



Ecology
Action
Centre

Annual Report

2004 - 2005

Action is our middle name



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cochairsreport

IN APPRECIATION

What can we say about the EAC that hasn't already been voiced in the Centre's 34-year history? This is a wonderful organization to be a part of and there are many things to celebrate. We should certainly begin with grateful "thanks" to all those who have invested so much time, energy, and love in this organization.

We must certainly thank the many individuals, donors, and programs which support our work through financial and in-kind donations. We are so appreciative of your contributions and the Centre is always in need of your help.

Particular thanks to our membership; with our full time membership coordinators we now stand at 750 strong. We would like to break through to 1,000 members, and it will be a high priority for the next year. Thank you to all the many volunteers who support committee activities, attend workshops and rallies, help out around the office or otherwise offer their time and energy. Members are at the heart of the organization and you make us strong!

Another enormous thank you goes to the staff of the EAC. It's hard to imagine an organization blessed with a more dedicated, professional, and enthusiastic team. Staff continue to impress by becoming more experienced, respected, influential, and newsworthy! We have a wonderful group of projects and people ensuring that Action is always our middle name. A special thank you to our office manager, Carla Vandenberg, and managing director, Mark Butler, who keep us both inspired and grounded.

And thank you of course to board members who support their ecological interests through responsibilities for the Centre as a whole. It seems that at every meeting there are more and more important decisions to be made as the Centre grows in every way. A special thank you to Gregor MacAskill, who has served as co-chair since November 2004. He will step down from the Board in May 2005 to work on the implementation of our Pesticide bylaw project.

For our part, we hope the board has contributed in strategic ways to new decision-making and personnel policies, sound financial decisions, and many fundraising activities for the Centre. We continue to seek a new, larger, and more permanent home for the EAC, and we hope the redesigned BTI is fresh, funky, and continues to be the BTI we always look forward to.

As you will see from the project and committee updates throughout this report, the Centre has much to be proud of from the past year. We hope you will join us in celebrating our success and continuing to build our efforts.



Co-Chair of the EAC Board of Directors, Jennifer Graham (Photo: Natasha LaRoche)

Submitted by: Jennifer Graham

boardofdirectors

EAC BOARD: APRIL 1, 2004 – MARCH 31, 2005

Jennifer Graham, Co-Chair

Mike Milloy, Secretary

Brian Aird, Interim Treasurer (January 2005 to present)

Maggy Burns (Treasurer until January 2005)

Trudie Richards (Co-Chair until August 2004)

Gregor MacAskill (Co-Chair since November 2004)

Kevin Blair – Board Rep Membership

Jayne Roma – Board Rep Urban Issues

Judy Lipp – Board Rep Energy Issues

Maida Murray – Board Rep BTI

Cathy Kinsman – Board Rep Marine Issues

Anne Pryde – Board Rep Food Action (January 2005 to present)

Michael Furlong – Board Rep Wilderness Issues (January 2005 to present)

Daniel Rainham – Board Rep Transportation Issues (January 2005 to present)

Kasia Tota

Sue McKinney

Yvette Michaud (June 2004 to present)

Heather Pacquet (stepped down December 2004)

EAC's Vision

A society in Nova Scotia which respects and protects nature and provides environmentally and economically sustainable solutions for its citizens.

EAC's Values

- EAC members, volunteers, and staff believe that the environment is tied to the well-being of society.
- EAC supports a climate of innovation.
- EAC comes from and supports the "grassroots".
- EAC aims to engage the public in dialogue for environmental improvement.

EAC's Purpose

EAC is an independent organization that strives to work with partners to:

- Provide up-to-date environmental information;
- Pursue researched solutions; and
- Act as a watch-dog for the Nova Scotia environment.

CORE OPERATIONS

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

HUMAN AND TREE

EAC's logo, designed by Zoe Lucas (of Sable Island fame) in the 1970s, is a mix of human and tree. For all kinds of reasons I think this is a great logo. In particular, it captures the emphasis that EAC places on the human and the non-human, both in our internal operations and in our vision.

The emphasis EAC places on both the social and ecological, I believe, is a key to the Centre's success and growth over the last few years. The EAC continues to grow. Our gross revenues are close to \$900,000, an increase of \$100,000 over last year. This summer the number of staff will exceed 20 and some people will have to work out of home because of lack of space.

Growth itself has never been a goal for EAC, and nor should it be given conservationists' call to society to accept the limits to growth. Growth at EAC is a consequence of all of those involved in the organization, working hard to make Nova Scotia a better place to live, both for humans and all other creatures.

Growth changes an organization. Luckily, I think we have maintained what is best about EAC: transparency, inclusiveness and democratic decision-making, with the need to run a tight and effective organization. We're doing things right and getting things done.

I believe much of EAC's success comes from the vitality and dedication of its volunteers and staff. As we grow, one of my top priorities is to ensure that volunteers of all backgrounds and inclinations still feel welcome and useful at EAC. Another priority is that we maintain our independence, our ability to speak on an issue, regardless of our size or programs. Many of our members working in the private sector or for government cannot speak their mind; we must speak for them.

Finally, let's not forget that our middle name is Action. Thanks to all the staff, volunteers, and citizens who have brought change to the province over the last year: new marine and terrestrial protected areas, movement on off-highway vehicle use, an expanding university bus pass program, protecting working farmland, more children walking to school, provincial support for Kyoto, long-term funding for Sable Island Station, improvements in the pesticide by-law program and more.



Managing Director Mark Butler (right) with Zoe Lucas, inspiring Sable Island activist and designer of EAC's logo.

Submitted by: Mark Butler

coreoperations

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Description: The EAC relies on membership fees and donations for part of its core funding to maintain the independence of our voice in support of Nova Scotia's environment and our communities. As such, the EAC is continually seeking new members in addition to the continued support of our current members. The Outreach Committee strives to keep members and the public informed of the Centre's work and opportunities to be involved.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

The EAC undertook a Communications Workshop in July 2004 to examine how best to reach current and new members, and to increase awareness of EAC's work and accomplishments. Following this workshop, several key improvements have been made:

- Creation of a new Communications and Outreach Coordinator position which combines membership, volunteer, and communications responsibilities.
- Communication of EAC's ongoing work, upcoming events and volunteer opportunities was strengthened in a number of ways. Highlights include the creation of a monthly electronic newsletter, an upgrade to the website (www.ecologyaction.ca) and the hosting of several successful Volunteer Orientation sessions. In addition, the Coordinator and the Outreach Committee continue to provide an EAC presence at

various community events and fundraisers throughout the year.

- EAC Membership continues to improve from previous years and is now hovering around 750 members.

Plans/Next Steps:

The Outreach Committee will continue to develop the EAC's strategy for expanding its membership and developing its relationship with existing members through direct communication, events, and its website.

Focus for this coming year will include:

- Establishing short- and long-term goals for membership (e.g., numbers and revenue).
- Expanding and enhancing the EAC's bequest program and programs focussed on larger donations.
- Continuing to improve the effectiveness of our website.
- Maintaining a consistent "look" for communications material.
- Consistently integrating an appeal for membership at EAC presentations, workshops, and other events.
- Improving communication with existing volunteers and attracting new volunteers by maintaining a relevant, up-to-date list of EAC's volunteer needs, building a database of volunteers and their interests, and developing information pamphlets about each EAC committee.

Submitted by: Kevin Blair



Some of EAC's prominent ladies take part in a different kind of activism: swing dancing. (Photo: Natasha LaRoche)



Heather McKibbin, Emma Boardman, and Jen Graham (l-r) demonstrate three types of volunteers at a volunteer orientation: tree huggers, professionals, and wacky people who dress up as fish. (Photo: Janet Wilson)

coreoperations

BETWEEN THE ISSUES

Description: *Between the Issues* (BTI) is the EAC's magazine. It is distributed quarterly to members, public libraries, and selected other locations across Nova Scotia. Back issues are available for download off the EAC's website; some are also available at the EAC office.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

The past year has been a time of amazing challenges and change for the Between The Issues committee. After nine years as the guiding force of BTI, June Hall retired as editor. She remains dedicated to the journal, and continues to advise, assist and contribute.

Under the leadership of Susanna Fuller, *Between The Issues* has been streamlined and redesigned:

- BTI has a new format and style.
- Recycled content is now 50%, with 15% post consumer paper content.
- Advertising revenue has soared, and the volunteer input has grown.
- More copies have been printed and distribution has improved.

Plans/Next Steps:

- Reaching 100% recycled content by 2006.
- Adding four more pages of great content as soon as we can.

