



Our Fundy-Our Future

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Thanks for the roaring fire photo by Tony Kelly
Ready for the countdown photo by Tony Kelly

All smiles after the dip photo by Gabriel Vellego

In With the Tide

The Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association Newsletter

Welcoming in 2020 with a Splash

By Anna-Marie MacKenzie Kelly

One never really knows what the weather will surprise us with on January 1st each year and as we prepared the bounty of foods, one never knows how many people will take the dip and how many will join the warm-up party afterwards. All we know is some volunteers will have a fire going, there will be at least three dippers, chili, chowder, hot chocolate, cookies and hot cider!

Imagine our surprise as we approached the area along Digby Neck and Islands Scenic Drive (Rte 217) in Sandy Cove to see cars parked up both hills! Of course, most people were spectators, but any dipper knows how important it is to have a spotter for each dipper and to have as many friends cheering us on as possible.

Each year the dip has to be scheduled around the tides. With a 4:30 pm high tide, 2:30 pm was the chosen time giving dippers a little running space. The day started out cloudy; but the air was a warm 3°C and the water was even warmer at 4°C. Light winds and calm seas were a great help as the fire blazed out heat to the 27 dippers, many first timers, preparing to take the plunge. Some from as far as Wolfville, Port Lorne and Freeport.

We had enthusiastic dippers of all ages. The youngest 2 were 10 and our oldest Sizzling Senior, Dorothy Tidd, had her 80th birthday January 4th. In fact, three generations of Dorothy's family, took the plunge, Dorothy, a grandson and a great-grandson.

2 brave souls opted to jump off the wharf rather than run in on the beach (not for me!).

48 revelers joined the dippers at our home in Little River for the warm-up party. There was amazing food, including lots of seafood chowder and vegan chili, too many things to list. There was also great music provided by some of the Digby Ukulele Strummers.

\$300 and two boxes of dry goods were collected for the Digby Area and Islands Food Banks.

Many thanks to Digby Volunteer Fire Fighters for volunteering to keep their eyes on us, our fire tenders, and fans. Everyone who brought food for the warm-up party and donations for the food banks. See you next year!



Projects Causing Concern for the BoFDCA

Twenty years ago, the Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association (BoFDCA) was formed. We are a not for profit charitable organization whose members have entrusted us with a mandate to support sustainable ecotourism, help preserve and protect the habitats and life within. We aim to support efforts to educate the public on local ecosystems and cultural heritage in the Digby, Digby Neck and Islands area including the surrounding Bay of Fundy. Ecotourism involvement and sustainable communities are at the heart of our work. This is important to future generations as our connection to a natural and healthy environment is critical to the survival of our traditional fisheries, forestry and surrounding communities.

With this in mind, we feel it important that we provide you, our readers and supporters with the information that follows on updates on the proposed projects in our community we discussed in our Autumn **In With the Tide** and another disturbing project in our province that could have an effect on protected lands everywhere.

Open-pen Fish Farm Update



Packed Municipal Council Chamber
Gwen Wilson photo

27 January 2020 was the second time the Digby Municipal Council Chambers were overflowing with concerned residents. Seating was at capacity with many more sitting on any free floor space and people crowded out all three doors of the chamber. A rough guess would say over 200 people of all ages were there to support the St. Mary's Bay Protectors and Councilor David Tudor's motion to oppose the expansion of open-pen salmon cages in St. Mary's Bay. After some debate, council voted 3-2 to support the motion. Having the Municipal Council on side of the communities is a baby step in the whole process as it is the Provincial Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture who makes the final decision following a process

through the Nova Scotia Aquaculture and Review Board.

It is our understanding, following public consultation, Cermaq Canada has until the end of March to submit their application to the Nova Scotia Aquaculture and Review Board. So, time is short to voice your concerns. Please let our MLAs know your thoughts.



