

Nature Canada
Annual General Meeting
September 29th, 2016





Annual General Meeting Agenda

Alt Hotel Ottawa

185 Slater St,
Ottawa, ON K1P 0C8
September 29th, 2016
4:00 PM Eastern Time

DRAFT AGENDA

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| 1. Welcome and Call to Order | (R. Yank) |
| 2. Quorum | (R. Yank) |
| 3. Approval of Draft Agenda | (R. Yank) |
| 4. Approval of Draft Minutes of the 2015 AGM (see page 4) | (R. Yank) |
| 5. Chair's Report | (R. Yank) |
| 6. Executive Director's Report | (E. Fast) |
| 7. Treasurer's Report | (B. Ross) |
| 8. Appointment of Auditors | (B. Ross) |
| 9. Election of Directors (see page 11) | (R. Yank) |
| 10. Question Period | (R. Yank) |
| 11. Other Business | (R. Yank) |
| 12. Adjournment | (R. Yank) |



Meeting Code of Procedures

The following procedures govern the conduct of the meeting and are supplementary to applicable legislation and to the by-laws of Nature Canada:

1. The Chair of the meeting is the Chair of the Board or, in the absence of the Chair, is the Vice-Chair or, in the absence of both, the members present at the meeting may elect a Chair from among themselves.
2. The Chair has responsibility for control of the meeting and for interpreting these rules of procedure.
3. A simple majority of votes of members present at the meeting will be needed to decide matters brought before the meeting with the Chair voting only to break a tie vote.
4. Votes will be decided by a show of hands unless a poll is requested.
5. A poll can be requested before or after a show of hands has been taken and polls will be taken in writing as directed by the Chair.
6. Any member has the right to address the meeting on any matter, guests may address the meeting at the discretion of the Chair in order to provide useful information for a matter under discussion.
7. The Chair may request that speakers restrict their remarks to the subject being discussed and to speak expeditiously during discussions around the passing of a motion or the approval of a resolution.
8. A member that has submitted a resolution for consideration at the meeting is entitled to speak first on the resolution to move the adoption of the resolution, may then speak briefly to support the resolution and, following debate on the proposal, may reply.



DRAFT Minutes for Annual General Meeting

September 25th, 2015
Mary Winspear Centre
2243 Beacon Ave. W. Sidney, BC V8L 1W9

1. Call to Order

The Chair, R. Yank, called the meeting to order at 4:40PM.

2. Quorum

R. Yank confirmed that there was quorum for the Nature Canada Annual General Meeting. Twenty were members present and twenty proxies had been received, granting R. Yank their voting rights.

3. Approval of the Draft Agenda

The draft agenda was presented and reviewed.

MOTION: *That the Draft Agenda be approved as presented.*

*D. Griffin/J Czapalay
CARRIED 150925-01*

4. Approval of Draft Minutes of the 2014 Nature Canada Annual General Meeting

MOTION: *That the Draft Minutes from the September 26, 2014 Annual General Meeting be approved as presented.*

*S. Brisbin/ D. Griffin
CARRIED 150925-02*

5. Chair's Report

R. Yank presented the Chair's report and acknowledged the collaboration between BC Nature and Nature Canada in holding joint meetings here in Sidney. He noted in particular Nature Canada's success in ramping up the NatureHood program, in continuing to grow the Women for Nature initiative, and in being a Voice for Nature in Ottawa.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, he expressed his appreciation to the Board, Executive Director Eleanor Fast, and staff on their good work during the past year, which was very much a year of transition.

He also expressed his appreciation and that of the Board to retiring director Diane Griffin for her many years of dedicated service to Nature Canada.

