

Groundbreaking Transfers Protect Properties

As many of you know, having read the recent Times Colonist article, my wife Robin and I were in a car accident while heading home from Monks Point in Tofino on September 12. Since then I have been recovering in hospital with several fractured vertebrae. My wife Robin sustained internal injuries, but was thankfully able to return home after a couple of weeks.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those TLC Members that have called with their concern and well wishes. We are on the mend and appreciate your kind thoughts.

On October 2nd, after being fitted with a back brace, I was able to make it out of the hospital for a few hours for TLC's celebration event at Abkhazi Garden. I was moved by the turnout of long-time TLC Members. The Board and staff have worked tirelessly these past few years to see the organization achieve financial stability and organizational sustainability, and this month we have achieved a huge milestone in that journey.

On September 30th TLC transferred 28 properties to like minded conservation organizations and a regional district; Monks Point was transferred to the District of Tofino for continued public access, TLC's 4% ownership of Squitty Bay was transferred to The Nature Trust of British Columbia and 26 ecological properties were transferred to the Nature Conservancy of Canada.

On October 23rd Ross Bay Villa will be transferred to the Ross Bay Villa Society, the group that have painstakingly restored the house to its 1860's charm.

As this LANDmark goes to print TLC is in continued negotiations with the Ecoforestry Institute Society for the potential purchase of Wildwood Ecoforest. The Board and I are completing our due diligence to be sure that Merve Wilkinson's vision continues.

These accomplishments represent a tremendous effort by Board and staff to ensure we meet the financial commitments we have made to our creditors while at the same time shepherding our cherished properties to appropriate new caretakers.

We have successfully retired almost 50% of our debt, and we are working hard to honour our promises and complete the outstanding transfers.

You can read more about our progress through the Plan of Arrangement on Page 2 of this LANDmark.

Non-profits, local governments and individuals have partnered with TLC to help get us back on our feet. Their support has been vital to our success. Volunteers remain a staple of our organization; Abkhazi Garden docents, greeters, and gardeners have spent thousands of hours in the last year making our garden shine.

Thanks to our many hard-working UVic volunteers and partnering community groups TLC has experienced another successful season of the Covenant Monitoring Program. The means by which we protect thousands of hectares of important habitat, our Covenant Program continues to expand its contribution through our restructuring process.

For those who were unable to attend our



John Shields surrounded by TLC Members at the October 2nd event at Abkhazi Garden. Photo credit Dennis Robinson.



TLC Members and volunteers cheer as the Board ceremoniously burns the completed mortgages. Photo credit Dennis Robinson.

membership event I wish to send you our sincere gratitude and appreciation for your support. We could not have made it this far without you. TLC's Members, donors and volunteers are what keep the organization moving forward.

Yours in Conservation,

John Shields
Director of Operations

CCAA Update: First Phase of Transfers Complete

On October 23rd TLC will complete the transfer of Ross Bay Villa to the Ross Bay Villa Society. A charitable society, the group's mission is to educate the public about Canada's social, cultural and architectural heritage, through the restoration of the house.

The volunteers of the Ross Bay Villa Society have worked tirelessly over the last 15 years to restore of the house. The transfer is another example of how TLC is accomplishing the goals set when the

organization entered the CCAA (*Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*) process; TLC will pay creditors to the greatest extent possible while ensuring the ongoing protection of properties.

Those two priorities have guided TLC's Board since filing for protection under CCAA two years ago, and the organization has made substantial progress towards those goals.

In April the Supreme Court of B.C. approved the Plan of Arrangement as agreed upon by TLC and its creditors, as well as the transfer of 29% undivided interest in Maltby Lake to the family of the original donor who wish to see the land protected. TLC also transferred two properties on Vancouver Island to local Regional Districts: the Sooke Potholes Campground was transferred to the Capital Regional District and TLC's interest in a Chemainus River property was transferred to the Cowichan Valley Regional District.