Digby public consultation meeting with Cermaq included information panels with Cermaq staff members positioned around the room to explain the panels followed by a group presentation and question and answer session.
Gwen Wilson photo

Cermaq has an additional three other locations in Nova Scotia where they have the option to build open-pen farms. All communities involved are joining forces to make one strong voice

hoping to let our province know that we are not open to open-pen fish farms.

For more information, please take the time to check the St. Mary's Bay Protectors web page at protectourbay.ca and their FaceBook page. And hop across the province to check out twinbays.ca and their FaceBook page.



Sandy Cove public consultation meeting- Cermaq did not bring their information panels. No chairs were set up. Two staff members sat at a table prepared to meet one-on-one with members of the public to record their questions/concerns. Community members set out chairs and members of St. Mary's Bay Protectors opened the floor to allow concerns and questions to be heard by everyone.
Gary Wilson Photo

Not along our Bay of Fundy but certainly could have an effect on natural spaces throughout our province so important for us to pay attention and have our say:

Province wants your feedback by March 11 on proposed protection around New France

The province wants to add more than 2,000 hectares around New France to the Silver River Wilderness Area – and they want your feedback on this new addition.

For now, the Silver River Wilderness Area starts south of the Langford Road and protects a 30-km river corridor made of up 5,300 hectares.

The new addition would protect another 2,200 hectares made up of 8-km of river corridor and lakeshore on Long Tusk Lake, Little Tusk Lake and Langford Lake. It's a little complicated around the lakes and the New France site itself.

Originally New France was proposed as a provincial park in the 2013 Parks and Protected Areas plan but government now intends to manage a small portion at the north east end of Langford Lake as a "special category of Crown land to provide flexibility in managing the historic features and recreational use of the area."

The road to the south end of Little Tusk Lake and the campsite there will not be included in the wilderness area.

The province would like your feedback on this proposed addition by March 11. For more information on the addition and how to submit your feedback, please visit: <https://arcg.is/X8zvz> .

Province doesn't want your feedback on the removal of protection from Owl's Head on the Eastern Shore

Meanwhile on the Eastern Shore the provincial government has secretly delisted a provincial park reserve despite the copious amount of public consultation that went into its selection for protection in the first place.

The government has actually gone so far as to sign an offer to sell the property to a developer who it appears wants to build three coastal golf courses there.

This decision to sell the property was made by the provincial Cabinet with no announcement let alone public consultation.

For more on this situation, check out the Feb. 5 article by Jim Vibert of the Chronicle Herald:

"Owls Head becomes ground zero of land protection battle with province".

To send your unwanted feedback on this departure from the 2013 Parks and Protected Areas Plan, you can write the Premier, Minister of Lands and Forestry and the Minister of Environment, who is also your local MLA Gordon Wilson.

For more information on how to do that, check out this letter template on the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society's webpage: <https://action.cpaws.org/page/54853/action/1> .

To be fair, when asked if he had received a lot of mail on this issue, the Premier did say yes and said he enjoys hearing from people but that Cabinet's decision "will be based on facts".

One Potato, Two Potato: How much is enough?

By Roger Outhouse for the Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association

When we are faced with what is happening to our oceans, we are divided on how they play a role in benefitting life on this planet. We see the ocean as a great provider of food and amazing life forms as well as transportation, recreation, and a place to inspire and soothe the soul. We also think of the oceans as all powerful, vast and never changing. Those thoughts must change as the assaults from humans have led us into a predicament that is rapidly challenging worldwide marine ecosystems.

Sure, we have all heard about global climate change, acidification of oceans, plastics choking the waters and killing wildlife, pollution spills, and many endangered species facing extinction. It is easy to become depressed by reading about these topics or watching related TV programs. And what about listening to those who say we are all doing fine; and these worries are blown out of proportion? They suggest all we need to do is trust our political and business leaders; enjoy the economic benefits and everything will be fine.