6. Executive Director's Report

E. Fast presented the Executive Director's report.

7. Treasurer's Report

K. Thorpe presented the Treasurer's Report, including the Audited Financial Statements.

MOTION: *That the Treasurer's Report and Audited Financial Statements be accepted as presented.*
K. Thorpe /D. Griffin
CARRIED 150925-03

8. Appointment of Auditors

MOTION: *That the firm of Collins Barrow be appointed as auditors for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016.*
K. Thorpe /S. Brisbin
CARRIED 150925-04

9. Election of Directors

B. Peart presented the membership of the Board of Directors and presented the Nominations Committee's proposed the slate of directors to be elected or re-elected as follows:

- Susan Eaton nominated to the Board of Directors for a two-year term
- Bob Peart (standing for re-election to a second term) nominated to the Board of Directors for a two-year term
- Cliff Wallis (standing for re-election for a third term) nominated to the Board of Directors for a two-year term.

Diane Griffin is coming to the end of her third term as director and hence is ineligible for re-election. He thanked Diane for her efforts over the years on behalf of Nature Canada.

MOTION: *That the slate of candidates be elected as presented*
B. Peart /T. Young
CARRIED 150925-05

10. Conservation Resolutions

B. Peart presented three conservation resolutions for the consideration of the annual general meeting as follows:

Resolution with regards to the establishment of the Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area Reserve

Be it Resolved that Nature Canada urge the Federal Government to act now and designate the Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area, with boundaries extending up to the high tide line and including a core network of 'no-take' areas

And be it Resolved that the final Southern Strait of Georgia NMCA boundaries include Shoal Harbour Migratory Bird Sanctuary, a federal bird sanctuary set aside in 1931.

MOTION: *That the Southern Strait of Georgian NMCA Resolution be approved as presented.*

*W.D Ramey/B. Peart
CARRIED 150925-06*

Resolution with regards to the establishment of a national park reserve and Provincial Conservancy in the South Okanagan-Similkameen

Be It Resolved that Nature Canada:

1. applauds the Province of British Columbia for its Intentions Paper and its intentions to establish a new national park and conservancy in the South Okanagan-Similkameen;
2. recommends that all five blocks of the South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area are included within the national park in order to protect the red and blue-listed species;
3. recommends that White Lake and Vaseux Lake be included in the national park;
4. recommends that the provincial conservancy be appropriately regulated, staffed and funded; and
5. recommends that the Province of British Columbia re-engages with the Government of Canada in the formal national park establishment process and enables the Government of Canada to begin negotiations with the Okanagan Nation Alliance.

MOTION: *That the South Okanagan-Similkameen Resolution be approved as presented.*

*B. Peart/J. Czapalay
CARRIED 150925-07*

Resolution with regards to John Macoun's Legacy

Be It Resolved that Nature Canada, on the centenary of the International Migratory Bird Convention 1916, recognize the achievements of Canada's first Dominion Naturalist, and his role in establishing the first migratory bird sanctuary in North America; and

Be It Further Resolved that Nature Canada encourage the Government of Canada to take action to honour John Macoun, by recognizing him as a person of national historical importance in natural history and conservation; and

Be It Further Resolved that Nature Canada encourage the Government of Canada to recognize and protect habitats within Shoal Harbour Migratory Bird Sanctuary as part of John Macoun's legacy, and commit to strengthening our international role in the conservation of migratory species.

MOTION: *That the Resolution with regards to John Macoun's legacy be approved as presented.*

*B. Peart/D. Griffin
CARRIED 150925-08*

11. Question period

Questions were asked by members with respect to the application of the Migratory Birds Convention Act, wildlife management in British Columbia and connecting children to nature.

12. Other business

None.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

B. Peart /K. Thorpe
CARRIED 150925-09

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm.

Attachment #1: Resolutions passed by the Annual General Meeting.