Submitted by: Maida Murray



HOUSE COMMITTEE

Description: In January 2002 the EAC Board approved the formation of a House Committee. The goal of the Committee was to refine the criteria for a permanent home; explore and present financial options/implications for EAC; raise funds and reduce the costs of any purchase; find and secure a permanent home for EAC. In winter 2004 due to the rising house costs on the peninsula, the Board decided to focus most of its efforts on one potential space, Bloomfield Centre, a former school in the Halifax North End which currently provides space to numerous community groups, non-profits, artists and clubs. A coalition of community groups is asking the city to consider turning the space into a publicly owned, green building to be used by community groups for a variety of activities as an alternative to a proposal to sell and redevelop the property. Most activities related to Bloomfield have been spearheaded by Susanna Fuller.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Presented to the Halifax Regional Municipality planning committee and to supportive city councilors.
- Hosted a Bloomfield open house.
- Increased public and media interest in the Bloomfield Centre.
- Formed the Bloomfield Society.

Plans/Next Steps:

- Reviewing and expanding the membership of the housing committee and reaffirming the role and priorities of the committee.
- Continuing to play an active role in advancing efforts to secure Bloomfield, working in concert with other Bloomfield tenants, and at the same time investigating other options including considering a move to another rented premise with more space in the interim.

Submitted by: Jen Graham

TREASURER'S REPORT

The EAC has prepared audited financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2005. Our audit was completed by Grant Thornton LLP and the financial statements have been reviewed and accepted by the Board of Directors.

For the year ended March 31, 2005, the EAC finished with a surplus of \$739. The following are the financial highlights:

- Once again, the EAC had an action packed year in 2004/2005. We worked on over 25 projects, up from 20 projects last year.
- Three key areas support the core operations of the EAC: 1) project contributions (supporting 45% of core, which compares to 52% in the previous year); 2) membership and donation revenues (32% of core, up from 24% last year); and 3) fund-raising revenues from the Garden Party and sale of organic Christmas trees (supporting 18% of core, holding steady compared to last year).
- The EAC received project funding of \$747,567; an increase of 16% over the previous year. This increase was mainly driven by stronger funding for the Wilderness, Food Action and Urban Issues committees.
- 54% of our project funding was from private sources, down from 65% last year, however the actual dollar amount was only down slightly. 43% of project funding was from government sources - municipal, provincial, and federal. This is up from 33% last year, primarily a result of taking on the Pesticide Application Program for HRM. The remaining three percent was from publication revenue, workshop revenue and expense recovery.
- For the year just ended, the EAC has made a change to the way in which the 15% project contributions are accounted for. We are now matching the timing of project activities to when the admin revenue is booked. As a result, \$18,922 of admin revenue has been deferred from the year just ended to the next fiscal year.
- The EAC continues to focus on strengthening and diversifying core funding. We have embarked on a pilot project for a third fundraiser. BTI advertising revenue is stronger than the previous year. Even though the EAC is supporting more projects and employees, we have been able to slightly reduce core operating expenses for the 2004/2005 year. Expenses increased in a few areas such as insurance (\$866 increase), internet & computer support (\$514 increase), and rent (\$5,000 increase). However, we were able to offset the increases with cost reductions in other areas such as interest and bank fees (\$626 decrease), miscellaneous (\$1,677 decrease), office supplies (\$2,335 decrease), and professional fees (\$4,102 decrease).



*Carla Vandenberg, Office Manager
Extraordinaire (Photo: Janet Wilson)*

The audited financial statements and notes are included in Appendix A.

- Submitted by Carla Vandenberg and Brian Aird

STANDING COMMITTEES

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

GREEN HOME AUCTION (GARDEN PARTY)

The Green Home Auction is one of the EAC's most important fundraisers. It is organized completely by volunteers who solicit donations and support from local businesses. Over the last 7 years, supporting the garden party by bidding on the great home and garden items available for auction has become a cherished tradition for many Halifax residents.

- In 2004, the name was switched from Garden Party to Green Home Auction to reflect the wider diversity of home and gift items available at the event.
- The Auction took place on May 30, 2004, with approximately 120 people in attendance.
- The Auction raised \$13,553 (net profit).

Major Sponsors:

Mountain Equipment Co-op, Shaw Brick, Grand Pre, Nova Scotia Potter's Guild, TaylorMade Security, Just Us!, Jeff Amos, Darnos Toys, Stephen Patterson, Stone Depot, Tree Works, Edmonds



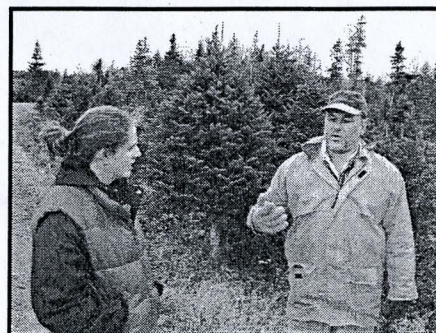
CHEMICAL-FREE CHRISTMAS TREE CAMPAIGN

- This year, two new NS growers supplied the EAC with beautiful trees: Everett Tanner of Shubenacadie and George Post of Pictou County. Sheldon Rafuse of New Ross supplied the wreath boughs.
- The campaign received some media attention including CBC television coverage and an article in the Globe and Mail.
- The 2004 campaign was very successful and raised \$4,064 (net). As with monies raised by the Green Home Auction, these funds directly support EAC core operating expenses.

Submitted by: Jen Graham and Jayne Roma



The Green Home Auction crew wear animal hats donated by Darnos Toys. (Photo: Wendy MacGregor)



Jayne Roma talks with George Post about chemical-free tree growing practices. (Photo: Kevin Blair)

standing committees

RESTRUCTURING COMMITTEE

Description:

A need to clarify EAC's decision making, channels of communication, and the roles and responsibilities of staff, Board and committees was identified during the November 2003 Staff-Board retreat. In response, the Restructuring Committee was formed in December 2003. The mandate of the Restructuring Committee was to guide the development of new and revised internal policy documents in consultation with EAC staff, volunteers and Board.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Revised job descriptions for the three core EAC positions (Office Manager, Communications and Outreach Coordinator, and Internal Director).
- Recommended changing the EAC's 10 hour-per-week Internal Director position to a 20 hour-per-week Managing Director. The name change is effective immediately, and the working hours and rate of

pay will be raised gradually over the next fiscal year.

- Updated the EAC Organizational Structure and Decision Making documents.
- Collaborated with the Personnel Committee to finalize Personnel Policy and ensure consistency between Personnel Policy and other internal policy documents.
- The EAC Board approved the Organizational Structure, Decision Making Guidelines, and Personnel Policy documents as well as the revised core job descriptions in February 2005.
- Distributed electronic copies of all documents to staff and board members. Hard copies are available upon request.

Plans/Next Steps:

The Restructuring Committee has been dissolved. In future, the Personnel Committee will assist core staff and committees with clarification and application of the policies as well as changes and updates to the policy document.



PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Description:

After a period of inactivity, the Personnel Committee was revived primarily to facilitate the development & approval of an EAC personnel policy.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Members of the Personnel Committee worked closely with the Restructuring Committee to ensure internal consistency between all internal policy documents and

facilitated numerous consultations and revisions to the draft personnel policy at the staff and board level.

Plans/Next Steps:

- The Personnel Committee is developing into an active committee. Its mandate includes workplace improvements, as well as supporting staff and volunteers in hiring, decision-making and conflict resolution.

Submitted by: Jen Graham and Maggy Burns

ISSUE COMMITTEES

COASTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE (CIC)

Special Projects:

PROJECT: RECONNECTING THE COAST INITIATIVE

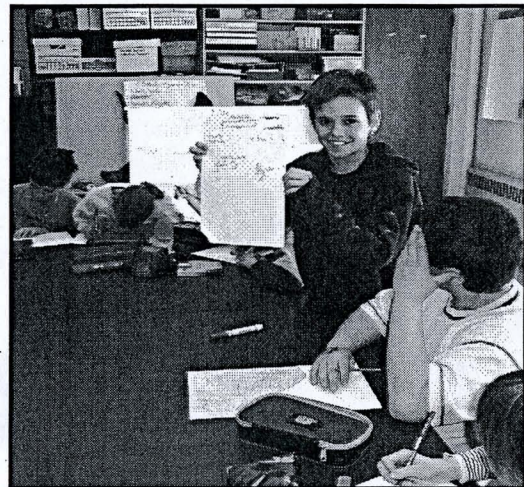
Project Coordinator: Tony Bowron (April to Jan) Sean Weseloh McKeane (Jan to present)

Funded by: Henry P. Kendall Foundation, McLean Foundation, Unilever-Evergreen Foundation

Description: The Reconnecting the Coast Initiative is coordinating action around critical coastal issues facing Nova Scotia. The focus areas include: coastal development, coastal access, habitat protection, and stewardship. This project works with the Coastal Coalition of Nova Scotia (CCNS) to build community, municipal and provincial support for integrated coastal planning in Nova Scotia.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- CCNS made a presentation on the need for an integrated coastal zone management plan in Nova Scotia to the New Democrat, Conservative and Liberal caucuses.
- Prepared and presented a coastal zone planning policy paper to the Rural Communities Impacting Policy Workshop in February 2005.
- In conjunction with the CCNS, hosted a provincial workshop called "Changing Tides: Towards Integrated Coastal Zone Planning in Nova Scotia" in Nov 2004.
- Engaged in capacity building and networking with the CCNS, including participating on the CCNS steering committee, and in information and education sessions for community, municipal and provincial levels.



