



WINTER 2007

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Special Places Saved by TLC Members in 2007

A look back at the difference your support has made over the past 12 months



Black Bears at the Horsefly River Conservation Area near Williams Lake
TLC added approximately 22 acres of new protected land to this site,
further enhancing the Horsefly River, salmon and bear habitat.
Photo © Cornelius Iwan



Fawn Lily at Joseph Lohbrunner Wild Bird Sanctuary and Farm, in Metchosin (near Victoria). TLC has enabled the protection of this impressive blend of fertile agricultural land and wildlife habitat through a generous life estate donation. Photo © Carla Funk



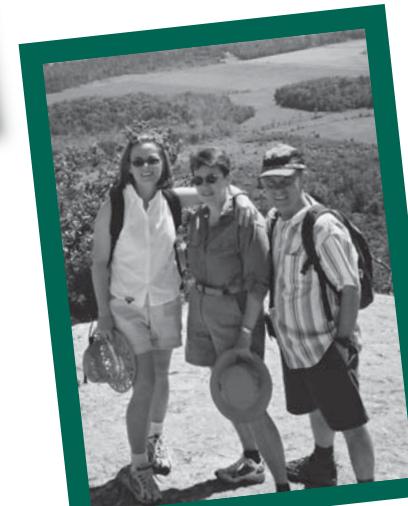
Bighorn Ewe and Lamb at Peach Cliff in Okanagan Falls. Your support allowed TLC to work with a local developer resulting in the donation of nearly 40 acres of antelope brush ecosystem - a globally imperiled habitat type. Photo © Daryl Stepaniuk



Alison Harbour at the southeast corner of Queen Charlotte Sound on the central coast. This home for sea otters and bald eagles is now part of a BC marine park thanks to TLC's work as a mediator in the negotiations to protect this 200-acre parcel of land. Photo ©TLC Files



Gerald Island in the southern Strait of Georgia near Nanoose Bay. Featuring a rocky coastal bluff ecosystem - now rarely found undisturbed in this area - this island is also slated to become part of a BC marine park thanks to a joint effort between TLC and the provincial government. Photo © Dave Scott



Larry Talarico with his wife Alison and daughter Trina in Vancouver Island's Sooke Hills. Larry lost his life on a hike in the Sooke Hills in 2005. Now with the help of his family, TLC is closing in on the protection of an additional 932 hectares in this spectacular wilderness area. Photo © Larry Talarico



Skaha Bluffs in Penticton. Thanks to you, TLC is nearing the completion of a campaign that will secure a permanent access to this climber's paradise. Photo © Carla Funk

Soon to be completed...

Executive Director's Message



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paper.

For thousands of years, the entire area of British Columbia was a vast wilderness interrupted only by small pockets of human settlement – First Nations living in harmony with the landscape. Today our land looks dramatically different.

Vast urban sprawl – interrupted only by small remnant pockets of wild lands – has engulfed large portions of the province. In these developed areas, purchasing and protecting properties to maintain existing wildlife corridors is a tremendous challenge. Identifying the right properties to protect, negotiating agreements to purchase them, and raising the money to do so take a great deal of time – time that in many fast-growing regions is in short supply.

Similarly, in BC's urban areas, sky-rocketing land prices are making it very difficult to purchase and restore some of this province's most precious built heritage. The places that were once the first pockets of Western civilization in the wilderness are now being lost in an urban jungle of condos and high-rises.

That's why I'm so proud of the accomplishments that your support and TLC's know-how have been able to accomplish in areas like Vancouver Island's Sea-to-Sea Greenbelt, and in the restoration of Ross Bay Villa. The odds are stacked against us. But, by coming together as TLC Members, we've achieved a great deal.

Thank you for being such a big part of TLC's success. I wish you a happy and prosperous New Year.

Calling all Citizens Bank customers

TLC has been nominated to receive a 2007 Shared Interest Award – a cash prize divided amongst 12 charities based on voting by Citizens Bank members. Voting began on December 15 and continues until January 31, 2008.

If you're a Citizens Bank customer, please take a moment to vote for TLC at www.conservancy.bc.ca. The prize will help us do even more for BC's special places in 2008.

Winter at TLC's Baldwin House in Burnaby - a beautiful Arthur Erickson designed home now available as a rental cottage. Photo by Carla Funk



Volunteer-led, Membership-driven

The Restoration of Ross Bay Villa

by Stuart Stark
TLC Board Member and Heritage Expert

Why would anyone spend nine years of their Saturdays working on an old building they don't own? When it's Ross Bay Villa, the explanation is obvious.