In July TLC transferred ownership of Hardy Mountain Doukhobor Village near Grand Forks to the local Regional District of Kootenay Boundary for continued stewardship. The transfer enabled TLC to repay the outstanding mortgage on the property.

This summer TLC was also the recipient of a \$539,000 anonymous donation towards the repayment of the mortgages on Abkhazi Garden.

On September 30th TLC accomplished its largest transfer to date; TLC transferred 26 ecologically sensitive properties to the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC)

and one to The Nature Trust of British Columbia (TNTBC).

"The transfer of properties to NCC and TNTBC is the culmination of months of diligent work to see TLC's ecologically sensitive properties protected through appropriate new ownership while raising funds needed to repay creditors," said Briony Penn, TLC Board Chair. "Essential to TLC's successful restructuring has been our partnerships with other land trusts and societies. We wish to thank their directors, staff and volunteers for being a part of the solution."

On that same day Monks Point Park in Tofino was transferred to the District of Tofino with a covenant on title to be co-held by TLC and the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District. The transfer of Monks Point also triggered the generous donation of more than \$1 million by creditors.

TLC remains in negotiations with the Ecoforestry Institute Society (EIS) regarding the purchase of Wildwood Ecoforest in Cedar. TLC's Board of Directors remain committed to protecting Merve Wilkinson's legacy of ecoforestry and are working with EIS and ecoforestry expert Herb Hammond.

The Plan of Arrangement is dependent on the continued sale or transfer of TLC's remaining 6% undivided interest in Maltby Lake, Lohbrunner Farm, Kogawa House, and densities zoned on Abkhazi Garden. The fulfilment of the Plan will see secured creditors paid in full or receive the mortgaged property in settlement of their debt. Unsecured creditors will receive payouts in three tranches in the next year. ■



TLC continues to negotiate with the Ecoforestry Institute Society to see Merve Wilkinson's vision for Wildwood Ecoforest continued. Photo credit Jade Vovers.



Hardy Mountain Doukhobor Village was transferred to the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary in July. Photo credit Kathleen Sheppard.

TLC will return to the Supreme Court of B.C. to seek approval to the transfer any inalienable property. In her October 16th *Reasons for Judgement* documenting the approval of the transfer of properties to the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Madam Justice Fitzpatrick writes that she does not suggest TLC convene a meeting of Members to consider any future sale, however "TLC will have to apply to the Court for approval of any sale of a property with an inalienable designation, including Wildwood Forest." Currently Fort Shepherd, Lohbrunner Farm, Second Lake and Wildwood Ecoforest are deemed inalienable.

Long-time Member Joins TLC Board

A TLC Member since 2001, Frances Sloan Sainas has been a supporter for years. Elected to TLC's Board in September, Frances resides in North Vancouver and is a retired educator and former manager in the hospitality industry.

TLC: How did you first get involved with TLC?

FSS: My relationship with TLC began in 2001 when I was working at the Open Learning Agency and completing my Masters Degree in Leadership and Training at Royal Roads University. TLC sponsored my major project, Building an Educational Strategy for TLC. Since 2001, I have been an active member, TLC Lower Mainland Committee representative and financial supporter of TLC.

TLC: When your friends ask why you are volunteering for TLC's Board, what do you say?

FSS: The time has come to offer my skills, knowledge and time to help TLC explore

and find a new, sustainable direction that is grounded in the organization's founding principles and values.

I applaud the past and especially the current TLC Board members for their perseverance and efforts to navigate the organization through very difficult and troubled waters.

I offer the TLC Board a variety of perspectives from TLC member, TLC donor and DIP (Debtor in Possession) funder during the CCAA Process.

TLC: Of what contribution are you most proud?

FSS: I am most proud of my contribution that moved the TLC Lower Mainland office at Eagles Estate in Burnaby to TLC Head office when TLC was restructuring. As a team member, I worked with the City of Burnaby, the TLC Lower Mainland staff, and TLC Head Office to resolve many issues concerning this transition.



