

Young Nature Leaders

"When it comes to the future of our environment, we want to do the right thing for ourselves and for our children..." ~ Senator Diane Griffin, Honourary Chair, Women for Nature

What a wonderful way to celebrate our nation's 150th birthday by encouraging young Canadians to act as a strong voice for nature!

Nature Canada's *Women for Nature* initiative is pleased to announce that 6 young nature leaders from across the country have been chosen as Nature Canada's first recipients of our exciting new Young Nature Leadership Grant.

The goal of the grant is to encourage, foster and nurture youth to demonstrate their own leadership for nature. It is because of the generosity of Women for Nature members that we are able to award these young women for \$1,000 bursary towards their projects:



Caroline Merner – Vancouver, BC

Caroline is leading interactive quick play sessions connecting young people with nature's changing tides and coasts.



Chantal Templeman – Cochrane, AB

Chantal is bringing youth caving to teach them about bats and cave conservation, and encourage team-building and leadership skills while volunteering on projects in Banff National Park.



Mathilde Papillon – Ottawa, ON

Mathilde is developing a Green Wall for her school with the goal of bringing nature to current and future students to learn from and enjoy.



Nina Andrascik – Ottawa, ON

Nina is developing a pilot project to encourage first generation new Canadians to enroll in outdoor education programs. She is creating a video series to document the participants experience and voices about their experience.



Martha Henderson – Whitehorse, YK

Martha is developing a Girl's Nature Club to engage and empower teenage girls with the wilderness knowledge and skills to help them become comfortable and confident with nature.



Olivia DesRoches – Hampton, NB

Olivia and her Grade 11 Foundations of Math class are building and running a greenhouse on their school property to bring the knowledge of cultivating fruits and vegetables and flowers to students and to further their knowledge about the environment and pollinators.

"What an awesome way to celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary by empowering emerging Young Nature Leaders to champion nature. By working together we can conserve, and encourage new generations to connect with nature."

~ Dawn Carr, Women of Nature and Project Leader Executive Director of the Canadian Parks Council