It's alright if you want to believe that line but here is my meagre exposure to having grown up in a fishing village and enjoying the natural setting I have called home for 68 years. Most will say what does he know? Well, here goes – As an interested party over my brief life I relate the following:

- As a teen I can recall hand-lining in the summer off Boars Head, Tiverton and pulling up my multiple hooked line over and over catching five fish on each

haul. The only problem was the catch of the day was potatoes. In the following winter we pulled some traps after school. We had lobsters but also a fair number of potatoes in several of them. A story was heard about a cargo ship load of potatoes that went to a port and were rejected. Someone gave permission to dump them in the Fundy.

At the same time the whole village watched a huge boom in seining for herring. One evening I was sitting on a hillside overlooking the Petite Passage and several seine boats drifted up through the Passage gathering their nets in and then pumping the catch out. This area was a huge area for small Pollock. Most were so small we would never keep or be even able to sell them to a fish buyer. It was discussed; and we realized sadly that these would likely go for pet food or fertilizer.

One of the big initiatives that happened over the next few years saw the powers in charge encourage the local fisheries using hand-lining and hook and line trawl into a “more lucrative” dragger fishery. The ground fish populations dropped so much that most of those captains and crews vanished. Boat quotas were brought in to help. The captains in many instances were, in many cases better off selling their quotas to bigger operators and let their draggers stay tied to the wharves. To this day there is plenty of finger pointing as to what happened but no one; of course, accepts responsibility.

When pitching dragger fish out of the holds of the boats we had to

use shovels as the fish were so tiny that you could not use a fork. I knew that many would never be processed.


The nets used by draggers often were torn up dragging too close to the fishing ledges or shallow waters. Bottom feeders including molluscs, lobster and non-commercial fish came up with the successful tows. Habitat destruction was inevitable.

After completing my Bachelor of Science and Education Degrees at Acadia University, I taught Biology, Earth Science, Oceans, and Geology over my 31-year career. I recall taking a group of high school students to a presentation where a room full of youth from the Digby area heard a captain's passionate account of how quotas on species led to the draggers dumping tons of fish because they were the “wrong species”. They were not allowed to bring them in. It made him physically ill knowing that nearly all of those fish were dead or would soon die. It was common knowledge that this practice was not an isolated thing.

Today we wonder why so many Right Whales are now in the Gulf of St. Lawrence instead of the Fundy. Unfortunately, the species have had far more mortality in the Gulf than ever experienced in the Fundy. Herring and mackerel populations were declining in our area. Whales must follow the feed, so a partial consideration might lie in protecting the small herring and mackerel populations, allowing their numbers to grow. Maybe then many of these endangered

<p>mammals could return to a safer Bay of Fundy.</p> <p>I feel that government will always say that they now know better and we can trust them to make the best decisions on what is good for both you and the economy. Well just remember the “potato fishery”, switch to dragging, individual transferable quotas (ITQ’s), tiny fish going to waste, dumping nets of dying fish overboard, loss of basic stocks like herring and mackerel, and struggling species like the Right Whale.</p> <p>Just maybe we might take another look at what fishermen thought about these policies and how the oceans would react. Local fishermen of the day predicted the failure of the ground fisheries with the increase of the dragners’ size and the technology</p>	<p>to hunt day and night for huge catches. They were confident that the fish and the species that they fed on would take a serious hit and affect the long-term survival of jobs and communities. By taking the smaller fish they were destroying the future of fishermen.</p> <p>Today, many citizens of our communities including local fishers, are opposing open pen salmon cages in Saint Mary’s Bay because they know how delicate the situation is. Lobsters, scallops, clams, urchins and a few ground fish are what is left to sustain our economic survival. While political leaders and businesses ponder the latest perceived threats to the ocean, I am of the opinion that if we had heeded the warning of the fishermen, we would not have suffered through many of the</p>	<p>problems seen today. The modern class of fishermen who are presently pleading their case for the health of our Fundy and Saint Mary’s Bay deserve respect and consideration. Governments say they have “their science”, regulations, and the law that permits them to decide what is best for our communities. This is the same logic applied to their collective wisdom in all the decisions mentioned above; it seems that the FISHERPERSONS had a better grasp of what would follow from those ventures in our local waters.</p> <p>However, in closing I must concede that not even the fishermen predicted the invasion of the “potato fishery”, although perhaps the government could have. Let us learn from the potato harvest. It is lobster we want to catch, not potatoes.</p>
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Beach Cleaning: A year-round project
By Courtney Trowse