Students at Dr. Arthur Hines Elementary School in the Cheverie Creek area (Photo: Alice Morgan)

- Developed outreach and promotional material on coastal issues, including a coastal development poster and environmental education classes.

Plans/Next Steps:

- Developing and delivering training and awareness raising activities for municipalities on Nova Scotia's south shore about how municipalities can address coastal development issues.
- Increasing links and cooperation with other organizations involved with coastal issues to leverage our work.
- Working with National Film Board and CitizenShift to produce a coastal issues photo / video slot.
- Developing *Negotiating the Maze*, a "how to manual" on reducing coastal conflict and understanding the various levels of government jurisdiction in the Nova Scotia coastal zone.

issue committees

PROJECT: CHEVERIE CREEK SALT MARSH AND TIDAL RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT

Funded By: Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership, Fisheries and Oceans – Science & Technology Youth Internship Program, Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment, NS Department of Natural Resources – Habitat Conservation Fund, NS Department of Transportation and Public Works, Unilever-Evergreen Foundation, and Wildlife Habitat Canada

Description: The Cheverie Creek restoration project is Nova Scotia's first intentional salt marsh restoration project. The goal of the project is to restore natural tidal flow to a tidally restricted marsh site and in doing so to protect, restore and raise awareness about the beauty and significance of Nova Scotia's coastal wetlands.

Recent Accomplishments & Activities:

- Completed a third year of pre-restoration monitoring at the potential restoration site (Cheverie Creek, Hants County, NS) and the unrestricted reference site (Bass Creek, Hants County, NS).
- Produced both a summary field report and a more detailed field report presenting the results of the last three years of field data collection (pre-restoration monitoring).
- Secured written confirmation from NS Department of Transportation and Public Works (DOPTW) that the existing restrictive culvert at Cheverie Creek will be replaced with a more appropriately designed crossing by the Fall of 2005.
- Engaged in ongoing salt marsh outreach and education activities both locally (Hants Shore) and provincially.

Plans/Next Steps:

- Continuing to act as a liaison between DOPTW and the local community to ensure continued public input in the restoration process.
- Conducting additional pre-restoration monitoring focusing on groundwater, pore water salinity, hydrology, and fish.

- Developing promotional materials such as on-site signage and interpretive materials.



PROJECT: NOVA SCOTIA TIDAL BARRIER AUDIT

Project Interns: Anne Gregory (April-May), Nicole Hynes (June-March)

Funded By: Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership, Department of Fisheries and Oceans – Science & Technology Youth Internship Program, Unilever-Evergreen Foundation

Description: The goal of this project is to develop an inventory of structures (tidal barriers) along the NS coast of the Bay of Fundy that restrict the natural movement of tidal water and species into low-lying coastal areas. In 2004, tidal restrictions were identified in the lower Bay of Fundy – Annapolis and Digby Counties.

Recent Accomplishments & Activities:

- Reviewed, revisited and updated Cumberland County and Southern Bight of the Minas Basin (Hants & Kings County) Tidal Barrier Audit.
- Conducted an inventory of tidal barriers in Annapolis County and Digby County.
- Produced tidal barrier reports for Cumberland County, Southern Bight and lower Bay of Fundy.
- Produced fact sheets for all 216 tidal crossings assessed.
- Contributed tidal barrier audit information to Bay of Fundy wide tidal barrier database project being coordinated by Saint Mary's University.

Plans/Next Steps:

- Reviewing results in all six counties in order to identify sites with a high potential for restoration success (restoration of tidal flow and/or fish passage) and promoting the mitigation or removal of the restrictive crossings.
- Establishing the partnerships necessary to move forward with restoration activities at these sites.

issuecommittees

- Disseminating the results of our tidal barrier audit work and encouraging the duplication of the Cheverie Creek Salt Marsh and Tidal River Restoration Project at one or more additional tidally restricted sites around the Bay of Fundy.



PROJECT: JOINT REVIEW PANEL OF THE WHITES POINT QUARRY AND MARINE TERMINAL PROJECT, DIGBY, NOVA SCOTIA

Project Coordinator: Mark TeKamp

Funded by: Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency

Description: The EAC participated in Phase I of the Whites Point Quarry and Marine Terminal Project (Digby Quarry) environmental assessment. This was a joint CIC-MIC initiative.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Prepared an oral and written submission focusing on coastal development and invasive species issues as part of Phase I of the environmental assessment.

Plans/Next Steps:

- Preparing a proposal for funding to support the EAC's participation in Phase II of the environmental assessment.



PROJECT: HARBOUR SOLUTIONS PROJECT

Project Coordinator: Jerry MacKinlay

Funded by: Environment Canada - Environmental Damages Fund

Description: The Halifax Harbour Watershed Restoration Coalition was created to coordinate interests and activities pertaining to the Halifax Harbour and its watershed. The Coalition was housed at the EAC and its membership included NGO's, community groups, government and academia. The Coalition funded community sub-projects to repair environmental damage done to the harbour. This project was completed March 31, 2005.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Coordinated the successful completion of six community-based projects.
- Participated in the HRM Harbour Steering Committee and worked closely with the Regional Planning group and Environmental Management Services.
- Encouraged and coordinated the review and rationalization of legislation from all government agencies that have acts or regulations impacting on the harbour.
- Created the governance structure to establish the Coalition as an independent entity with membership open to any and all groups with an interest in the Halifax Harbourshed.

Plans/Next Steps

- The Coalition has been registered as a not-for-profit organization and has approved its bylaws and elected a Board of Directors.
- It is currently seeking funding to support community stewardship around the Halifax Harbourshed.
- The EAC continues to be a member of the Halifax Harbourshed Coalition and has a representative on the Board of Directors.
- A call went out to any and all community organizations to submit proposals to the steering committee of the coalition. Six project proposals have been received and reviewed by a selection committee. Five are being forwarded together to EDF as an integrated package that will address the action items identified by the coalition.

GENERAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES:

- Updated CIC website, started work on a coastal hot spots map.
- Wrote letters and spoke to media about coastal activities happening around the province.
- Prepared a pamphlet about impacts of causeway opening at Boat Harbour.
- Active participation and capacity building with CCNS.

Submitted by: Jen Graham, Sean Weseloh McKeane, and Tony Bowron



The Salt Marsh crew in the field. (Photo: Tony Bowron)

issuecommittees

ENERGY ISSUES COMMITTEE (EIC)

Project Coordinators: Howlan Mullally (ended May), Anne Warburton (October to March)

Funded by: Henry P. Kendall Foundation, EAC core funds (bridging funds) and individual donations. In-kind contributions have been provided by: Environmental Management Services of HRM, Nova Scotia Power Inc (NSPI) and GreenEnergy Labs Incorporated. Paul Gipe Wind Workshop funded by West Wind Development and Dalhousie University.

Description: The EIC is unique in that it has not been underpinned by a project(s) in the traditional sense. Instead, one of the cornerstones of the Committee was the presence of a Spokesperson for energy issues who could deal with public inquiries and the media, and have a participatory role in political forums.

Despite a lack of continuous core funding, the committee has continued to do excellent work and remain at the forefront of the ever-increasing discussions around energy sustainability. This has been possible through the dedication and hard work of the committee volunteers.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

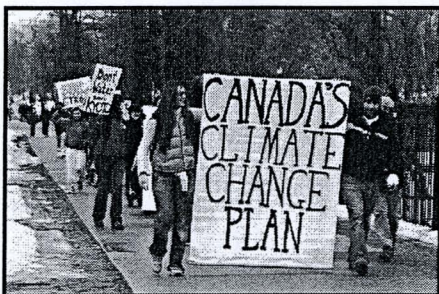
- Sat on the advisory board and participated as experts in the NSPI customer energy forum (deliberative poll) held in November 2004. EIC's involvement in this process was important for ensuring that environmental issues were adequately reflected in the information circulated to participants in the forum as well as ensuring a balanced view of energy matters was represented at the energy forum itself.
- Completed and submitted a grant proposal to Infrastructure Canada for a project which would facilitate carbon offsetting activities and investments. Proposal was declined.

