

Gulf of Maine Council Annual Recognition Awards

The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment is seeking nominations for its 2006 Gulf of Maine Visionary and Longard Volunteer awards. These awards are presented annually to recognize residents and organizations that have contributed to the mission of the Gulf of Maine Council. Nova Scotian award winners will be presented their award during the Gulf of Maine Council Awards Ceremony to be held in Halifax, date and location to be announced.

The Gulf of Maine Visionary Awards

Visionary Awards are presented to individuals or organizations within each of the five jurisdictions bordering the Gulf of Maine - Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia. Two award recipients are selected from each jurisdiction. "Visionaries" are recognized for innovation, creativity, and commitment to environmental protection in the Gulf of Maine or the Gulf of Maine watershed. Businesses, NGOs, and individuals are eligible for nomination.

Activities nominated may be of a scientific, educational, conservationist, or policy nature. The activity might be a public awareness effort, a specific grassroots action, a manufacturing change that benefits the marine environment, or simply a change in business practices to address environmental concerns.

The Longard Volunteer Award

The Longard Volunteer Award is made in memory of Art Longard, a long-time employee of Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries who committed countless volunteer hours to the conservation of marine life in the Gulf of Maine. Art was one of seven people who conceived of and ardently supported the international Gulf of Maine program, and the Council is proud of his accomplishments.

The Longard Volunteer Award is presented to an individual in recognition of volunteer efforts toward environmental protection and sustainability of natural resources within the marine, near shore, or watershed environment of the Gulf of Maine.

Nominees for this award must be involved in volunteer community-based or cross-jurisdictional initiatives, which may include:

- S stewardship/research programs designed to rehabilitate, enhance, or preserve the environmental quality of the Gulf;
- S educational programs to improve public understanding and appreciation of the historic, cultural, biological, and economic value of the Gulf ecosystem, or to exchange information on specific Gulf issues;
- S volunteer monitoring programs designed to collect, synthesize and deliver scientifically credible information to decision makers and managers of environmental protection and restoration programs throughout the Gulf; or
- S scientific research programs to investigate issues of concern within the Gulf.

To Make a Nomination

Follow the instructions on the nomination form below. All nominations must be received by close of business day on December 4, 2006 (unless there is a notice to indicate this date has been extended).

Nominations of Nova Scotians for GOM Visionary Awards can be e-mailed or mailed to: Patricia Hinch, NS Department of Environment and Labour, PO 697, Halifax, NS, B3J 2T8, Email: hinchpr@gov.ns.ca. For further information locally please contact: Patricia Hinch, NSDEL, ph: (902)424-6345.

Nominations for Gulf of Maine Art Longard Awards or for nominations for Visionary Awards in other jurisdictions (Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Brunswick) may be e-mailed or mailed to: Michele Tremblay, Gulf of Maine Council, c/o NH Dept. of Environmental Services, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095, US or info@gulfofmaine.org.

A list of previous Nova Scotian award recipients and Gulf-wide Art Longard award recipients, and the nomination form for all awards, is provided below.

Previous Nova Scotian recipients of the Visionary Awards (Group and Individual Awards)

Henry Surette, promotion of waste oil collection program for fishermen (1991).

Brier Island Ocean Study, establishment of the Adopt-a-Whale program and research on humpback and right whales (1991).

Michael McAdam, Colchester River Enhancement Association (1992).

Clean Annapolis River Project, volunteer environmental monitoring and fish habitat restoration (1992).

Graham Daborn, research and community based environmental efforts to manage Bay of Fundy region (1993).

Clyde River Committee, community work to protect heritage of Clyde River and public support for resource protection (1993).

Harry Thurston, science and nature writer, author of Tidal Life: A Natural History of the Bay of Fundy (1994).

Cumberland County River Enhancement Association, community stewardship of Bay of Fundy watersheds (1994).

Ted d'Eon, for many years of dedicated effort as birder and naturalist and researcher in the Pubnico-Tusket Islands area and, in particular, for monitoring of the Roseate Tern population. (1995)

Municipality of the County of Annapolis and Community of Bear River, for their contribution to environmental sustainability in the development and installation of the Bear River Solar Aquatics Sewage Treatment Plant. (1995)

Dr. Derek Davis, for many years of dedicated work in environmental conservation, education, and the development of a province wide environmental education program and biological research on marine natural regions, benthic ecology, and the development of land use policy (1996).

