected lands that make up the Martinvale - Corrville Wildlife Management Area. This headwater forest is dominated by mature black spruce, and supports a large number of rare species, including the nationally at-risk Eastern wood pee-wee.

The contiguous forest and wetlands are significant carbon sinks and a natural remedy against the ongoing effects of climate change.

In addition to funds raised from the Match A Patch campaign, ECCC provided financial support to acquire this significant property.

200 ACRES

CO₂



10 MURRAY RIVER HEADWATERS

Consisting of upland and riparian forest, this property contains a tributary of the Murray River that empties into Murray Harbour. There is a peatland following the river and steep areas arising from the water that are dominated by mature forest.



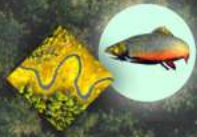
97 ACRES

11 BEAR RIVER RIPARIAN ZONE

This parcel is a great example of a naturally regenerating forest in Kings County. The regrowth of forest stands will support the coldwater section of the Bear River that flows into the Gulf of St. Lawrence.



22 ACRES

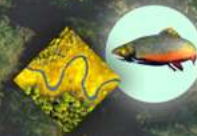


12 NORTH LAKE CREEK RIPARIAN ZONE

This property contains mixedwood forest with several tributaries of North Lake Creek. This waterway hosts a unique genetic stock of Atlantic salmon. Also located within this parcel is a perfect example of mature Acadian upland hardwood forest.



60 ACRES



50 ACRES



13 MAURICE BRUCE FARM

This property contains lowland forest and springs that feed a headwater stream emptying into the Basin Head Marine Protected Area. Acadian (Wabanaki) forest cover will moderate the nutrients and temperature of the water flowing into the nationally protected estuary.

Donated by Joan Bruce



14 FARMINGTON WOODLANDS

Located in a relatively undisturbed area of Eastern PEI, this property consists of a riparian freshwater marsh along the St Peters River, with a partially open peatland and lowland forest. This balance of ecosystems is ideal habitat for migratory songbirds, specifically the federally at-risk Canada warbler and olive-sided flycatcher.

Donated by Philip Andrew



15 PROWSE WOODLAND

Comprised of mature, upland hardwood Acadian (Wabanaki) forest, this parcel is an important piece of contiguous forest in upper Kings County. The property sits on the Confederation Trail and contains a diverse understory of ferns, wildflowers, and Canada yew.



16 COFFINS SHORE

Adjacent to the Canavoy Oaks Natural Area, this small coastal property contains saltmarsh that protects PEI from sea level rise and storms. This property is also a part of a mature red oak forest region that is a main source of acorns for PEI's forest restoration program. Remnants of the old PEI ferry wharf can be found along the water, which opens up into the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Donated by Gwendolyn O'Brien Reid



17 NAUFRAGE RIVER

This parcel consists of riparian forested wetland that borders a tributary of the Naufrage River. This river is significant for its populations of Atlantic salmon and brook trout. Many uncommon native wildflowers grow prolifically in the forested river margins.



135 ACRES

18 COW RIVER RIPARIAN ZONE

This property contains several tributaries of the upper Cow River, bordered by mixedwood lowland forest with pocket bogs throughout.

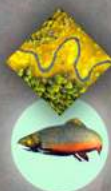


19 MORELL RIVER RIPARIAN ZONE



These three properties are an addition to the many protected areas along the Morell River. This waterway has been recognized for its ecological and cultural significance, reflected with a 60 meter conservation zone along much of its length. These new parcels are a haven for songbirds and spring ephemerals that lie at the water's edge.

In addition to funds raised from the Match A Patch campaign, ECCC provided financial support to acquire these parcels.



MapleCross
Investing in Canada – Investing in Nature

154 ACRES

PEI ECOSYSTEMS

LEGEND

'Lands Saved': Page 5

The interacting species and ecosystems our conservation lands protect.

COASTAL BLUFFS & SALT MARSH

Offering natural protection from the impact of coastal storms. Home to bank swallow and foraging grounds for countless shorebirds, ducks and geese.

BEACHES & DUNES

Home to the endangered Piping Plover. PEI's marram grass-covered dunes protect coastal communities from PEI's wicked winter nor-'easters while supporting a wealth of coastal wildlife.

RIVERS & RIPARIAN FOREST

PEI's short, multi-branched freshwater systems are natural corridors for wildlife. The groundwater spring-fed streams support important cold water species and many downstream industries.

GRASSLANDS

In PEI, most grasslands form part of a managed agricultural landscape, but they still can support biodiversity, including the endangered bobolink.

FORESTED WETLAND

These peatlands and cedar swamps are some of the most diverse ecosystems in PEI. Home to communities of warblers and other songbirds in the summer. Peatlands contain our carnivorous plants, like sundews and pitcher plants.

UPLAND FOREST

PEI's natural upland forest is called the Maritime Acadian or Wapane' kati Forest. Dominated by hardwood trees like sugar maple, yellow birch and American beech, old growth upland forest in PEI supports trees that are 300+ years old.

