



nature



agriculture



heritage

Success in Squamish

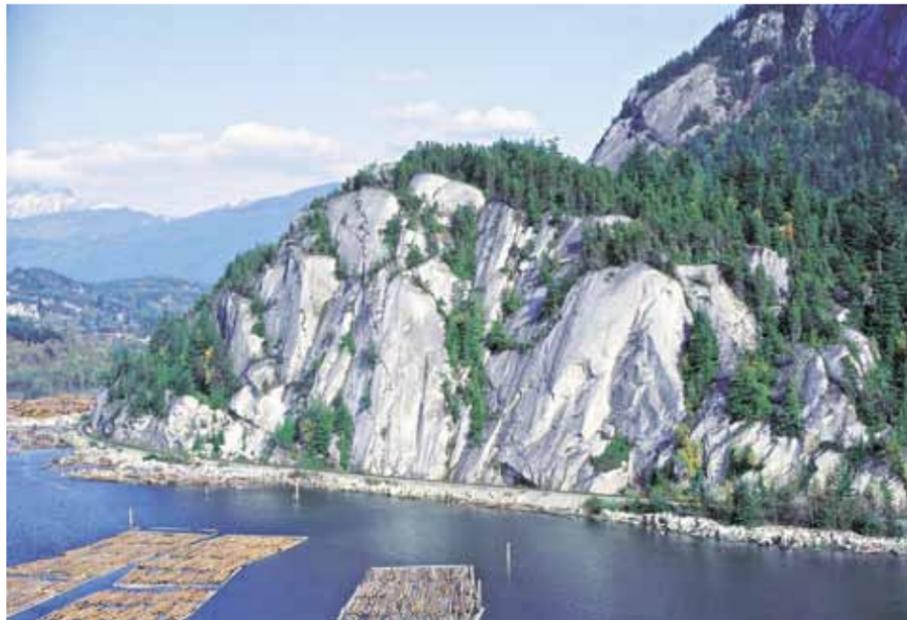
TLC Works Behind the Scenes to Help Secure Malamute

By Heather Skydt
Manager of Communications

One of the lesser known facts about TLC's work is the number of hours the organization dedicates to negotiating deals for multi-stakeholder partnerships throughout B.C. The latest success of the Malamute property in Squamish is no exception.

As a popular climbing destination and important falcon nesting bluff, the Malamute was recently protected and added to the Stawamus Chief Provincial Park. The partnership involved the Province of B.C., the District of Squamish, several First Nations, various climbing associations, and the landowner, Malamute Holdings Ltd. From the beginning TLC played a vital role in the land acquisition as the mediator.

TLC received approximately \$60,000 from Mountain Equipment Co-op (MEC) to help research and facilitate the agreement to purchase the Malamute. TLC established



The Malamute: a granite monolith adjacent to the Stawamus Chief Provincial Park near Squamish that contains over 60 climbing routes is being heralded as an important victory for outdoor enthusiasts, the Province of B.C., MEC and TLC Members. Photo Kevin McLane

the initial contact with the owner, presented the deal to the District of Squamish and the Province of B.C., organized the tax incentives through Environment Canada's Ecological

Gifts Program, conducted various appraisals, and supported the project until completion.

Even though TLC does not have an

official stake in the final property which was announced late September, the Province acknowledges that TLC was the catalyst for this acquisition and provided the leadership to make it possible.

TLC would like to express our gratitude to MEC, West Vancouver Sea-to-Sky MLA Joan McIntyre, provincial staff, and former Environment Minister Barry Penner for their commitment and vision in making this project a reality.

"Since climbers first stepped onto the immaculate rock of the Malamute almost 50 years ago, continued access was always a concern due to its ownership held in private hands," says Kevin McLane, Squamish Access Society member and community activist. "It is a great moment in the history of Canadian climbing that the Ministry of Environment has now taken ownership, thus joining the Malamute with the Chief in the public domain. TLC and MEC deserve the most sincere congratulations from climbers everywhere for their tenacity over many years to achieve this wonderful success." ■

Connecting Wildlife Corridors in the Kootenays

Kathleen Sheppard
Director of Operations

By early next year, TLC will have completed a vision that began in 2001 to establish a continuous corridor for wildlife across St. Mary's Prairie in the East Kootenays. With the acquisition of 315 acres, TLC will be protecting the final piece of the puzzle to connect the Wycliffe and Luke Creek Wildlife Corridors.

