

Be the CHANGE

Special Places. Forever, for Everyone.

The Importance of Protecting Special Places in B.C. and Beyond

Everything is connected in the world around us and there is a cause and effect for every action we take as global citizens. That's why TLC and its members are part of the International National Trusts Organisation (INTO) - a network of over 6 million members sharing a common vision to safeguard the world's natural and cultural heritage.

This fall, TLC and The Heritage Canada Foundation welcomed more than 260 delegates, from over 150 non-governmental organizations, and 34 different countries representing the global National Trust movement to Victoria for the 14th International Conference of National Trusts (October 12-15).

During four jam-packed days, delegates met to explore the issues and seek solutions surrounding the protection of our heritage and environment. They participated in a number of presentations, workshops, and field sessions to learn best practices and share case studies relating to the conference theme: "Connecting People, Places and Stories: New Strategies for Conservation in a Changing World".

Thanks to the help of many TLC volunteers and staff, the conference was a huge success. "It gave me an immense amount of context and a new

appreciation for TLC's work in B.C. It was inspiring to see how TLC fits into such a powerful global movement," says TLC Member and conference volunteer Gail Innes.

One of the key outcomes of the conference was the Victoria Declaration on Climate Change. By signing the declaration, INTO members are asking global leaders to recognize that the core strength and connectivity of human beings requires maintenance of our cultural sustainability.

"All of the debates on climate change miss the fact that not only are we talking about the survival of the planet and our species, we are talking about the essence of our being, and of our culture," said Simon Molesworth, Chairman of the INTO, during the opening ceremony.

"The Victoria Declaration sends a clear message to decision makers that if you don't focus on the impact of climate change on culture you have destroyed the essence of the world."

There is scientific evidence supporting global warming and the physical results are all around us, but the less recognized effect is the loss of social sustainability - our culture that makes us unique. People's "sense of

place" is directly connected to the historic places in their communities and the stories of their past.

As an example, the nation of Tuvalu off the coast of Polynesia recently had safe drinking water flown onto the island from Australia because the rising sea levels have contaminated the fresh water supply with salt. There is a real threat that the over 10,000 Tuvaluans on the island will have to be relocated to the mainland and this culture and civilization will be lost forever. A culture moved is a culture lost.

In B.C. and beyond, it is our responsibility to protect special places and stories so that future generations will have the same sense of pride and spirit that many of us enjoy today. It is culture that binds us together around the world. ■

Hosted by the Cross Cultural Foundation of Uganda and the International National Trusts Organisation, the 15th International Conference of National Trusts will take place in Entebbe, Uganda, September 30 - October 4, 2013.



Photo Bob Turner



Photo Bob Turner



Photo Mary Sanseverino



Community Action Heroes, like Jason Meyer and Gary Lindsay from Driftwood Brewery, use their talents to turn their craft into cash for conservation. Photo Jill Patterson

Drink Beer, Save Land

By Jill Patterson
Outreach and Development Officer

Crack a bottle of Driftwood Brewery's Sartori IPA and help create the B.C. you want to see.

TLC's Be the Change Campaign has inspired dozens of individuals and local businesses to support our conservation efforts throughout the province. We have seen many innovative ways in which people are stepping up to

save B.C.'s special places including a unique promotion from Victoria's Driftwood Brewery.

"At Driftwood, we are trying to support local farming by using local ingredients. With malts from the Saanich Peninsula, hops from Chilliwack, and water from the Sooke Hills, the Sartori IPA is as close to a true B.C. harvest as you can get. By donating a portion of the proceeds from every bottle, we are playing an active role in the stewardship of the lands which we depend on. We are investing in a sustainable future," says Driftwood's Purveyor of Precious

Liquids, Gary Lindsay.

Musician Jean-Paul Maurice and his band mates are also making a creative contribution. By writing a song entitled *Be the Change* and donating it to TLC, the band hopes to inspire others to get involved with the campaign. The band performed and filmed their song live at Akbhazi Garden. You can watch the video and download the song by donation at conservancy.bc.ca.