ISLANDS

Nearshore islands around the PEI coast are relatively isolated, undisturbed habitat for wildlife. Uncankered beech trees and large red oaks can be found here, along with colonial nesting birds like great blue herons.



CANADA WARBLER

The threats to this iconic threatened bird include land conversion of breeding and nonbreeding habitat. In PEI, they are summer breeders in forested wetlands.



BANK SWALLOW

Burrow nesters in sandstone cliffs, the threats on PEI include loss of nesting habitat from erosion control measures along shorelines and decline in insect abundance and diversity.



OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER

Losses of this threatened songbird may relate to loss of habitat on the wintering grounds or declines in their insect prey species.



BATS

The little brown and northern myotis are both endangered due to white-nose syndrome, an introduced fungal disease that causes them to prematurely emerge from hibernation.



BROOK TROUT

A native of PEI also known as speckled trout. Brook trout prefer small spring fed streams and ponds with sand or gravel bottom and vegetation.



RED OAK

PEI's provincial tree is no longer present in large stands on PEI. Primarily a coastal species, it was extensively cut by early European settlers.



AMERICAN BEECH

A medium-sized tree that grows slowly but can live for 200 years or more. Once common throughout the upland hardwood stands of PEI it has been killed or deformed by the introduced beech canker disease.



BLACK ASH

Black Ash or Wisqog is an important part of Mi'kmaw culture. Flexible, strong and easy to work with the Mi'kmaw have been using it to make tools for hundreds of years.



Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Action, Steven Myers speaks at the INT Donor Appreciation Event at Glasgow Hills.

CELEBRATION OF LAND *Glasgow Hills*

INT's annual donor appreciation event brought together our vibrant and generous group of major cash donors, land donors and partners of the Trust in celebration of their significant contribution to advancing INT's conservation goals.

The event hosted at Glasgow Hills Golf Club in August, saw Donors, accompanied by INT staff and board transported by golf cart to the nearby Buote Heritage Woods, for a guided walk of the natural area.





INT President, June Jenkins Sanderson presents to the audience.



INT Honorary Patron, Lt.-Gov. Antoinette Perry chatting to funding partners Isobel Ralston & Jan Oudenes of MapleCross Fund.



L-R: INT board members, Jan Matejcek, Gordon MacKay and Roger Coffin talk to Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Action, Steven Myers (2nd from right) at the event.



The 2021 Hon. J. Angus MacLean Natural Areas Award, established in 1987 by INT, to recognize outstanding contributions to natural areas protection in PEI, was awarded to Dr. John and Christine Andrew of Charlottetown.

The Andrews are recognized for their contribution to Island conservation by restoring a pond located in East Royalty and creating a space where "...residents could enjoy nature and wildlife could thrive. The Pond has a long history that dates back to the 1790s when it was built as a millpond by early Island industrialist John Cambridge. In addition to providing power for the mills, the pond supplied Charlottetown with most of its ice."



SPECIES AT RISK PRIORITY PLACES

A priority place is one identified as being of key importance for the protection of many at-risk species.



Species at risk – the most vulnerable in our native wildlife network – are collectively monitored and protected through the efforts of all levels of government as well as non-government organizations.



In 2018, Canada moved away from species-specific models for their recovery, as several performance measures across the country indicated limited progress in achieving population recoveries in species-at-risk despite concerted efforts and extensive resourcing. Instead a new model focused on protection of habitat was adopted. In Prince Edward Island, there are three habitats identified as priority places that support effectively all of our terrestrial species at risk: the forested landscape, the coastal north shore, and agri-managed landscapes of grassland and open farms.

COASTAL



PEI is known for its beautiful beaches, which attract thousands of visitors every year. Our coast is a dramatic combination of soaring red cliffs and sandy beaches backed by extensive dune systems and barrier beach ponds. These shoreline systems offer natural beauty, but also services – buffering coastal communities from storms and supporting commercially important fish and shellfish species as well as the threatened bank swallow and endangered piping plover.

AGRICULTURAL



Since 2014, INT has coordinated the Farmland Birds program to increase awareness of habitat needs for bobolinks and barn swallows in rural island communities. The program continues to see positive results thanks to continued collaboration with rural landowners across PEI: The INT Delayed Hay program in partnership with the provincially led Alternate Land Use Services (ALUS) program resulted in 1,384 acres in delayed hay cut (after the safe date of July 15th).

FOREST



Forested landscapes are the most vulnerable to loss in Prince Edward Island, according to the federal and provincial governments. In PEI, just 4.4 % of our lands are protected. In addition, 87 % of our land is privately owned, so protecting forests and returning them to a more diverse, resilient ecosystem is challenging. As part of a collaborative effort, INT is developing an early detection – rapid response framework for invasive species on the horizon (like hemlock woolly adelgid and emerald ash borer) that could devastate some forest types on PEI. In addition, our staff has been exploring ways to encourage the retention of private forests on our island.