Making tracts of land available for animal migration through the seasons is of vital importance. In the East Kootenays, almost 20,000 elk travel around the region

in search of palatable forage, drinking water, and a place to rest. This extension of the Luke Creek Wildlife Corridor connects the St. Mary River in the south to Crown land in the north and provides access to Lone Pine Hill, a popular hiking destination.

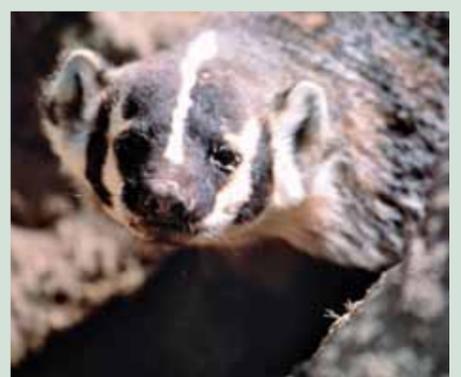
Providing critical habitat for elk, mule deer, and endangered species such as badgers and Williamson's Sapsuckers, Luke Creek protects open grasslands, streams, wetlands, and aspen stands, all of which are increasingly rare in the East Kootenays.

The property also includes a two-

room cabin and related buildings that were the original homestead of local rancher Cecil Pighin. While the buildings are not open to the public, they can be viewed from Pighin Road.

These lands will be purchased thanks to a greatly reduced price from Teck Metals Ltd and funding from the Columbia Basin Trust and the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program.

Luke Creek will be open to the public for respectful recreational activities such as hiking and cross-country skiing. Together, stretching more than eight kilometers from



With habitat fragmentation on the rise, TLC is working hard to connect wildlife corridors like Wycliffe and Luke Creek to ensure the survival of endangered species such as the American Badger. Photo Laura Duncan

north to south and including more than 1,340 acres, Wycliffe and Luke Creek are now truly one wildlife corridor to be celebrated. ■

Thank you - from the Sooke Potholes Campground



You helped make 2010 our most successful year ever! We look forward to seeing you again in May 2011.



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Message from Director of Operations

As you can see from the LANDmark, TLC has an incredible group of staff working throughout the province in various roles such as foresters, gardeners, chefs, project officers, communications staff, fundraisers, campground staff, bookkeepers, and professional managers.

I could not ask for a better team to represent TLC. Our staff are dedicated, hard working, and the best of the best in their given fields. Without these individuals, we would be unable to achieve our mission or to meet the expectations of our members.

For this edition, I'd like to introduce Kathleen Sheppard, our Director of Operations. As the manager in charge of program delivery and land holdings, Kathleen is a key part of our day-to-day operations. ~ Bill Turner, TLC's Executive Director

On April 21, 2001, five days after I started working for TLC in the Kootenays as regional manager, we completed the purchase of the first phase of the Wycliffe Wildlife Corridor. Over the next five years, this project became a labour of love for me as we added three more phases. It was a deal structure that allowed TLC to fundraise in stages to

complete the purchase of more than 1,340 acres, with the final phase set to close by early next year. Although I didn't realize it at the time, organizing land purchases in this way was simply another example of the unique manner in which TLC conserves land.

In my current role as Director of Operations, I have come to understand that few of TLC's land transactions are typical. From the beginning, when TLC used a mortgage to purchase South Winchelsea Island, we have blended risk and innovation to make an impact in B.C. It may be easy to criticize the potential risks that exist in some of the methods used by TLC, but it is much more difficult to argue with the results.

In 2004, with Sooke Potholes up for sale and time running out, TLC took the initiative and found a solution to save this irreplaceable part of the community. With 72 hours remaining, TLC secured 11 green lenders and raised \$1.375 million critical to the purchase and permanent protection of the Sooke Potholes, now a Capital Regional District Park.

TLC is proud to say that all the green

mortgage lenders from this project have been repaid. Each year tens of thousands of people come to the park to bask in the sun, swim in the clear green pools, bike and hike the riverside trails, and camp under the stars at one of Canada's best campgrounds.

Every property acquisition is different, whether by using short-term mortgages to facilitate a donor's need to contribute after the property's closing date, such as Madrona Farm or by transferring lands to provincial and local governments for parkland as with Matthew's Point and the Valhalla Mile. Where landowners need flexible options, TLC is able to offer tax benefits for land that is donated or sold to us at a reduced price. No two opportunities are alike.

