### **ANNUAL REPORT 2021**











### PROTECTING GEORGIAN BAY'S WILDERNESS LANDS







# **Conservation** LEADERSHIP on Georgian Bay



### PROTECTING GEORGIAN BAY'S WILDERNESS LANDS









## DEAR FRIENDS

Thank you all for making 2021 another fantastic year for conservation on Georgian Bay. Throughout changing circumstances, I have been inspired and encouraged by the way our community has come together to create new opportunities for success.

At the heart of our mission is land protection. We completed three new conservation projects this year, adding Ellie's Lookout, the Portage Preserve, and the Saunderson Islands Easement to the Georgian Bay Land Trust network. We have also begun a project of targeted outreach to owners of ecologically significant land, supported by a multi-year grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. We are already beginning to see the impact of this outreach, and I believe will continue to for years to come, as more landowners explore the opportunity they have to leave a legacy for Georgian Bay.

2021 saw a return to in-person collaborative work and learning on the Bay. We were delighted to welcome "scientists in residence" from the University of Western Ontario, who spent the summer in Go Home Bay studying the habitat use behaviours of songbirds. Our community was able to gather again for fun and educational events, including the first public nature walks on the trails of the new Rose Island Nature Reserve. It's good to be back together.

My thanks go out to all the volunteers, donors, and partners who make the Land Trust's work possible. Our amazing team of staff, led by Executive Director Bill Lougheed, continue to drive us forward on a daily basis. I'd like to extend a special thanks and congratulations to Brooks Greer, our Land Protection Program Manager for the past 12 years, whose retirement we celebrated in October.

Brooks, we will miss you! We are delighted to welcome two new staff members for 2022: Aaron Rusak, who has taken on Brooks' position in the newly-defined Protected Areas Manager role, and Eleanor Proctor, who has joined us as a Land Procurement Assistant. They join Janet, Sarah, and Irina in rounding out our hardworking team.

The Georgian Bay Land Trust celebrated our 30th anniversary in 2021, and I find myself reflecting on the changes that have taken place over these past three decades. What began as a small, volunteer-run group responding to a need for environmental protection, has grown into a thriving organization protecting 7,500 acres of wilderness, collaborating with innovative research and conservation partners, and planning effectively for the long-term sustainability of our region. I am grateful to be part of such a dedicated, forward-thinking community. Thank you for being part of it too!



IAN DAVIS
Board Chair

### PLAN

### Using science to identify and prioritize key habitats for conservation so that species are protected and our coastal ecosystem remains resilient

#### **ECOSYSTEM MAPPING**

Following two years of intensive work, we have created a new natural heritage plan for our entire biosphere. This Conservation Tool allows a visual understanding of habitats, biodiversity, species distributions, invasive species threats and habitat connectivity. It will allow individuals, organizations and governments to understand and appreciate the connected ecology of our landscape and make best-practices conservation decisions for years to come.



#### LANDOWNER OUTREACH

A grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation has allowed us to enhance our outreach to priority landowners, in order to accelerate the permanent protection of ecologically significant lands, forests and wetlands. We are reaching out to people who own property that is ranked as high priority in our Natural Area Conservation Plan, based on a series of targets including biodiversity, habitat quality and connectivity, and at-risk species. Through online seminars, new outreach materials, and a temporary Land Procurement Assistant position, we have increased capacity to connect with new land donors and make a permanent impact on conservation in our region.

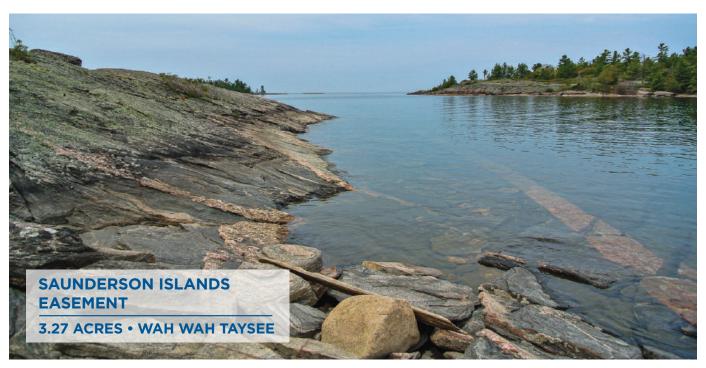
#### **ALLIANCE OF CANADIAN LAND TRUSTS**

Our Executive Director Bill Lougheed played a key role in establishing the new Alliance of Canadian Land Trusts with partners from across the country. Over the past several years, collaboration with other land trusts has been crucial in advocating for the federal funding programs that have made many of the Georgian Bay Land Trust's recent successes possible. We are looking forward to continuing to work with our partners to strengthen conservation work throughout Canada.



