

Welcome!

Pjila'si | Failte | Bienvenue



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Bras d'Or Lake
Biosphere Region
Association

YOUR
BRAS
D'OR
BIOSPHERE REGION

Yours to **explore**
Yours to **enjoy**
Yours to **nurture**

KI'LEWEY
PITU'PA'Q
BIOSPHERE REGION

Ki'lewey **mili-ala'sin**
Ki'lewey **wlapesin**
Ki'lewey **Wli-anko'tmn**

Bras d'Or Lakes Biosphere Region Association 2024 Annual General Meeting

We would like to acknowledge that the Bras d'Or Lake Biosphere is in **Unama'ki**, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. As Treaty People, we are all privileged to share this special place together in friendship.



AGM AGENDA FOR JUNE 13, 2024



1. Welcome
2. Land Acknowledgment
3. Guest Speaker: Mike Kofahl on the NS Coastal Protection Act
4. Introductions
5. Approval of the agenda
6. Approval of June 2023 AGM minutes
7. Annual Reports
8. By-law Amendments
9. Financial Statements
10. Nomination of new Board members
11. Adjournment

Introductions



NAME	TYPE	TERM	CONC. YRS
Terri Shobbrook	member at large	2022-2025	2
Megan MacInnis	member at large	2022-2025	2
Rodney Chaisson	member at large	2023-2026	4 (resigned)
Allison McIsaac	member at large	2023-2026	4
Elizabeth Campbell	member at large	2024-2027	3
Stan Johnson	Member at large/ CEPI	2022-2025	7
Kirsten Campbell	member at large	2022-2025	2 (resigned)
Veronika Brzeski	member at large	2022-2025	2
Kathleen Aikens	member at large	2022-2025	2
Bethsheila Kent	member at large	2023-2026	1
Breah Sampson-MacDonald	member at large	2021-2024	2
Tony Sylliboy	member at large	2023-2026	1
Parker Donham	member at large	2023-2026	1
Wendy MacKinnon	member at large	2023-2026	1 (resigned)
Steve Parsons	CBRM appointed Ex-Officio		
Barbara Longva	Victoria County appointed Ex-Officio		
Tyler Mattheis	Cape Breton Partnership appointed Ex-Officio		
Amanda Mombourquette	Richmond County appointed Ex-Officio		
Bonny McIsaac	Inverness Co. appointed Ex-Officio		
Kirsty Lock	NSCC Strait Area appointed Ex-Officio		

Bras d'Or Lakes Biosphere Region Association Annual General Meeting

Alexander Graham Bell Museum, Baddeck

Draft minutes Thursday, June 15, 2023



Call to order: at 7:35 by Vice-Chair, Terri Shobbrook who will be chairing this meeting. The 2023 AGM is paperless. Copies can be received by mail by contacting the office. Stan Johnson, ex-officio member representing CEPI, gave the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Chris King, Seconded by Bethsheila Kent. Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes of 2022 AGM: Motion by Jim Foulds, Seconded by Parker Donham, the minutes were adopted as read.

Reports presented by: **Board Chair** Allison MacIsaac, **Manager** Doug Foster, **Communication Committee:** Kathleen Aikens, **Communication & Marketing Committee** Pierre LaRochelle, **Amazing Places:** Terri Shobbrook, **Community Engagement and Learning Committee:** Kirsty Locke, **Trails Committee:** Ron Newcombe. For copies of those reports, please contact the office.

Financial Report: Prepared by Treasurer Rodney Chaisson, presented by Chair, Allison MacIsaac. Special note that the ECCC project will likely have a 4th and 5th year for continuing the hydrology project. The Report was accepted with changing the word "profit" to "Surplus" Motion by Parker Donham, Seconded by Barbara Longva.

Approval of New Board: Eileen Crosby nominates Parker Donham, BethSheila Kent, Breah Sampson MacDonald (with regrets), Tony Sylliboy (Absent). Barbara Longva nominates Wendy MacKinnon. All accept. Motion to accept the new board by Terri Shobbrook, Parker Donham seconds – motion carried.

Appreciation: Chair Allison MacIsaac expressed appreciation to retiring board members Eileen Crosby and Chris King. Acknowledges all the work and time the retiring board members contributed to BLBRA.

Guest Speaker: Catherine Hart from Engage Nova Scotia

Recommendation: BLBRA AGMs be earlier and not as long.