As TLC has grown, and the economic climate has changed, so to have the types of risks we are willing to take. Today, we have more to lose. We rarely use long-term debt as a means



of purchasing properties, unless we have a confirmed source of funding. Currently we are trying new tactics, working to attract conservation buyers to acquire and protect properties such as Gowlland Point on Pender Island.

Using its expertise and technical knowledge, TLC is able to take on challenging projects while controlling and reducing any associated risk.

TLC's ability to continue to find innovative ways to protect B.C.'s special places depends on you and the thousands of others like you who recognize the importance of the work that has resulted in incredible rewards across B.C. These rewards are evident in the continued existence of places such as West Creek Wetlands, Skaha Conservation Area, and the Horsefly River Riparian Conservation Area. Without your belief that the risks were worth the rewards, these places would have been lost forever. ■

You are Invited...

Please join us in celebrating the season at a TLC Holiday Open House near you.

Victoria - Tuesday, December 14, 3 - 7 p.m.
Abkhazi Garden - 1964 Fairfield Rd
250-479-8053

Penticton - Saturday, December 4, 1 - 5 p.m.
TLC's Okanagan Office - 201-262 Main St
250-492-0173

Hope to see you there!

New Faces on the Board



Volunteer Board Members Fred Newhouse (left) and Ken Millard take a moment out of a busy day prior to TLC's AGM in September to pose at the Craigflower School House. TLC is fortunate to have 11 dedicated, knowledgeable and skilled Board Members serving the organization.
Photo Todd Wong

As a result of this year's Board of Directors election, TLC would like to welcome new Board Members Nitya Harris, Mel Lehan, Fred Newhouse, and Mary Sanseverino.

"We four new TLC Board Members allowed our names to stand for election because we believe in the vitally important work that TLC does to support conservation throughout the province. We are honoured that the membership vested their trust in us through the democratic process that governs selection of the Board.

As new Board Members we, along with the more experienced Board Members and TLC Management, are committed to moving forward and ensuring that TLC not only

survives, but thrives and prospers. It's time to come together and get on with the task of saving B.C.'s special places."

Monthly board meetings are usually held at TLC's Head Office, 301-1195 Esquimalt Rd., Victoria, from 1 - 4 p.m. However, we also host meetings in Vancouver. These meetings are open to the general public, so come be involved!

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for:
December 18, 2010
January 22, 2011
February 26, 2011

Please consult our website or call 1-877-485-2422 for additional dates and details. ■



Give a Hoot this Holiday!

Adopt an owl for someone you love, and save B.C.'s special places.

www.tlc4bc.ca

Don't Miss TLC's 2010 Annual Report

Inside you'll find:

- Messages from the Chair of the Board and Executive Director
- A review of the year's activities and accomplishments
- The latest on our most recent campaigns
- Treasurer's report and the financial picture

And most importantly, a big thank you to our amazing volunteers, members, donors, and partners who make saving special places possible.

TLC's 2010 Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements are available at conservancy.bc.ca and can be found under the "About TLC" heading. To receive a copy of these materials by mail, simply give us a call at 1-877-485-2422 or email membership@conservancy.bc.ca. We'd be happy to hear from you! ■



Thank you so much for voting for TLC's Horsefly River Riparian Conservation Area in this year's Aviva Community Fund competition. Please check back with Aviva's website by December 2nd as we may need your vote in the semi-finals to win \$160,000 for B.C. salmon!

www.avivacommunityfund.org

A New Chapter for the Historic Joy Kogawa House

TLC Set to Raise Funds to Restore the Main Floor

By Tamsin Baker
Regional Manager, Lower Mainland Region

The Historic Joy Kogawa House is getting ready for an interior facelift. As a symbol for hope, healing and reconciliation, this 1912 Vancouver bungalow is the childhood home of renowned Canadian author, Joy Kogawa. The humble abode also plays a role in Kogawa's award-winning novel, *Obasan*, which recalls the experience of Japanese-Canadians during the Second World War, based on Joy's own childhood.

After a successful campaign that brought in many donations from around the world, TLC became owner of the Historic Joy Kogawa House in 2006. Currently, the site is mainly being used as a cultural space with a writers-in-residence program being run by the Historic Joy Kogawa House Society. The modest home is often used to host events and workshops, and the time has come for TLC to breathe new life into the main floor to better accommodate these activities. TLC's plans for these renovations are the first phase in a multi-year, multi-phase conservation and educational initiative.