PIPING PLOVER



31

successful fledglings on 7 nesting beaches protected from human-related disturbance with signage & symbolic fencing

27TH

year of continued stewardship for the Piping Plover Program

190

kilometres of shoreline cleaned of marine debris and garbage

BOBOLINK



46

Landowners participated in the ALUS Delayed Hay Program to delay hay cutting to a safe date of after July 15th

6TH

year monitoring Bobolink reproductive effort at select hayfields across PEI

92

Bobolink fledglings were successful in 17 monitored fields across Prince Edward Island

BARN SWALLOW



64

active nests from 9 monitored sites across PEI during the 2022 breeding season

8TH

year delivering the Farmland Bird program

127

successful barn swallow fledglings from monitored sites in 2022

LAND STEWARDSHIP FIELD SEASON

Stewarding land responsibly in the context of protection forever is a significant undertaking. It lies at the heart of Island Nature Trust's mandate for land conservation.

Natural areas maintained by Island Nature Trust have varying needs, including forest diversification through planting of native trees and shrubs missing from the mix, control of invasive species, cleanup of garbage from beaches, wetlands and forest, trail maintenance, and monitoring and enhancement for wildlife use.

plugs of marram grass and 2086 native shrubs planted as part of ongoing coastal restoration projects

4000



875

native trees and shrubs planted for shoreline strengthening and forest restoration efforts at eight different Natural Areas across PEI

pounds of invasive plant species (including purple loosestrife, white sweet-clover, and glossy buckthorn) removed from the Long River Riparian Zone, Hennessey Farm Woodland, and DeRoche Pond Natural Areas

860



6

sites surveyed for invasive insects (hemlock woolly adelgid and emerald ash borer)

volunteers who came out to various land stewardship events, including beach cleanups, plantings, and invasive species removal efforts

25

150

pounds of trash removed from the shores of our Canavoy Oaks Natural Area and from an illegal dumpsite in the Malcolm MacArthur 1899 Natural Area



3

Natural Areas where we removed old bridges or culverts to restore the integrity of waterways

new Conservation Guardians added to our network across the island

14

Natural Areas surveyed for forest stands impacted by past land use such as clearcutting, agriculture, or plantations.

13



1085

total volunteer hours contributed by Conservation Guardians and other volunteers

0

boots lost in bogs or rivers, but countless socks that were soaked during fieldwork!

OUR GUARDIANS

LAND STEWARDS

60+ active and dedicated volunteers.

64 Natural Area monitoring reports were submitted by Conservation Guardians in 2021.

956 volunteer hours were contributed by Conservation Guardians.



SPECIES STEWARDS

17 beach guardians monitoring Piping Plover nesting sites.

725.5 hours contributed by beach guardians.

14 motorized tracks observed.

109 off leash dogs observed.

The dedication of our Conservation Guardians is what keeps our stewardship mission alive.

With natural areas across the Island, from Nail Pond to North Lake, and a small staff, INT must work efficiently to continue to meet the needs of our growing land portfolio. Natural area needs include continued monitoring for human use, invasive species management, garbage removal, forest diversification and management, and sign installation.

Thanks to dedicated support through the EcoAction Community Funding Program and the PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund, Island Nature Trust's Conservation Guardian Program has been effectively re-instated over the past 5 years (2016 to 2021). The purpose of the Guardians program is to establish a network of individuals and groups that are committed to local stewardship activities in the medium to long term; and to expose communities to the multitude of values that INT natural areas hold for them.

The Piping Plover Guardian Program was initiated in the early 1990s by a handful of concerned volunteers.

Since 1995, INT has been coordinating the program, which monitors and protects piping plovers on provincial beaches. Piping Plover Guardians protect endangered piping plovers from human disturbances, educate beach users on the plight of the species, and survey beaches on the north and southeastern shores of PEI in the spring and summer.



PRIVATE STEWARDS

Landowners making a difference

Anyone who has experienced the natural beauty of Prince Edward Island can verify there is something incredibly special about its landscape and the wildlife who call it home. From the scenic coastal ecosystems, to the vibrantly biodiverse wetlands and all the stunning upland forests in-between, every natural area in PEI has immense ecological and cultural value. Many Islanders appreciate those values and choose to protect and conserve their land for many years to come. By designating their land under the PEI Natural Areas Protection Act, which protects land in perpetuity, private landowners are securing a prosperous future for the land they hold near and dear to their hearts.

As Prince Edward Island continues to experience an unprecedented development boom, the value of privately protected natural areas has never been greater. PEI is 87% privately owned, meaning the efforts of private land stewards to protect and maintain this island's fragile ecosystems makes a HUGE difference. We are so grateful to our many allies in conservation who have committed to the protection of their own lands!

So far, over 40 private landowners from Tignish to Murray River have implemented the PEI Natural Areas Protection Act to shield 1,766 acres across this beautiful island! To recognize the efforts of these land stewards across the island, Island Nature Trust has launched the Private Stewards Support Program - with funding provided by the PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund and the Forested Landscape Priority Place Program - that aims to aid and engage private stewards with protecting their lands.