Adjournment: Tim motioned to adjourn the AGM at 9:26pm.

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- a. Chair's Report**
- b. Manager's Report**
- c. Membership Committee**
- d. Communication and Marketing Committee**
- e. Community Engagement and Learning Committee**
- f. Trails Committee**

Chair's Report



- Strategic Plan implementation
- 2-year Extension of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) Eskasoni Hydrology Project
- Inclusion of the Mi'kmaw Language into website and social media products
- Participation in the Atlantic Canada Tourism Corridor (to link the Atlantic Biospheres and UNESCO Heritage Sites through a tourism strategy).

Much appreciation to all the Board of Directors, Committee Chairs and members and staff for their amazing work in the Biosphere.

Manager's Report

Ongoing Work:

- Biosphere Mapping
- Outdoor display with Bell Museum
- Data repository with CBU
- Work with committees
- Funding applications

Manager's Report

NOVEMBER 13-15, 2023



MEMBERTOU, CAPE BRETON / UNAMA'KI



**MUIWATMNEJ
ETUAPTUMUMK**

HONOURING TWO-EYED SEEING

TURNING VISION INTO ACTION

Membership Committee 2023-24

- ✓ 150 Members at end of 2023-24 FY (46 annual; 104 Lifetime)
- ✓ Membership administration = database admin, bylaw review
- ✓ Membership recruitment through Biosphere events, peer to peer recruitment, and social media

Priorities for 2024-25:

- ☐ Strengthening communications with members
- ☐ Succession planning to ensure continuity

Please contact Membership Committee Chair, Kathleen Aikens (kathleen@blbra.ca) if you have ideas or feedback

By-Law Review



Article III: Membership

III.1. The association is member based. It actively seeks out ~~both individuals and organizations as~~ members to achieve shared goals.

III.2. Membership in the Association shall be open to anyone ~~individuals, not-for-profit organizations, businesses, institutions and governments~~ interested in furthering the objective of the Association.

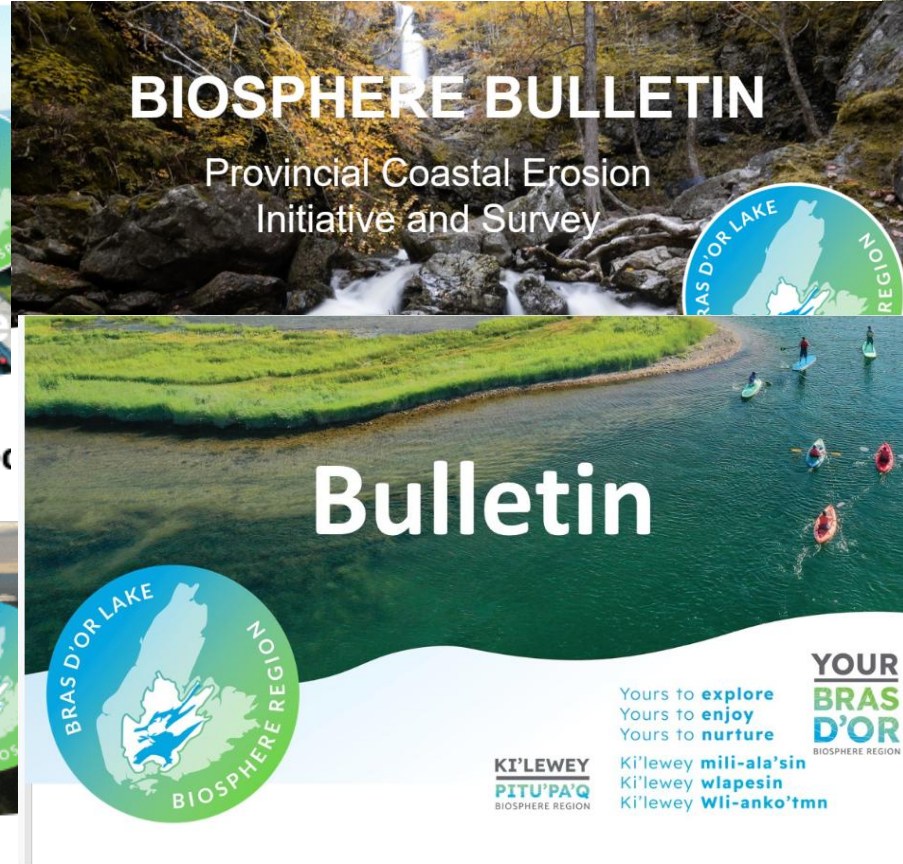
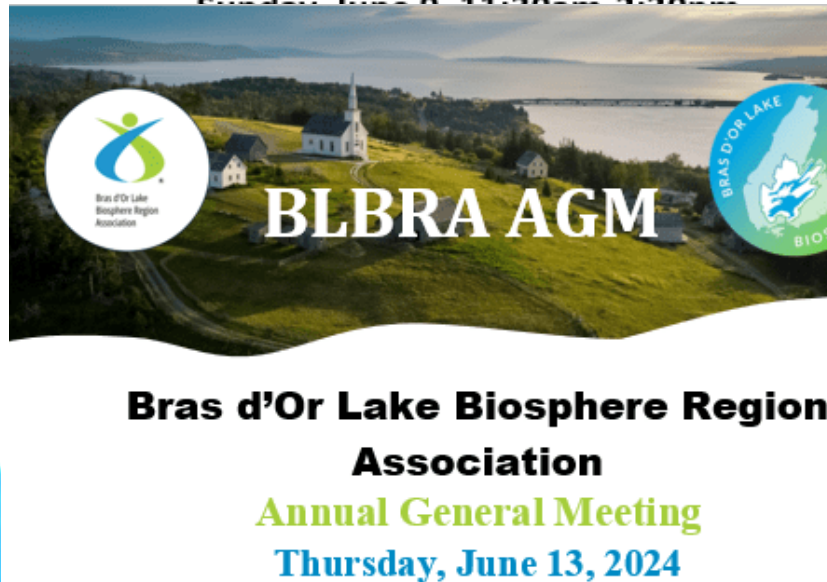
By-Law Review