- Actively participated in the NSPI Rate Case Hearing before the Utility and Review Board regarding changes to rates and regulations.
- Presented to the Law Amendments Committee regarding Bill 87, An Act Regarding Electricity. Proposed amendments to increase the Province's renewable portfolio standard (now 5%), increase the rate paid to independent power producers, and request that the Province disallow any compromise to the federal Wind Power Producers Incentive.
- Collaborated with TRAX (a project under the Transportation Issues Committee) for a successful Kyoto rally on February 16, 2005, which received wide media coverage (see photos).
- Hosted a Wind Workshop with internationally renowned wind energy expert, Paul Gipe. (Special thanks to Peggy Cameron for her individual leadership in soliciting funds for this workshop).
- Helped Dalhousie University's Marine & Environmental Law Institute organize a workshop and public panel focusing on policy options for renewable energy in Atlantic Canada with several regional, national and international speakers.

Plans/Next Steps:

- Designing a solar campaign/demonstration project in collaboration with area researchers and private business. Grant source will be identified and grant written within one calendar year.
- Spearheading a means to assess options for achieving carbon neutrality for the EAC.
- Updating and improving the effectiveness of the EIC website.
- Initiating an energy awareness postcard campaign.

Submitted by: Anne Warburton



EAC supporters march and form an "O" – the final letter of the word, Kyoto – joining in protests across Canada the same day where the other letters of the word were formed. (Both photos: Margo Ellen Gesser)

issuecommittees

FOOD ACTION COMMITTEE (FAC)

Special Projects:

PROJECT: HELIOTRUST

Project Coordinator: Jen Scott

Funded by: October Hill Foundation, some donations and sale of product, Labatts "People in Action" grant (Harvest Festival), Mountain Equipment Co-Op.

Description: Heliotrust's mission is to explore, develop, conserve and share ecological farm systems and knowledge - to conserve farmland and resources. Development, growth, and promotion of heritage wheat are conditions of the funding.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Established conservation easements on two farms on Hants Shore to ensure they will continue in agriculture and wheat production. A windmill was acquired and sustainable housing designed for one of these properties.
- Archived knowledge of Farmer Mentors in the form of writing, video & audio (Laura Jean MacKay, Ruth Lapp & Jen Scott).
- Initiated the first Harvest Festival in Victoria Park, Halifax, Sept. 12, 2004. This festival was coordinated by Julia Kemp.
- Continued to build up community outreach, and support.
- Launched a website (www.heliotrust.ca), and produced a 3-year development plan.

Plans/Next steps:

- Putting up the windmill and building the passive solar house.
- Opening farms for educational visits and establishing a library.
- Building up an Endowment Fund to safeguard more agricultural land with conservation easements.
- Publishing, in various forms, resources of Farmer Mentor projects.
- Creating Salt Hay demo day, video.



FAC Members share yummy local organic breakfast ideas with Breakfast Television viewers.



PROJECT: URBAN GARDEN MENTORS PROJECT

Project Coordinator: Japji Anna Bas

Funded by: New Horizons Canada and in-kind contributions

Description: The Urban Garden Mentors Project matches seniors with gardening experience, with interested volunteers and youth who want to learn about urban food production. This intergenerational, multicultural project draws on the wisdom of older adults and the enthusiasm of young people in a grassroots community development project. The area currently involved centers around NorthwoodCare Inc.

issuecommittees

in the North End, however, there are other participating pockets in Halifax.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Received funding and hired a project coordinator.
- Created a network of contacts and interested people, and solicited volunteers and gardening spaces.

Plans/Next Steps:

- To put in place an organization and enthusiasm that will continue the work.



PROJECT: LOCAL ECONOMY TRADING SYSTEM (LETS)

Funded by: membership fees, private donations, service fees (Saltees), grants

Description: LETS strives to make participation in the economy possible for all, including people who do not have 'jobs' in the regular economy. It is a form of enhanced barter, mediated by a credit system. It is legal, and people participating are responsible for their tax obligations. It

promises to emphasize local food in its work.

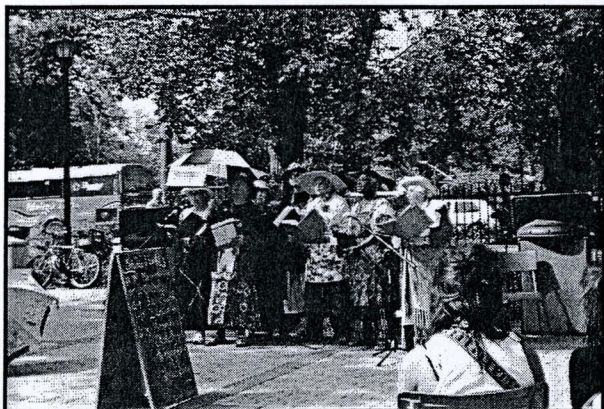
Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Project launch, start-up, and finding a home with FAC.

GENERAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES:

- Published and distributed "Eating for a Better World" leaflet (funded by HelioTrust, the NS Public Interest Research Group – Dalhousie, Nicole Arsenault and EAC).
- Maintained booths at the Atlantic Canada Organic Regional Network, Forum flea market and Seedy Saturday, distributing educational materials and making connections.
- Appeared on *Breakfast Television* featuring local foods.
- Put on the Harvest Festival.
- Advocated for seed saving.
- Collected signatures for petitions to Sobey's and Loblaws to include more local food in their stores.

Submitted by: Sylvia Mangalam



The always-popular Halifax Raging Grannies perform at the Harvest Feast (Photo: David Baldwin)



The FAC table at the Harvest Feast (Photo: David Baldwin)

issuecommittees

MARINE ISSUES COMMITTEE (MIC)

Special Projects:

PROJECT: SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES CAMPAIGN

Project Coordinator: Mark Butler, Sadie Beaton
Funded By: Henry P. Kendall Foundation, Deep Sea Conservation Coalition, and individual donors

Description: The MIC campaign for sustainable fisheries is furthering the implementation of management measures that benefit both the fisheries and coastal communities.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

This year we have seen some tangible improvements in fisheries management in our region:

- The announcement of the first-ever assessment of impacts of fishing on the ecosystem.
- The release of a draft coral management plan.
- The establishment of a third offshore Marine Protected Area: the Stone Fence Coral Closure

Activities:

- Participated with groups from across Canada to form the Gearshift Coalition with the David Suzuki Foundation being the most recent group to join.
- As the first Canadian organization, joined the international Deep Sea Conservation Coalition. The coalition's main goal is to secure a moratorium on dragging on the high seas until conservation measures can be established.
- Organized Gearshift Conference in St. John's, Newfoundland in advance of an International Fisheries Governance Conference.

The emergence of national and international campaigns this year is encouraging the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the industry to address the impacts of dragging and fix our fisheries.

Plans/Next Steps:

- Continuing to encourage the implementation of additional measures to protect fisheries through national and international coalitions.
- Continuing to encourage the implementation of comprehensive conservation measures such as ocean zoning through the Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management Initiative.

ADDITIONAL PROJECT ACTIVITIES:

Project Coordinators:

Penny Doherty – Oceans Zoning
 Gretchen Fitzgerald – Nuisance Species & BEPCo Environmental Assessment
 Christie Dyer – BEPCo Environmental Assessment
 Victoria Sheppard – Sable Island events
 Jennifer Stevens – Coastlines Articles
 Julie Huntington – Gearshift Conference
 Fred Winsor – Gearshift Conference

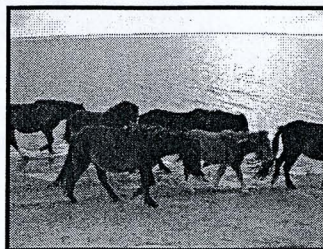
Funded by: Henry P. Kendall Foundation, J.M. Kaplan Fund (Ocean Zoning) Environment Canada (Ocean Zoning), EJLB Foundation (Sable Island), Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (BEPCo), Nova Scotia Habitat Conservation Fund (*Coastlines*), Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment (Nuisance Species) and individual donors.

- Worked closely with a range of partners, in particular the Green Horse Society and Zoe Lucas, to secure a long-term funding commitment from the federal government for Sable Island. EAC will be represented on a recently formed advisory committee.
- Issued Proceedings of Ocean Zoning Workshop (May 2004)
- *Coastlines*, a natural history column, continues to appear in newspapers around Nova Scotia
- Raised public awareness about the impacts of seismic blasting.
- Actively intervened in the Comprehensive Study of BEPCo Application for Exploratory Drilling (offshore NS).
- Continued to seek with some success implementation of measures to prevent the introduction of invasive marine species.