Digby East Fish and Game Association of Nova Scotia, for their contribution to promotion of awareness of fish and wildlife issues, work in the reduction of damage from development and in the protection and restoration of wildlife populations and for the development of a plan to restore the Acacia Valley River to its natural state and to enhance marine habitat.(1996)

Nova Scotia Power Inc., in recognition of research and enhancement of fisheries and fish habitats in the Annapolis, Bear, Black, Nictaux, Tusket, and Gaspereaus Rivers (1997).

Steve Hawboldt, in recognition of his dedication to environmental education and involvement in community stewardship initiatives in the Gulf of Maine (1997).

Clean Nova Scotia Foundation, in recognition of their leadership and facilitation of community programs on issues relating to beach clean up, environmental restoration, conservation and enhancement throughout Nova Scotia and for their role as coordinators of the Gulf-wide Beach Cleanup Program for Year of the Ocean 1998 (1998).

Art Longard, as a founding member of the Gulf of Maine Council program in recognition of his dedication and commitment to the Gulf of Maine Council Program, for his support of collaborative management of the Gulf on an ecosystem basis, his belief in citizen volunteerism as an essential component for sustainability of natural resources (1998).

Dr. Jon Percy, for many years of dedicated scientific research on marine and terrestrial ecosystems, publications, and involvement with community based organizations to promote public understanding of scientific principles and ecosystem dynamics (1999).

Salmon River Salmon Association, in recognition of its leadership in the development and implementation of an environmental education program for elementary school students on the life cycles of Atlantic Salmon, habitat protection, and restoration, and its extensive volunteer effort to restore salmon populations in the Salmon, Meteghan, and Clare Rivers (1999) .

Dr. Mike Brylinsky, in recognition of many years of environmental education, dedicated scientific research and publications on estuarine, marine, and freshwater ecosystems of the Bay of Fundy, and for his involvement in community-based initiatives providing scientific advice and promoting understanding of ecosystem functions, dynamics, and sustainable management practices (2000).

Bay of Fundy Marine Resource Centre, in recognition of their success as a community-based institution providing facilitation services, capacity development and technical support to enable communities to assume a greater role in integrated management of coastal resources (2000).

Walton Rector (individual award) and The Cape Chignecto Management Committee (group award), Mr. Rector was the first chair of the committee, whose efforts and planning helped develop Cape Chignecto Provincial park - the largest in the province with 4,200 hectares (10,000 acres) and 29 kilometers (18 miles) of pristine coastline. The park is managed by the committee (2001).

Dr. Martin Willison, for initiating Gulf-wide discussions about protecting and sustaining healthy marine environments and biodiversity, and for helping to initiate the first international symposium on deep-sea corals (2002).

Ducks Unlimited Canada, for impacting 17,686 hectares (43,701 acres) of wetland and associated upland habitats in Nova Scotia since the 1970's. Their work includes creating freshwater wetlands, conserving landscapes with wetland habitats, and working with landowners to restore riparian buffer zones, promote soil conservation, and on wastewater management projects (2002).

Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee, Michael Butler, and Claudette LeBlanc for their role as a leaders in the development of effective mechanisms to manage, promote understanding, and effectively exchange and disseminate coastal information and data; for the promotion of integrated coastal zone management initiatives; the successful development and coordination of an interagency and public information network; facilitation of discussions on integrated coastal management policy; and the formation of alliances and partnerships among government, academia, and the private sector to develop information products and services to maximize collaborative opportunities. Mr. Butler and Mrs. LeBlanc have played an integral role in ensuring a collective approach to ICM in the Atlantic region. Without the personal commitment and vision of Mr. Butler and Mrs. LeBlanc, the ACZISC would not have been able

to achieve its role as the focal-point for ICM in Atlantic Canada (2003).

Dr. Kenneth Mann for his commitment and leadership as an internationally recognized marine ecologist; scientific research in the ecology of temperate near-shore ecosystems and his role in resource and ecosystem protection through elucidation of the relationships between lobsters, sea urchins and seaweeds; scientific publications and textbooks in marine ecology and coastal management currently used by students and researchers as fundamental tools in research, monitoring, and assessment; his inspiration to students and influence over colleagues working on resource and environmental issues in the Bay of Fundy/Gulf of Maine as a distinguished researcher and professor, former Head of the Biology Department at Dalhousie University, and a scientist emeritus at Bedford Institute of Oceanography(2003).