TLC: How does donating to TLC make you feel?

FSS: I always feel gratitude that I am able to help out. A donation may be volunteering my time, sharing my voice by writing a letter of support, attending a TLC function or giving a financial contribution. It all gives me a positive feeling that I am contributing.

TLC: What would you tell someone who is thinking about volunteering or donating to TLC?

FSS: Do not hesitate. The rewards you will receive will last a lifetime. ■

Read more from the interview with Frances on TLC's website conservancy.bc.ca.

Focusing on Finance

Lori Roter joined the Board this spring as the organization was seeking approval of the Plan of Arrangement with the Supreme Court of B.C. and creditors. With an accounting and finance education, Lori was a welcome addition.

Upon joining the team, Lori was surprised by the level of commitment exhibited by staff, volunteers, and Board alike. "Every single person associated with this organization has contributed countless hours towards transforming it to be what it should be, going over and above the level of commitment I have witnessed elsewhere," said Lori.

As Board Treasurer, it is in the area of responsible governance, financial monitoring and transparency where she feels she can make the biggest contribution toward the restructured organization. TLC are "stewards of not only the lands we protect but of endowments and donations we are entrusted with." Lori has worked with TLC to ensure continued budget monitoring and that the Board maintain vigilance with the finances to ensure continued transparency and sustainability.

This fall Lori has been busy on TLC's Bylaw Committee preparing for the 2015 AGM. She aims to increase awareness of "governance and regulatory issues so that the Society can improve the safeguarding of assets, adapt to changing requirements and allow for our renewal and continued sustainability."

Lori wishes to share a "sincere and heartfelt, Thank You" to TLC's Members and volunteers. "Please know that you are the foundation and pillars of the organization and I personally appreciate everything you do for TLC and our communities." ■

Members can meet Lori and the Board at TLC's Annual General Meeting on November 21 from 1 to 4 p.m. at UVic's Student Union Building.

TLC's 2015 Covenant Monitoring Season

By Torrey Archer
Covenant Coordinator

I became involved with TLC last summer when I volunteered as a Covenant Monitor. My desire to volunteer stemmed from being a 4th year Biology and Environmental Studies student at UVic that was facing the looming possibility of entering the workforce without experience. I endeavoured to build my resume with a little volunteering. I had no idea it would set me on a trajectory that has led to my dream job as Covenant Coordinator.

During my first volunteer season I learned how covenants are powerful tools that can be adapted to fit a wide breadth of conservation goals. As each covenant agreement is unique, it allows for the best management of an ecologically sensitive area instead of a "one size fits all" approach. Covenants are legal agreements between a land trust and a landowner that typically restrict the activities in the area (e.g. subdividing, removing trees or native vegetation) to allow natural ecosystem processes to persist. Covenants are attached to the property title which means they remain regardless if the land is sold – the only way to remove a covenant is if the land trust and the landowner agree to dissolve it. In this way, covenants protect our natural spaces in perpetuity.

TLC currently holds 239 covenants across B.C., which include: 30 coastal island areas, 43 streams, lakes and riparian areas, 13 wetlands, 118 developed

areas, 5 ecoforestry sites, 23 forests and peaks within the Greenbelt, 2 rare and endangered ecosystems, 3 farming and agricultural areas, and 2 heritage and First Nation traditional use areas. Together these areas total 10,145 acres. Thanks to our membership and volunteers, these areas are safe from future development.

During this summer's covenant monitoring season on Southern Vancouver Island, TLC visited 88 covenants which comprise a total of 1,733 hectares or 4,282 acres. We saw wetlands, mountains, streams, coastal Douglas-fir forests, and endangered Garry oak ecosystems. Along the way we found incredible things: Culturally Modified Trees where Pacific Northwest First Nations would strip a piece of Western red cedar bark to use for shelter, clothes, or food storage; entire skeletons of deer preserved in mud at Ayum Creek; giant silk moths in the Highlands; cave crickets within one of Clayoquot Island's 14 caves; streambeds full of wild mint; veteran old-growth trees and host trees sporting mature trees of their own; turkey-tail, oyster and almond mushrooms; rare white-topped asters growing in Garry-oak meadows, and all the coralroot orchids you could ever ask for. TLC's covenants have it all!