<p>Often times during the stormy winter months, Beautiful Cove and many other Nova Scotian beaches, play out a dismal story of the negative impact humans have on our environment. The beach is a catch basin for refuse, looking more like a garbage bin than a picturesque haven for sea life and sunset chasers.</p> <p>Lately though, a dedicated group of people is helping to write a new story. Weekly beach clean ups have hauled up hundreds of pounds of garbage off the beach at Beautiful Cove. This story is one of stewardship, responsibility, and dedication to a future with less garbage and more rock hounding and wave gazing.</p> <p>Good, clean rope, lobster bands, and other interesting pieces are</p>	<p>being collected and kept awaiting their transformation into a large scale, collaborative community art project scheduled to start in late July. The vision for this art project is to have individuals from all the islands communities involved and have 3 (or more!) plywood sheet sized murals installed along the islands scenic route. It is up to all of us to decide what tale these works of art will tell. My contribution to the plan is to make an octopus out of lobster bands!! We'd love for the murals to be built by hands of all ages, a coming together of everyone's ideas, vision, and capabilities. An experienced rope artist, Tanya Holt-Blondin of Art Maree Haute, is excited to join us for a weekend to kickstart our project and give us some tips on how to make it all stick together.</p>	<p>Anyone is welcome to lend a hand at Beautiful Cove or start gathering garbage from shores closer to your home. Please contact Courtney Trowse at crustacean7@gmail.com for more information or look for posts on the Islanders group on Facebook from Colleen Collins regarding beach clean dates.</p> 
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News from SOAR (Sustainable Oceans Applied Research)

Local Marine Animal Species Guide

SOAR is working with the Mi'kmaw Conservation Group (MCG), Monica Stark Design, and several local naturalists to develop an information guide on local species of marine mammals and large fish (sharks and sunfish) - to start. This connects with an initiative to increase public involvement in environmental monitoring for tidal energy, and more broadly to help promote omnidirectional knowledge sharing and collaborative learning.

In addition to being loaded with amazing local photos, we plan to include local knowledge contributions. Looking for things like seasonality and abundance over the last few decades, and interesting stories / knowledge that we know only Islanders can provide!

Similarly, MCG is conducting interviews with Mi'kmaw elders and other knowledge holders for their contributions.

Knowledge must continuously evolve, and so will this document

– which will be available for free download online. The intent is for it to be a “living document” open to ongoing contributions. If you are interested in contributing to the first draft, please contact greg.trowse@sustainableoceans.ca



Tidal Energy in Rural Coastal Communities: Past, Present, and Future Vision

SOAR is planning a tidal energy discussion session, to be held on the islands. Timing TBD. Currently thinking Feb, March, or wait till June. Maybe once the newly renovated Freeport Community Hall is ready?

Objectives include:

-Stimulating discussions between a wide range of stakeholders.

-Building trust through respect, omnidirectional knowledge sharing (receiving and/or transmitting in all directions), and meaningful involvement.

-Charting a path forward with mutualistic symbiosis (benefits to all) between community, industry, and additional stakeholders.

These things are critical to a successful path forward for tidal energy working with - and contributing to - coastal communities in Nova Scotia.

All will be welcome to attend and contribute to the discussions.

