



### **ANNUAL REPORT 2019**







## PROTECTING the WILDERNESS of our UNIQUE ARCHIPELAGO

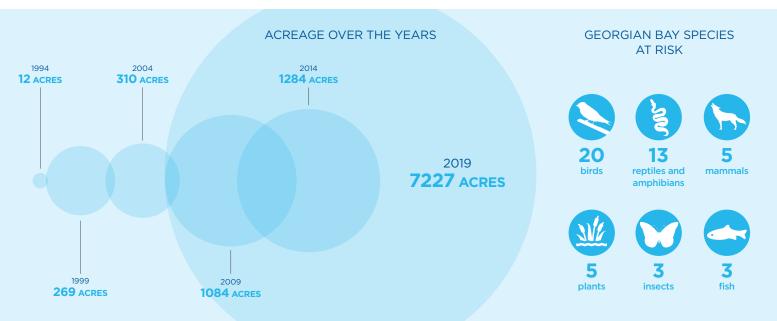






# **Conservation** LEADERSHIP on Georgian Bay





## DEAR FRIENDS

Indeed, these are extraordinary times we are living through.

We have been self isolating at the Georgian Peaks Ski Club near Thornbury. One of my daily routines is to hike the hills which take me to the top of the escarpment. On sunny days, the views of Southern Georgian Bay are stunning - the water is the colour of turquoise! As I stare to the horizon my thoughts turn to what we all hope are the summer months ahead at the cottage. I'm sure like many of you, I remain positive that will make the journey up north soon.

We cannot thank you enough for the dedicated support that you have shown to Georgian Bay's natural world. In these times of global uncertainty, it is a comfort to look around at our community and the tremendous things we can accomplish when we come together.

2019 was an exceptional year for conservation on Georgian Bay. In April, we announced the Tadenac Conservation Initiative – at 5,400 acres, the Georgian Bay Land Trust's largest-ever protected area.

Supported by a grant from Canada's Nature Fund and the Echo and McLean Foundations, this project protects one of Georgian Bay's most biodiverse places, where a rich mosaic of habitats provide homes to at least 32 species at risk. A foundation to support ongoing scientific research in perpetuity is part of the project, meaning that conservation everywhere will benefit from work done here on Georgian Bay.

A second milestone came in the fall, when a collective grant to improve outcomes for species at risk was awarded to the Georgian Bay region as part of Canada's Community Nominated Priority Places program. Over the next four years, we will be working with the Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve, Magnetawan First Nation, Shawanaga First Nation, and other community partners to improve

conservation mapping and planning tools for our coast, scale up species-specific research, and implement on the ground mitigation strategies to help our at-risk species thrive.

This past year was also an opportunity to strengthen our core programming, with increased work in invasive plant removal (including clearing the massive Phragmites stand at Giant's Tomb!), more educational events for kids and adults, and new protected properties on Georgian Bay and Blackstone Lake. We continue to work hard to spread the word about conservation, and help individuals and communities throughout our coast protect the places they love.

We are inspired and energized by the successes of 2019, and look forward to continuing the momentum with you in 2020.

Hoping you and your families remain safe and healthy.



DAVID DORITTY
Board Chair



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

In 2019 we continued the development of the GBLT's Natural Area Conservation Plan which targets areas for protection based on:

biodiversity	habitat diversity	density of species at risk present
rare species	proximity to other protected areas	presence of special habitats
ecosystems present	providing resilience to climate change	ability to connect
corridor for species movement		

The above data were mapped onto a GIS system which produces maps with a resolution down to 5m for most of the data. The layers were then used to do analysis and conservation scoring. This project will be completed in June 2020 and GBLT will be implementing the new plan at that time.

Corridor and connectivity maps and conservation scoring maps generated from the above will allow our land trust to know which land parcels provide the best:

- · contribution to our natural environment
- · resilience to climate change
- · natural corridors for species interbreeding and viability
- conservation value for protecting specific species or species guilds

Corridors are important: they allow different populations of a species in one protected area to genetically connect with species in a nearby protected area. Corridors can also be coastal, connecting groups of islands.

