



## **Nature Canada congratulates Luke Nguyen of Ajax, Ontario, as a 2024 Young Nature Leaders Grant recipient**

**(Unceded Algonquin Territory, Ottawa, August 12, 2024)**—Nature Canada's *Women for Nature* are proud to celebrate Luke Nguyen of Ajax, Ontario, as a recipient of our **2024 Young Nature Leaders Grant**. This grant encourages, fosters and nurtures youth to demonstrate their leadership in nature.

Luke has hosted the Operation Eco-Pen's The Indigenous Community and Healing Garden Project this season by enriching the garden, implementing educational programs, and empowering a new generation of environmental leaders.

Luke has hosted an event on Saturday, May 25th, 2024 from 10am - 3pm at the Indigenous Community and Healing Garden located at Ajax Hospital.

Lucas shared, "At the heart of Ajax, Ontario, the Indigenous Community and Healing Garden is a gathering place of hope, sustainability, and unity. With the Young Nature Leaders Grant, I am committed to mobilizing youth leadership in enhancing this cherished landscape, showcasing native plant species and traditional Indigenous agricultural practices. Together with my peers from local youth organizations such as Operation EcoPen, To Seniors With Love, and Ontario Nature Youth Council, I aim to foster a deep appreciation for Indigenous wisdom and sustainable living, nurturing a green space that bolsters our community's health and well-being."

Luke is a Young Nature Leader alongside these other amazing local youth leaders:

- Humza Hassan, Toronto, ON;
- Abinaya Gnanasekar, Oakville, ON;
- Percy Ager, Cape Breton, NS;
- Samuel LeGresley, Greater Moncton, NB;
- Hayley De Turse, Peterborough, ON

"It brings me great hope and happiness to see these young people taking leadership in their local communities to help and heal nature," says the Honourable Rosa Galvez, Honorary Chair of Nature Canada's *Women for Nature* program. "Through their actions and advocacy, young Canadians across the country are creating a cleaner and brighter tomorrow," declares Galvez.

The **Young Nature Leaders Grant** began in 2017 to empower youth to develop and implement a youth-led, community-based project centered around nature and sustainability in Canada. This year's recipients join an impressive list of previous recipients with unique and complementary ideas.

### **Related Links:**

[Recipients of the 2024 Young Nature Leaders Grant](#)

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### **[About Nature Canada](#)**

Nature Canada was founded in 1939 because of the passion and initiative of Mabel Frances Whittemore, a teacher and nature lover whose main goal in life was to share her passion for nature with others. Today, Nature Canada represents a network of over 175,000 members and supporters and more than 1200 nature organizations across the country. Over the past 85 years, Nature Canada has helped protect more than 110 million acres of parks and wildlife areas in Canada and countless species that depend on this habitat and connected hundreds of thousands of Canadians - especially children - with nature through its activities.

### **[About Women For Nature](#)**

Nature Canada's signature "Women for Nature" initiative raises awareness about the need to connect more Canadians of all ages to nature. Our members champion efforts to inspire youth and families to spend time in nature, to learn and experience our natural heritage and in doing so, ensure the health and well-being of our Canadian society.