We are currently extending invitations to representatives from (including, but not limited to): Industry who are developing projects in Grand Passage (Sustainable Marine Energy) and Petit Passage (Nova Innovation); Villages of Westport, Freeport, and Tiverton; Municipality of Digby; Government / Regulators; Fishing Organizations; Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia; Local Naturalists; Research Organizations active in tidal energy; and Supply Chain and supporting organizations



Some of the topics for discussion are likely to include:

- Project status and plans for development by SME (Grand Passage) and Nova Innovation (Petit Passage)
- Regulator requirements and process for approvals and compliance
- Research objectives, priorities, and some results to date
- Effects on coastal communities and commercial fisheries
- Lessons learned through past tidal energy projects (such as OpenHydro)
- Development and demonstration of best practices for working with coastal communities and Mi'kmaq First Nations (and other indigenous communities outside of Nova Scotia)
- Future visions

More information on location, time, and programme will be provided soon - incorporating the response to invitations and feedback. Please contact us at

<p>greg.trowse@sustainableoceans.ca if you would like to contribute to the session in any way!</p> <p>Details will be posted to social media and flyers at local stopping points (stores, post office, etc.).</p>	<p>On a related note, if you use social media please check in at twitter.com/sustainocean or facebook.com/togetherwewillsoar for updates on recent research activities.</p>	
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From the Nature Conservancy of Canada

Welcome to 2020! I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the past year's Conservation Volunteer (CV) program and celebrate the hard work in tackling stewardship projects on NCC Nature Reserves across Atlantic Canada. In 2019, **273 Conservation Volunteers** carried out **20 stewardship projects** across four provinces. To learn more about the impact that volunteers had this year, follow this link to our *2019 Impacts – Conservation Engagement Report (Volunteer Impact Report)*: www.natureconservancy.ca/en/where-we-work/atlantic/reports/ Would you like to read more stories from our Conservation Volunteers, see more pictures from CV events, or hear more about the Atlantic Volunteer Program? Let us know what you would like to see in next year's *Conservation Engagement Report*: www.research.net/r/CVReport2019 Thank you for joining us in the field to contribute to conservation this year, and we hope to see you in 2020! Cheers,



Doug van Hemessen

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When Not-a-Hurricane Feels Like a Hurricane

By Anna-Marie MacKenzie Kelly

The 'not-a-hurricane' storm of February 6-7 with hurricane force winds, snow, freezing rain and rain uprooted trees, knocked out power in some places and tore a huge chunk out of the steeple of the iconic Église Ste Marie in Pointe d'Église.

On our property in Little River, we gained a large grey tarp from the neighbour and someone's discarded Christmas tree. How the tree, which was very large and heavy landed in the spot where I found it, is a mystery. Sadly, the gate to my vegetable garden was also flattened. There is work to be done this spring!



These photos taken by Roger Outhouse near Freeport's Northeast Cove show some of the damage sustained on the island. Trees were uprooted and a ramp to a home was completely flipped over.

In addition, the Freeport Legion lost a large portion of its siding and our **Sea Level Rise** interpretive panel was ripped from its foundation and sustained damage to both the panel and the framing. (I guess we will be looking for volunteers to help with repairs.)

From Our Readers

In Bonne Bay (Gros Morne National Park) concerned citizens have recently formed an organization to oversee and review proposals for a development. Your newsletter gives me ideas for expanding the work of "Friends OF Bonne Bay - FOBB".

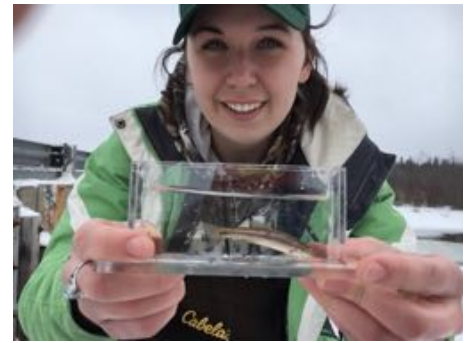
Now that I've circulated In With the Tide among my fellow directors in FOBB, that several have commented positively on your extensive community involvement. This is where we aim to travel! All of our Board members deserve to hear your words "across the waves." We each need to identify and share sources of solidarity. Thank you.