Submitted by: Mark Butler



The crowd enjoys sustainable seafood treats.



*The MIC worked with other groups to successfully secure long-term funding for Sable Island.
 (Photo: Mark Butler)*

issue committees

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES COMMITTEE (TIC)

Special Projects:

PROJECT: TRAX

Project Coordinators: Rebecca O'Brien, Stephanie Sodero, Angela Bischoff (April to October), Susanna Cheng (May to January)

Funded By: NS Department of Energy, Environment Canada, NS Office of Health Promotion, Go for Green

Description: The TRAX project works to promote sustainable transportation in NS. Its goals are to increase the number of people who bike, walk, carpool and use transit for transportation.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Approval of U-PASS fare increase at Saint Mary's University.
- Participated actively in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) Regional Planning process.
- Implemented TRAX's most successful trip reduction program at NS Department of Environment and Labour.
- Formed ADAPT - Association of Doctors for the Advancement of Physically-active Transportation.
- Mobilized a major volunteer effort for Car Free Day, including the publication of the *Car Free Times* (10,000 copies distributed).
- Doubled Canadian Commuter Challenge participation for the greater Halifax area.

Plans/Next Steps:

- Introducing U-PASS at Dalhousie University and Mount Saint Vincent University.
- Introducing EcoPASS transit pass at large workplaces.
- Expanding Trip Reduction Programs throughout the province.
- Continuing work on HRM's Bicycle Advisory Committee.



PROJECT: ACTIVE & SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Project Coordinator: Janet Barlow

Funded by: NS Office of Health Promotion, Sport and Recreation Division, Centre for Sustainable Transportation

Description: Active & Safe Routes to School (ASRTS) encourages the use of active modes of transportation to and from school such as walking, cycling, etc. It is a national program of Go for Green coordinated in NS by the EAC in partnership with the NS Office of Health Promotion, Sport and Recreation Division. Other partners and supporters include the Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation, the Centre for Sustainable Transportation and Pro Bono Students Canada.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Worked with regional committees in Pictou County, Lunenburg County and Colchester/East Hants to develop a template for creating a safe routes map, expand walking programs and research active bussing issues.
- Organized a Traffic Taming workshop with David Engwicht for 100 people from across NS.
- Ran the most successful International Walk to School Week yet with 100 NS schools participating (involving over 24,500 students along with many staff, parents and community members).
- Published a new ASRTS newsletter (*Get a Move On!*), created a new NS web site (www.ecologyaction.ca/asrts) and developed a How-to Manual for schools.
- Published 4 issues of *Walking & Wheeling Quarterly*, NS's active transportation newsletter, with a distribution list of over 200 people.

Plans/Next Steps:

- Increasing the number of schools participating in International Walk to School Week 2005.
- Conducting workshops on injury prevention and ASRTS across NS.
- Tailoring children- and youth-friendly land-use and transportation planning guidelines for NS in partnership with the Centre for Sustainable Transportation.
- Implementing a pilot project to incorporate community-based social marketing into ASRTS.
- Developing a provincial school-based safety program for active forms of transportation.

issuecommittees



PROJECT: BIKE AGAIN

Volunteer Coordinator: Susanna Fuller
Funded by: Resource Recovery Fund Board, individual donations of cash and materials for bicycles

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Reorganization of space and program.
- Repaired bicycles to send to Ghana.
- Continued basic program of helping people repair bicycles.
- Accepted donations of used bicycles.
- Developed and published Community Bicycle Workbook for Atlantic Canada.

Plans/Next Steps:

- Continue to streamline delivery of Bike Again services, especially over the summer months.



PROJECT: STEER CLEAN

Project Coordinator: Maggy Burns
Funded by: Environment Canada, with additional funding and support from the NS Department of Environment and Labour, Aerobics First, Canadian Tire, Covey's Auto Recyclers, East Coast Outfitters, Maritime Auto Salvage, Metro Radio Group, Metro Transit, National Car and Truck Rental, The Daily News, The YMCA of Halifax, and others.

Description: Steer Clean is the EAC's latest sustainable transportation awareness and action program. The Steer Clean program will offer information and rewards to car owners willing to recycle their older, high-polluting vehicles. We aim to raise awareness and change behaviour around transportation and air quality issues in NS. Those who choose to retire their cars early will receive incentives

and information about air quality issues, sustainable transportation alternatives, and ways to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

Since our program launched in January 2005 we have:

- Secured in-kind funding from a growing list of businesses and organizations.
- Established links with more than a dozen like-minded organizations for collaboration and cross-promotion.
- Held discussions with officials from all three levels of government.
- Surveyed Haligonians, gathered advice from similar programs across the country, and consulted with our excellent Advisory Committee.
- Developed communication materials and a website (www.steerclean.ca).

Plans/Next Steps:

The (thrilling) public launch of Steer Clean is scheduled for the first week of July 2005. In June we will begin accepting applications from folks wanting to recycle their vehicles. In August we will be delivering the "Let's Drive Green" emissions clinic.

GENERAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

- Organized main events and media around the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol on February 16, 2005.
- Hosted a hugely successful Car Free Day on September 22, 2004.
- Hosted Bike Week from May 30 to June 5, 2004.

Submitted by: Daniel Rainham



Earth Day 2004 (Photo: Margo Ellen Gesser)



A young activist on Car Free Day (Photo: Margo Ellen Gesser)



2004 National Walk to School Award winners: The Sacred Heart School of Halifax (Photo courtesy Sacred Heart School of Halifax)

issuecommittees

URBAN ISSUES COMMITTEE (UIC)

Special Project

PROJECT: PESTICIDE BYLAW PROJECT

Project Coordinator: Gregor MacAskill

Project Assessors: Mark Beasy, Nicole Gibeau, Vanessa Kavanagh, Chris Beasy, Sarah Mercier, Janine de la Salle, Marla MacLeod

Funded by: Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM)

Description: The EAC was contracted by HRM in 2004 to deliver the education and inspection programs under the pesticide bylaw. Service delivery is a relatively new undertaking for EAC, but the Centre has been a vocal supporter of the bylaw since its inception and wanted to be part of maintaining its strength and effectiveness.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Exceeded all contract requirements with HRM.
- For over 3,400 site inspections, provided key education opportunities by working directly with residents on their property.
- HRM has adopted several EAC recommendations for further program improvements.
- Hosted a sustainable landscape practices workshop for companies that highlighted observations from the 2004 programs.
- Participated in local and national media coverage regarding pesticide bylaw programs.

Plans/Next Steps:

The EAC has been asked to run the programs again for 2005 and 2006. We aim to be part of further reductions in pesticide use by helping residents and companies use established alternatives. This year we are also looking for residents who use pesticide-free approaches so we can help connect them with people who want to learn about these and see local results.

GENERAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES:

- On behalf of the EAC, the UIC appealed Community Council's decision to approve a 17-story hotel complex (proposed for the existing Midtown Tavern property) to the NS Utility and Review Board. Unfortunately, the appeal was later dismissed, as the EAC did not fit the definition of an "aggrieved person". However, the UIC was permitted the opportunity to speak on behalf of the EAC at a public hearing on May 10, 2005.
- Participated in the Halifax Regional Municipality regional planning process.
- Developed a logo for Freshwater Brook.

Submitted by: Dave Aalders and Gregor MacAskill



A chemical-free lawn is healthier for pets and children.

issuecommittees

WILDERNESS ISSUES COMMITTEE (WIC)

Special Projects:

PROJECT: STANDING TALL CAMPAIGN

Project Coordinator: Minga O'Brien

Funded by: The Ivey Foundation, EJLB Foundation, Atlantic Council for International Cooperation/CIDA

Description: The EAC's Standing Tall forestry campaign seeks to bring about a gradual and feasible shift from clearcutting to more uneven-aged and lower impact harvesting practices appropriate for maintaining and restoring the diverse values of our Acadian forest ecosystems. The campaign also aims to promote balanced and fair opportunities for public input into forest policy development.

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Presented and participated in the Colin Stewart Forest Forum (CSFF), and prepared background materials for participants and for post-Forum negotiations.
- Created comprehensive and ever-growing database of forest conservation advocates.
- Organized a workshop to address the inadequacies of the Forest Sustainability Regulations, and provided a report with recommendations for their improvement.
- Ongoing communications campaign, including editorials and letters in the newspaper and interviews with the media.

Plans/Next Steps:

- Building the support and momentum for broad, third party public consultations on forestry practices in Nova Scotia.
- Creating a coalition of groups committed to ecologically sustainable forestry.
- Organizing and presenting at the launch of Elizabeth May's "At the Cutting Edge".
- Hiring a campaign coordinator.
- Launching a new Standing Tall campaign website, re-launching of "clearcut Nova Scotia" website.



