



NEWS RELEASE

Nature Canada congratulates Megan Castelino of Thorold, Ontario as a 2025 Young Nature Leaders Grant recipient

(Unceded Algonquin Territory, Ottawa, August 12, 2025)—Nature Canada's *Women for Nature* are proud to celebrate Megan Castelino of Thorold, Ontario, as a recipient of our **2025 Young Nature Leaders Grant**. This grant encourages, fosters and nurtures youth to demonstrate their leadership in nature.

Megan will be leading **Bridging Generations in Nature**, a Montreal-based initiative that aims to connect women and gender diverse BIPOC participants through outdoor activities that promote cultural exchange, wellness, and environmental stewardship. Centered on racial and intergenerational justice, the program allows individuals to connect with the land, learn from elders, and explore green careers.

Her 2025 program will include a visit to Quinn Farm for discussion on food justice; a biking tour around Montreal to encourage sustainable transportation; and a visit to the McCord-Stewart Museum to explore an exhibit on Quebec's fashion history, using it to introduce sustainable fashion by examining its evolution and future direction. A visit to the *Indigenous Voices of Today* exhibit is also being planned. Participants will take part in workshops and storytelling sessions led by Indigenous and BIPOC elders and programming will be offered in both English and French.

Megan sees this initiative to be a meaningful way to build relationships across generations and within communities. She explains, "as someone deeply passionate about gerontology, I believe older adults have invaluable wisdom and a vital role to play in building stronger, more connected communities. Through this project, I hope to bridge generational divides and create inclusive environmental leadership opportunities that honour the voices, experiences, and contributions of older adults."

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

- Wendy Ihama of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador

- Mehvish Khanam of Scarborough, Ontario
- Kaite Martin of Kimberley, British Columbia
- Jasmin Skinner of London, Ontario
- Aidan Williams Dale of Brampton, Ontario

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 2025 Young Nature Leaders Grant](#)

For media assistance please contact:

Scott Mullenix, Director of Communications
613-462-4024
media@naturecanada.ca

For information on the Young Nature Leaders grant please contact:

Effie Vaicoussis, Manager of Women for Nature & Donor Engagement, Nature Canada
613-295-6769 | 1-800-267-4088
evaicoussis@naturecanada.ca

[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.