



NEWS RELEASE

Nature Canada congratulates Wendy Lhama of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, 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 Wendy Lhama of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador as a recipient of our 2025 **Young Nature Leaders Grant**. This grant encourages, fosters and nurtures youth to demonstrate their leadership in nature.

Wendy is working on a **Nature-Based Leadership Program** in Atlantic Canada. The month-long summer program combines outdoor adventure with leadership training to empower young people, particularly those from underrepresented and marginalized communities.

Participants engage in outdoor activities such as hiking, camping, canoeing, and conservation projects, alongside leadership training focused on sustainability and community advocacy. With support from experienced mentors, they build practical skills in communication, teamwork, problem solving, and environmental stewardship. The program prepares youth to be confident leaders and environmental advocates, culminating in a final showcase where they present projects reflecting their growth and commitment to nature.

For Wendy, the opportunity to lead this work and connect with locals has been incredibly rewarding: "The support from the Young Nature Leaders grant gave me the chance to lead a meaningful, community-driven project in Atlantic Canada," she says. "It was an incredible opportunity to foster local connections, deepen respect for Indigenous knowledge and practices, and highlight the importance of nature engagement in our region."

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

- Kaite Martin of Kimberley, British Columbia
- Mehvish Khanam of Scarborough, Ontario

- Megan Castelino of Thorold, Ontario
- 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](#)

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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.