None of the monitoring could have been possible without our amazing volunteers. Together, we teach and learn from each other, and help ensure the continued protection and health of the covenants.

"Beyond its important role in monitoring the covenants themselves, [the Covenant Program] offers an important arena for the facilitation of conversations between individuals and experts in a diverse range of fields where they are able to connect over a shared passion for the conservation of strong ecological and social systems," said volunteer Jon Weller. "I feel that programs such as the covenant monitoring program are remarkably valuable for not only the successful management of the areas, but also for developing a resource for studying our society's ongoing impact on the world around us."

"TLC's monitoring program has been a very positive, interesting and educational experience," said volunteer Sammy Kent. "This volunteer position has allowed me to see the inner workings of protected lands in our area while connecting with like-minded individuals who care for the preservation of our natural areas."

If you would like to take part in exploring TLC's covenants, get in touch today by emailing covenants@conservancy.bc.ca or call (250) 479-8053. You can also help TLC protect important ecosystems across B.C. by donating to support the monitoring and enforcement of our covenants at conservancy.bc.ca. ■

From left to right: Clayoquot Island. Photo credit Torrey Archer. Sooke Hills. Photo credit Andrew MacKinnon. Volunteer Sophia at De Mamiel Creek. Photo credit Torrey Archer.



Covenant Restoration Project: Scotch broom

By Torrey Archer
Covenant Coordinator

This summer, TLC embarked upon a multi-year invasive species removal program to reduce the amount of Scotch broom that has invaded covenants in the District of the Highlands.

Over the course of 12 days, TLC staff and volunteers removed approximately 80 cubic metres of Scotch broom from 25 acres!

The Highlands Broom Removal Project consists of four phases:

(1) Site analysis to prioritize areas of greatest need – the higher the native to invasive species ratio, the greater the need to remove invasive plants before they can take the area over;

(2) Removal of broom from highest priority areas. By cutting stems at ground level and pulling seedlings that have a stem diameter no thicker than a pencil, the plants can effectively be controlled;

(3) Evaluation of the treated areas to determine the success, and

(4) Repeat the removal procedure if successful. This is the most important part of the plan as persistent effort is key to eradicating established invasive species. Another incredibly important aspect of any restoration plan is to have enough help to get the job done - TLC's dedicated team of covenant monitoring and restoration volunteers made the project possible!

TLC partnered with the Greater Victoria Green Team (GVGT) this year, an environmental volunteer group that assists stewardship programs across the CRD.

In one day alone, TLC and the GVGT together pulled approximately 20 cubic metres of broom. Partnerships like these enable the consistent efforts necessary to combat invasive species.

The District of the Highlands was not the only place TLC removed invasive species this season. One covenant located in Esquimalt protects endangered Garry oak trees and is threatened by multiple invasive species, so staff and volunteers spent an entire day clearing away all the invasive species from a plot next to the covenant.

“The TLC team of volunteers have been to our backyard wilderness, which is adjacent to a covenanted area, two years in a row. They have selflessly given of their precious time, and removed two enormous heaps of ivy, laurel and blackberry,” said Sophia, an appreciative neighbour of one of TLC's covenants. “This has transformed our wilderness into a much nicer place. Every time I wander through the snowberry bushes and push my daughter on the swing, I appreciate the indigenous plants that grow there: the Garry Oaks, dogwood and camas, all which have a better chance of thriving now, thanks to the invasive species being kept under control. Thank you TLC! You stepped in when I didn't have enough hours in my day. We truly appreciate your help.”