Built in the 1860's, Ross Bay Villa is one of the rarest houses in Greater Victoria. After years of neglect, the house came up for a demolition permit in 1999. TLC stepped in to save the historic site purchasing the house (on two lots) for \$300,000, and launching a fundraising campaign to cover the cost.

Since that time, an incredibly dedicated band of TLC volunteers has been working to restore Ross Bay Villa to its former grandeur. For nine years a core group of 27 volunteers, plus nearly 100 occasional helpers, has repaired foundations and windows, replanted

the garden, removed layers of historic wallpapers with scalpels, and still found time to lead hundreds of visitors on tours through the in-progress site.

Their work has benefited from a few important grants, but it's TLC Members that have really made the project possible. Good restoration takes time, and a steady source of ongoing funding throughout the restoration process. This allows TLC to both plan and carry out the work necessary to protect these sites in the most effective way.

Sometimes, in the past, work at the Villa had to wait until new donations turned up, leaving volunteers doing 'busy' work as they waited for important restoration materials to arrive. More recently, however, TLC's growing membership base – particularly the growing number of TLC monthly members – has had a very real impact on the restoration work. Volunteers can now count on that load of lumber being delivered when needed, or soil for replanting the 1860's garden arriving in a timely fashion.

It's kept the project alive, and the volunteers busy. As a Board member, and one of the Ross Bay Villa volunteers, I thank you for your help in restoring this incredible historic site. And, if you're not already, I would encourage you to consider making your TLC membership a Monthly Membership. It really does make a world of difference to all TLC projects. ■



Ross Bay Villa in Victoria. The dedicated support of TLC members and volunteers has revived this rare historic house; keeping alive an important part of BC's past. Photo by Carla Funk

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Hooray for Heroes!

TLC would like to recognize the incredible contributions of the Ross Bay Villa volunteers.

Meet more TLC Community Action Heroes on page 6

The Sea to Sea Puzzle

How the pieces have come together

The Sea to Sea Green Blue Belt is a visionary undertaking that will create a 12,000 hectare corridor of protected wilderness and parkland stretching across southern Vancouver Island. It is perhaps the best example of how TLC builds long-term relationships with governments and local communities to protect special places. The adjacent map shows a brief history of the Belt, and how TLC has worked to make it a reality.

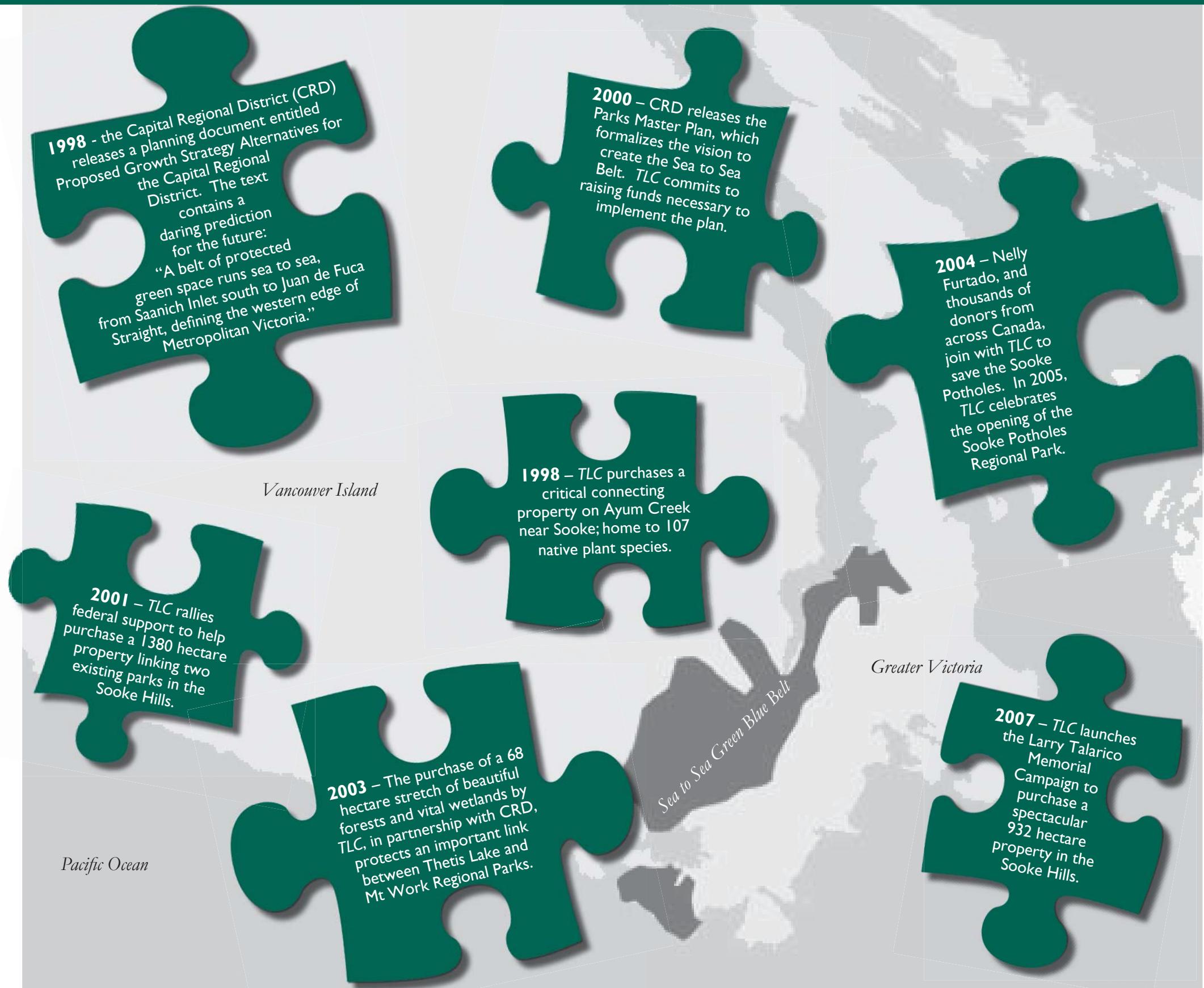
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Why none of this would be possible without you