Jeanne Maki is one of the private land stewards that has taken the safekeeping of PEI's natural areas into her own hands. Jeanne protected two forested properties in 2019 under the PEI Natural Areas Protection Act, the 40.5-acre Page and Maki Natural Area in Lewes and the 50-acre Jeanne Maki Natural Area in Iona. Jeanne has been a fixture in the conservation community for many years and was the 2020 recipient of the Hon. J. Angus MacLean Natural Areas Award for her significant work in increasing and improving natural areas in PEI. Here are a few thoughtful words from Jeanne about her choice to protect her land:

What motivated you to conserve your land?

The reason I bought it in the first place was to conserve it. Too much clearcutting has been taking place for decades and we're losing important seed sources and habitat.

Why did you choose to protect your land using the PEI Natural Areas Protection Act?

Because it's the only way I can feel assured that no one in the future will clearcut it or harm it in other ways. It's important for future generations, for Climate Change mitigation, and for biodiversity. There are many species of trees, plants, birds and other species. It has a lovely river and is surrounded by many acres of woodland owned by others who want to conserve their land, as well. This is important for wildlife to have a large tract of uninterrupted forest.

What would you say to other landowners interested in conserving their land?

I would say it's a gift that keeps on giving. You will still be able to use the land (with some restrictions) and sell it, but it won't be able to be abused.

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP

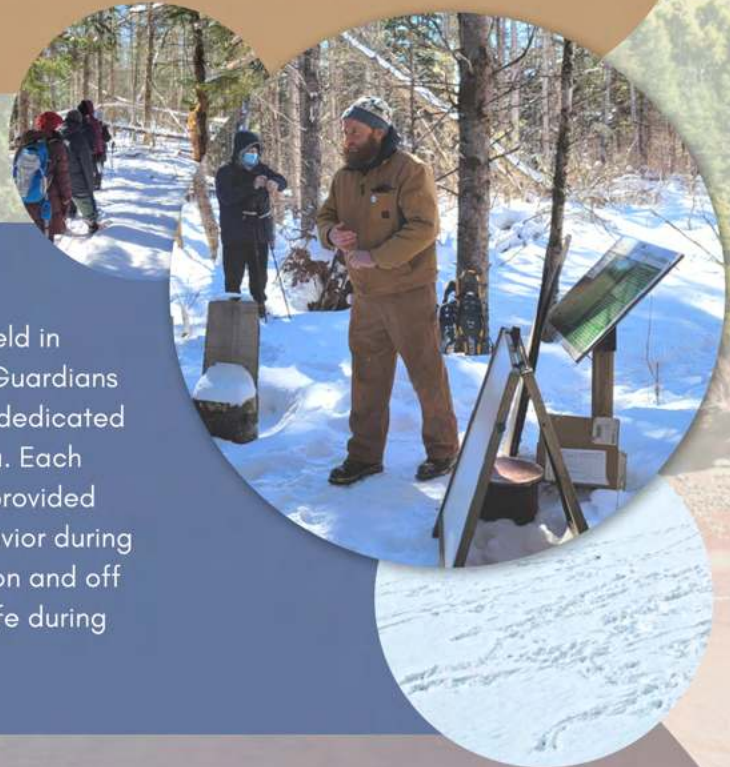
Salt Marsh Clean Up

In September of 2021, our friends at SEKISUI Diagnostics helped INT with a salt marsh cleanup at the Canavoy Oaks Natural Area. Together we removed 110lbs of old buoys, plastic bags and tires off the shoreline! This area is a haven for many shorebirds and aquatic life and by keeping it free of as much pollution as possible will help it remain that way.