If you would like to get involved removing invasive species, TLC will be continuing the Highlands Covenant Restoration Project throughout the winter, and especially in the spring once the broom is in bloom!

TLC's Covenant Team plans to restore other covenants in the CRD, so do not feel you are limited to the Highlands. Contact us at covenants@conservancy.bc.ca or call 250-479-8053 to find out how you can enjoy the outdoors while helping combat invasive species. We are always looking for volunteers to join our team.

TLC's Covenant Restoration Project was supported by the District of Highlands, who are co-holders of TLC's covenants

in the area, as well as Broombusters, an organization based out of central Vancouver Island that aims to eliminate broom. You can find out about the amazing work of the Broombusters online at www.broombusters.org. ■



TLC Property Manager Andrew MacKinnon (left) and volunteer Hana with the clippings from the day. Photo credit Torrey Archer.



George, Meagan, Andrew and Eirin (From left to right) haul the pile of broom from the covenant site to the road for pick-up. Photo credit Torrey Archer.



TLC's Covenant Coordinator Torrey Archer with the truck full of Scotch broom clippings at the end of the day. Photo credit Sammy Kent.

Monks Point Park: A Place of Greeting

By Dianna Stenberg
Communications & IT Manager

Monks Point Park, at the edge of the town of Tofino, sits atop a bluff surrounded on three sides by the ocean. With Meares Island to the north-east, Felice Island and Stubbs Island to the north-west, and Wickaninnish Island to the south-west, the site is a natural port for maintaining a presence on the Peninsula. Generations of Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations have used the bluff as just that, a place of greeting.

Known as Naa-chaaks by the Tla-o-qui-aht (formerly Clayoquot; pronounced klaw-oh-kwee-aht), present day Monks Point Park was once used by the Tla-o-qui-aht similar to a customs point to maintain vigilance over the Sound. Those who arrived by boat and were not recognized would have been asked to display what they had on-board.

The community lived on the bluff seasonally to maintain sustainability. Different territory was used during different seasons as food sources and waste streams became available. Recycling and reinvestment was and remains a part of Tla-o-qui-aht culture. The property would have had structures built on it, and while they would be re-fabricated seasonally, large beams would have been passed down through generations.

While Monks Point remains a place of

significance for the Tla-o-qui-aht, they did not always live on the Peninsula. They once lived in smaller tribes surrounding Kennedy Lake, which was known as Ha-ooke-min. The lake region was a land of wonder with large trees and a plethora of fish. There was an abundance surrounding the lake and it was considered a Great Feast Bowl.

The Tla-o-qui-aht tribes came together to unite against a common foe, the oppressive Esowistaht who lived on the Peninsula.

Though the people of the lake were peaceful, they won the Peninsula through conflict. The Esowistaht lost their lives in the war of Esowista and the Tla-o-qui-aht moved to the Peninsula to maintain vigilance over the waterway.

“The Tla-o-qui-aht name remains to remember who we are,” explained Eli Enns, a Nuu-chah-nulth Canadian political scientist who has focused in Constitutional Law, International Dispute Resolution and Ecological Governance.

“Aht” means the people of or from, therefore Tla-o-qui-aht means the people from Tla-o-qui.

The Tla-o-qui-aht remained along the Peninsula until the Europeans settled in

the area, but have maintained a relationship with the area.

In 2007, the District of Tofino and the Tla-o-qui-aht signed an agreement to pursue joint sustainability. The two communities work together in the spirit of cooperation according to the Principles of Hishuk ish ts’awaak: everything is one.

Developments continue in that vein of recognition. The Peninsula was declared the Esowista Tribal Park, and three other Tribal Parks are located to the north-east of the Peninsula: Wah-nah-jus-Hilth-hoo-is (Meares Island) Tribal Park, Tranquil Tribal Park, and Ha’uukmin Tribal Park.