Who knew conservation could taste so good and be music to our ears! ■

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www.tlc4bc.ca

Message from the Executive Director

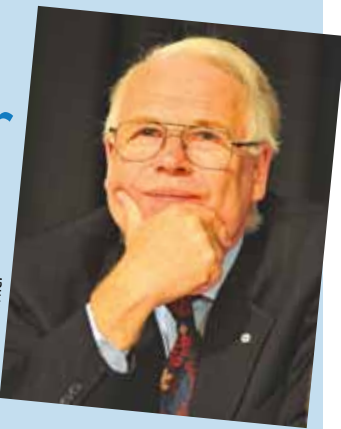
Often in life, we are moving so fast from one opportunity to the next that we forget to celebrate along the way. Today, I wanted to take a moment to share with you some of the many accomplishments we have fulfilled under our Be the Change Campaign thanks to your support. It has been a record-breaking few months. Our staff have pulled together like never before to work miracles for conservation. Together, we have carried out fabulous events which have increased the public engagement aspect of our campaign.

First on my list is the 14th International Conference of National Trusts co-hosted by TLC in October. This four-day event allowed various land trusts and similar organizations to come together and gather insight from each other on issues and solutions facing the world's natural and cultural heritage.

The number of inspirational people out there fighting for our precious worldwide resources renewed my hope in humanity. We are not alone in our quest to protect special places, and the more members we have close to home, the stronger our voice will be. This event solidified our position as B.C.'s National Trust, and by belonging to a global conservation movement, we are poised for even more success.

Jumping back to late August and early September, TLC paid tribute to parks with the protection of Sansum Point in the Cowichan Valley, and by participating in a number of celebrations such as Wells Gray Day in the Upper Clearwater Valley. Each of these events brought a smile to my face because they are the result of many hours of dedication and

Photo: Bob Turner



our strong partnerships with local communities.

For the first time ever, TLC hosted its Annual General Meeting in Vancouver on September 17th. We were delighted at the strong turnout, with members travelling from all across the Lower Mainland, from Vancouver Island, and from the Gulf Islands to attend. Another first was our involvement in the GoodLife Fitness Victoria Marathon.

The fourth Annual Chef Survival Challenge brought further attention to our continued efforts to protect agricultural lands. Many of our others ventures, including Cottage Rentals and the Sooke Potholes Campground, had one of their best seasons ever.

Our heritage projects received a boost, too. As you will read, Abkhazi Garden now has a matching grant to help pay down the mortgage, renovations to the Historic Joy Kogawa House are well underway, and TLC is stepping up to show our support for B.C.'s lighthouses.

As we move into the holiday season, I hope you can attend one of our open houses (Vancouver on Dec 11 and Victoria on Dec 14) to hear first hand from staff about their experiences over the past three months. The knowledge and support we have gained will continue to lead the way into 2012. Thank you for your continued inspiration! ■

Double Your Impact on Abkhazi Garden TLC Receives \$125,000 Matching Grant for Local Garden Through its Be The Change Campaign

By Heather Skydt
Communications Manager

The W. Garfield Weston Foundation is stepping up in support of TLC's Be the Change Campaign by offering a matching grant up to \$125,000 to assist in paying down the outstanding mortgage on Abkhazi Garden in Victoria.

"This grant has made a significant impact on the campaign. It ensures the viability and thus the long-term protection of an important cultural property for future generations. We are issuing a challenge to anyone willing to make a contribution to Abkhazi to do so now as it will be doubled up to \$250,000," says Bill Turner, TLC Executive Director.

In March of 2011, TLC launched its Be the Change Campaign, an overarching public engagement campaign to raise \$10 Million for TLC's mandate and operations. Mortgage debt reduction on properties such as Abkhazi Garden is one component of the initiative. To date over \$1.2 Million has been raised, including funds that retired the mortgage on Wildwood.

TLC purchased Abkhazi Garden in 2000. Created by Prince Nicholas and Princess Peggy Abkhazi in 1946, the Garden is a unique jewel in a city known for its gardens. At the time of purchase, Abkhazi Garden was scheduled to be demolished to make room for townhouses. The local community, knowing the beauty and



Abkhazi Garden is magnificent in every season and is the perfect place for a holiday gathering. Call 250-598-8096 for details. Photo Jeff de Jong

value of this property, encouraged TLC to become involved.

With such a short time frame to raise funds, TLC opted to cover most of the cost with a mortgage. Thanks to the generous support of individuals who invested in this mortgage, and many others who made donations, we were able to put together the necessary financing to acquire the garden and save it from being lost.

Currently, TLC maintains a mortgage on the property of \$1 Million with monthly payments of over \$10,000. In addition, it costs several thousands of dollars each month to operate and keep the garden open to the public.