## PROTECT

Securing ecologically significant lands to protect habitats and species and to create open spaces for community enjoyment



#### **DONATED BY WILLIAM & MEREDITH SAUNDERSON**

Two classic Georgian Bay islands of rock and pine, the Saunderson Islands Easement is home to many of the species that our coast is known for, including Massasauga Rattlesnake, Eastern Foxsnake, Five-lined Skink, Monarch Butterfly, and Northern Map Turtle.



#### PORTAGE PRESERVE

2.76 ACRES
COGNASHENE



Georgian Bay's fish populations are better protected now that some of their key shoreline habitat is part of the Portage Preserve. This protected area includes forest as well, and helps provide a balance between development and nature in a growing cottage community.



ELLIE'S LOOKOUT

O.5 ACRE

#### **DONATED BY ELEANOR & HOWARD EDMUNDS**

Protecting this small island in its natural state helps maintain the ecological integrity of the entire 75-island archipelago of which it is a part. This archipelago provides habitat and migration pathways for a number of at-risk species.

## STEWARD

### Working alongside communities to monitor and maintain wilderness lands forever



#### PROPERTY STEWARDSHIP

As ever, our Conservation Interns and 130+ Volunteer Stewards did a fantastic job ensuring that the Land Trust's 67 protected properties were well cared for in 2021. Stewardship tasks included invasive species removal and garbage cleanup, monitoring and interacting with visitors, and tracking wildlife sightings, particularly species at risk.



#### **ROSE ISLAND NATURE RESERVE**

The Rose Island Nature Reserve is the Land Trust's first ever property with a trail network! We hosted two inaugural hikes this year, and are looking forward to the possibilities this will open up in terms of visitor experience and education. We are also immensely grateful to the local stewards who have stepped up to help us care for this property, which will surely present unique stewardship challenges.





#### **PHRAGMITES REMOVAL**

2021 was a great year in the battle against invasive Phragmites. We discovered that the previously-large patches at Giant's Tomb and Sandy Island did not grow back (except a few stray stalks) - a testament to the hard work of years past. With the help of volunteers, we tackled patches that did return at Port Severn Wetlands, Band Island, and Ogemawahj Road. We are continuing to collaborate with partners to advance our capabilities and strategic approach to eliminating Phragmites in upcoming seasons.

## LEARN

### Advancing scientific knowledge by collaborating with academic partners and using our properties to support research in the biosphere



BIRD MOVEMENT RESEARCH WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO (UWO)

We welcomed scientists from UWO to land trust properties, and our new rented field station, to study the behaviour of Ovenbirds, Song Sparrows, and White-throated Sparrows. By tagging and tracking these birds using new Motus radiotelemetry towers, the scientists were able to glean new information about the birds' movements and needs during the post-nesting season.



BAT MONITORING WITH ONTARIO LAND TRUST ALLIANCE (OLTA)

In collaboration with OLTA, we installed a passive bat monitor on the MacCallum Reserve, which recorded the calls of numerous bat species over the course of the summer. This data confirms the abundant presence of bats on this property, and the importance of Georgian Bay habitat for these species, many of which are at risk.



MASSASAUGA RECOVERY WORK WITH WILDLIFE PRESERVATION CANADA

Ecologists from Wildlife Preservation Canada and Scales Nature Park came to Georgian Bay Land Trust properties, where Massasaugas are relatively abundant, to conduct work that will contribute to a plan to preserve and enhance Massasauga populations in other parts of Ontario.



EASTERN WHIP-POOR-WILL AND COMMON NIGHTHAWK STUDY WITH THE NORRIS LAB AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

GBLT-funded Motus towers continued to support the research of PhD student Elora Grahame, who is studying breeding habits and nestling survival among at-risk Eastern Whip-poor-wills and Common Nighthawks in the Muskoka region.

# INSPIRE

### Bringing communities together and cultivating the next generation of conservationists that will protect our land and species



**IN-PERSON EVENTS** felt more meaningful than ever this year. We were thrilled to welcome our community back to meet our resident bird scientists, learn about mushrooms and geology, practice outdoor yoga, and share time together in the places we love.



