

# In With the Tide

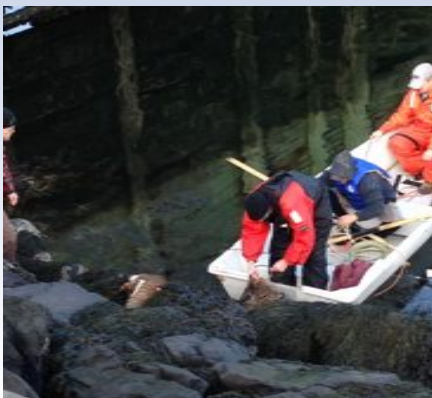
The Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association Newsletter



## Our Fundy-Our Future

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### Oh deer! A dramatic rescue at sea

By Anna-Marie MacKenzie Kelly as narrated by Dorothy Tidd

What would you do if you were being chased by coyotes? It is presumed a deer, seen struggling on the rocks below Eastern Head, in Little River, plunged from the cliff to escape being chased by coyotes. The deer was observed faltering on the rocks for two days by staff at Fishermen's Market Lobster Pound. They tried contacting different agencies to get help for the 100 pound doe but were basically told to let nature take its course.

On the morning of Tuesday 16 December, Wanda Tidd decided to try one more time. She called Dorothy Tidd, a long-time resident and full-time volunteer in Little River and asked her if she had any connections to get help for this deer. Dorothy's response was, "Give me a few minutes." A few phone calls later and Dorothy was speaking with William Grover

from the Department of Natural Resources in Cornwallis. Knowing her husband, Lauriston, was a longtime fisherman in Little River, he asked to speak with him to assess the situation before heading out. They decided approaching from the water in a small boat would be their best option.

It was 11:30 and low tide when Mr. Grover arrived. Dorothy's son, Christopher, provided the row boat which, due to the low tide, had to be lowered down from the end of the wharf with a hoist. Dorothy's youngest son, Gregory, manned the oars and rowed Mr. Glover out to the rocks where the deer lay tucked in a crevice. She remained calm as they observed her and made a further assessment.

Back at the wharf, another phone call, this time to the

Natural Resource office in Lawrencetown to request support from personnel with a tranquilizer gun. At 1:30 pm, with tranquilizer in hand, Gregory outfitted the two men in life suits and once again, Gregory rowed out.

This time, the deer leapt from the crevice and plunged into the water, swimming towards Little River Harbour. A rowboat does not move as swiftly as a frightened deer! She tried a number of times to climb onto the embankment but was not successful. Luckily for the rescue team, she swam right between Little River's two wharves. Once again, she was unable to climb onto the rocks and they were able to successfully shoot her with two tranquilizers and lift her into the dory.



Gregory rowed right up Little River to the slip by the bridge. Again, they were in luck as the tide was at the perfect point to allow the dory



to meet the truck. The doe was transported to the field behind Lauriston and Dorothy Tidd's home, covered in a blanket and injected with a tranquilizer reversal.

Wait, watch, wait...90 minutes ticked by before she finally lifted her head and looked around and lowered her head again. There were a few more raises of her head before she slowly got to her feet. It seemed like her rescue team had all been holding their breath until this moment! Despite the excitement, everyone managed to keep very quiet as she slowly moved over to the thicket behind the neighbour's house where she lay back down. The men from DNR maintained a watch over her for another half

hour before deciding she would be fine.

Dorothy has kept a lookout for her since but has not observed her. A few days after the rescue, I did see a lone deer standing on the lawn of a home overlooking the marsh across from where she sat out her recovery. Could this have been the lucky doe?

She did have a tag inserted in her ear so in Dorothy's words, "If anyone happens to bag a tagged doe during next year's season, you probably have Miracle from Little River Harbour." Dorothy also would like to say thanks to the women at the lobster pound who did not give up their determination to save the deer.



All deer rescue photos courtesy of Junior Taylor, Little River.

## Polar Bear Dip



Are you brave enough to take the plunge?