In 2019 we also began work on another Conservation Plan, this one directed solely at the Georgian Bay biosphere's species at risk. The process used here is a novel one developed by GBLT which defines new habitat zones specific to species at risk. The plan connects these zones through new GIS methodologies and its generated analysis and resultant mapping will identify areas where conservation efforts need to be directed. This work is part of the GBLT's contribution to the four-year collective Community Nominated Priority Place grant received by the GBLT, GBBR, and First Nations from Environment and Climate Change Canada.

- Bill Lougheed, Executive Director

# PROTECT

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



#### **TADENAC CONSERVATION INITIATIVE • 5,400 ACRES**

The Tadenac Conservation Initiative is a 5,400 acre easement at the heart of one of Georgian Bay's largest undisturbed natural areas. Its highly diverse terrestrial and aquatic habitats are home to 32 species at risk including the Blanding's Turtle, Algonquin Wolf, and Bald Eagle, and 15 provincially rare plant species. It also includes two Provincially Significant Wetlands which provide nesting habitat for waterfowl and critical fish spawning and nursery areas used by endangered Lake Sturgeon. Made possible through the support of Canada's Nature Fund, this project plays an important role in region-wide conservation by contributing to a larger protected habitat corridor along the eastern Georgian Bay coast. We are extremely grateful to everyone who contributed to making the Tadenac Conservation Initiative a reality in 2019.



GRANT MOOSE BAY RESERVE

13.4 ACRES

WAH WAH TAYSEE

DONATED BY DOUG AND RUTH GRANT



ONE BEAR ISLAND
2.15 ACRE EASEMENT
MANITOU
DONATED ANONYMOUSLY



STRONGHOLD RESERVE
21 ACRE EASEMENT
BLACKSTONE LAKE
DONATED ANONYMOUSLY

# STEWARD

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

Looking after our protected properties is the most important part of our work, and our fantastic team of volunteers and staff did a wonderful job keeping things clean and healthy in 2019. From research and monitoring of at-risk species, to garbage and invasive plant cleanup, to interacting with visitors, our stewards were once again an indispensable part of our conservation work.



61 protected properties monitored by staff and 130+ volunteer stewards

4 invasive plant species removed from 7 properties including large-scale phragmites removal at Port Severn Wetlands, Giant's Tomb, and Sandy Island

#### A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A STEWARD:

"Beautiful afternoon, light wind, ideal for kayaking. Lush iris and cranberry. Full of promise. Just one animal - watersnake sunning on rock. Trash: large piece of blue Styrofoam, strapped to my kayak and removed, with one plastic bottle, one shiny red balloon."

JANE GLASSCO, WEST LOOKOUT RESERVE, JUNE 18TH 2019

4 summer students interacted with visitors, conducted property maintenance, and assisted with 3 research projects



201 property reports submitted

ne-Anne Campuel

# LEARN

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



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

PhD student Elora Grahame is discovering new information about the nesting habits of Eastern Whippoor-wills and Common Nighthawks by using GBLT-funded Motus towers to track these at-risk birds.



### ENDANGERED SPECIES HABITAT SURVEYS WITH BLAZING STAR ENVIRONMENTAL

In a new focus for 2019, we conducted intensive surveys to learn more about the prevalence and habits of endangered species in key habitats on the Georgian Bay coast.



#### MASSASAUGA GESTATION SITE MONITORING WITH THE GEORGIAN BAY BIOSPHERE RESERVE

Monitoring seven suspected Massasauga gestation sites contributes to long-term data on the breeding success of these threatened snakes.



#### MOTUS WILDLIFE TRACKING PROGRAM WITH BIRD STUDIES CANADA

The GBLT's five Motus wildlife tracking stations provide crucial data on the movements of migratory birds and insects to researchers around the world.



## BAT MONITORING WITH ONTARIO LAND TRUST ALLIANCE

As part of a province-wide survey into the abundance and distribution of four endangered bat species, the GBLT monitored bat activity through a passive bat call detector.