Friends of the Cornwallis River Society (FOCS) for its dedication and commitment to the restoration and protection of the aquatic habitats of the Cornwallis River watershed, and the development of a fisheries management plan for the Cornwallis River. This award also recognizes FOCS initiatives in volunteer water quality monitoring, promotion of awareness of fish and fish habitat within local elementary schools, and many partnerships formed with government and non-government organizations on projects pertaining to the construction of wetlands and riparian re-establishment, fencing, and leasing. The creation of riparian edges and wetlands contribute to the conservation of wildlife habitat and reductions in contamination associated with agricultural runoff at the watershed level. (2004)

Dr. Sherman Bleakney for his commitment and dedication to science for over 50 years as a distinguished zoologist and marine biologist, researcher, historian, and scientific writer; scientific reports and papers on shorebirds, fish, reptiles, amphibians, molluscs, crustaceans, sponges; textbooks entitled ASea Slugs of Atlantic Canada and the Gulf of Maine, AKeys to the Fauna and Flora of Minas Basin, and Sods, Soils, and Spades: The Acadians at Grand Pré and their Dykeland Legacy; This award also recognizes his discoveries of fossil beds of 3800 yr old preserved oysters, petrified forests, and Laminaria in the Minas Basin; and his inspiration and dedication to students as a distinguished researcher and Professor Emeritus of Biology at Acadia University. (2004)

Saltmarsh Restoration Team at the Ecology Action Centre in recognition of its dedication and commitment as the driving force behind Nova Scotia's first community-based saltmarsh restoration project in the Bay of Fundy at Cheverie Marsh in the Minas Basin. Following two years of on-site study and government consultation, the Team secured the commitment of government to replace the existing tidally restrictive culvert with a larger crossing. Restoration of a natural tidal flow will increase fish passage, reduce the risk of flooding, provide tourism, outdoor recreation, and recreational opportunities, improve habitat productivity, and preserve ecological integrity as wetland habitat (2005).

Warren Paton in recognition of his leadership and commitment to the protection of Nova Scotia marshlands for the purpose of preserving their natural values, and for the establishment of a wildlife

preservation area on St. Mary's Bay. Through dedicated effort over a five year period to acquire property, he has secured over 60 acres of land and wetland to establish the Toymaker's Marsh Wildlife Area. This area he freely shares with others who believe in environmental stewardship and conservation and take their footprints with them when they leave (2005) .

Previous recipients of the Art Longard Award:

Dana Wallace - For his numerous years of volunteer effort in promoting understanding and appreciation of the biological and economic value of intertidal resources. (1999)

Ruth Barchelder Alexander - Massachusetts - For her decades of enthusiasm and volunteer efforts on behalf of the Great marsh, establishing a regional trail system, brokering land deals to protect critical areas, organizing the AGreat Marsh Summit. (1999-2000)

Richard Wheeler - Massachusetts - for challenging people, through his unique journeys, to consider the beauty, complexity and value of the natural marine environment, the need to protect and conserve coastal and marine areas and endangered species; for re-tracing the 1500 mile migration route of the Great Auk from Funk Island (off Newfoundland) to Buzzard=s Bay (Massachusetts) by kayak, and for fundraising initiatives for the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History ANaturalist in the Schools@ Program. (2000-2001)

Arthur Bull - Nova Scotia - In recognition of: many years of voluntary effort, leadership, dedication and commitment to: community based resource management, sustainable environmental and economic well-being of NS coastal and rural communities affected by the downturn in the fishery, and for outreach communication, education, and community capacity building to enable communities to assume a greater role in the integrated management of coastal resources of the Bay of Fundy. (2001-2002)

Don Rice and Jim Todd - Nova Scotia - In recognition of ten years of work without pay to preserve the Tobeatic Wilderness Area which covers approximately 100,000 hectares of crown land in Southwest NS near Kejimkujik National Park. Both with deep roots in NS, Rice and Todd work effectively with NGOs, government representatives and a full spectrum of stakeholders. Jim and Todd respectively serve as President and VP of the Tobeatic Wilderness Committee, a community group they founded several years ago and also are members of the NSDEL - established Tobeatic Advisory Group.(2002-2003)

Elsa Martz from Harpswell, Maine in recognition of her dedication and commitment to the Dingley Island Tidal Flow Restoration Project which restored the natural tidal flow between mainland Harpswell and Dingley Island after 50 years of disruption. This award also recognizes her contribution to restoring shellfish habitat; building partnerships with citizens, landowners, governmental agencies and non-governmental entities; and inspiring students and colleagues to work harder at protecting important natural resources. (2003-2004)