Best wishes in your work to preserve land and sea,
 Thank You,
 Carol H.

Meet Our New Directors

Hi everyone,
My name is **Amanda Addington**. I grew up on Digby Neck and attended Digby regional High School. I am currently living in Lindsay, Ontario. I have recently graduated from Fleming College and I am now a certified Fish and Wildlife Technician.

I have always been passionate about the environment because I appreciate the beauty of the habitats and ecosystems that make up our natural world. That is why I plan to dedicate my life to research and data collection in efforts to preserve our natural resources for generations to come!



I am **Hannah Charlton**, I am 21 years old and I grew up in Bear River and attended Digby Regional High School. When I was younger my two passions

were animals and the outdoors. Growing up I always said I would become a Veterinary Assistant but after doing my co-op at the local Veterinary Hospital I decided I needed to be outside, don't get me wrong I still have a passion for animals, but the forest was calling my name!

I am finishing up my third year at Fleming College in Lindsay, Ontario. My first two years I studied Forestry and currently studying Urban Forestry. Forestry has taught me so many things, from Silviculture to being able to identify over 100 tree species. Urban Forestry has made me realize I don't just like to be on the ground looking at trees but also up in them. Both have taught me tree health is an important part of our environment.

In Nova Scotia we usually only hear about one type of harvest and you guessed it, clearcutting, if we are trying to maintain our forest why should we be clearcutting? I would love to show and share my knowledge of the importance of different harvesting methods in maintaining a healthy forest. In Urban Forestry I have learned that tree health is very important. Maybe you're thinking about pruning a tree in your front yard, did you know that improper pruning cuts can lead to the death of your tree?

The environment is a significant part of our lives but maintaining a healthy environment for myself and others is my main goal. I look forward to meeting everyone and working with the committee. Hope to see you all soon!

After the early deep-freeze we had in November, those of us who enjoy winter were excited thinking we would be enjoying lots of snow. Alas, Digby Neck and Islands have been green most of the season. It wasn't until mid-February we finally received a couple of days of snow and by 21 Feb, it was mostly gone. Here are a few winter scenes:



Yes, I pulled carrots in January!



Frozen Witch Hazel Blossoms

Winterfest: the hole story
By Sheila Bulmer

On January 11th the first Fundy Erratics Winterfest was to be held at Acacia Valley Trails. Due to the lack of snow the festivities such as snowshoeing, snow sculptures and bonfire were postponed to a later date. However, on this day an intrepid 32 people did show up and were treated to a lovely hike through the mist and woods of the Acacia Valley Trails.

It turned out to be a great day with the snow adding to the winter beauty yet not being too much of hindrance. The only hazard that we encountered was that in some places, especially near roots, large leg eating holes would develop. Thus, as a group we were often found yelling "HOLE" as a warning in hopes nobody's foot would find the deep abyss.



Bulmer Photo

When everyone arrived and gathered at the parking lot, we did not know what to expect for the

footing conditions, for the parking lot was very icy as we stood and did introductions. We were told by Jonathon Riley that he found it a mystery that the creek would seem to change directions part way through the hike, until he realized that it was two different creeks. The 4 km walk, HOLE, took us to Tupper's Deadwater and Picnic Rock.



MacKenzie Kelly photo

We all stopped for lunch while at Tupper's Deadwater, looking out on the marsh with fog hovering over the surface. Many of us removed layers as the temperature continued to rise up to 10 C throughout our hike, making for almost a tropical feel with a nice warm breeze. HOLE.

At Picnic Rock we all gathered for the group photo. Luckily Jeff

White was very adept at getting a good picture, especially as several were being dripped on from the ice and snow melting from the big rock's ledge overhead. Near the end of the route we came to a fork in the path where a hardy few decided to adventure on an alternative path with Larry that took them up and over, coming through the back of his property. The rest of us decided to continue along the creek, on the short trail back to the parking lot. HOLE.