**14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DIGBY NECK POLAR BEAR DIP TO WELCOME 2015**

**1 JANUARY 2015 AT 10:00 AM**

**ST. MARY'S BEACH, SANDY COVE**

**PARTICIPANTS AND SUPPORTERS ARE ALL WELCOME**

**PARTICIPANTS WILL BE COLLECTING FOR THE DIGBY AND AREA FOOD BANK**

**FOR MORE INFO OR TO SPONSOR A DIPPER CONTACT ME AT**

**[anna-marie.mackenzie-kelly@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:anna-marie.mackenzie-kelly@mail.mcgill.ca)**

## Blue Route, What's That?

By Anna-Marie MacKenzie Kelly

Have you ever been to a meeting where most of the other 40 or so participants have similar ideas to your own? It is certainly welcoming and energizing! I had just that opportunity on December 8, 2014 in Berwick. As a member of the Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association, I was invited to participate in one of seven Nova Scotia Active Transportation Policy Framework Stakeholder Engagement Workshops. I was the lone representative from Digby County participating with a diverse collection of people from Bicycle Nova Scotia, municipal councils, Active Living representatives from valley counties, Ecology Action Centre representatives, the Department of Health and Wellness, Tourism, small business owners, and avid cyclists and active transportation advocates.

In August 2011, my friend Cindy and I completed a 1200 km bicycle ride from Montréal to Digby Neck. The Québec portion of the journey followed *La Route Verte*, part of Québec's over 4000 km of cycling routes throughout the province. The routes are well mapped and signage is easy to follow. The trails took us through picturesque villages, along riverside vistas and through forested trails. Québec has been recognized worldwide for its contribution to active

transportation. That wonderful experience has kept me dreaming that someday, Nova Scotia would have similar mapped routes for cyclists to enjoy.

Introducing Nova Scotia's *Blue Route*! Yes, there are people in Nova Scotia actively working with the province to establish mapped bicycle routes throughout the province. Research has already been completed to establish which roads have an average fewer than and greater than 1000 motorized vehicles per day, which roads have paved shoulders, which counties have established rails to trails along the old rail beds and where the province hopes to complete paving projects over the next five years. Our role during this workshop was to take a close look at the maps and, with our personal knowledge of the areas, discuss which roads and trails would be the best routes so that all stakeholders including towns, businesses, residents and tourists would benefit.

A few facts I learned at this meeting:

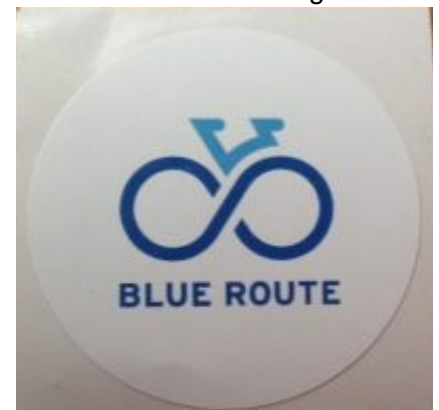
- Statistics show that tourists spend 80% of their money in pedestrian-friendly areas, while residents make 45% of daily trips for shopping and errands (Active Living Research 2010).
- Nova Scotians commute some of the longest distances in Canada, and mostly alone in a

car (Statistics Canada, 2006).

- From 1987 to 2010, the total number of bicycles more than doubled in Québec, and the number of regular cyclists has increased by 50%. At the same time, there was a 58% decline in cycling accident deaths. Moreover, serious injuries fell by 72% and minor injuries, by 52% (Vélo Québec, 2010).
- Getting just 10% of Canadian adults to sit less and move more would reduce Canada's health care costs by \$2.6 billion and inject \$7.5 billion into the Canadian economy by 2040 (Conference Board of Canada, 2014).

I could go on with many more facts supporting the benefits of active transportation and cycling routes in Nova Scotia but as we all agreed to in the meeting, enough discussing, let's get building. We need to get active, now!

And so, the first demonstration *Blue Route* should be completed by summer 2015. The first signed route will be 50 km along the





Aspotogan Peninsula, outside Halifax, along St. Margaret's Bay and Mahone Bay.

Representatives from the valley hope the next phase will include the Annapolis Valley. Valley Municipalities have already started building their own active transportation routes for cyclists and walkers so it makes sense these established trails become part of the province's *Blue Route*.

We know that Digby Neck and Island's were, not too long ago, a

popular destination for bicycle tours. Let's hope the establishment of the *Blue Route* and the completion of desperately needed paving along Digby Neck will once again bring cyclists and hikers to this beautiful community. I encourage everyone to pay attention to where paving projects need to happen, to use our current trails scattered along Digby Neck and Islands, to share our knowledge of the beautiful spots

to visit with tourists and newcomers and make sure our local politicians know how important it is to keep our communities welcoming and active.



If you are interested in one of these / *Share the Road* magnetic bumper stickers, contact Anna-Marie.