Now is the perfect opportunity to make your special gift to Abkhazi. Bring a friend to the restaurant for tea or lunch and visit the gift shop featuring socially-conscious gifts, many made by local artisans. Admission to the garden is by donation until March 1st and free for TLC Members. 1964 Fairfield Road. Double your donation for Abkhazi Garden today! ■

Don't Miss TLC's 2011 Annual Report

Catch up on the year with TLC's 2011 Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements, available at conservancy.bc.ca under the "About TLC" section. To receive a copy of these materials by mail, simply give us a call at 1-877-485-2422. We'd be happy to hear from you! ■

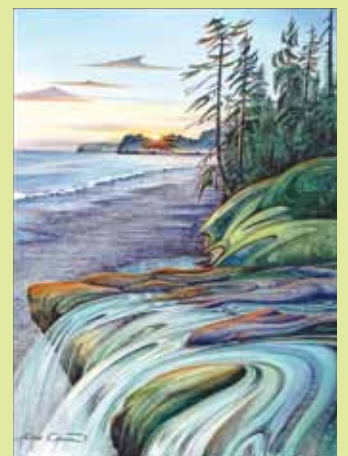
TLC's Wild Runners



On Sunday, October 9, TLC's Wild Runners hit the streets as part of the GoodLife Fitness Victoria Marathon. It was an uplifting day with the team raising over \$5,000 to save special places. A big thank you to all our Wild Runners who ran for the cause including Melissa Anderson and Tim Roberts, above. Interested in joining us next year? Drop us a line at membership@conservancy.bc.ca ■ Photo Wendy Innes

Sandcut Beach-in print!

Just in time for the holidays, renowned artist Sue Coleman has released her latest print in support of TLC's Wild Hills and Beaches Campaign. \$100 from each print sold will go to TLC. This past summer, her limited edition print of Sansum Point raised over \$15,000 for the project and sold out fast. Order yours before it's too late at sue@suecoleman.ca or by calling 1-877-708-6111. ■



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www.gardenworks.ca

Praise for Parks

By Jill Patterson
Outreach and Development Officer

BC Parks' 100 year recognition has inspired TLC to praise our own park success. 2011 has seen many reasons to celebrate and this past summer we had the opportunity to pay tribute to the efforts and energy of the many who have contributed to the protection of special places throughout the province.

On August 24th, Hanks Beach received its official regional park designation thanks to the work of TLC, the Tides Foundation (USA), Strathcona Regional District, and the local residents of Cortes Island. The 153 acres of trails, beaches, bluffs, and the history of Henry "Hank" Herriwig have now been preserved for the community, forever! Hanks Beach is TLC's 37th conservation covenant held on Cortes Island, bringing the total number of acres protected by TLC on the island to nearly 1,240.



During Wells Gray Day, renowned volcanologist Dr. Cathie Hickson spoke about the unique and significant geology of the area which encompasses TLC's Wetlands and Wildlife Corridor. Dr. Hickson was also a guest speaker at this year's AGM in Vancouver. Photo Sandra Holmes, inset: Skaha Bluffs, Wendy Innes



This year's annual Skaha Climbers Festival in Penticton was hosted by Mountain Equipment Co-op with the support of numerous sponsors on September 2-5. Following a weekend of climbing competitions and clinics, the participants enjoyed a delicious BBQ and music by the talented Dehli 2 Dublin, in celebration of the 758-acre Skaha Conservation area TLC helped to protect in 2008.

On September 10th, TLC staff took a road trip to the Clearwater Valley to help host Wells Gray Day. Many people arrived to support the creation of Clearwater Wetlands and Wildlife Corridor adjacent to the provincial park. Good food, guided nature walks, and beautiful weather made for a successful celebration of conservation!

For more information on the above projects and campaigns, please visit conservancy.bc.ca. ■

Please note TLC's Penticton office address change: PO Box 22003 Penticton, BC V2A 8L1 Phone: 250-809-8802

Updates from the Ground at Historic Joy Kogawa House

By Tamsin Baker
Lower Mainland Regional Manager

Leading up to its 100th birthday in 2012, the Historic Joy Kogawa House is getting some TLC. We are pleased to report that the new roof and front stairs were recently completed. Additional matching funds will be needed for the work to continue in the new year on the interior sun room and living room. Once completed, these rooms will ensure more space and light for community events. Funds for the renovations have been received from the City of Vancouver, the Heritage Legacy Fund, and the Vancouver Heritage Foundation.