By-Law I: Membership

- i) Membership shall be open to any one ~~individual, family, organization or business~~ interested in furthering the objects of the Association.
- ii) Members will be admitted to the Association upon payment of a membership fee determined by the Board of Directors, and upon approval by the Board of Directors.
- iii) Each member shall be entitled to receive notice of, and attend all meetings of members and shall be entitled to one vote on any vote taken at any meeting of members.
- ~~iv) The membership year begins on April 1 the date the individual becomes a member.~~
- iv) Membership fees are payable each year; ~~a notice of the fees payable shall be sent to each member by the Association promptly before the due date.~~
- vi) Membership shall cease:
 - a) upon death
 - b) one month following written notice of nonpayment of annual fee.
 - c) if the member resigns by written notice to the Association.
 - d) if the member ceases to qualify for membership in accordance with these bylaws
 - e) if, by vote of the majority of members of the Association or a majority vote of the Directors of the Association at a meeting duly called and for which notice of the proposed action has been given.
- ~~vii) Individual, Family, Organizational and Business membership fees may differ.~~

Communication and Marketing Committee

✓ Newsletters and bulletins



Communication and Marketing Committee

✓ Social Media



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Bras d'Or Lake
Biosphere Region
Association



Bras d'Or Lake Biosphere Region Association

2.2K likes • 2.4K followers



Contact us

Liked

Message

The Forest Floor

When?
1:00 p.m.
Saturday – June 15, 2024
Rain date – Sunday – June 16, 2024

Where?
Whycocomagh Provincial Picnic Park
Lower Park Road Parking lot - Highway 105
Just past entrance to Provincial Park Road on the left

Or Lake Biosphere Region Association for its second hike of 2024 and d
bor of Whycocomagh Provincial Picnic Park when spring wildflowers car
wood-dominated canopy and native shrubs are heavy with spring bloom
Moccasin flower - is seen here at this time of year and ferns, mosses an
ral history interpreters, members of The Cape Breton Naturalists' Societ
ers to share their knowledge of the abundant natural wonders that call th

ay. We will follow well-maintained roads and a few short spur trails with
is and a single, steep staircase leading down to a small beach on the Br
the well-marked parking area of the Park adjacent to Highway 105 just e
f travelling from Baddeck, on Saturday, June 16, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. Plea
sitate clothing and footwear and bring water. Snacks optional!

