



COVID-19 severely curtailed the ability to carry out most public events however online meetings enabled some projects to continue. A few activities were able to be planned however following federal and provincial guidelines. Below are some highlights of the work accomplished in 2020 and plans for 2021.

On June 30th, 2020 the Bras d’Or Lake Biosphere Reserve entered into the last year of it’s 10-year designation.

2020 Highlights

- A 2020-2021 Periodic Review committee was struck in January and worked with a schedule that planned delivery of the initial submission for January 31st, 2021.
- A 40 page [Guidelines for Climate Change Adaptation in Canada’s UNESCO Biospheres](#) based on learnings from the 2019 Climate Change Adaptation forum was produced and distributed
- Bras d’Or Watch kits and Field Guides designed and created.
- The 6th Bras d’Or Watch annual citizen science event was held only at Peter’s Marina and sampling by ACAP at four sites: St. Peter’s, Iona, Ben Eoin and Whycomomagh
- Bras d’Or Watch held second Photo contest and ACAP started iNaturalist based BioBlitz
- Highway signage completion celebration held before the AGM with local MP in attendance.
- Presentation given on what a Biosphere Report Card could look like
- Budgeting, funding and expense accountabilities move down to the committee level.
- eTransfer of accounts receivable and membership fees now available
- Biosphere Highlights newsletter move to Mailchimp platform.
- The BLBRA Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site display design completed
- The Trail Committee Toolkit completed and BLBRA joined Hike Nova Scotia
- Proposals received for facilitating a Strategic Plan review and update in 2021
- The 2020 AGM was held online as well as face-to-face.
- BLBRA received \$ 2,000 from CBRA to conduct a study of the Lake core area.
- Destination Cape Breton gave the Biosphere special feature box status on their website

2021 Priorities

- Plan to focus on sustainable tourism
- Grow memberships and funding
- Grow strategic partnerships
- 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
- Complete the update to our display at the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site