Over 60 people at the summit of Blue Mountain near Halifax, which is threatened by a proposed new 4-lane highway (Photo: Raymond Plourde)

- Review of forestry-related government studies.
- Producing fact sheets on forestry.

Key People: Karen O'Krafka (Intern), Rob Hansen and Greg Pynn (Graphic Designers) and Advisory Committee members: Jeff Amos, Lance Bishop, Kermit deGooyer, Bill McKay, Linda Pannozzo, Ray Plourde, Wade Prest, Paul Pross, Veronica Sherwood and WIC members.



PROJECT: NOVA SCOTIA PUBLIC LANDS CAMPAIGN

Project Coordinator: Raymond Plourde

Funded by: The George Cedric Metcalf Foundation

Description: In 2004-05, the EAC continued to lead the 45 member group of the NS Public Lands Coalition (NSPLC), pushing the envelope and scoring some important victories for nature conservation in Nova Scotia this year.

issuecommittees

Recent Accomplishments and Activities:

- Led the NSPLC effort to secure legal designation of two new large Protected Wilderness Areas at Gully Lake and Eigg Mountain-James River as well as five new smaller Nature Reserves.
- Helped support important legislative changes to the Special Places Protection act designed to streamline and improve laws for designation of future Nature Reserves.
- Conducted five nature hikes to "hotspot" wilderness areas on public (Crown) land: the proposed Blue Mountain / Birch Cove Lakes, Herring Cove Backlands, Nictaux River, and Five Bridge Lakes wilderness areas. The public hikes were organized by John Abati.
- Actively participated in the provincial Off Highway Vehicle Taskforce public consultation process. Helped organize and lead a diverse coalition of over 30 groups demonstrating strong public support for strict regulations governing the recreational use of All Terrain Vehicles.
- Engaged in direct dialog with the major forestry companies regarding increasing the number of Protected Wilderness Areas

and improving forestry practices in the province.

- Participated in public review of proposed changes and de-listing of provincial Wildlife Sanctuaries. Advocated for more protection, not less.
- Directly defended threatened "hotspot" areas: Nictaux River and Ship Harbour Long Lake against clearcutting and Blue Mountain-Birch Cove Lakes against a 4-lane highway.

Plans/ Next Steps:

In 2005-06 we will continue to focus our efforts on obtaining meaningful regulations for Off Highway Vehicle use and legal protection for key "hotspot" areas such as Ship Harbour Long Lake, Humes River, Nictaux River and Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes.

For more information and news on the Nova Scotia Public Lands Campaign please visit www.publicland.ca.

Submitted by: Minga O'Brien, Raymond Plourde and Clare Robinson



James River, in the new Eigg Mountain-James River Protected Wilderness Area (Photo: Irwin R. Barrett)



Gully Lake Protected Wilderness Area (Photo: Irwin R. Barrett)

eacstaff 2004-2005

CORE OPERATIONS

Mark Butler, Managing Director
Carla Vandenberg, Office Manager
Troy Swan, Membership Coordinator (ended Jul)
Ashley Miller, Membership Coordinator (Jul to Aug)
Peter Blanchard, Communications & Outreach Coordinator (Nov to Mar)
Emma Boardman, assisted with audit preparation, (contract Apr 2004 and Mar 2005)
Ben Lorincz, computer support, contract as needed (ended Feb)
Samuel Li, computer support, contract as needed (started Mar)

COASTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

Tony Bowron, Project Coordinator, Salt Marsh & Coastal (ended Jan)
Sean Weseloh McKeane, Project Coordinator, Coastal (started Feb)
Jerry MacKinlay, Project Coordinator, Harbour Solutions
Mark TeKamp, Project Coordinator, Whites Point Quarry Environmental Assessment (Jan)
Anne Gregory, Tidal Barriers (Apr to May)
Nicole Hynes, Intern, Tidal Barriers & Coastal (June to Mar)
Christine Curry, consultant, Coastal Workshop (fall)

ENERGY ISSUES COMMITTEE

Howlan Mullally, Project Coordinator, (ended May)
Anne Warburton, Project Coordinator, (Oct to Mar). Anne has also been working as the Project Coordinator for the Grant Makers Workshop (Feb to present)

FOOD ACTION COMMITTEE

Jennifer Scott, Project Coordinator, HelioTrust
Julia Kemp, Project Coordinator, Harvest Festival (May to Sept)
Pam Lovelace, HelioTrust (contract basis through the year)
Ruth Lapp, Farmland Wilderness project (contract basis fall to present)
Laura Jean MacKay, Farmland Wilderness project (contract basis fall to present)

MARINE ISSUES COMMITTEE

Mark Butler, Project Coordinator, Marine
Gretchen Fitzgerald, Project Coordinator, Nuisance Species (ended July) and BEPCo Environmental Assessment (contract basis, fall to present)
Penny Doherty, Project Coordinator, Ocean Zoning & Coastlines Articles (ended Oct)
Jennifer Stevens, Project Coordinator, Coastline Articles, (Nov to present)

Sadie Beaton, Sustainable Seafood (Jan to present)
Victoria Sheppard, Sable Island events, (Jan)
Christie Dyer, BEPCo Environmental Assessment, (fall to present)
Veronica Sherwood, Grant Makers Workshop (Mar to May)
Julie Huntington (in NL), Gearshift conference (Feb to Apr)
Fred Winsor (in NL), Gearshift conference (Feb to Apr)

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES COMMITTEE

Stephanie Sodero, Project Coordinator, TRAX
Rebecca O'Brien, Project Coordinator, TRAX
Angela Bischoff, Project Coordinator, TRAX (ended Oct)
Dan Walsh, U-Pass, TRAX
Susanna Cheng, various TRAX projects (Apr to Jan)
Janet Barlow, Project Coordinator, Active & Safe Routes to School
Maggie Burns, Project Coordinator, Steer Clean
Heather McKibbin, Project Assistant, Steer Clean (Jan to Mar). Heather also worked on the Winter Commuter Challenge, Project Coordinator (Mar).

URBAN ISSUES COMMITTEE

Gregor MacAskill, Project Coordinator, Pesticide Project (Apr to Nov)
Mark Beasy, Application Assessor, Pesticide Project (May to Sept)
Nicole Gibeau, Application Assessor, Pesticide Project (May to Aug)
Vanessa Kavanagh, Application Assessor, Pesticide Project (May to Aug)
Chris Beasy, Application Assessor, Pesticide Project (Jul to Sept)
Sarah Mercier, Application Assessor, Pesticide Project (Jul to Sept)
Janine de la Salle, Application Assessor, Pesticide Project (Aug to Sept)
Marla MacLeod, Application Assessor, Pesticide Project (Aug)

WILDERNESS ISSUES COMMITTEE

Minga O'Brien, Project Coordinator, Standing Tall
Raymond Plourde, Project Coordinator, Public Lands
Karen O'Krafka, Intern, Forestry Project (currently working in Ecuador)
John Abati, coordinated public hikes on public lands (summer)
Kermit deGooyer, Public Lands (contract basis fall and winter)

ourheros

Following is a list of those who have volunteered in the past year. We could not do the work we do without you. A heartfelt thank-you to you all!