Certainly TLC's work to protect many of the individual properties in the Sea to Sea Green Blue Belt, like the Sooke Potholes, have garnered incredible public attention and an outpouring of community support, but raising money to buy a special place is only half the battle.

Purchasing special places takes months, even years, of planning and negotiation with governments and land owners. Without you, TLC would not have the funds necessary to do this work.

Negotiating with governments is only possible if you represent a significant portion of the population. Your membership gives us credibility.

TLC also cannot predict when a privately owned special place will be put up for sale. Your membership gives us the flexibility to respond the moment an opportunity arises.

Thank you for partnering with TLC to save BC's special places. We couldn't do it without you! ■

To find out more about TLC's latest puzzle piece in the Sea to Sea Green Blue Belt, check out the Larry Talarico Memorial Campaign at



www.conservancy.bc.ca

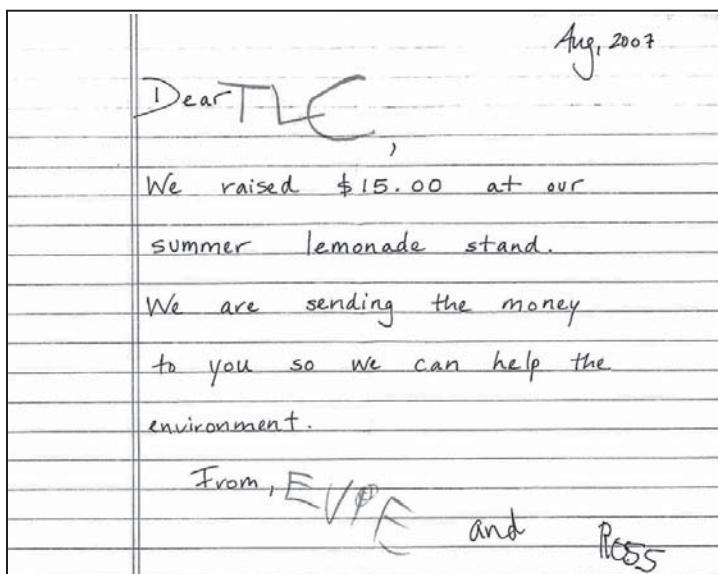
Meet TLC's Top Superheroes

TLC's Community Action Heroes use superhero spirit to save BC's Special Places

All across BC, TLC's Community Action Heroes are unleashing their super powers. We are getting reports from every corner of the province about garage sales, raffles, book sales, fashion shows, dinner parties, birthdays, and even a lemonade stand. The dedicated and passionate individuals, businesses, schools and clubs who put on these events have been working hard to build community spirit, raise awareness for TLC's work, and help save BC's special places - all at the same time!

A BIG thank you to every TLC Community Action Hero out there for your wonderful enthusiasm and support - your super powers are helping save many special places.

Don't forget! If you hold a Community Action hero event let us know! We always love to hear your stories.



Julia, a Community Action Hero from Penticton, raised money to help save Skaha Bluffs by asking for donations instead of gifts for her 13th birthday. What a superhero! Photo by Howie Richardson.