The proposed project involves numerous restorations that will be historically accurate to when Joy's family lived on site. Some of the planned changes include connecting the sun room with the living room by installing the original beautiful glass and wood double doors, and removing the side bathroom and unusable fireplace. Overall, the changes will provide visitors to the house with extra space, light, comfort and safety, along with a stronger educational experience.

The overall budget for the project is \$80,000. While about half of the funds are expected to come from grants, we are looking for donors with an interest in cultural heritage. Provided all the funds are raised, the project will begin in January 2011. Please make your contribution today at conservancy.bc.ca ■

A Lasting Gift for the Cowichan River

By Jill Walker
Member Care Coordinator

A person's life can emulate nature; the beauty, the bounty, and the harmony. And when someone lives in this way, choosing the simple life in tune with the land, it seems only natural that their final gift would be back to nature. In this way, Marian Bina Bratt's legacy will forever live on through the Cowichan River property and surrounding environment she helped to protect.

Before moving to the island, Marian ran a hunting and fishing lodge in B.C.'s interior with her husband, living off the grid without refrigeration. She gardened in the summers, pickled in the fall, and lived the life that many of us seem to long for today.

After her husband's passing, Marian relocated to Victoria, taking residence in an original 1914 settler's cottage where she lived and gardened to an impressive age of 96. Her nephew, Al Black, shares that in her later years she would frequently lose her balance in the garden and fall forward, but being spry and carefree, she would continue through to a somersault roll and get back up. Conveying concern for his aunt, Marian would simply tell Al not to worry because she always did that!

In her spare time Marian could be found mountain climbing in the Cowichan Valley. She cared deeply for the area's waterways and wished to see them protected. It is because of this, that after her passing in 2007, Al chose to direct his aunt's TLC bequest of over \$50,000 to help with a property purchase on the banks of the Cowichan River.

The property is the second parcel acquired by TLC that has become part of the protected green space paralleling the river between Duncan and Lake Cowichan. The first was purchased by TLC in 2002 and is the site of TLC's Cowichan River cabin. The river is of incredible importance to wildlife, the community, and cultural heritage of the area. Presently, TLC is partnering



Marian Bina Bratt 1911 - 2007

Thanks to Marian's planned gift, the Cowichan River is one step closer to having a completed green corridor along its banks. To learn more about how you can leave a legacy for future generations, please call John Keller at 1-877-485-2422. Photo Susan Kangasniemi

with the Provincial Government and local residents to acquire the remaining privately-owned lands in the area as they become available and/or are working to see them protected through conservation covenants.

By remembering TLC in her will, Marian's generous gift will make a lasting difference for the Cowichan River. TLC is profoundly grateful for Marian and donors like her who bestow their precious gifts to save the special places that they care about in British Columbia. ■

Raising a Glass for Local Food



TLC Members John Beare and Linda Olafson sit down to enjoy one of the delicious meals auctioned off at Madrona Farm's 3rd Annual Chef Survival Challenge. This year's event was held in support of TLC's agricultural programs, the Pender Island Community Farmland Acquisition Project, and the Island Chefs' Collaborative. "We were delighted that all the chefs in the survival event survived and went on to create marvelous dishes from essential local ingredients. We had a great day and judging from all the smiling faces, so did everyone! Where would the 'wild' and the 'cultivated' be without TLC?" ■

Photo Heather Skydt

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Looking for a live Christmas tree to celebrate the season?

Garden Works on Blenkinsop Road in Saanich is offering potted Douglas fir trees. Purchases include delivery and pick up services.

The best part: returned trees will be donated to TLC and planted at Sooke Potholes. Get yours today!

www.gardenworks.ca

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Meet the Man Behind the Clearwater Project: Trevor Goward

TLC caught up with Trevor Goward, life-long naturalist and renowned lichenologist, at his home near Wells Gray Provincial Park. We asked him to share his thoughts on the Clearwater Wetlands and Wildlife Corridor campaign and why he is donating his property to the project.

TLC: How would you describe yourself?

Trevor: How about as a heedful person living in heedless times? I believe we can do better. Gary Snyder, American poet and environmental activist, once said the best thing we can do for the environment is stay home. I agree. These days I do most of my travelling in the Clearwater Valley. I travel by foot - a great way to go, I recommend it. I also grow much of my own food.