When Harold Monks Jr. bequeathed Monks Point to The Land Conservancy in 2008 he hoped that the site would become accessible for the public’s enjoyment. Through a partnership with the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations and the recent transfer of the site to the District of Tofino, TLC is able to share this property with the community. TLC continues to co-hold a covenant with the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District to further protect the site.

This year TLC partnered with Joe Martin, a coastal Nuu-chah-nulth man born into the Tla-o-qui-aht Nation, to open Monks Point for Tla-o-qui-aht cultural opportunities. A Tofino area Master Carver, Joe has brought his carving projects on-site to the Monks Point’ Boathouse this summer to establish a venue for traditional carving and an opportunity for school groups and the public to learn the significant cultural history of the location. Joe’s traditional Nuu-chah-nulth dugout canoes can be seen on display at Tofino’s Wickaninnish Inn and the Inkwis Arts and Culture. ■

TLC wishes to thank Eli Enns, Co-founder of the Ha’uukmin Tribal Park in Clayoquot Sound, for sharing the history of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations with our Members.



A grade 4 class visits Monks Point for a cultural lesson and to learn more about traditional carving from Master Carver Joe Martin. Photo credit Dan Harrison.



Joe Martin shares his latest carving project, a traditional canoe, with TLC’s Board of Directors. Photo credit Andrew MacKinnon.

Gifts of Securities Help Secure Abkhazi Garden

By Dianna Stenberg
Communications & IT Manager

Looking for tax credit on your 2015 tax return? Have securities that you are looking to divest? By donating securities, including stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, directly to TLC rather than selling and donating the cash value, you can avoid capital gains tax while saving the precious ecosystems you care about in B.C.

While TLC is more than happy to accept donations of cash towards protecting important habitat, it may be in your best interest come tax season to make your donation with a gift of securities. Instead of selling your securities, which will trigger capital gains tax, you can simply donate them directly to TLC. In return, you receive tax credit based on the value of the stock donated.

This can work well for individuals who hold securities that have appreciated significantly since their purchase or securities which donors wish to divest themselves of while supporting TLC.

“We gave securities because we had some investments with some large, unrealized capital gains,” says TLC Member John. “Had we sold the stock, we would have paid 20% capital gains tax on the gain in value over the original price we paid for the stock. By donating the stock, we paid no tax and the charity received the full value of the stock.”

Another donor of securities hopes that others will take advantage of this chance to help TLC while enjoying the tax benefits, “I hope that more people take note of this tremendous opportunity. We want to give to organizations that speak to our heart, but it is not always simple to do that. Donating stock has been the simplest and most tax-smart way to give that I have found.”

This summer TLC was able to reduce the mortgage on Abkhazi Garden by \$539,000

after receiving a substantial donation of securities from a long-time TLC Member who wished to remain anonymous.

“My wife and I first became involved as TLC supporters and Members back when it stepped in to raise the funds which prevented the Abkhazi property from becoming townhouses,” said the donor. “We’re truly happy that Abkhazi will continue to be the jewel in TLC’s crown.”

For those donors wishing to make gifts for the 2015 tax year be sure to make your donations by the December 31st deadline. For more info about donating securities contact TLC at 1-877-485-2422, admin@conservancy.bc.ca or visit our website conservancy.bc.ca. ■

Please note that TLC offers this info with the understanding that we do not render legal, accounting, or other specific professional advice. We recommend that you consult your own professional advisors to design the best plan for you.



Abkhazi Garden volunteer docents lead tours for thousands of visitors to the garden every year. Photo credit Dennis Robinson.



A plaque was unveiled at Abkhazi Garden in honour of the generous anonymous donation to help pay down the mortgage. Photo credit Dennis Robinson.

By the Numbers

In the following example you can see the financial benefit of making donations of securities directly to TLC versus selling the shares yourself and donating the proceeds. If shares were purchased for \$6,000 and sold for \$10,000, the direct sale could trigger a capital gains tax on the \$4,000 increase. Donating the shares directly to TLC could save donors \$874 based on a 43.7% income tax bracket.