# INSPIRE

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

Inspiring people to know and care about their environment is one of the most rewarding aspects of our work. Year round, we engage with kids and adults, passionate naturalists and curious learners, to share what makes Georgian Bay special and talk about the role we all play in looking after our home. Here are a few highlights from 2019:



LANDMARK SPEAKER SERIES inspired and educated audiences with topics including Canadian conservation, climate change, and bird migration



**500+ KIDS** learned about their place in the natural world at Conservation Quest



WALKING FOR WILDERNESS introduced participants to the biodiversity of Beausoleil Island while raising \$10,000+ for conservation



**16 SUMMER EVENTS** introduced kids and adults alike to the wonders of the natural world



THE KING FAMILY BURSARY brought artists and scientists to learn and share about this special place



**3,600+** people learned about the Georgian Bay environment year-round through social media

# FINANCIALS

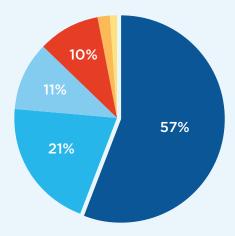
#### **Georgian Bay Land Trust**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION** | Year Ended December 31, 2019

ASSETS	2019	2018
CURRENT		
Cash	210,058	201,291
Sundry receivables	18,930	19,834
HST rebate receivable	8,661	10,521
Prepaids	13,564	21,684
	251,213	253,330
Stewardship Funds and Endowment	1,585,593	1,547,893
Sheila MacFeeters Memorial Fund	200,288	190,064
Wally and Marilyn King and Family Fund	115,115	115,115
Conservation Lands Securement Fund	553,877	207,805
Conservation Working Fund	650,000	450,000
Property and Equipment	37,354,061	33,139,781
	40,710,147	35,903,988
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	39,460	30,438
Deferred Contributions	_	13,043
	39,460	43,481
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted Net Assets	211,753	209,849
Internally Restricted Net Assets	1,203,877	657,805
Externally Restricted Net Assets	1,900,996	1,853,072
Net Assets Invested In Property	37,354,061	33,139,781
	40,670,687	35,860,507
	40,710,147	35,903,988

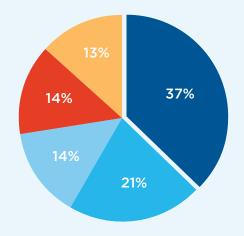
CONDENSED STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE   Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2019				
OPERATING REVENUE	2019	2018		
Donations & Grants	517,579	551,872		
Grants for New Nature Reserves	1,131,908	-		
Georgian Bay Book Sales (net)	2,710	13,742		
Events (net)	29,472	44,348		
Investment	587,484	14,407		
	2,269,153	624,369		
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Land & Wetland Protection	227,838	232,201		
Conservation Stewardship & Research	128,172	133,511		
Conservation Communications & Education	86,318	108,455		
Fundraising	81,827	80,774		
Administration	85,442	21,626		
	609,597	576,567		
Excess Revenue over Expenses Transfer To Stewardship and New Nature	1,659,556	47,802		
Reserves Securement Funds	(525,744)	(28,931)		
	1,133,812	18,871		
CAPITAL REVENUE				
Donations: Externally Restricted Funds	32,924	208,214		
Donations: Internally Restricted Funds	56,700	26,983		
Value of Land Secured	4,192,908	751,178		
	4,282,532	986,375		

#### **REVENUE**



- Donations of Land
- Grants Received & Used to Secure New Nature Reserves
- Investment Income
- Annual Giving, Grants & Other Income
- Donations to Restricted Funds (2%)
- Event Income (net) (1%)

#### **EXPENSES**



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

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

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#### Many Thanks to our Generous Sponsors































# THANK YOU

#### **Cumulative Giving**

#### **LUMINARIES**

Over \$500.000

John & Margaret Catto

#### **VISIONARIES**

Over \$300,000

Geordie Dalglish Family Robert & Julia Foster Wally & Marilyn King

#### **AMBASSADORS**

Over \$200,000

Echo Foundation Sheila MacFeeters & Michael Williams The W. Garfield Weston Foundation Annabelle White

#### **CHAMPIONS**

Over \$100,000

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Over \$50,000

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Over \$20,000

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## 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, 2019.

#### PROTECTED PROPERTIES

Our deepest appreciation to those who donated property or conservation easements, or made contributions for land protection projects in 2019:

### Grant Conservation Reserve, Wah Wah Taysee

Doug & Ruth Grant

### One Bear Island, Manitou

Anonymous

#### Stronghold Reserve, Blackstone Lake

Anonymous

#### **Tadenac Conservation Initiative**

Echo Foundation Environment & Climate Change Canada The McLean Foundation

#### **Land Acquisition Fund**

Margaret & John Catto Nancy & Brien Dane Tom & Pamela Scoon Ida Lynn Stankie

#### **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
Margaret & John Catto
Dr. T. James & Maureen Cooper
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Jan Ruby & Mary Thomson