Don Bade, President, Parker River Clean Water Association (PRCWA), Massachusetts, from Boston, Massachusetts for his achievements, dedication, and involvement in the Gulf of Maine's environmental community. The PRCWA is a watershed group on the North Shore of Massachusetts dedicated to protecting the Parker River and Plum Island Sound watersheds. Don strengthens all aspects of the organization through his inspiration and leadership, work with local officials, community outreach, and local school projects. He has kept this organization going on a volunteer basis and has been an integral part in the PRCWA achieving its success over the past eleven years. Don is also involved in helping to protect natural resources in the Great Marsh, the largest salt marsh in New England. Not only is he an advocate for his local watershed, he actively partners with organizations that have broader goals of environmental stewardship that benefit the entire region (2004).

Sheila Washburn, a well-known and active member of the whole community or southern New Brunswick. Both as a professional engineer and as a volunteer, Sheila ha made a substantial difference in how people interact with the environment. She has participated actively in the preservation of special lands in New Brunswick, including the coastal lands along the Bay of Fundy. Sheila is Past President of the Nature Trust of New Brunswick, a charitable land trust dedicated to preserving nature for the benefit of present an future generations, She and her family have donated land to ensure that New Brunswickers will be able to enjoy the vistas and special ecology of the Caughey-Taylor Preserve (San Orr's Pond) in Charlotte County. Sheila also served on the Todd's Point Committee to protect the 350-acre Ganong Nature Park. Sheila has volunteered in numerous other ways, contributing to student scholarship (Thomas Washburn Memorial Scholarship Committee) and volunteering with many community organizations, Sheila is an outstanding contributor to her community and a champion for protection of the coastal environment (2005).

The Nomination form follows.

Nominations by Nova Scotians - Gulf of Maine Council Visionary Awards and Art Longard Award

2006 Award Nomination Form

Nomination instructions:

- Individuals or organizations may make nominations. Self-nominations are not accepted.
- The nominee must reside in Maine, Massachusetts, New Brunswick, New Hampshire, or Nova Scotia.
- The nominee's contributions must have occurred in the Gulf of Maine or the Gulf of Maine watershed.
- Longard nominees must have made their contributions in their capacity as a volunteer, NOT as a paid professional.
- Nominations must be made on this nomination form. This form may be reproduced electronically. Nominations with missing information will be disqualified.
- Supporting documents will be accepted, however, the nomination form should be completed comprehensively and contain detailed information about why the nominee should be given the award.
- All nominations must be received by close of business day on **December 4, 2006** preferably via email (total emailed file size no larger than 100K please) or via hard copy as follows:
 - For those submitting a nomination for a **Visionary Award for a Nova Scotian individual/organization**, please forward the completed nomination form below by email or mail postmarked by close of business day on December 4, 2006 to:
Patricia Hinch, NS Department of Environment and Labour, P.O. Box 697, Halifax, NS, B3J 2T8 or hinchpr@gov.ns.ca
 - For those submitting a nomination for an **Art Longard Award**, please forward the completed nomination form at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/opportunities> by email, or mail postmarked by close of business day on December 4, 2006 to:
Michele L. Tremblay, Gulf of Maine Council, c/o NH Dept. of Environmental Services, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095, USA. Or info@fulfofmaine.org
 - For those submitting a nomination for a **Visionary Award for an individual /organization in another jurisdiction** (Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, or New Brunswick), please forward your nomination form at <http://www.gulfofmaine.org/council/opportunities> by email or mail postmarked, by close of business day on December 4, 2006 to:
Michele L. Tremblay, Gulf of Maine Council, c/o NH Dept. of Environmental Services, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302- 0095, USA or info@fulfofmaine.org
- Questions ? Please contact Patricia Hinch, at 902-424-6345 or hinchpr@gov.ns.ca or Michele L. Tremblay at 603.796.2615 or info@fulfofmaine.org

Nomination category:

(Nominations can be made for more than one category.) Please mark an x beside the award to which your nomination refers)

Visionary Award

Longard Volunteer Award

Name of individual or group/organization being nominated:

Reason for nomination: (Please attach any supporting documents.)

Contact information of nominee: (In (include mailing address, telephone number, and email)

Name and contact information of person making nomination:
(include mailing address, telephone number, and email.)