### YEAR SUMMARY PRESENTATION – Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre AGM: NOV. 21, 2014

By Roger Outhouse

The past year since our last AGM has been a busy one and we were bigger than ever in working with other organizations and groups to achieve remarkable results. Highlights include:

- Bringing the Balancing Rock Trail to World Class Trail status. O2 (Options and Opportunities) students from three schools worked on trail construction and the GOMI youth team groomed the trail. Our association's script writing, proofing, and coordinating a host of wonderful professionals resulted in five great new interpretive panels plus twelve redesigned panels and location signs. The Municipality also had numerous work days and directed the whole project.

We will receive \$1,800 for our work on the panels and the Municipality have already issued us a thank you for that work.

- We have involved GOMI youth in the Brier Island NCC nature trail work at Pond Cove and protecting the Eastern Mountain Avens.
- Currently the Islands Consolidated O2 classes are developing a trail behind the school leading to the old Fundy Shore Road and the Freeport Brook. This is a first step which could hook up with future trail efforts leading across the brook, and through the old Village Park.
- Organizing the GOMI Team and affiliating with O2

classes and instructor Joan O'Neil have accomplished great projects and more importantly represent vital investments in our youth and the future of our communities.

- Conducting mudflat nature tours in Northeast Cove, educational work with students, and three bus tours to Brier Island's NCC Trail. This is important work done in support of Arts n Adventures, an enthusiastic group of volunteers leading programs that reflect local culture and nature.
- Networking with others is vital to creating sustainable communities and we are no exception. This past year we have worked with the Municipality of Digby, Digby

Area Recreation  
Commission, Islands Home  
& School, Cobequid Trails  
Consulting, Arts n'  
Adventures in the Cove,  
Freeport Community  
Development Association,  
Friends of Islands Trails,  
Gulf of Maine Institute,  
Islands Consolidated  
School, NSCC Annapolis

Campus, Applied  
Geomatics Research  
Group, Atlantic Geo-  
science Society, N. S.  
Dept. of Fisheries, Nature  
Conservancy Canada, Bay  
of Fundy Ecosystem  
Partnership, Digby Area  
Tourism Association, Bay  
of Fundy Experience  
Group, researchers Rob

Fensome, Frances  
Anderson, Tim Webster,  
photographers Scott Leslie,  
Karla Kelly, and the Digby  
Courier.

Preparation and participation  
in the week-long summer  
environmental GOMI  
Conference in Lowell, Mass.  
USA.

### Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Plans for 2015

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Financial contribution towards work on the Gulliver's Cove High Cliff Cove Trail area.</li> <li>2. Establish a minimum of three Digby Neck &amp; Islands Ecotour Maps in large scale to be mounted at the Westport (R. E. Robicheau's deck) and Islands VIC (Tiverton) kiosks, and one other area to be determined.</li> <li>3. Reach out to interested parties to reassign the eight plant panels and supports that</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>will be removed from the Balancing Rock Trail in favour of the new ones.</li> <li>4. Continue to publish our In With the Tide e-newsletter and increase both our circulation and contributors to the publication.</li> <li>5. Work on planning and preparing our Digby Neck / Islands GOMI youth for the spring Mini Conference and international Summer</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conference at Acadia University.</li> <li>6. Continue our involvements with Fundy View Trail, Balancing Rock Trail, Loyalist Park, Islands Consolidated Trail, Nature Conservancy Canada, O2 Projects, and Arts n' Adventures in the Cove.</li> <li>7. Opportunities arising for Board consideration.</li> <li>8. Blue Route Participation for enhancing Bicycling</li> </ol> |
|---|--|--|

### Stormwater Engagement Program Meeting

By Roger Outhouse

On December 9<sup>th</sup>, I was invited, as chairperson of the Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association and a Gulf of Maine Institute youth leader, to a meeting at Islands Consolidated School by Options and Opportunities (O2) instructor Joan O'Neil. Clean Foundation has hired water management specialist Alex Lynch, who is based out of Yarmouth, to be a Project Coordinator for Stormwater Projects in our region. The O2 students in Grades 10 and 11 were involved in the presentation explaining the value of controlling

runoff from stormwater that might cause problems ranging from erosion to contamination of streams, rivers and harbours. A range of strategies to help control these problems was also reviewed. One such project involves creating Rainwater Gardens that can collect runoff and use it to grow gardens to slow the movement of water though its journey to streams and rivers. Mr. Lynch also took time to talk about the kinds of career professions that are involved in water quality issues.