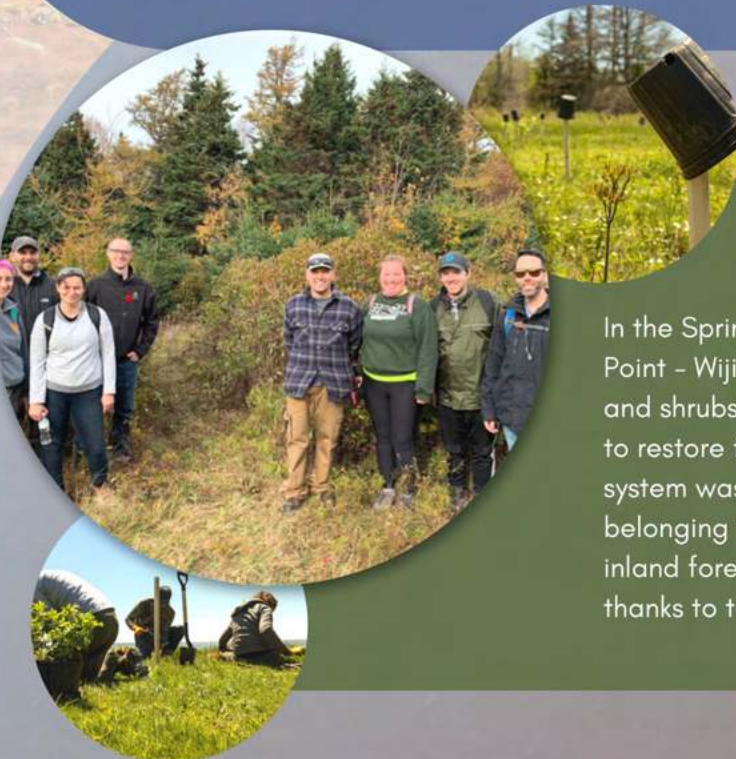
Winter Animal Sign and Bud ID

Two Winter Animal Sign & Bud Identification walks were held in March 2022. One session was held for our Conservation Guardians at the Jenkins Complex Natural Area, while the other was dedicated to private land stewards at the Kildare Forest Natural Area. Each was led by an experienced trapper, John LeLacheur, who provided excellent insight into track identification and wildlife behavior during the cold season. After noticing the amount of dog tracks on and off the trails, we discussed the impact our pets have on wildlife during the harsh winter months.



Crown Point Tree Planting

In the Spring of 2021, seven volunteers joined us at the Crown Point - Wiji'kijek Natural Area to plant a total of 320 native trees and shrubs! This was organized to ensure coastline stability and to restore forest cover. Following the mass planting, a trail system was established with the help from eight volunteers belonging to Croda Canada Ltd. A 2km trail loop that explores inland forests and follows along coastal cliffs was constructed thanks to their help.



ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH

INT is grounded in a culture of problem solving and collaboration. Through alliance building with the local community and institutions, this year we have delivered pragmatic solutions that have enhanced species conservation on our Island. Our staff's ability to pivot effectively in the face of both big and small challenges is what keeps this mission alive.

In terms of Piping Plover habitat, Barachois Beach is an extremely important location. In the past 15 years, it has supported 15% of all nesting attempts on provincial beaches!

It was a distressing discovery to learn that a group of individuals camped in an area closed off for nesting birds. This beach is massive in comparison to the size of the restricted area and we rely on our coastal guardians and members of the community to inform us when violations occur. Thanks to concerned community members, we were able to take action immediately.

The age range of the group made it more important to turn this incident into a teaching opportunity instead of imposing hefty fines. INT hosted an informative presentation at its office for all parties involved.

Thank you to those passionate members of our community who responded to this incident and to those who walked away with a better understanding of the importance of sharing the beach with the wildlife on PEI.



INT experienced
overwhelming reaction to
our social media video
post, with over

28,000

islanders reached!



PASSPORT TO NATURE

The Passport to Nature activity series was launched in 2019 to provide Islanders and visitors alike the chance to experience and learn more about PEI's protected places.

Watching-Walking-Exploring: INT held three events in natural areas between July and September ranging from an observation walk to learn about the threatened Bank Swallow in their cliffside habitat in North Cape, a 'wild' walk across tidal flats to St. Peter's Island and Fossil Foray to learn about Island fossils and where to find them in Earnscliffe.

A total of 106 individuals attended this year.



ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

The Power of Social Media



Island Nature Trust
June 28, 2021

FIRST OF ITS KIND DONATION SEES AMERICAN FAMILY RETURN FOREST AND WETLAND BACK TO ISLANDERS

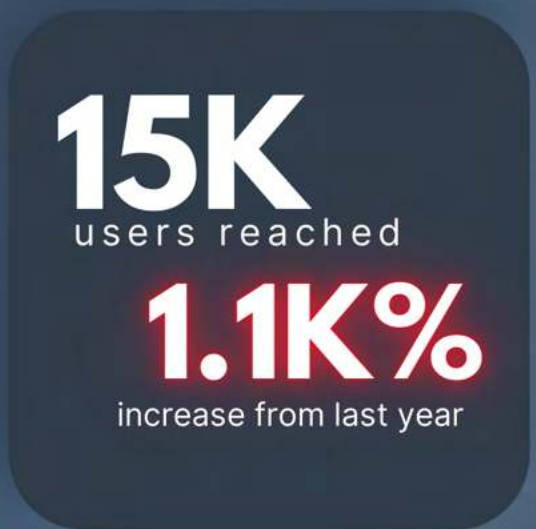
EPPIG-FLOWER NATURAL AREA

56 24 1 54

"It's wonderful to see American landowners thinking ahead and taking positive action to help preserve a place they love! Thank you to the Eppig family!"

"Such a wise and thoughtful gift for preservation! Hopefully more will do the same."

"Epic!!"



Island Nature Trust
June 28, 2021

Epekwitk Assembly of Councils

... Last week we gifted the eagle to the Epekwitk Assembly of Councils. It is time for her to rest with the Island's first people who will continue to respect her legacy and spirit.



INT recognizes that to improve and build on relationships with current supporters and new multi-generational audiences, a strong and consistent social media presence is key. By opening communication channels across social media, and telling powerful stories of people interacting with nature, we are offering additional means for supporters to interact meaningfully with the Trust.

INT maintains a presence via Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, LinkedIn and Twitter, with each channel offering unique avenues for storytelling and engagement.