CONSERVATION RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION with regards to the establishment of the Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area Reserve

Submitted by W.D. Ramey

WHEREAS provincial and federal governments have reviewed marine protection, published papers, and conducted public meetings over the past two decades, with recognition of the diverse and bountiful marine habitats that would benefit through focused protection, together with the best method to provide various levels of zoned protection to balance conservation with human uses such as commercial and recreational fishing, marine transportation, utility corridors and a range of recreation and tourism activities, and

WHEREAS Nature Canada and BC Nature supported enacting the Oceans Act to establish National Marine Conservation Areas in 1996 and 1999, and

WHEREAS Nature Canada and BC Nature have urged the federal government to establish a National Marine Conservation Area reserve in the Strait of Georgia since the Oceans Act came into force, and

WHEREAS a National Marine Conservation Area would continue to allow traditional First Nations food, harvesting and ceremonial activities, and

WHEREAS there is widespread support for a system of extensive Marine Protected Areas on the west coast, and

WHEREAS Parks Canada completed a decade long study in 2012 to create National Marine Conservation Areas in Canada, but the initiative was never completed in British Columbia, and

WHEREAS Parks Canada recently completed a feasibility study to create the Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area extending in the south from Cordova Bay (north of Victoria) northwards to the southern tip of Gabriola Island, including Saanich Inlet and covering about 1,400 square kilometres, and

WHEREAS this study area encompasses several Important Bird Areas, namely Sidney Channel, Active Pass, McFadden Creek, Cowichan Estuary and Porlier Pass, thereby affording them greater recognition and protection, and

WHEREAS to be effective, protection should extend up to the high tide line and include a core network of 'no-take' areas, therefore

**Be It Resolved that Nature Canada urge the Federal Government to act now and designate the Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area, with boundaries extending up to the high tide line and including a core network of 'no-take' areas.
And, be It Resolved that the final Southern Strait of Georgia NMCA boundaries include Shoal Harbour Migratory Bird Sanctuary, a federal bird sanctuary set aside in 1931.**

RESOLUTION with regards to the establishment of a national park reserve and Provincial Conservancy in the South Okanagan-Similkameen

Submitted by Bob Peart:

WHEREAS the Interior Dry Plateau Natural Region, including shrub steppe, Ponderosa Pine forests, and grasslands, is a unique category which Parks Canada identified for representation in Canada's national park system and cannot finish Canada's National Park Systems Plan without a national park reserve in this region, and

WHEREAS BC Nature and Nature Canada have formally supported the establishment of a national park reserve in this region since 1999; and

WHEREAS the Province of B.C. withdrew from the formal BC-Canada national park reserve establishment process in 2010; and

WHEREAS in August 2015, the Province of British Columbia announced, in *Intentions Paper: Protected Areas Framework for British Columbia's South Okanagan*, its intentions to establish Provincial Conservancy and to work with Parks Canada to establish a national park reserve in the South Okanagan-Similkameen in this Natural Region; and

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has asked for public comment on its Intentions Paper; and

WHEREAS Parks Canada is still committed to establish the national park reserve when the Province asks to re-engage in the national park establishment process; and

WHEREAS the Okanagan Nation Alliance and its bands continue to express their commitment to negotiating a national park reserve on their traditional territory; and

WHEREAS the most recent public opinion poll shows 3 to 1 support for the national park reserve; and

WHEREAS the South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Areas are comprised of five blocks that have been set aside specifically to protect red and blue listed species, and the Province is recommending that two of these areas be included in the Provincial Conservancy rather than a national park reserve; and

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has announced its intentions to include White Lake in the proposed national park reserve and that White Lake-Vaseux has very high biodiversity and perhaps the highest concentration of COSEWIC-listed species in Canada; therefore

Be It Resolved that Nature Canada:

1. applauds the Province of British Columbia for its Intentions Paper and its intentions to establish a new national park and conservancy in the South Okanagan-Similkameen;
2. recommends that all five blocks of the South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area are included within the national park in order to protect the red and blue listed species; and
3. recommends that White Lake and Vaseux Lake be included in the national park; and
4. recommends that the Provincial Conservancy be appropriately regulated, staffed, and funded; and
5. recommends that the Province of British Columbia re-engages with the Government of Canada in the formal national park establishment process and enables the Government of Canada to begin negotiations with the Okanagan Nation Alliance.