**VIRTUAL LANDMARK SPEAKER SERIES** continued, with 850+ people tuning in to learn about reptiles, shipwrecks, bird migration, and underwater life.



Our **KING FAMILY BURSARY** helped support a father-daughter paddling and microplastic sampling expedition along the coast of Georgian Bay, and a documentary about it which will inspire many others.



**2000+ VISITORS** came to enjoy the recreational opportunities and natural beauty of Georgian Bay Land Trust properties.

# FINANCIALS

#### **Georgian Bay Land Trust**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION** | Year Ended December 31, 2021

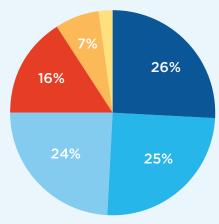
ASSETS	2021	2020
CURRENT Cash	318,359	311,294
Sundry receivables	77,000	75,532
HST rebate receivable	8,320	41,888
Prepaids	28,654	7,866
	432,333	436,580
Stewardship Funds and Endowment	1,796,961	1,635,893
Sheila MacFeeters Memorial Fund	200,288	200,288
Wally and Marilyn King and Family Fund	115,115	115,115
John Catto Conservation Fund	200,000	200,000
Conservation Lands Securement Fund	553,266	553,877
Conservation Working Fund	2,690,445	1,000,000
Property and Equipment	39,020,391	37,946,624
	45,008,799	42,088,377
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	25,519	36,838
Deferred Contributions		_
	25,519	36,838
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted Net Assets	406,814	399,742
Internally Restricted Net Assets	3,443,711	1,753,877
Externally Restricted Net Assets	2,112,364	1,951,296
Net Assets Invested In Property	39,020,391	37,946,624
	44,983,280	42,051,539
	45,008,799	42,088,377

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE   Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2021			
OPERATING REVENUE	2021	2020	
Donations & Grants	386,147	605,247	
Grants for Creating New Nature Reserves	260,184	382,563	
Georgian Bay Book Sales (net)	2,059	3,100	
Events (net)	71,971	47,716	
Investment	917,773	400,610	
	1,638,134	1,439,236	
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Land & Wetland Protection	252,243	190,994	
Conservation Stewardship & Research	167,777	153,226	
Conservation Communications & Education	101,106	79,545	
Fundraising	84,121	72,066	
Administration	97,442	76,219	
	702,689	572,050	
Excess Revenue over Expenses Funds and Revenues Dedicated or	935,445	867,186	
Used to Create New Nature Reserves	(893,283)	(382,563)	
	42,162	484,623	
CAPITAL REVENUE			
Donations: Externally Restricted Funds	809,157	55,300	
Donations: Internally Restricted Funds	166,068	248,366	
Value of Land Secured	1,014,000	592,563	

1,989,225

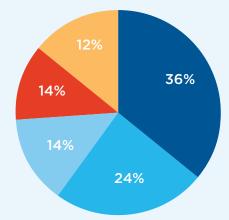
896,229

#### **REVENUE**



- **Donations of Land**
- **Donations to Restricted Funds**
- **Investment Income**
- **Annual Giving, Grants & Other Income**
- **Grants Received & Used**
- to Secure New Nature Reserves
- Event Income (net) (2%)

#### **EXPENSES**



- **Land & Wetland Protection**
- **Conservation Stewardship & Research**
- **Conservation Communications** & Education
- Administration
- **Fundraising & Development**

The Georgian Bay Trust Foundation, Inc. (operating as Georgian Bay Land Trust) Reg. Charity # 13195 8811 RR0001 Complete audited financial statements are available upon request

# PARTNERS

American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts
Bayfield Nares Islanders Association
Birds Canada
Blackstone Lake Cottagers Association
Blazing Star Environmental
Canadian Land Trusts Working Group
Celina Melo, Artist
Cognashene Cottagers Association
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North Channel Preservation Society
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Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Pointe au Baril Islanders' Association
Parks Canada - Georgian Bay Islands
National Park
Parry Sound Chamber of Commerce
Sans Souci Copperhead Association
Shawanaga First Nation
South Channel Association
Township of the Archipelago
University of Guelph
Vicki Carruthers, Artist
Wah Wah Taysee Association
West Carling Association
White Squall

#### **Many Thanks to our Generous Sponsors**













## THANK YOU

#### **Cumulative Giving**

#### **LUMINARIES**

Over \$500,000

John & Margaret Catto

Bill & Carol Prior

#### **VISIONARIES**

Over \$300,000 Geordie Dalglish Family Robert & Julia Foster Wally & Marilyn King