Merchandise

Yours to explore
Yours to nurture
Yours to enjoy

4" Fridge Magnet \$10
Shipping \$5 Canada

8 3/4" Plate \$20
Shipping \$4.50 Canada

12" Crib Board \$45
Shipping \$25/30 Atlantic/Canada

All 3 Items \$70 shipping included

AMERICAN ROBIN

HERLE AMERICAIN
JIPJAWEL

The American robin is known for its
colorful orange breast and song. It
also has a black head, black and white
throat on the throat, grey back, blackish
tail and legs, and pale abdomen. The
bird is a symbol of the new
seasons (Vikings, North America). It
often sings on perches and is sometimes
seen in flocks. The American robin is
found in many areas, including
forests, fields, and urban areas.
American robins are full songers and
are very vocal.

POPULATION:
Least Concern

FUN FACT!
Despite having "robins"
in its name, the
American robin is
actually a thrush!

THREATS
The most significant threat to the
American robin is the loss of habitats.
Some of the most common threats that
the American robin face include
deforestation, loss of wetlands, and
habitat fragmentation. Robins and song
birds are also threatened by
pesticides, diseases, and predators.

HISTORY
Originally a forest species, the American
robin has adapted well to suburban
areas, where it feeds on worms and insects
in gardens and lawns.

PIPING PLOVER

PLUVIER SIFFLEUR
JLJWIKATEJ

The Piping Plover is a small, stocky
shorebird that breeds on
unvegetated shorelines for defense from
predators. Piping plovers have an
orange bill with a black tip, white
underparts, and a dark back.

THREATS
The Piping Plover is nationally listed as
Endangered due to human development,
predation, and habitat loss due to coastal
erosion, sea level rise, and other threats.
Of particular concern is the loss of the
nesting habitat.

POPULATION:
Endangered

FUN FACT!
Plovers will pretend to be a
broken wing when a predator
approaches them to lead to
the nest and not be noticed.

HISTORY
The last confirmed sighting of Piping
Plover in the Bras d'Or Lake was in the
1970s, so any possible sightings are
thought to be reported by the
Department of Lands and Forestry.

It is critical for people to report
disappeared plovers nesting areas. These
are an endangered species. To do
your part, please keep your eyes on the
beach when on a beach, and be sure to
walk on the sand away from nesting
growth.

BRAS D'OR WATCH Baddeck

Part of the EXPO & Artisan Market being held at
the Inverary Resort Conference Centre, Baddeck,
368 Shore Road, Baddeck, NS

June 9, 2024
11:30AM-2:30PM

YOUR
BRAS
D'OR

Yours to explore
Yours to enjoy
Yours to nurture

RI.BRA AGM

DEER MOUSE

SAURIS SYLVESTRÉ
APUKJ

Deer mice are commonly found in
wooded areas and forests. They are
active during the day and are very
social animals. They are also
opportunistic feeders, eating a variety
of plants and animals.

POPULATION:
Least Concern

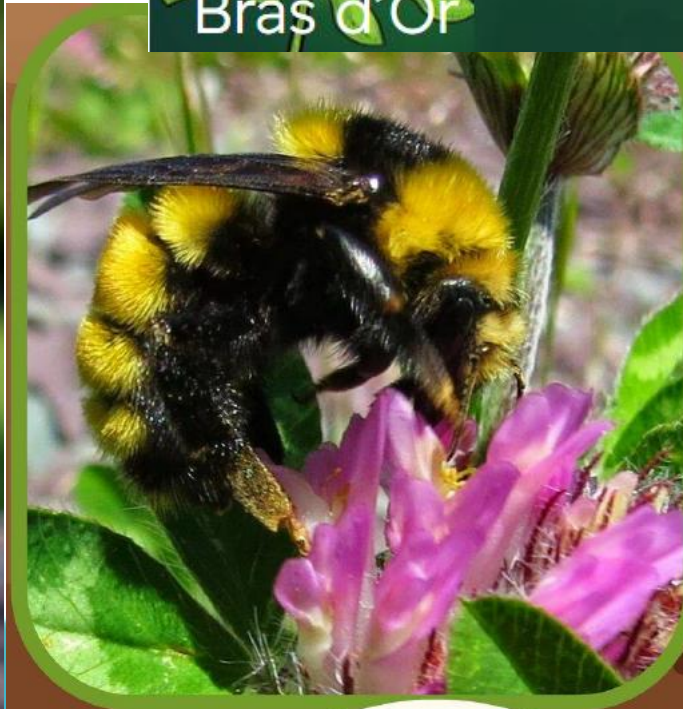
FUN FACT!
Mice teeth never stop
growing! They grow
about 0.3mm per day.