The second half of the meeting

involved the students taking a field trip outside on the school grounds to determine where a model garden or two could be created and constructed to improve habitats around the property. Everyone involved seemed to think positively about considering such a project and communications will be ongoing with the hope that this spring will see implementation. The issue of massive water runoff in light of climate change and more intense storms makes this a very important issue for all of us!

### It's Raining Plants

A Gulf of Maine Institute Newsletter Article

Rain gardens are designed to collect stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces like roofs, driveways, compacted lawns and parking lots. Stormwater runoff often carries a number of harmful pollutants such as oil, sediment and fertilizers. Rain gardens work by slowing down stormwater runoff,

allowing it to percolate into the garden and surrounding soils, and naturally filtering out pollutants.

Water-loving plants that are native to the region should be used whenever possible because they're already adapted to the local climate. Rain gardens not only help to

control and slow down stormwater, but they also look great and provide habitat for a number of insects. Rain gardens vary in size and shape depending on the amount of stormwater runoff you are looking to treat.



(PHOTOS: Stephen Cushing, 2014)

These photos were taken from a rain garden construction at Dalhousie University in November 2014. The garden features a channel that takes water from the road and channels it to a settling bed, filled with gravel. The soil that was removed from the garden was moved to the edges to create berms, which help to keep standing water in, and also help the water to percolate through the garden. Native plants to Eastern Canada were used in the garden, which, once grown-in, will remove a number of harmful pollutants that might otherwise be directed into storm drains.

Here is a great link for anyone interested in constructing or learning more about rain gardens: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's guide for constructing a rain garden  
[http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/co/grho/grho\\_007.cfm](http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/co/grho/grho_007.cfm)

### Major Fund Raising Underway

The 1<sup>st</sup> Digby Pathfinders and Rangers (Girl Guide members ages 12 to 18), with members from Tiverton, Digby Neck, Digby, Bear River and Deep Brook, are currently raising funds to attend Mosaic 2016 in Alberta. This camp will be attended by members from all over the world and will be a great opportunity for our young ladies. They will be raising funds for the next year and a half through a variety of activities and look forward to great community support.





## Delays, ugh!

November 24, 2014,  
The buoys are painted,  
The ropes are coiled,  
The traps are stacked,  
The boats are loaded.

Ready for the start of another lobster season.



But, wait!  
Mother Nature was not ready.  
Voices of power said, "No go!"

Wait until Wednesday...  
No, Thursday,  
No! Friday. What?

The boats lay idle.  
The fishers paced.  
Their voices grumbled,  
"We missed good days,  
What do they know?"

Friday morning, 5:45,  
The wind is howling,  
The snow is swirling,  
Prayers are said,  
The boats are lit like Christmas morning.



The boats are bobbing side by side,  
The fishers pacing, once again,  
Untying ropes,  
Last minute adjustments,  
Family and friends seeing them off  
Jump and huddle in the frozen darkness.

The minutes tick by slowly,  
Engines rev,  
Boats inch forward,  
Wanting to be first.  
6:00 am! They're off!  
Anxious to set their traps.  
What an incredible sight  
As their lights fade into the dark, snowy sea.



Those left on the wharf  
Silently pray  
For a safe journey  
And a speedy return.  
As the wind howls  
And the snow blusters  
Daylight Breaks.



Have a safe and prosperous season.

Anna-Marie MacKenzie Kelly

### Letters From Our Readers in response to our last issue:

Thanks for sharing another great newsletter, it's greatly appreciated by this outdoor enthusiast. I'll send a membership form with \$ enclosed next week and will be with you in spirit at the AGM on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

To paraphrase Oliver Sacks "My religion is nature. That's what arouses feelings of wonder and mysticism and gratitude in me'. *Tracy Roberts*

Congratulations on another great newsletter. Thanks for sending it along. Wonderful coverage of happenings in your area. Awesome pictures of the tide on Oct. 9. That day happened to coincide with an Environmental Science workshop for teachers being held at the Tantramar Wetlands Centre. One of the topics they wanted covered was dyking and aboiteaux. So at noon we ate our lunch on the Fort Beausejour Ridge and then drove around the dykes. We were there for the high tide. The Tantramar River was filled to the brim. The dykes below the Fort were within a foot of the top in most areas with the water lapping over the top in others. Quite an amazing sight. *Nancy MacKinnon*

Thanks for the newsletter. Such a busy group- it's most inspiring. Very enthusiastic write-up on my visit, but I have the feeling the sign is still just a dream... (editor's note: the lichen panel is completed and will be installed in the Spring.) BTW, my field guide is due out by November. I have actually seen the colour proofs and it is being printed as we speak. Despite my entreaties to have it by early November, it' will only JUST be ready in time for the Xmas market.