The day was filled with wonderful sights, lovely conversations, laughs and of course lichens. I think we all were able to accomplish our goals of the day, which was mostly to enjoy the outdoors, especially in the winter time. HOLE. We all marveled at the beauty winter had created, such as the ice hanging off of a log over the rushing creek. It was a great time and a HOLE lot of fun.



Bulmer Photo

Brier Island Trails Committee has received a grant to continue the valuable work being done to promote the beauty of this natural wonder and **Digby Neck Consolidated School** has received funding to Build a greenhouse. Students will learn to plant and care for plants that will provide food for the school and community. Both organizations recognize the support of the **Province of Nova Scotia**. We are pleased to work in partnership with the **Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage** to develop and promote our cultural resources for all Nova Scotians.

Two Projects Coming to Digby Neck and Westport



Fundy Erratics Winter and Spring Schedule 2020

Monitor the Fundy Erratics FaceBook page for more details, changes, additions...

Still hoping for snow to announce a date	Winterfest at Acacia Valley (see page 11 for details) 10:00 am-2:00pm Meet: Acacia Valley Trails Parking lot, 155 Mill Road, Hillgrove
Sunday 8 March	Van Tassel Lake Full Moon Hike Meet: 6:30 pm at the Van Tassel Lake Trails Parking lot, 859 Culloden Rd, Mount Pleasant
Saturday 25 April	Delaps Cove Hike Meet: 9:00 am at Digby Arena for carpooling or 10:00 am at the Delaps Cove trailhead. 8-9 km hike on a mix of forest trails, coastal trails and woods roads.
Saturday 9 May	Belle Isle Marsh and French Basin Trail birding walks Meet 8:00 am at Digby Arena Hiking and birding- the Belle Isle Marsh is a great place to see waterfowl and other birds as they pass through on their spring migration. We'll walk an 8 km loop; taking time to watch and even attempt to identify the birds. Then, over to French Basin Trail on the edge of Annapolis Royal for another 1.2 km loop with more birds.
Saturday 13 June	Red Head Hike Meet at Digby Arena 9:30 am for a 10:00 am start at Seawall on Digby Neck.

WINTER FEST AT ACACIA VALLEY

Date to be determined if we ever have snow on a weekend, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
At the Acacia Valley Trails parking lot (155 Mill Road, Hillgrove)

We'll be celebrating the coolest season with an assortment of activities on the Acacia Valley Trails– consider this an intro to winter outdoor fun!

We'll have loads of snowshoes for people to try out, volunteers will be on hand to help you get started and we're laying out an obstacle course to test your speed.

A 4-km snowshoe hike to Tupper's Deadwater and Picnic Rock will leave the parking lot at 10:30 a.m. For the hike, dress in comfortable layers, bring water and snacks and maybe a thermos full of something warm.

The Erratics will keep a bonfire going near the parking lot with hot chocolate and the perfect coals for roasting hot dogs (with roasting sticks provided).

Snow sculpture contest with winners announced at 1:30 pm.

Keep an eye on the Fundy Erratics Facebook group for updates related to weather and changes to event



A few photos from the January "hole!" hike along the Acacia Valley Trails.

MacKenzie Kelly photos

**Lily Lake Lollygag Trail Run:
Get training for Digby's first trail run**

Submitted by Jonathan Riley, Municipality of Digby Trails Coordinator

Lily Lake Lollygag Trail Run April 25, 2020

2k, 5k and 10k options

Van Tassel Lake Trails

859 Culloden Road in Mount Pleasant

Webpage: www.digbytrails.ca/lily-lake-lollygag-trail-run.html

Look for Lily Lake Lollygag Trail Run on Facebook

With the hope of getting more people out on the trails, Digby Area Recreation and a group of local trail enthusiasts are planning Digby's first trail race.