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Aaron Harpell | Dave Strajt | Jim O'Brien | Melanie Wilson | Sarah Morton |
| Alex MacEachern | David Baldwin | Joanne Cook | Melissa Bell | Sari Lightman |
| Alexa McDonough | David Patriquin | Jody Conrad | Melissa Fleming | Scott Brown |
| Alexander MacDonald | David Zitner | Johanna Nesbitt | Michael Barton | Scott MacPhee |
| Alice Morgan | Dawn Duffy | John Abati | Michael West | Scott Pronych |
| Alison Cude | Deb Allen | John Brazner | Michelle Kellam | Scott Sanford |
| Allison Dunn | Denma Peisinger | John Hassell | Michelle Mulder | Sean Anderson |
| Amanda Dainow | Derek Covey | John Purdy | Michelle Sperry | Sean Park |
| Amy Ornstein | Derek Eagles | John Shimeld | Mike Furlong | Sharolyn Townsend |
| Andrea Dube | Dick Farah | Jonathan Kay | Mike Milloy | Sonia Edworthy |
| Andrew Ibey | Doris Hagmann | Judith Cookey | Mike Velemirovich | Sonia Grogono |
| Andrew Merrill | Doug Mitchell | Judy Lipp | Minga O'Brien | Stephanie Sanger |
| Andy Edwards | Ebony Wicks | Judy Mills | Moir Donovan | Stephanie Sodero |
| Angela Birch | Ed MacDonald | Julia Kemp | Monique Breau | Stephen Fort |
| Angela Bischoff | Elizabeth Gold | Julie MacManus | Mylene DiPenta | Stephen Stiles |
| Anna McCarron | Emily Austen | June Hall | Nadine MacKay | Steve Lockwood |
| Anne Gregory | Emily Pudden | Justin Turple | Nancy Chiasson | Steven Bishop |
| Anne Pryde | Emma Abman | Kable Frank | Nancy Covington | Sue LeBlanc-Crawford |
| Anne Warburton | Emma Boardman | Karen O'Kafka | Neal Ozano | Sue MacLeod |
| Arnold and Barbara | Emma Rider | Karen Potter | Neil Fraser | Sue McKinney |
| Gallagher | Emmanuel Devred | Kasia Tota | Nerissa Mulligan- | Susan Barrett-Silva |
| Arthur Thompson | Erinn O'Toole | Katherine Winlo | Moscote | Susan Cargill |
| Ashley Marlin | Fran Bristow | Kathy Aldous | Nick McLean | Susan Feindl |
| Basil Grogon | Fred Harrington | Katie Erickson | Nicole Arsenault | Susanna Cheng |
| Becca Green | Friedman Bauer | Katy Mahon | Nicole Gibeau | Susanna Eve |
| Becky Reid | Gaston Castano | Kermit deGooyer | Nicole Hynes | Susanna Fuller |
| Benjamin Hoff | Gay Harley | Kevin Blair | Norbert Kungl | Sylvia Mangalam |
| Beth Elias | Geoff Tanner | Kevin Garaway | Normand Carrey | Tabitha Veinot |
| Beth Sampson | Gillian Austin | Kim Barro | Ondrej Saar | Tara Moreau |
| Bill Matheson | Gillian Manning | Korice Moir | Pamela Lovelace | Ted Scrupton |
| Bill McKay | Graham Read | Kristen Howe | Pat Canning | Thomas Duffet |
| Bill Rudolph | Greg Baker | Kyla Milne | Patricia Cuttall | Tim Brennan |
| Bob Rutherford | Greg Pynn | Laena Garrison | Patricia Elliott | Tim Clark |
| Brian Aird | Gregor MacAskill | Lance Bishop | Patricia Helliwell | Tim Clarke |
| Brian Larter | Gretchen Fitzgerald | Lara Gibson | Patrick Little | Todd Bateman |
| Brian Taylor | Guy MacLean | Laura Conchellos | Paul Pross | Tony Bowron |
| Bronwen Hook | Hal Dobbelstyn | Laura Hussey | Paul Schwartz | Tony Charles |
| Bruce Cochrane | Hanita Koblents | Leif Vernest | Peggy Cameron | Trudie Richards |
| Bryan Birch | Heather Boyd | Lihua Huang | Penny Doherty | Tyler Field |
| Camille Dumond | Heather McKibbin | Lilith Finkler | Peter Blanchard | Val Spencer |
| Carla Vandenberg | Heather Pacquet | Linda Pannozzo | Peter Lane | Veronica Sherwood |
| Carl Butcher | Heather Ternoway | Lisa Bugden | Peter MacWhirter | Victoria Sheppard |
| Carolyn Hedley | Hilary Clark | Lisette Cormier | Peter Sullivan | Vivian Blaimire |
| Catherine Steiner | Howard Epstein | Liz Boyle | Peter Zimmer | Wade Prest |
| Cathy Crouse | Howlan Mullally | Lori Patterson | Randy Mosher | Walter Regan |
| Cathy Kinsman | Ian Ball | Louise Durocher | Ray Plourde | Wayne Barchard |
| Charles Crosby | Irwin Barret | Lynn and Nick Brooks | Rebecca O'Brien | Wayne Findlay |
| Cheryl Benjamin | Jane Story | Lyon Brumm | Regina Maas | Wayne Groszko |
| Chris Milburn | Janet Barlow | Lyse Boyse | Rhia Perkins | Wendy McGregor |
| Chris Miller | Janet Knight | Maida Murray | Richard Peisinger | William Hynes |
| Christene Almon | Janet McLeod | Maggie Burns | Richard Ward | Yvette Michaud |
| Christie Dyer | Janet Wilson | Marcus Garnet | Rob Hansen | |
| Christina Wylie | Jayne Roma | Margo Gesser | Rob MacLachlan | |
| Clare Robinson | Jeff Amos | Marilyn Bell | Rob MacLean | |
| Colleen O'Malley | Jeff Bell | Marina Brinkhurst | Rui Martins | |
| Cory Aldous | Jeff Tanner | Mark Beasy | Rupert Jannasch | |
| Cristin Sheridan | Jen Ayotte | Mark Butler | Ruth Lapp | |
| Daisy Kidston | Jen Ford | Mark TeKamp | Ryan Hennessey | |
| Daniel Rainham | Jen Hargreaves | Marla MacLeod | Sadie Beaton | |
| Dan Thompson | Jen Scott | Martin Willison | Samuel Li | |
| Daun Lynch | Jennifer Graham | Mary Stanway | Sara Evans | |
| Dave Adler | Jennifer Stevens | Megan Beveridge | Sarabeth Rings | |
| Dave Aalders | Jesse Williams | Megan Mills | Sarah Evans | |

Over 24,500 students along with many staff, parents and community members across Nova Scotia during International Walk to School Week

our funders

Thank you to all the foundations, businesses and individuals who have contributed money and in-kind resources to the Ecology Action Centre over the past year! We could not do the valuable work we do without your generous contributions! (Please note: Green Home Auction Major Sponsors are listed with the Fundraising Committee report.)

COASTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

Bay of Fundy Ecosystem Partnership
 Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
 Fisheries and Oceans – Science & Technology
 Youth Internship Program
 Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine
 Environment
 Environment Canada – Environmental
 Damages Fund
 Henry P. Kendall Foundation
 McLean Foundation
 NS Department of Natural Resources –
 Habitat Conservation Fund
 NS Department of Transportation and Public
 Works
 Unilever-Evergreen Foundation
 Wildlife Habitat Canada
 Clean Nova Scotia

ENERGY ISSUES COMMITTEE

Dalhousie University
 Henry P. Kendall Foundation
 West Wind Development
 Individual donors

FOOD ACTION COMMITTEE

October Hill Foundation
 Labatts "People In Action" Grant
 New Horizons Canada
 Mountain Equipment Co-Op
 LETS Membership Fees

MARINE ISSUES COMMITTEE

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
 Deep Sea Conservation Coalition
 EJLB Foundation
 Henry P. Kendall Foundation
 J.M. Kaplan Fund
 Environment Canada

Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine
 Environment
 Nova Scotia Habitat Conservation Fund
 Individual donors

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES COMMITTEE

Environment Canada
 NS Department of Energy
 NS Department of Environment and Labour
 NS Office of Health Promotion
 Go for Green
 NS Office of Health Promotion - Sport and
 Recreation Division
 Centre for Sustainable Transportation
 Resource Recovery Fund Board
 The Daily News
 The YMCA of Halifax
 Aerobics First
 Canadian Tire
 National Car and Truck Rental
 Covey's Auto Recyclers
 East Coast Outfitters
 Maritime Auto Salvage
 Metro Radio Group
 Metro Transit Individual donors

URBAN ISSUES COMMITTEE

Halifax Regional Municipality


WILDERNESS ISSUES COMMITTEE

The Ivey Foundation
 EJLB Foundation
 Atlantic Council for International
 Cooperation/CIDA
 The George Cedric Metcalf Foundation
 Individual donors

OUTREACH

Human Resources & Skills Development
 Canada

Ecology Action Centre
Financial Statements
March 31, 2005

Grant Thornton 

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Grant Thornton LLP
Chartered Accountants
Management Consultants

Auditors' Report

To the Directors and Members of Ecology Action Centre

We have audited the balance sheet of **Ecology Action Centre** as at March 31, 2005 and the statements of operations and operating surplus, capital surplus and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Centre's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

Except as explained in the following paragraph, we conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many charitable organizations, the **Ecology Action Centre** derives revenue from the general public in the form of donations, memberships, and projects, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Centre and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to the statement of operations and operating surplus.