THREAT POSER
Deer mice often serve as a vector for
disease, including Lyme disease. They
also serve as a pest for humans and
livestock. They can also damage
crops and stored food.

HISTORY
Deer mice are native to North America
and have been found throughout
Canada, including in the Atlantic
provinces. They are a common
pest in homes and businesses.
Deer mice have been found in the
Bras d'Or Lake area.

Communication and Marketing Committee

✓ Website

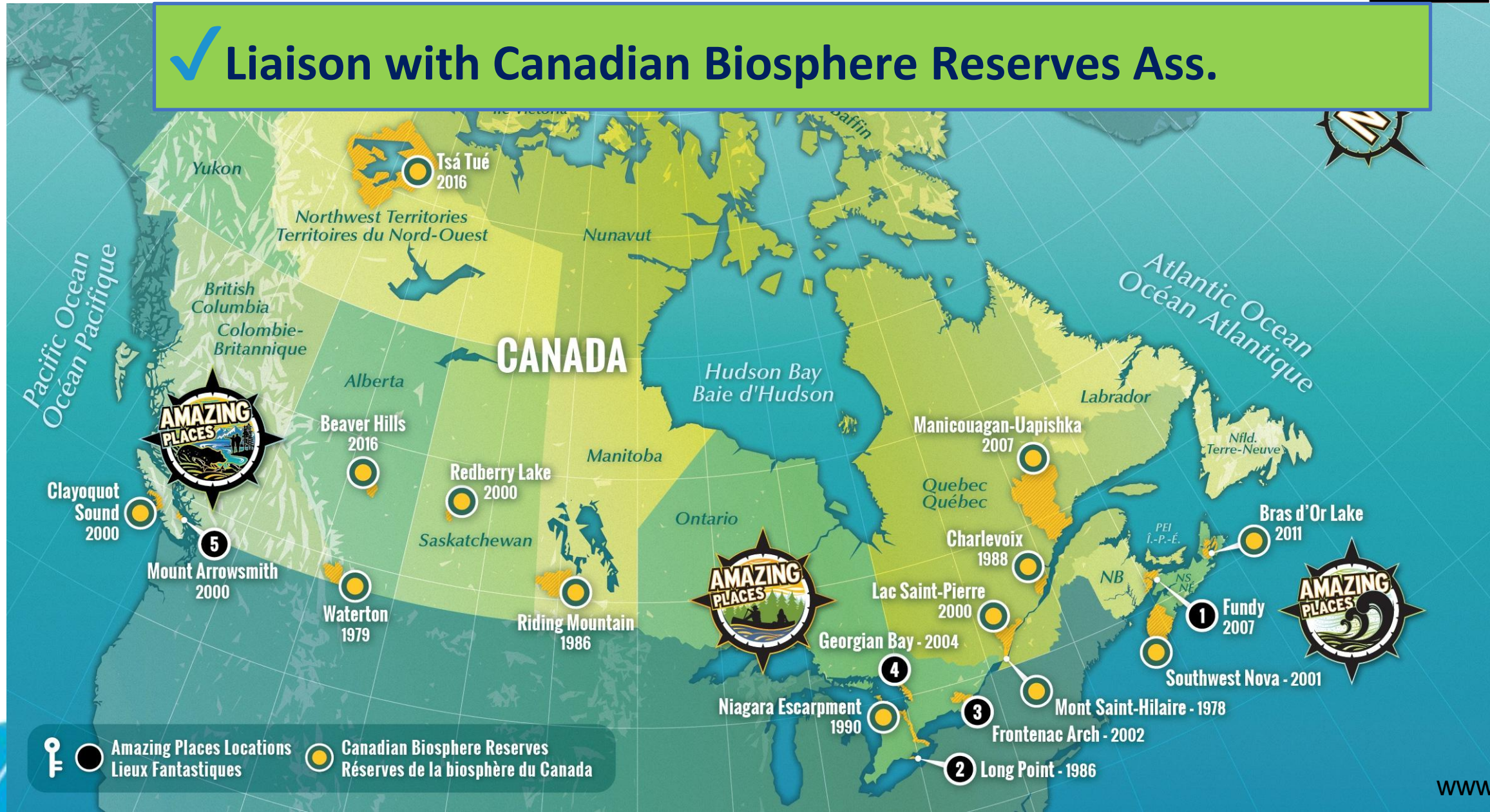


Communication and Marketing Committee



Bras d'Or Lake
Biosphere Region
Association

✓ Liaison with Canadian Biosphere Reserves Ass.