Nice to hear about all that's going on in your neck of the woods. I expect you're mostly the reason why- you have such great enthusiasm and energy for making the best of your area. I'm glad to be kept in the loop. *Frances Anderson*

Thanks for the newsletter...happy to see you were able to use some of my photos!! *Karla Kelly*

... greatly enjoyed reading this edition of the "In With the Tide" newsletter! Lots of good information and things to learn about. Thanks for all that you and others do!! *Russell Prime*

Thank you for sending the summer issue of In With the Tide. I have just finished reading the entire newsletter, and am very impressed with the scope of activity and investigation being undertaken by the various groups, and by the calibre of writing in the newsletter that chronicles it all. My immediate reaction, before I realized it was cold and bleak November, was to resolve to take a few days to explore the areas described in the articles. Next summer, I will. What opportunities you are offering the young people of the area, and what wonderful aspects of our natural environment you are highlighting for locals and tourists alike! Congratulations to all involved for your fine work!! *Margaret Rockwell*

The "In With the Tide" newsletter has grown substantially - now it is more a publication and one I hope you are very proud of. It always has been a busy publication - full of real things that are happening - this one was no exception. You have and are accomplishing a great deal.

And I was surprised to see my E-mail in it. It seems the lifeboat has gone elsewhere as it is no longer moored in Sandy Cove. Possibly someone has hauled it to a location where it can be re-outfitted as it had been stripped to just a bare hull. It will also be interesting to see if someone will add to the story.

Thank you for your efforts for both the Islands and In With the Tide. *David Boland*

(Editor's note: The lifeboat is still in Sandy Cove near high tide mark. It has received a new coat of paint on half its surface).



### Coming Soon: A Hands-on Guide to Lichens

"Coming soon.... Frances Anderson's ***Common Lichens of Northeastern North America: A Field Guide*** will be available from The New York Botanical Garden Press.

"At last, a light and easy to use field guide to the rich lichen flora of Northeastern North America. The authors have designed this user-friendly guide for amateur naturalists, nature interpreters, forestry workers, land surveyors, researchers and the general public. Recognition of lichen species helps create a better understanding of the diversity of these often overlooked and under-studied organisms.

Covering a total of 220 lichen species, 138 full colour photographs focus on the lichen flora in the Canadian Maritimes, New England, Newfoundland, Quebec and eastern Ontario. This guide presents the common species that make up most of what you'll see, but also includes species that are rare or at risk.

Common Lichens of Northeastern North America is written in non-technical language. It is one of the few resources available that helps to make lichens accessible to non-specialists and requires only the use of a hand lens. Use this guide to get tuned into the ancient, fascinating and beautiful world of lichens - you can start in your own backyard!"

Thanks,  
Frances



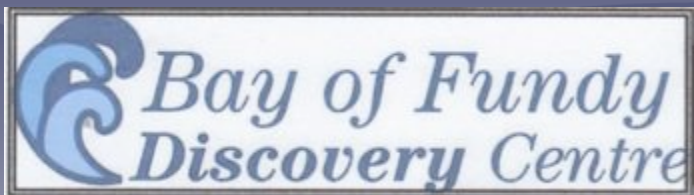
### Please Share With Us!

We welcome your stories and your photos.

- Do you have a comment or question about something you have read in our newsletter?
- Have you been on an outdoor adventure?
- Do you have some great photos of places and things in our local area?
- Do you have an interesting story to share?
- Is there an event coming up? Let us know.

We are happy to hear and share your comments, stories and photos with our readers.

*We wish our readers far and wide a Happy and Adventurous 2015  
from The Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association*



**Our Fundy-Our Future**

**Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre  
Association Board of Directors  
for 2014-15**

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Terese Crocker  
Frank Garron  
Jeff White



**The Bay of Fundy Discovery Center Association**

PO Box 66  
Freeport, NS  
B0V 1B0

[routhouse51@gmail.com](mailto:routhouse51@gmail.com)

In With the Tide:

[anna-marie.mackenzie-kelly@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:anna-marie.mackenzie-kelly@mail.mcgill.ca)

**MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the applicable membership category:

Individual Membership:     \$10.00

Family Membership:         \$25.00

Patron:                         \$500.00

Association/Organization   \$50.00

Business:                     \$100.00

One Time Donation:     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheque payable to: The Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association and mail to the address above. Charitable receipts are issued.