RESOLUTION with regards to John Macoun's Legacy

Submitted by: Bob Peart

WHEREAS John Macoun, born in 1831 in County Down, northern Ireland and raised on the family farm, emigrated with his family after the Potato Famine for the promise of a better life in Canada on an Ontario homestead, and

WHEREAS he began his career in 1860 as a schoolteacher and naturalist in the village of Castleton, eastern Ontario on the Pemadashdakota prairie (Rice Lake plains), and became a popular teacher and self-taught botanist, and

WHEREAS by mere chance in 1872 - after the transfer of Rupert's Land and the Northwest to Canada in 1870 - he met Sir Sandford Fleming, engineer-in-chief of the CPR, and thereby became involved in the colonization of the West, and

WHEREAS John Macoun was an indefatigable explorer and collector, mounting three expeditions between 1879-81 to help dispel the Palliserian assessment that much of the prairies was unsuited for agriculture, and

WHEREAS 'The Professor' was appointed in 1882 as the first Survey Naturalist and Dominion Botanist with the Geological Survey of Canada and the Victoria National Museum, and

WHEREAS (in the words of historian W.A. Waiser) :

“When the Professor assumed his duties as Dominion botanist in 1882, he was one of the most renowned scientific figures in Canada.” with “an unrivalled knowledge of Canada’s natural life”, who tried single-handedly “to roll back the natural history frontiers of Canada” (W.A. Waiser), working “through swamp, thicket and meadow with all the energy of a young man” (P.A. Taverner), creating a reputation, “that serves today as an inspiration to those who follow in his footsteps, professionals and amateurs alike”, and

WHEREAS he was responsible in 1887 for establishing the oldest national migratory bird sanctuary in North America, Last Mountain Lake in Saskatchewan, and

WHEREAS he spent the final years of his productive life, documenting the flora and fauna of the Saanich Peninsula and what-was-to-become Shoal Harbour Migratory Bird Sanctuary, one of the oldest sanctuaries on Canada’s Pacific coast, and

WHEREAS John Macoun died on July 18th, 1920, and was buried in the Anglican cemetery overlooking Patricia Bay, but was disinterred the following year and removed to Ottawa for national honours, and

WHEREAS John Macoun’s contributions to Canada have been largely forgotten,

Be It Resolved that Nature Canada, on the centenary of the International Migratory Bird Convention 1916, recognize the achievements of Canada’s first Dominion Naturalist, and his role in establishing the first migratory bird sanctuary in North America, and

Be It Resolved that Nature Canada encourage the Government of Canada to take action to honour John Macoun, by recognizing him as a person of national historical importance in natural history and conservation, and

Be It Resolved that the Nature Canada encourage the Government of Canada to recognize and protect habitats within Shoal Harbour Migratory Bird Sanctuary, as part of John Macoun’s legacy, and commit to strengthening our international role in the conservation of migratory species.

“Probably no greater single act of conservation of wild life was ever inaugurated than when the Migratory Birds Convention Act with the United States was ratified in 1916 and the various provincial acts in harmony with it were enacted. Under this it was recognized that the protection of migratory birds was an international question, not a local one”

Percy Taverner 1926 “Birds of Western Canada”, Victoria Memorial Museum, Ottawa.



Election of Directors

Nature Canada Board Directors serve for a two year term, renewable twice, for a maximum service of six years.

A proactive nominations process was undertaken by the nominations committee, and nominations were also invited via the Nature Canada website, with a deadline of August 15th 2016.

At this AGM, Ken Thorpe and Joan Czapalay are coming to the end of her third term on the Board and are ineligible to stand for election. Nature Canada thanks Ken and Joan very much for their wonderful and dedicated service.