Communication and Marketing Committee



✓ Branding integration

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Communication and Marketing Committee

✓ Communication software



Drive

Canva

Community Engagement and Learning Committee

✓ Teaching Kits

- Adapting to Watery Habitats
- Introduction to the Acadian Forest
- Animals and their Habitats: A Question of Balance



Community Engagement and Learning Committee



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Bras d'Or Lake
Biosphere Region
Association

Bras d'Or Watch

June 9 in Iona and Baddeck

July 4 in Eskasoni

August 3 in St Peter's

Community Engagement and Learning Committee



Future Priorities:

- QR codes on signage (Nicholson trail)
- Citizen science: Year-round water monitoring
- Adventure Lab
- Teaching kits: facilitate and distribute
- Hire a person to promote awareness and engagement

Trails Committee

- Trails Committee goals
- Biosphere wall map
- Relationship building: Hike NS, Trans Canada Trail



Trails Committee

Walk the Watershed - hiking series



May 25 East Bay Hills Trail: An early birding walk

June 15 Whycocomagh PP: The Forest Floor

JULY 27 Goat Island Trail: A Walk Through Time

August 17 Iona Beach - MacCormack PP: Habitat Hopscotch

September 28 Uisge Ban Falls PP : The Fungus Among Us



Financial Statement

April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024



Income Statement April 2023 - March 2024

	TOTAL
INCOME	
Canadian Biosphere Reserve Association	3,333.00
Destination Cape Breton	3,000.00
Donations	8,000.00
Environment & Climate Change Canada	231,570.00
Grants - TD Foundation	3,983.00
HST Rebate	2,004.37
Map Sales	1,112.37
Memberships	680.00
Sales of Product Income	189.58
TOTAL INCOME	\$253,872.32
OTHER INCOME	
Revenue Deferred from Last Fiscal	14,535.14
Interest earned	122.61
Total Other Income	\$14,657.75

	TOTAL
EXPENSES - ECCC Project	
Audit & legal fees	1,317.71
Communications	4,202.50
Contractors	5,000.00
Management & professional services	22,650.00
Materials & Supplies	8,235.53
Overhead 10%	433.20
Research Contract	51,000.00
Salaries & Employment Costs	117,502.00
Travel	11,568.43
TOTAL EXPENSES: ECCC Project	221,909.37
EXPENSES: Explore the Bras d'Or Project	1,250.00
EXPENSES: Teaching Kits Project	1,026.10
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$224,185.47

SURPLUS FUNDS \$44,344.60

Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2024

Current Assets Cash and Cash Equivalent	
1025 TD Canada Trust Community Plan Plus	135,976.44
1026 TD Business Investor Account	5,138.54
Total Cash and Cash Equivalent	\$141,114.98
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	
Grants Receivable	110,521.00
Total Accounts Receivable (A/R)	\$110,521.00
Total Current Assets	\$251,635.98
Total Assets	\$251,635.98
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	156,164.28
Total Accounts Payable (A/P)	\$156,164.28
Credit Card - Visa	-1,802.75
Total Credit Card	\$ -1,802.75
GST/HST Payable	-389.72
Total Current Liabilities	\$153,971.81
Total Liabilities	\$153,971.81
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	53,319.57
Retained Earnings	0.00
Surplus for the year	44,344.60
Total Equity	\$97,664.17
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$251,635.98

Nomination of new board members



Pierre LaRochelle

- Lives in St. Peter's
- Active with the BLBRA since 2016 Secretary from 2020 - 2022
- Chair of the Communications Committee since 2020.




Adele Hunt

- Experience in financial management and leadership
- Credit Union Manager
- Expertise in budgeting, strategic planning, and community engagement.



Rodney (Rod) William Thompson

- Lives in Glace Bay
- Retired from Parks Canada national team where he worked on information and data management, trail design, rehabilitation of landscapes, and control of invasive species.
- Active volunteer for community and sports groups



**Please join us for tea,
coffee, and sweets**

And Please return your name tags - for next year!



Thank you!

Wela'lioq

Merci

Go raibh maith agat



See you around the Bras d'Or!