The Saving our Island fundraising campaign was launched in the Fall of 2021, highlighting the fragmented natural habitat across PEI. This would be the Trust's first ever major fundraising campaign, bringing a new matching funds component to the table thanks to new alliances. At the end of February 2022, Islanders profoundly answered that question. The public fundraising target of \$150,000 was reached thanks to incredibly generous donations from 302 individuals.



PEI's provincial tree, the Red Oak, emerged as a topic of interest for many curious Islanders. By using social media, INT was able to address the most frequently asked questions. Detailed information on acorn storage, when and where to plant the tree and identifying the native species versus the invasive species English Oak was addressed. The open discussion prompted more questions and comments from private land owners who were inspired to plant this species on their property!



We hosted two pop-up workshops on location in response to the incident at Barachois Beach earlier in the summer to emphasize beach etiquette and preserve Piping Plover habitat. It is essential to keep dogs on their leash at the beach for plover conservation. Beachgoers with their pets on leash were entered to win INT swag! The winner was the adorable Maggie!



of donations made to the **Saving Our Island - Match A Patch** campaign were raised through social media advertising!

SPONSORSHIPS & Partnerships

PHILLIPS AGRI SERVICE

Over the last twenty-five years INT and Phillips Agri Services both experienced significant benefits by selling bird seed to their customers and our supporters alike. What started as selling seed on the back of a truck has evolved to become an all-year round fundraising alliance with Phillips Agri Service donating nearly \$100k to INT.



MARITIME ELECTRIC

Since 2010, Maritime Electric has supported INT's monitoring and stewardship of the endangered piping plover on PEI beaches. With 60 beaches to monitor and a long summer nesting season, staff and travel budgets are always stretched. The financial assistance and volunteer stewardship of the Maritime Electric team has been critical in maintaining a high standard of monitoring and protection.



RED ISLAND CIDER

This new partnership has seen the popular cidery launch exclusive quince cider in our name and provide refreshments at outdoor INT events. The ongoing collaboration is regularly promoted and advertised via our social media channels.



COPPER BOTTOM BREWING

INT partnership with Copper Bottom's Give Back Initiative. Raising funds for the protection of the endangered Piping Plover, the brewery launched the Plover Helles Lager in 2021 with \$3,202 of the proceeds going to the Trust.



SABLEARC STUDIOS

Since 2016 SableARC has sponsored stewardship activities of INT. Funds have helped us purchase the tools necessary to carry out restoration projects across our natural areas.



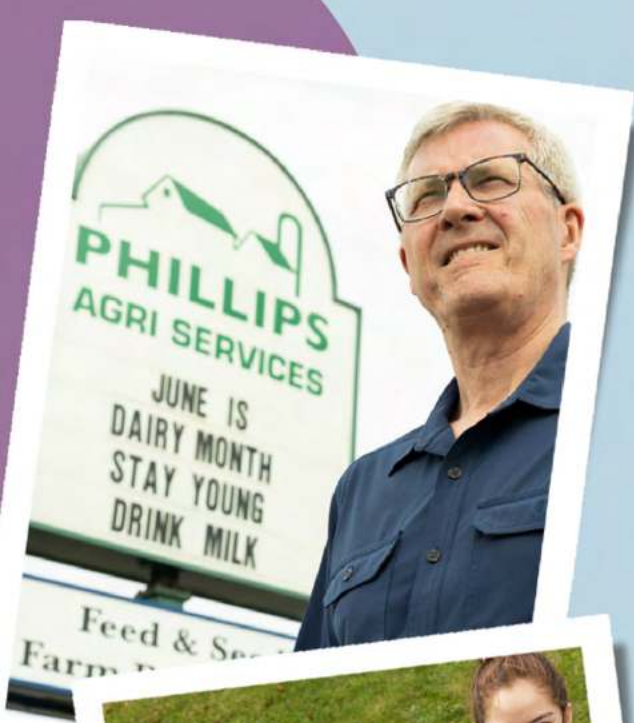
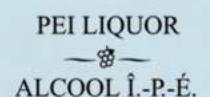
SEKISUI DIAGNOSTICS

Together, Sekisui and INT have conducted beach cleanups and planted hundreds of trees and shrubs in natural areas across Queens County. Yearly sponsorships from Sekisui help us carry out our ambitious stewardship mission across 60+ natural areas.



LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION

The 'Let's Protect Our Island' collaboration between INT and the PEI Liquor Control Commission concluded its five year partnership this year. Purchase of participating products between April and May resulted in a donation to INT. \$100k in total was raised through the initiative.



**INT is dedicated to
nurturing mutually
beneficial partnerships
with Island entrepreneurs,
businesses, non-profits and
public figures**

HONORARY PATRONAGE

INT's honorary patron is the Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island: Antoinette Perry. Her Honour provides a supporting role to INT in promoting its mission to the public at events across PEI.

Her Honour is a proud Acadian who enjoys celebrating her culture through her involvement in community and cultural organizations.



AMERICAN FRIENDS

Since 2018, INT is a grantee and partner with American Friends of Canadian Conservation. This American charity is able to provide American taxpayers with charitable tax receipts that can be applied to donors' U.S. income.



