



The Bras d’Or Lake Biosphere Reserve was 8 years into it’s 10-year mandate.

An active group of members continued to be involved in a variety of activities related to projects, governance, networking, and awareness building related to the promotion of the natural environment and how we can live more sustainably. Here are some highlights of the work over 2019 and plans for 2020.

### **2019 Highlights**

- The three-day Climate Change Adaptation Colloquium & Forum held in June was a great success with 67 participants from 13 biospheres, 15 CEPI Youth, government and NGO representatives in attendance.
- Signage project completed with 12 highway signs erected along major thoroughfares where motorists enter the Biosphere
- The signage program by the Great Trail showing points for water access to the trail within the Biosphere was completed
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Bras d’Or Watch annual citizen science event held at Grand Narrows, Ross Ferry Marine Park, St. Peter’s Marina and the Whycomomagh Provincial Park.
- 5<sup>th</sup> annual Aros na Mara World Oceans Day where we helped to educate more about the Biosphere.
- Educational school curriculum units now adopted by NS Dept of Education and Early Childhood Development.
- New bylaw on director tenure and membership terms.
- New position of Youth Representative created and filled on the Board.
- 2019 is the Year of Indigenous Languages
- Preparing for upcoming 2020-2021 Periodic Review
- Discussions started on a project on assessing, monitoring and reporting on the State of the Biosphere
- There were 148 paid members including 95 lifetime members, and 2 renewed business members as of October 2019.

### **2020 Priorities**

- CEPI and BLBRA plan to focus on sustainable tourism
- Grow membership
- Continue development of trails
- Continue the annual citizen science initiative - Bras d’Or Watch and Forest Watch
- Continue to participate in annual events around the Lake that allow us to promote the three pillars of the Biosphere
- Maintain and update our display at the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site