#### **AMBASSADORS**

Over \$200,000 Echo Foundation

Sheila MacFeeters & Michael Williams Weston Family Foundation

Annabelle White

#### **CHAMPIONS**

Over \$100,000 Jennifer Ivey Bannock Jean Hughes Jackman Foundation

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Over \$50,000

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Dr. T. James & Maureen Cooper
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Bruce Croxon & Debra Thier Fred & Sue Dalley Elizabeth Davidson Bill & Kathleen Davis Ann & David Doritty Georgian Bay Spirit Co. Jon & Shelagh Grant Stephen & Catherine Griggs Dr. Ralph S. & Caroline Grose

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Payne Marine

Francie & John Pepper Jan Ruby & Mary Thomson Samuel Family Foundation

Dave & Bev Stager John & Chris Stark

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Over \$20,000

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lan & Margaret Carmichael Stephen & Jane Chisholm

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George Wilson Donald & Jane Wright Donald Paton Wright Barbara Zimmerman Anonymous Donors

### DONORS

Your generous donations ensure that the spectacular wilderness of our unique archipelago is protected in perpetuity. We are honoured to celebrate the following supporters who made gifts from January 1 through December 31, 2021.

#### PROTECTED PROPERTIES

Our deepest appreciation to those who donated property or conservation easements, or made contributions for land protection projects in 2021:

#### Ellie's Lookout, Manitou

Eleanor & Howard Edmunds

Portage Preserve, Cognashene Anonymous (2)

#### Saunderson Islands Easement, Wah Wah Tavsee

William & Meredith Saunderson

#### Rose Island Nature Reserve, Carling

Lucy & Skip Allen Anne Arroe Jeff Cornett The Whittington Family The Wrays of Lafontane Bay

#### **Land Acquisition Fund**

Nancy & Brien Dane Ridge Road Holdings Inc. Glenn & Karen Root The Tangent Fund at the Cleveland Foundation

#### **STEWARDSHIP FUNDS**

Stewardship Funds are longterm investments that support the ongoing annual stewardship of our protected properties. Thank you to those who made contributions in 2021:

#### **Legacy Stewardship Fund**

Wendy Beck Garv Bouck Brian & Jean Fuller Caroline Grose Beth & Tom Halpenny

#### Andy Griggs Memorial Fund, Pointe au Baril

**Dave & Bev Stager Sandy** Island Stewardship Fund, Sandy & Martyr Islands

#### **Douglas & Marylon Alexander** Stewardship Fund, Wah Wah Taysee

Douglas & Ruth Grant Michael Wenban

#### Watson Family Stewardship Fund, Cognashene, Go Home Bay & Honey Harbour

Ralph Grose Peter S. Watson

#### **WALLY & MARILYN KING FAMILY FUND**

The Wally & Marilyn King Family Fund supports initiatives that increase knowledge and appreciation of the environment, culture, and communities of eastern Georgian Bay and the North Channel. Thank you to those who made contributions in

Wally & Marilyn King

#### **PLEDGE FOR THE BAY**

The five-year Pledge for the Bay enables the Land Trust to better plan for the future in land protection, stewardship, education, and outreach, knowing resources are in place from committed supporters. Thank you to these supporters for your generous pledges:

#### Leader of the Bay (\$25,000 over 5 years)

Jennifer Ivey Bannock The Bowman Family Dr. & Mrs. T.J. Cooper Fred & Sue Dalley Ann & David Doritty Doug & Sue Grundy Mason Family Foundation Paul & Martha McLean Robin & Robert Ogilvie Francie & John Pepper Jan Ruby & Mary Thomson Tom & Pamela Scoon

#### **ANNUAL SUPPORTERS**

Our achievements are shared with our generous supporters who care about the conservation of Georgian Bay as much as we do. Thank you to all those who made contributions in 2021:

#### \$500.000 - \$999.999

Great Lakes Basin Conservancy The Tangent Fund at the Cleveland Foundation

#### \$100,000 - \$249,999

Jean M. Saillant Trust

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David White Sarah White The Whittington Family Connor Wienberg Allan C. Will Thomas E. Winters James G. Worts Maggie Youngblood Jane S. Yusko Barbara Zimmerman Anonymous (16)

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Mary Greer Kim Gregor Brenda Guldenstein Emily Gusba Mary Hallock John Hamilton Celia Harte