TLC: What are your hopes for the property?

Trevor: I'd like to see Edgewood Blue - that's what I call the property - become a place of learning for a new generation of naturalists. Success for me will be in having helped to rebuild a naturalist tradition that will continue long after I'm gone.

TLC: Why is this site important?

Trevor: Starting in about 1950, the southern boundary of Wells Gray has been adjusted southward four times - each time taking in a little more key wildlife habitat. As a result the park now has two southern lobes: a highland lobe to the east and a lowland lobe to the west with private land between. When large wildlife migrates between their summer and winter ranges they need to cross this private land.

Edgewood is situated in one of the Clearwater Valley's main wildlife corridors. Crossing is tricky here owing to an extensive north-south wetland complex. Recently, some of the traditional crossing points have been lost to housing development. This makes it harder for animals like

cougar, wolf, and grizzly to cross unimpeded. Future development will only make things worse, leading to conflict between wildlife and local residents. Various key properties are currently up for sale. In my view, we need to act now if we hope to secure a permanent wildlife corridor for southern Wells Gray.

TLC: Why did you turn to TLC for help?

Trevor: Two reasons. First, TLC has a reputation as a can-do organization. By donating my 10-acre home property to TLC, I hoped to win support for the wildlife corridor project. And it's working! Already my neighbours John and Edwina Kurta have agreed to donate 66 acres of wetlands in support of the project. Second, the simple act of donating Edgewood to a higher purpose - wildland conservation - seems a way of giving something back to the Clearwater Valley. This is important to me.

For a more detailed interview with Trevor, please visit conservancy.bc.ca ■



Once successful, TLC's Clearwater Wetlands and Wildlife Corridor will see the protection of over 100 acres of wetlands, forests, and meadows while connecting two sections of Wells Gray Provincial Park.

Paddle Out for Public Access

*By Carmen Smith
Senior Outreach Officer*

Although the surf was essentially non-existent on Vancouver Island's West Coast on October 17th, that didn't stop over 50 surfers from taking to their boards for the 2nd Annual Paddle Out for Public Access at Jordan River.



Experience the Paddle Out for Public Access for yourself by viewing a video story published by the Martlet, University of Victoria's student newspaper at conservancy.bc.ca, under "About TLC/Media". Photos Rory Lambert

The Surfrider Foundation

Vancouver Island Chapter, a grassroots organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our world's oceans, waves, and beaches, holds this event to raise awareness about the importance of public access to coastal areas and preservation of their ecosystems. This year's affair was held in support of TLC's Wild Hills and Beaches Campaign to protect 5,800 acres of land in the Sooke Hills, Sandcut Beach, and Jordan River area.

Surfers were not the only ones in attendance. Beach combers, locals wearing "Make Jordan River a Park" t-shirts, campers, visitors from up-island and off-island (from as far away as Oregon), families, kids, and dogs came out to show their support for the cause. The crowd was optimistic, knowing that once TLC completes the campaign in partnership with the Capital Regional District, the stretch of shoreline from Jordan River to Sandcut Beach will be purchased as parkland and protected forever.

"I've seen [Jordan River] in the middle of the night, with the only light coming from the moon, and still there were people out in the waves," commented one local surfer and University of Victoria student. "If becoming a TLC

Member allows places like this to be protected, sign me up."

The issue of public access at Jordan River has brought numerous people and groups together - local musicians and businesses, student groups, organizations like the Surfrider Foundation, and the outdoor and surfing community are all working to help raise the funds to save this treasured area for future generations. You too can lend a hand by symbolically saving an acre of our Wild Hills and Beaches in honour of your loved ones this holiday season.

To order your gift package today, please visit www.tlc4bc.ca. ■

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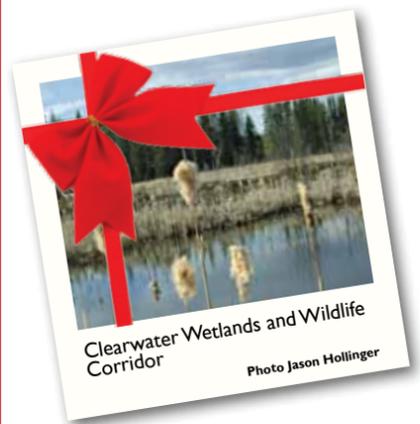
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