The Lily Lake Lollygag Trail Run, with 2, 5 and 10k options, is scheduled for April 25 at the Van Tassel Lake Trails.

The hope is this will give some local runners a little push to start preparing for the summer season – maybe attract some road runners to give trail running a try. We also see the event as a great way to promote these trails to locals and visitors alike. So far, we have interest from trail runners from Yarmouth, the Annapolis Valley and Halifax.

But have no fear: this run is aimed at beginners, from the layout of the course and the distances selected, we're planning something doable and fun.

To help beginners get used to trail running, we are also hosting a five-week clinic on Monday nights 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. beginning March 23. Each Monday, the leaders will introduce runners to slightly more complicated terrain starting with railbed, then woods roads, then smooth single track and finally a hilly run.

If you're new to trail running, I'll let you in on a little secret: there's a lot more walking than you might imagine. If things get too rocky,

too rooty, too slippery, too steep – too whatever – then trail runners think nothing of slowing down or even walking. This lollygagging might feel strange if you're used to hammering out a 5 or 10k on the roads, but it is perfectly normal in the woods.

Our course is great for beginners wanting a taste of the woods, or for experienced runners looking for a warm up race. It's mostly flat with some small climbs, nothing too steep – but steep enough that many racers are going to walk a few sections.

Underfoot could be interesting depending on the weather and how much winter is hanging around – we will use a mix of gravel service roads (35%) and single track, mostly single track (65%). You'll start on access roads heading slightly downhill and then transition to a lovely stretch of narrow but grassy single track before diving into the woods and starting the climbs. At the top of the course, you'll have a great view from the Van Tassel Lake Look-off.

The single track has roots and rocks galore, some muddy parts, some small streams, and did I mention rocks?

The course is a loop and you'll do one lap for the 5k and two laps for the 10.

The 2k course is an out and back designed for those under 13 years old and for beginners. It's a separate route on service roads and smooth double track on a gentle trail we call Shady Lane. We're keeping entry fees at \$20 for adults, \$10 for those under 13, and \$30 if you want to do the clinic and the run. If finances are a challenge, look into Digby Active, a program through Digby Recreation that helps with registration fees for youth and adults.

Digby Area Recreation Commission is hosting the race with support from the Digby Lazy Bear Runners, the Van Tassel Lake Trail Association, and the Town and Municipality of Digby. So, there you go: that's all the basic information you need to start your training – we'll be adding more info to the webpage and Facebook page soon.



Runners in the Lily Lake Lollygag Trail Run will get to enjoy the view from the Van Tassel Lake Look off – once if they do the 5k run, twice if they do 10k.

Jonathan Riley Photo

Tried everything to make this extra page disappear but was unsuccessful. Any ideas? So, using photos that did not fit on the pages with their stories

First two from beach sweep story on page 5



This one is self-explanatory



Shading shows area Cermaq Canada has been given an Option to Lease

Source: <https://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/site-mapping-tool/>

fbcid=IwAR3UGbjxWldwj9XpQyXN-QeI2b4KagN9WpkMQj0-poZ2kJDoElrRJM2BI-8



Bay of Fundy Discovery Centre Association Board of Directors for 2019-20

- Anna-Marie MacKenzie Kelly (Chair)
- Peter Morehouse (Vice Chair)
- Roger Outhouse (Secretary/Treasurer)
- Bonnie MacLachlan
- Jeff White
- Melissa Merritt
- Frank Garron
- Amanda Addington
- Hannah Charlton

- We continue to welcome new members. Please consider joining our association and continue to make this a wonderful place to live and visit.
- We want your stories and photos. Please let us know what you are enjoying along our beautiful Bay of Fundy. Please send your stories, photos and dates of upcoming projects to anna-marie.mackenzie-kelly@mail.mcgill.ca

The Bay of Fundy Discovery Center Association

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righthouse51@gmail.com



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| 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.