	Sell Shares & Donate Cash	Donate Shares Directly to TLC
A. Value of Donation	\$10,000	\$10,000
Original Cost of Shares	\$6,000	\$6,000
Capital Gain	\$4,000	\$4,000
Taxable Capital Gain (50% or NIL)	\$2,000	N/A
B. Income Tax @ 43.7% (Before Credit)	\$874	\$0
C. Donation Tax Credit (\$200 x 20.06%) + (\$9,800 x 43.7%)	\$4,323	\$4,323
Economic Cost of Donation to You (A + B - C)	\$6,551	\$5,677

Resiliency and Restoration

As you have no doubt read in this LANDmark, our Covenant Program is hitting its stride with volunteers, staff, and partners monitoring 98% of TLC's covenants this season.

The next steps for the program, along with garnering greater support from TLC Members and the public, will include placing conservation covenants on new properties to protect important, at-risk habitat for years to come. Covenants provide a mechanism to ensure that conservation values will flow with the title of the land, regardless of the owner.

We are currently developing covenants with owners on two properties on Cortes Island and look forward to sharing the final details with Members when all the i's are dotted and the t's are crossed.

We have previously shared our plan to hold fewer properties and concentrate on covenants to ensure fiscal sustainability, but these past two covenant monitoring seasons have really highlighted what we can do with covenants.

Not only are covenants a means of protecting ecologically sensitive lands, they are an opportunity for education.

As our Monitoring volunteer Kristi recently told us, "I miss learning all the different plant species growing in my town and sharing the information learned. I really look forward to getting to work with you again!"

With each new property the organization protects receiving a covenant, we will need to continue to increase our capacity to monitor and enforce the covenants

we hold, but we will also be looking for opportunities for educating a new community about covenants, TLC's program, and how individuals can get involved.

Thankfully we have wonderful volunteer partners who are interested in gaining greater experience and supporting our programming.

The volunteers from the University of Victoria have been a welcome addition to our team. With a small staff we appreciate every hour that volunteers can spare.

On behalf of the Board, I wish to thank our partners that have supported us this year. You have not only protected precious habitats, you have strengthened our team.

Unfortunately in the last month we have had two devastating events that have personally affected our team. John Shields, our Director of Operations who came out of retirement to lead TLC through our process of restructuring, was in a bad car accident with his wife Robin. While they are on the mend, they are never far from our thoughts.

The other tragedy was the loss of our friend and former TLC Board Member Ken Millard. His passing was sudden and unexpected and leaves a hole in the lives of those who knew him. Ken led a remarkable life and will be remembered as a leader in the conservation community.

In closing, I want to thank you for your support this year. The last six months have been a whirlwind with the transfers of TLC properties to new stewards. Our Membership's encouragement to fulfill our



Briony Penn burns mortgages paid off in the CCAA process to date while TLC Members and volunteers look on. Photo credit Dennis Robinson.



From left to right, John Shields and the Board of Directors, Frances Pugh, Mel Lehan, Briony Penn, Tom Watson, and Lori Roter. Photo credit Dianna Stenberg.

moral obligations to our creditors and our properties have validated our decision to pursue the CCAA process and emerge a stronger, sustainable organization.

I look forward to seeing you at our Annual General Meeting on November 21st.

Briony Penn
Chair, Board of Directors

Board of Directors

Jennifer Bagelman ■ Mel Lehan ■ Fred Newhouse
Bill Pearce ■ Briony Penn ■ Francis Pugh
Lori Roter ■ Fran Sloan Sainas ■ Tom Watson

TLC is honoured to be the recipient of donations in memory of:

Dr. V.C. Brink, Ruth Fields Brink, Irene Cosh, Dr. Helen Currie,
Robin Edwards, David Godfrey, Donald and Margaret Mettam.