#### 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 2019:

#### **Legacy Stewardship Fund**

Yvonne Pigott David Rosen

#### 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

Michael Wenban & Virginia Froman-Wenban

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

Caroline 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 2019:

Wally & Marilyn King

#### **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 2019:

#### \$500,000 - \$999,999

Environment & Climate Change Canada

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

Echo Foundation

#### \$50,000 - \$99,999

Margaret & John Catto Great Lakes Basin Conservancy

#### \$25,000 - \$49,999

Rick Balaz Estate of Sheila MacFeeters The McLean Foundation

#### \$10,000 - \$24,999

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Sewell Russell Cindy Scanlon Jeff Scanlon

Howison Schroeder P. Scothorn & L. Chow David R. Scott

Ian D. Scott Alan & Judy Shiels

The Staff - Simcoe Muskoka Family Connections

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Church Choir Edmund Staunton Suzanne Stohn Stoncius Family Frank & Liz Stoner IV Eugene & Diana Stromberg

Mark Suckling Brett Sura John W. Suter Eric Tao & Anthony He Nicholas Taylor

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Anonymous (20)

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Ed Bartram Claude Belcourt John Birnbaum

George & Wynn Charles Esmonde L. Clarke John W. Duncanson

Pat Dunnill Robert Fakin Bryan Graham

Betty Joy & Hugh B. Hall John Alexander Hansuld George C. Heintzman Marion & Bill Holton Judy Deeks Hurlburt Heather Jarvis

John Paul "JP" Jeffrey Mary Christine Karn David Keenlevside Steve Konoval Dorothy Leonard Garfield MacInnis Dr. Gordon K. Martin Jennifer Martin

John G. Matthew David McCamus Peter & Mary McCullough Dr. Mark McDermott

John McGuirk Mike Mulholland

Gerald W. & Gail H. Murphy Douglas Ross Norris Anthony John Ormsby Robert Pinkney

David L. Rea Karl Schiefer John Shipman B.N. & Audrey Simpson

Lynda Summerville

Mary Jane & Melville Tushingham

Jinny Weekes Charles Wilde

**In Honour** 

Doug Alexander Clair Balfour Alice Barton

John & Jenn Bate Fred Beck

Kerry & Brenda Benson

Barry Breeze

Don & Maureen Buchanan

Keith Carruthers Vicki Carruthers Dafel Family

Geordie, Louisa, Marigold & George Dalglish & Swith Bell Hon. William G. Davis

Paul Deckert

Wedding guests of Amanda Fracz & Dallas Taylor

Gary French Doug Ironside Kent C. Jewett Wally & Marilyn King Donna Kovacs Maja Lees Bill Lougheed

Bubba Lougheed Joey Lougheed Doug & Brenda Malvern Stoney McCart Catherine Milne LaRea Moody Maggie Pepper Susan & Tony Pigott Sue & Peter Russell Mary Sarjeant Colin Shepherd Tim Shepherd Paul Swick Michael Tafts Michael Ugarenko Rick & Gillian Uy Janny Vincent Susan Witton Gillian & John Woodrooffe Everitt & Lillian Youngkin

#### **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**

John & Margaret Catto Peter & Cathy Cooper Susan Forrester & Frederick Dalley Ann & David Doritty Jon & Shelagh 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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Jim Lorriman Dylan Lougheed Mike Loveys Kara McIntosh Alexandra McLaughlin John McMullen Sue Miller Patricia Peacock-Evans Andrew Peycha Return of the Native Martha Lailey Roberts Lisa Robertson Rusho Designs George Rutherford Kyle Scheurmann Elena Stebaeva Glen Synowicki Tim Topornicki Topper Linen Terry Ukrainec Jessica Vergeer Bryan Wall Karen Walsh Cindy Tripp & Anthony Boright White Squall Wendy Wingfelder

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.

## OUR TEAM

Kaz Jones

Kate Ward Designs

Jen Kernaghan

#### **DIRECTORS**

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Jan Ruby Past Chair

**Peter Koetsier** Treasurer

**Shannon Beddoe** Secretary

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Evelyn Newell Michael Owen Dana Porter Carolyn Rymell Georgia Rennick Tom Scoon **Carl Spiess** Richard Stark John Stark Janny Vincent Barbara Zimmerman











#### **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