ENVIRONMENTALIST AWARD

INT continued its partnership with the Community Foundation of PEI to award five scholarships to students in select Island schools involved in environmental issues, sponsored by local Realtor Leigh Jenkins of Century 21.



TUNING INTO NATURE

Teaming up with the PEI Symphony Orchestra for a second year in the fall of 2021 - INT and supporters from both organizations enjoyed a unique and immersive sensory fundraising event at our trail in Tryon. Walkers were engaged with nature while listening to six Island musicians representing various musical genres at different spots along the trail.



MERCHANDISE

InFocus Canada National, a Canadian-based company that raises money for charity through sustainable fashion - produce beautiful scarves that display photography by professional photographers, and they're made entirely from post-consumer recycled plastic bottles. InFocus and local photographer Dave Brosha collaborated to give 10% of sales of Dave's coastal nights sky photograph - turned into a scarf - to INT.

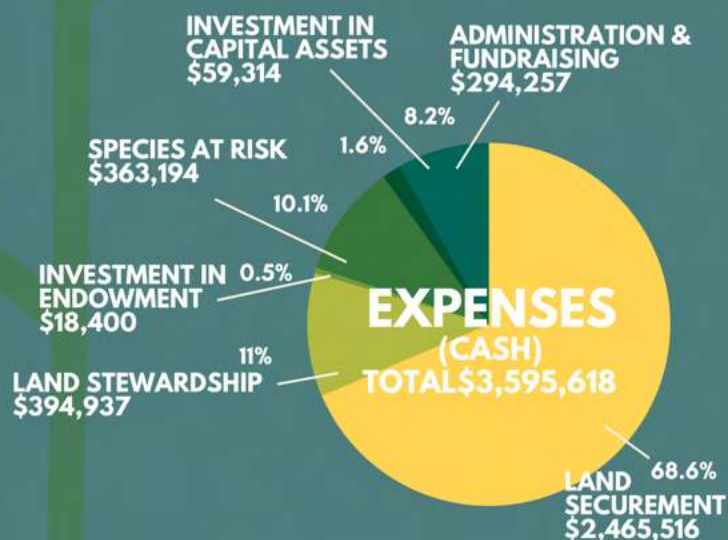
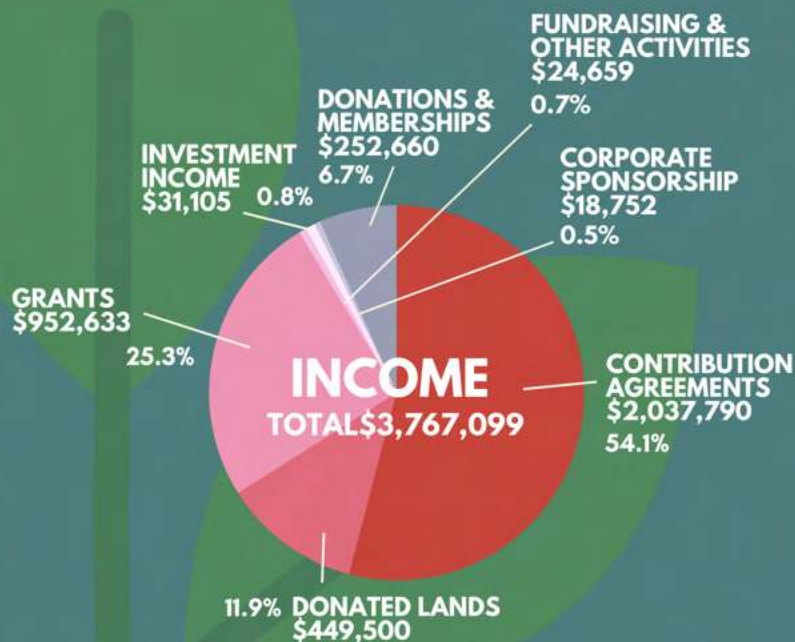


FINANCIALS

This year (April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022), Island Nature Trust invested \$ 3.6 million in land conservation, species conservation, stewardship and operating activities to achieve the many accomplishments highlighted throughout this report. Your support made this level of investment possible. The two largest sources of income in the year were contribution agreements (54.1%) and grants (25.3%). Island Nature Trust's expenditures primarily related to land conservation (68.6%), land stewardship (11.0%) and species conservation (10.1%), with administrative and fundraising costs 8.2% of total expenditures.

Island Nature Trust finished the year in a healthy financial position, with \$ 8.8 million invested in conserved lands. Through the year staff and board members worked to ensure the long-term success of the organization by adding to the endowment and stewardship funds, setting aside 10% of the fair market value of each property acquired in the fiscal year. These practices will support land stewardship in perpetuity to create resiliency against climate change and other impacts. There was a surplus at year end and the board allocated an additional \$100,000 to the Trust's stewardship fund to ensure all properties are stewarded in perpetuity (not reflected in 2021-22 financials).