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of revenue referred to in the preceding paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the **Ecology Action Centre** as at March 31, 2005 and the results of its operations, change in its surplus and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Grant Thornton LLP

Halifax, Nova Scotia
April 28, 2005

Grant Thornton LLP
Chartered Accountants

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Ecology Action Centre Statements of Operations and Operating Surplus

Year Ended March 31

2005

2004

Fundraising revenue		
Membership and donations	\$ 43,812	\$ 32,670
Auction (net of expenses of \$2,496; 2004 - \$1,097)	13,552	13,161
Christmas trees (net of expenses \$5,495, 2004 - \$4,627)	4,064	3,963
Miscellaneous	1,086	926
Other revenue		
Interest on savings	<u>3,388</u>	<u>1,724</u>
	<u>65,902</u>	<u>52,444</u>
Projects		
Project revenues	570,811	541,088
Project expenditures (Note 5)	(570,811)	(541,088)
Miscellaneous projects (net of expenses of \$34; 2004 - \$1,806)	<u>(9)</u>	<u>(491)</u>
	<u>(9)</u>	<u>(491)</u>
Between the issues (Page 9)	<u>(5,578)</u>	<u>(9,100)</u>
Net revenue before operating expenses	<u>60,315</u>	<u>42,853</u>
Operating expenses		
Advertising	100	151
Depreciation	1,936	2,243
Donations, gifts, project contributions	5,186	-
Equipment lease	1,609	1,345
Insurance	3,531	2,665
Interest and bank charges	1,908	2,535
Membership and workshop dues	812	1,568
Miscellaneous (HST)	3,101	3,409
Office	8,927	13,514
Professional fees	7,895	11,997
Rent	18,600	13,600
Staff wages	65,691	65,707
Telephone	2,823	2,670
Recovery of office expenses	<u>(62,543)</u>	<u>(75,738)</u>
	<u>59,576</u>	<u>45,666</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	\$ <u>739</u>	\$ <u>(2,813)</u>
Operating surplus, beginning of year	\$ 94,390	\$ 96,696
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	739	(2,813)
Net transfer from capital surplus	<u>(2,311)</u>	<u>507</u>
Operating surplus, end of year	\$ <u>92,818</u>	\$ <u>94,390</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Ecology Action Centre Balance Sheet

March 31

2005

2004

Assets

Current

Cash and cash equivalents (Note 3)	\$ 469,735	\$ 262,959
Marketable securities	150	85,150
Receivables	78,148	14,942
Travel advance	500	-
Prepaid expenses	<u>21,543</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>570,076</u>	<u>363,051</u>

Equipment (Note 4)	<u>7,808</u>	<u>5,497</u>
	<u>\$ 577,884</u>	<u>\$ 368,548</u>

Liabilities

Current

Payables and accruals	\$ 46,098	\$ 33,179
Deferred revenue (Note 5)	<u>431,160</u>	<u>235,482</u>
	<u>477,258</u>	<u>268,661</u>

Surplus

Operating surplus	92,818	94,390
Capital surplus (Page 4)	<u>7,808</u>	<u>5,497</u>
	<u>100,626</u>	<u>99,887</u>
	<u>\$ 577,884</u>	<u>\$ 368,548</u>

Commitments (Note 6)

On behalf of the Board

_____ Director _____ Director

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Ecology Action Centre Statement of Capital Surplus

Year Ended March 31	2005	2004
Capital surplus, beginning of year	\$ <u>5,497</u>	\$ <u>6,004</u>
Transfer from (to) operating surplus for		
Equipment purchases	4,585	1,736
Depreciation	<u>(2,274)</u>	<u>(2,243)</u>
	<u>2,311</u>	<u>(507)</u>
Capital surplus, end of year	\$ <u>7,808</u>	\$ <u>5,497</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Ecology Action Centre Statement of Cash Flows

Year Ended March 31

2005

2004

Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents

Operating		
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	\$ 739	\$ (2,813)
Depreciation	<u>2,274</u>	<u>2,243</u>
	<u>3,013</u>	<u>(570)</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital balances		
Marketable securities	85,000	(85,150)
Receivables	(63,206)	1,735
Travel advance	(500)	-
Prepaid expenses	(21,543)	-
Payables and accruals	12,919	8,124
Deferred revenue	<u>195,678</u>	<u>102,733</u>
	<u>208,348</u>	<u>27,442</u>
Investing		
Purchase of equipment	<u>(4,585)</u>	<u>(1,736)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	206,776	25,136
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	<u>262,959</u>	<u>237,823</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	<u>\$ 469,735</u>	<u>\$ 262,959</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Ecology Action Centre

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2005

1. Nature of operations

The Ecology Action Centre (the Centre) is a registered non-profit Society, which aims to increase the appreciation, protection, and enhancement of the environment of Nova Scotia.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

Equipment

Equipment is recorded at its original cost. Depreciation is recorded on the declining balance basis at the following annual rates:

Furniture and equipment	20%
Computer equipment	30%

Equipment purchased on behalf of projects is capitalized only if it will be retained by the Centre at completion of the project. Donated assets are not recorded in the financial statements of the Centre due to difficulties associated with the determination of their fair value.

Contributed services

A number of volunteers contribute a significant amount of their time to the Centre each year. Due to the difficulty of determining the related fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, balances with banks and short term deposits with original maturities of three months or less. Bank borrowings are considered to be financing activities.

Revenue recognition

All fundraising revenue is recorded in the year that it is received. Project revenue received in advance of related expenditures is deferred and recognized when these expenditures are incurred. Included in project expenditures is an amount charged for administration services and recorded as a recovery of office expenses on the Statement of Operations.

Foreign currency translation

The Centre receives certain project grant revenues in United States Dollars. These amounts are translated at the rates prevailing at the time of exchange into Canadian Dollars. The Centre does not hold foreign currency and as such, has no foreign currency exposure.

Financial instruments

The Centre's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, marketable securities, receivables and payables and accruals. The fair value of these financial instruments approximates their carrying value due to their short term to maturity. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Centre is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial statements.

The Centre is exposed to credit risk on the accounts receivable from its members.

Ecology Action Centre Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2005

3. Cash committed to projects	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$ <u>469,735</u>	\$ <u>262,959</u>
Cash restricted for projects:		
Transportation	(7,937)	27,117
Salt marsh	(2,141)	(1,240)
Marine issues	47,188	77,893
Wilderness project	102,670	69,521
Energy	354	2,622
Food action	188,204	42,576
Easement	20,189	10,000
Urban issues	8,605	-
General projects	<u>327</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>357,459</u>	<u>228,489</u>
Unrestricted cash and cash equivalents	\$ <u>112,276</u>	\$ <u>34,470</u>

The cash restricted for projects is the net of the deferred revenue less accounts receivable, adjusted for the Ecology Action Centre administration.

4. Equipment			<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated Depreciation</u>	<u>Net Book Value</u>	<u>Net Book Value</u>
Furniture and equipment	\$ 27,444	\$ 26,942	\$ 502	\$ 628
Computer equipment	<u>18,740</u>	<u>11,434</u>	<u>7,306</u>	<u>4,869</u>
	<u>\$ 46,184</u>	<u>\$ 38,376</u>	<u>\$ 7,808</u>	<u>\$ 5,497</u>

5. Deferred revenue	<u>Opening Balance - Funding Carried Over</u>	<u>Funding Received During The Year</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Closing Balance - Funding Remaining</u>
Transportation	\$ 27,116	\$ 178,205	\$ 166,706	\$ 38,615
Salt marsh	(1,240)	63,131	58,923	2,968
Marine issues	83,054	99,982	133,339	49,697
Wilderness project	69,521	128,593	94,835	103,279
Energy	4,455	10,224	14,325	354
Food action	42,576	179,820	34,192	188,204
Easement	10,000	10,189	-	20,189
Urban issues	-	74,573	65,968	8,605
General projects	-	2,850	2,523	327
EAC Administration	<u>-</u>	<u>18,922</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,922</u>
	<u>\$ 235,482</u>	<u>\$ 766,489</u>	<u>\$ 570,811</u>	<u>\$ 431,160</u>

Ecology Action Centre Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2005

6. Commitments

The Centre is renting its premises on a month-to-month lease. The annual rent based on the current monthly payment will be approximately \$18,600.

The Centre is also renting office equipment under a long-term lease expiring in fiscal 2010. The annual rent over the next five years is as follows:

2006	\$	2,923
2007		2,923
2008		2,923
2009		2,923
2010		554

7. Income taxes

Ecology Action Centre is a registered charitable organization under the meaning assigned in Section 149 of The Income Tax Act, and as such is exempt from income tax.

Ecology Action Centre
Schedule of Revenue and Expense - Between the Issues

Year Ended March 31 2005 2004

Revenue

Donations	\$ -	\$ 200
Advertising	<u>2,660</u>	<u>740</u>
	<u>2,660</u>	<u>940</u>

Expenses

Printing	4,458	5,437
Graphic design	2,424	2,700
Other	119	484
Postage	<u>1,237</u>	<u>1,419</u>
	<u>8,238</u>	<u>10,040</u>
	<u>\$ (5,578)</u>	<u>\$ (9,100)</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.



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