Mary & David Harvey Brien & Sabina Hayes

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Sheila Riddle
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Gordon Robb
Harvey Robbins
Nick Roberts
John & Sandi Rogers
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Mary Ruby & Wood Hill Joanna Ruby-Armstrong &

Charles Armstrong Sewell Russell Grea Sainsbury Beverley Schiefer Amory Schwartz F.V. & H. Schwarz David Scott Cathy Shantz Richard Sherrill Ross Skoggard Amy & Pete Slowik Gordon W. Smith Laurence D. Smith Carl Spiess Beverly Stager Frank Staresincic Suzanne Stohn

Brett Sura Ryerson & Michele Symons Vincent Tangredi & Siulan Ko

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Anonymous (22)

In Memory

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Catherine & Derek Bate Ellen Louise Bell John Birnbaum Joe Brunatti John Catto Patricia Clark Margaret Cross

Hon. William Grenville Davis Brig A. Duncanson

John W. Duncanson Diana Eakin Robert G. Eakin Fred S. Eaton

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#### In Honour

Douglas Alexander Dr. Brenda Alves Clair Balfour Chris Beck Fred Beck Kerry & Brenda Benson Sue & Fred Dallev Amy Furness Wendy Hadwen & Mark Gwozdecky Councillor Al Hazelton Antony Hilliard The Hive Wilson (Tait) Hyland Stephen Jarvis Wally King Mary Anne Miller Peter O'Neill Sandy & Marilyn Phillips Irene S. Rogers Jan Ruby & Mary Thomson John J. Shaw Amy & Pete Slowik Calla Smith Glenn Stephenson

Krista Stephenson Greg Swick Perth Swick Sandra Swick Sydney Swick Trent Swick Barb Zimmerman

#### **LEGACY GIFTS**

Including a gift to the Georgian Bay Land Trust in your will or estate plans is a special way to leave a legacy to wilderness. Thank you to those who have planned a future gift:

#### **Wally King Legacy Circle**

Dr. Ralph S. & Caroline Grose Dr. David R. & Susan Herbold Wally & Marilyn King Donald & Lorraine Lawson Peter S. Watson **Anonymous** 

#### **Legacy Stewardship Gifts**

Peter & Cathy Cooper Susan Forrester & Frederick Dalley Ann & David Doritty Jon Grant Dr. Ralph S. & Caroline Grose Donald & Lorraine Lawson Peter S. Watson

If you would like to leave your legacy for the Bay we all love, please contact Janet at 416.440.1519 x 104 or janet. brough@gblt.org.

#### **SPONSORS**

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Lisa Hannaford

Martha House

Jaxx & Marbles

Melanie Heidman

Honey Harbour Boat Club

Jillian Douglas Design

In preparing this report, we have tried our best to be as accurate as possible. If there is an omission or a spelling error, please accept our sincerest apologies and contact us at 416.440.1519 x102 or info@gblt.org so that we can update our records.

Kate Ward Designs Jen Kernaghan Cris Kohl & Joan Forsberg Bert Liverance Jim Lorriman Trish Magwood Kara McIntosh Alexandra McLaughlin Sarah Merry Midland Golf & Country Club Neal Brothers Foods Inc. James Niehues Norse Brewery North Shore Apothecary The Ojibway Club Parry Sound Marine Patricia Peacock-Evans Andrew Peycha Martha Lailey Roberts George Rutherford Diane Soward Sud Forno Joseph Szolopiak Gander Tawaststjerna Julie & Chris Thompson Topper Linen Cindy Tripp Johanna Van Kempen Jessica Vergeer Bryan Wall Karen Walsh Alex Younger

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**Aaron Rusak** 

Protected Areas Manager

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Sarah Koetsier

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### **CELEBRATING**



#### **OUR MISSION**

The Georgian Bay Land Trust acts to protect wilderness lands and species along the eastern shore of Georgian Bay and the North Channel and its near watershed, through strategic conservation planning, land securement, stewardship, research, and education.

#### **OUR VISION**

An eastern Georgian Bay and North Channel whose islands, shores, and inland watersheds are connected and strengthened by a network of protected natural lands and habitats, where native species thrive and people interact with the natural world.

#### **OUR VALUES**

Love and respect for our special place; Integrity and commitment to our work; Inspiring others to preserve this natural wonder.

Georgian Bay Trust Foundation, Inc. operating as Georgian Bay Land Trust 120 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 1000 | Toronto, ON | M4P 1E2 416.440.1519 | www.gblt.org