Financial statements are audited annually by an external auditor, Fitzpatrick & Co. Investments in the endowment and stewardship funds are subject to an organizational policy and are managed by RBC Dominion Securities Inc. Financial operations are overseen by Island Nature Trust's treasurer, as well as a finance committee. If you are interested in reviewing a full copy of the audited financial statements, please contact our office.



OUR BOARD AND STAFF

EXECUTIVE:

Gordon MacKay
Marie-Ann Bowden
Patricia Caporaso
George Mason
June Jenkins Sanderson

GROUP REPRESENTATIVES:

Keila Miller - PEI Wildlife Federation
Lindsey Burke - Nature PEI

GENERAL DIRECTORS

Joyce Dewar
Roger E. Coffin
Kim Horreli
Andrea McManus
Bruce Craig

STAFF:

Bianca McGregor
Megan Harris
Janell Smith
Shannon Mader
Ben Russell
Amy Frost-Wicks
Jordan Smith
Vicki Johnson
Michael Speelman
Simon Andrea
Jenna Cahill
Benjamin Henger
Charlotte Thompson

THANK YOU TO THIS YEAR'S MAJOR DONORS & PARTNERS

Land Donors

Gwendolyn O'Brien Reid
Joan Bruce
Perry & Sigrid Cook

Philip Andrew
The MacKay Family

Partners

Anonymous
CAREWCO Holdings Ltd
Consecon Foundation
Government of Canada
Government of Prince
Edward Island

Echo Foundation
MapleCross Fund
Phillips Feed Service Ltd
The Schad Foundation

Individual Cash Donors

2x Anonymous
Estate of Austin Bradley
Barbara Willis
David & Winifred Wake
Donald Graham & Barbara
Loh
Dr. Rosemary Henderson
Dr. Sandra McConkey &
Dr. John Drake

Duncan McNeill
Evelyn Jenkins
Judy Profitt
Leigh Jenkins
Liz & Harry Townsend
Robert McSweeney
Roger Connick
Stephen Hessian

THANK YOU to all of our valued donors. Your support is making a real difference to conservation initiatives that benefit both Islanders and wildlife!

A full list of cash donors and supporters is available on our website at islandnaturetrust.ca/thankyou

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2022-23



MEETING INTERNATIONAL TARGETS FOR BIODIVERSITY AND PROTECTED AREAS

The Province of Prince Edward Island has set an overall target of 10 % land protection, or 140,000 acres. At a little under halfway of this goal, INT continues to be a key contributor to natural areas protection and will be working hard to maximize our input to this provincial goal.

SOUNDING THE ALARM ON SPECIES AT RISK

More than 50% of wildlife is declining across Canada. In a province where almost 90% of the landmass is privately owned, it is critical that we act now to protect the species that remain on PEI. We will continue to expand our reach and empower multi-generational Islanders to support species conservation.

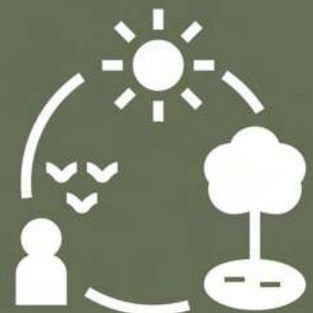


NURTURING STRONG CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIPS

Prince Edward Island is the most densely populated province in Canada. No conservation-minded organization can reach their goals working in isolation. INT is a partner on several multi-faceted conservation initiatives that we hope will show strong successes in the coming year, including a collaboration to create a new Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area, an effort to reduce human impacts in PEI's coastal environment, and coordination of a Maritimes-wide drive to secure coastal and riparian wetland for protection.

LEADING ECOSYSTEM-BASED STEWARDSHIP

With over 8,000 acres in INT's care, we continue to search for resources and diverse knowledge to lead by example in coastal and forest stewardship. Priority actions include prioritizing the sustainable silviculture work needed in many of our impacted forest lands, instating early detection protocols for invasive forest insects that may be on the horizon, and developing guidelines for best practices in coastal ecosystems.





With over 90% of PEI's coastline in private ownership, human use can and does impact on the sharing of coastal resources. The recently acquired Crown Point headland contains a stretch of shoreline with extensive carbon sequestering salt marsh wetlands that are also critical resting places for migrating shorebirds and waterfowl moving north to south on the Atlantic Migratory Flyway. The area also hosts Krummholz forests - protecting the coastline from advancing erosion brought on by climate change.

Located close to the urban hubs of Charlottetown and Stratford, this ecological treasure was threatened by population growth and development before Island Nature Trust acquired the western headland in early 2020 and a connecting parcel in 2021.

Nature is our security blanket...

But it's worn out!

Help us repair this patchwork landscape so it can continue protecting you!



Match a Patch

Donate cash so we can acquire natural areas
that protect and provide for us all.
Your donation will be tripled!



Mend a Patch

Donate cash to our stewardship fund to
bolster our conservation efforts.



Add a Patch

Donate land for us to protect from
future development.



ISLAND
NATURE
TRUST

DONATE TODAY
islandnaturetrust.ca

Call: 902-892-7513 Email: admin@islandnaturetrust.ca