The following Board members are continuing, standing for election or leaving the Board:

Board members continuing:

- Cliff Wallis (completes 3rd term in 2017)
- Bob Peart (completes 2nd term in 2017)
- Susan Eaton (completes 1st term in 2017)
- Richard Yank

Board members standing for (re)election:

- Sheefra Brisbin (standing for 2nd term)
- Tuma Young (standing for 2nd term)
- Bill Ross (1st term)
- Ray Mansour (1st term)

Board members who have reached term limits:

- Joan Czapalay
- Ken Thorpe

Proposed motion: That the slate of candidates for the 2016-2017 Board Directors be approved as presented

Biographies of proposed Board Directors 2016-17 (in alphabetical order)

SHEEFRA BRISBIN – Vice-Chair

Sheefra Brisbin is a partner of Greenbridge Consulting Group a government relations and strategic communications firm with a special focus on health and safety, environment and business issues.

Sheefra's interest and passion for the environment began when she was appointed publisher and editor of *Communique*, the national industry publication for the Petroleum Association for Conservation of the Canadian Environment (PACE) and subsequently the Canadian Petroleum Products Institute (CPPI).

She was a recipient of the 'Outstanding Contribution to Conservation and Protection of the Canadian Environment' Award by both PACE and CPPI.

Her experience and reputation at CPPI led her to be recruited by the federal Minister of the Environment to head Environment Canada's Conservation and Protection Program. During her tenure with the Minister of the Environment, Sheefra immersed herself in a wide range of issues that included Ozone Depletion, Global Warming, Climate Change and Pollution Prevention policy.

Sheefra's leadership was acknowledged by the Minister when chosen to attend the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) *Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone layer* in Copenhagen, Denmark.

In 1995, Sheefra founded Greenbridge and in this capacity she led a delegation through three cities in India and organized the *Asian Regional Workshops on Ozone Depleting Substances Phase Out* on behalf of Environment Canada, the CII and the World Bank.

More recently, Sheefra organized a panel on energy production, environmental responsibility and economic growth on behalf of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly's Science and Technology Committee in the United States. Sheefra also organized for three consecutive years Earth Hour for the City of Ottawa, for which she received the Agent of Change Medal from the Mayor of Ottawa.

SUSAN R. EATON – Director

Equipped with degrees in biology, geology, geophysics and journalism, Susan has 25 years of volunteer experience in the Canadian and American conservation sectors. She's developed expertise in not-for-profit board of directors governance, and has formulated and led successful science-based environmental campaigns which included media messaging and fundraising activities.

Originally from Halifax, Susan lives in Calgary where she consults to Canada's energy sector. She's held executive positions during her 30-year oil and gas career, managing large capital budgets and leading interdisciplinary teams of energy professionals. She's also established solid relationships with multi-stakeholder groups: environmental, governmental, academic, industry, First Nations and the news media.

In 2015, Susan was named one of Canada's 100 top, modern-day explorers by the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. During the past five years, Susan has participated in several polar expeditions—to Antarctica and the Canadian High Arctic—to study the interplay between plate tectonics, oceans, glaciers, climate and life.

Last summer, Susan led the all-female Sedna Epic Expedition to Labrador, Greenland and Iceland. Team Sedna documented the impacts of ocean change in the Arctic, and delivered its innovative ocean outreach program—using mobile marine aquariums and remotely operated vehicles—to the Inuit community of Nain.

DR. RIAD MANSOUR -Director

Dr. Riad Mansour was born in Antingnuish, Nova Scotia and has been practicing medicine in Ottawa, Canada for the last 30 years. His love for nature can be traced back to his childhood memories of hiking in the mountains of Lebanon or enjoying the ocean playground of Nova Scotia. Dr. Mansour believes in the important connection between health and nature and has dedicated his family practice to helping patients lead healthy and fulfilling lives. He believes in the value of connecting with nature and is an avid walker and hiker.