These models show how fun and easy it is to look great and save special places during a recent fashion show at Not Just Pretty Modern Organic Clothing. Pam Skelton, owner of the stylish boutique, donated proceeds from the event to TLC demonstrating how businesses can be heroes too. Photo by Pam Skelton.



This fall 180 students from Lester B. Pearson College (representing 89 countries around the world) put their super powers to work at the Sooke Potholes. For 3 days they painted, raked, pruned and planted. A big thank you for all their hard work!

View Royal Elementary School's "Green Stars", a group of students committed to helping save animal habitat as well as supporting their community, raised money by selling healthy snacks at lunch and presented the proceeds to TLC at their year end assembly.



Socks for Special Places

Knitting together a solution for the future of BC

by Carla Funk
Donor Relations

Maila Lehto has always worked. She began earning her own way in the world at the age of 13, and she hasn't slowed down since. Even after she retired she kept busy working in her garden, and taking long walks with her dog Toto.

But as she approached her 85th birthday earlier this year, keeping up with her regular activities was getting to be more of a challenge. A gradual loss of strength, eyesight, and hearing was beginning to take a toll.

That's when Maila had an idea. She decided that she could knit socks for TLC, and that the socks could be sold to raise funds for BC's special places. Her friends readily donated some wool, and Maila was off with knitting needles flying!

Since the spring, Maila has knit over 45 pairs of socks to sell in the Abkhazi Garden gift shop, and sales are already over \$320. Designed to be worn like cozy slippers, Maila crafts every pair with unique color combinations, crocheted scallops, and lots of love.

"I want to help TLC, and I want to keep busy. Knowing that the socks I make are helping TLC makes me feel happy," says Maila.

Everyone who buys a pair of Maila's special socks always says, "Thank you!"

The socks are amazing!" And so are you Maila – an amazing TLC Community Action Hero. ■



85-year-old Maila Lehto has combined a talent for knitting and a passion for TLC into Karma Socks - unique, handmade woollen slippers that are sold to raise money for BC's special places. Photo by Carla Funk

Ready to unleash your super powers? Give us a call at 1-877-485-2422. BC's special places are waiting for you!

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You can also find out more online at www.conservancy.bc.ca/legacy

Your personal TLC contacts:

Members often ask us "Why are monthly memberships so important for TLC?"

Monthly memberships are a great way to save special places for three key reasons:

- **They help keep administrative costs as low as possible.** Just as it's quicker for you to pay a bill online than it is to write and mail a cheque, automatic monthly gifts can be processed much more efficiently than lump sum annual membership gifts. They also require a lot less paper, which helps to save BC's natural resources.
- **They're reliable.** Monthly gifts provide a steady stream of funds that not only allow TLC to plan efficiently for the future, but also to respond quickly when urgent projects arise.
- **They're so easy!** With a monthly membership you never have to worry about responding to renewal notices. But you can still change, pause, or cancel your membership at any time just by calling TLC, so you're still in complete control.

Saving money, the environment, and BC's special places all at the same time – what could be better than that!

Tom + Wendy

To find out just how easy it is to become a TLC Monthly Member give us a call at 1-800-485-2422 today!

Give BC some extra TLC

To help save even more special places, I'd like to make a donation of:

\$35 \$50 \$100 \$ _____

With this gift, I would like to renew my TLC Membership.

My preferred method of payment is:

Visa MasterCard Cheque. Please make payable to The Land Conservancy.

Card # _____ Expiry Date _____

Name on Card _____ Signature _____

My contact details:

Name: _____ Member #: (if known) _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____
Home Phone: (_____) _____
E-mail: _____

Thank you!

Please return completed form to: TLC, 301-1195 Esquimalt Road, Victoria, BC V9A 3N6
TLC respects your privacy. We will never sell, trade, or rent your name to another organization.
Due to CRA Regulations, the first \$35 of your membership gift (\$50 for families) is not tax receivable. Charitable registration # 88902-8338 RR0001

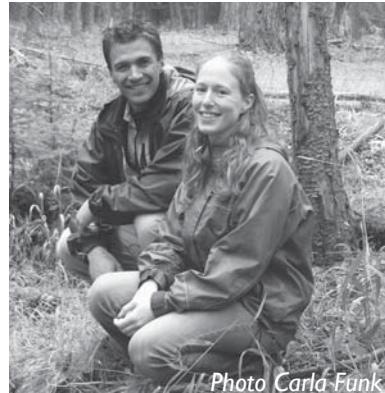


Photo Carla Funk

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

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