BOB PEART – Director

Bob is a biologist, and he has worked in the fields of parks management, land use planning and environmental education for nearly 40 years. Currently, Bob is Executive Director of Sierra Club BC. Previously he has worked for Parks Canada, the Canadian Wildlife Service, the BC Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, the BC Outdoor Recreation Council, the Royal BC Museum and the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society-BC Chapter. Bob has volunteered for numerous organizations related to these fields, such as the Child and Nature Alliance of Canada, Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative and the Grasslands Conservation Council of BC. In recognition of his work and volunteer contributions Bob has been awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal and the J.B. Harkin Conservation Medal.

WILLIAM (BILL) ROSS - Treasurer

Bill Ross is a business executive with Vercerta, a firm that specializes in risk management services, with particular focus on business economics and environmental issues.

In prior roles, Bill held executive management positions, specializing in Finance and Information Technology, with Enbridge Inc., a leading energy infrastructure manager; W.W. Grainger, a pre-eminent industrial distributor; and, Unilever, a global provider of consumer products.

Bill is a Chartered Professional Accountant, holds an MBA (with distinction) from the Richard Ivey School of Business and a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Mathematics from the University of Stirling in Scotland.

Bill is also a Chartered Director and, most recently, is past Chair of the Board for Financial Executives Canada.

Bill is the current Chair of the Energy and Environment Committee for the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce, whose mandate is to advocate economic and environment policies to promote sustainable development in the region.

As a keen participant in outdoor activities, Bill has a passion for the preservation of wildlife and their natural habitat. I am a regular hiker, cross country skier, long distance cyclist and runner who relishes the natural beauty of the outdoors.

CLIFF WALLIS - Director

Born in London, UK, Cliff moved to Calgary in 1957 and has lived in Alberta ever since. Cliff has operated his own Calgary-based environmental consulting firm, Cottonwood Consultants Ltd. since 1978. He is a Professional Biologist with a diverse background in protected areas, ecotourism, environmental assessment, species at risk, and environmentally significant areas. As a volunteer, Cliff has served on the boards of environmental NGOs nationally, provincially and locally. He has worked proactively with federal, provincial and regional government agencies, non-profit organizations, indigenous communities, local landowners, and businesses. Cliff has been involved with precedent-setting legal actions related to species at risk and environmental assessment. He has international experience working on environmental protection in Cameroon and China and in dialogues in international environmental fora. He is currently focusing efforts on Greater Sage-grouse recovery in Canada's grasslands.

RICHARD YANK - Chair

Richard Yank has returned to Ottawa from Australia at the end of his career with Alcan Inc. He joined Alcan Inc after graduating with a B.Sc in Chemical Engineering. Yank held a variety of positions within Alcan and retired as the president of its bauxite and alumina operations in the Pacific Region. A former Nature Canada director, he is interested in wilderness and habitat conservation, biological diversity, and climate change.

TUMA YOUNG - Secretary

Tuma Young was born into the Squirrel clan for the Rabbit clan and grew up in the Malagawatch First Nation. He was raised traditional by his parents, the late William Fred Young and Veronica Phillips, trapping, hunting, fishing and gathering for his family.

Tuma subsequently obtained a Diploma in Addictions Counseling (Dalhousie University), a B.A. in Mi'kmaq Studies (Cape Breton University), an LL.B. (University of British Columbia), and an LL.M in Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy (University of Arizona). He is currently completing his SJD (Dalhousie/University of Arizona).

Tuma became the first Mi'kmaq-speaking lawyer in Nova Scotia when he was called to the bar in 2001. He currently teaches as an Assistant Professor at Cape Breton University.

Tuma's community involvement is extensive and includes the following activities:

- Board Member, Nova Scotia Bird Society
- Senator, Cape Breton University
- Pro Bono Legal Clinic, Cape Breton University
- Mi'kmaq Traditional Knowledge holder in plants, birds and medicines (Mi'kmaq Ethnobotanist)
- Member, Photographic Guild of Nova Scotia (particular expertise-photographing birds)
- Member, Canadian Water Network Research Project: Integration of Traditional & Western Knowledge for First Nation, Inuit, & Metis Water Management.