Photo TLC files

On the writing front, through TLC's partnership with the Historic Joy Kogawa Society, the third writer-in-residence was welcomed into the house in September, for three months. Susan Crean is a non-fiction author from Toronto who will use her time at the house to work on a

new non-fiction book, in part about head-tax payer, Wong Dong Wong, who came to Canada in 1911. She will also be engaging in a series of public conversations at the house with writers who use their work to affect social change. Another writer will be moving in for three months starting in mid-January.

Individuals interested in contributing to the restoration of Historic Joy Kogawa House, please call Tamsin Baker at 604-733-2313 or email tbaker@conservancy.bc.ca. ■

British Columbia's Lighthouses are at Risk

By Deborah Hudson
Heritage Conservation Advisor

There is something intriguing, even romantic, about the quiet constant certainty of a lighthouse, particularly in contrast to violent storms and raging seas. Amazingly, some of the world's oldest remaining lighthouses have stood for nearly 2,000 years.

On the west coast of British Columbia, the oldest remaining lighthouses date back to the 1860's. While many of these noble B.C. landmarks may have been altered and updated over the years, they continue to function as instructional and reassuring reference points, helping to save lives within their historic and picturesque oceanic landscapes.

Despite their reputation for constancy and reassurance, the future of lighthouses in B.C. has never been so uncertain. In two seemingly contradictory moves by the Government of Canada, the Heritage Lighthouse Protection Act, aimed at protecting federally owned lighthouses, came into effect May 29th, 2010 while on

May 27th, 2010 the Department of Fisheries and Oceans had declared 976 of Canada's Lighthouses as surplus.

Caught between two political directions, and with a number of related complications, the decision to preserve or to dispose of many of Canada's lighthouse structures will ultimately come down to community interest. According to the Lighthouse Protection Act, petitions to nominate lighthouses for heritage designation must be completed and filed by May 29th, 2012.

While the majority of B.C.'s lighthouses are in the process of being nominated through their communities, as a result of the dedicated work of a number of individuals, TLC is helping to ensure that none of British Columbia's lighthouses will be forgotten as the deadline for petitions approaches.

If you would like to make your signature count for B.C.'s lighthouses, please contact Deborah Hudson at dhudson@conservancy.bc.ca. ■

You're invited...

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

Victoria - Abkhazi Garden
Wednesday, December 14, 3-7 p.m.
1964 Fairfield Rd.

Stop by the garden and enjoy some food, friends, and fun. Browse the Shop in the Garden for unique socially-conscious gifts, many made by local artisans.

Vancouver - Historic Joy Kogawa House
Sunday, December 11, 1-5 p.m.
1450 W. 64th Ave.

TLC and the Historic Joy Kogawa House Society are hosting a joint festive event this year. Join us for some seasonal treats and browse our selection of crafts for sale. This is also the last chance to meet writer-in-residence Susan Crean. ■

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In Memory of an Ecoforestry Legend

By Jay Rastogi
Wildwood Site Manager

Merv Wilkinson passed away on August 31st, 2011, just a few weeks shy of his 98th birthday. Merv had been active in many aspects of his community, including the credit union movement and Foster Parents Association, but he will be remembered best as an ecoforestry pioneer and the founder of Wildwood.

While Merv started managing Wildwood in 1938, it did not become his sole pursuit and passion until his later years. His main vocation was renovating homes and barns as well as building stone chimneys. But forestry - especially at Wildwood - was always important to Merv. His philosophy of forest management was based on the concept of sustainability - a principle that sharply contrasted with the common practices of the day.

When he was arrested in 1993 at the Clayoquot Sound logging protests, he was thrust into the media spotlight as a logger who valued the forest above all else. He was charismatic, well spoken, engaging, funny and not at all camera-shy. And he was willing to use Wildwood as an example to engage the masses in a love of the forests around us.

Strong in his convictions, Merv put human values secondary to ecological ones. "We need to understand our relationship with the planet on which we live," said Merv. "We have to live with the earth. The earth does not have to live with us." The language may have been strong, yet visitors left with a sense of hope, inspired by his passion and love for life - perhaps not unlike the inspiration one might feel among a forest of old growth trees.



W.A. Mervyn (Merv) Wilkinson
September 22, 1913 - August 31, 2011
TLC will continue to honour Merv's memory by protecting Wildwood as an ecoforestry site that engages and educates. Visit the site during our regular interpretive tours, workshops, or school programs. For more info, please call 250-816-1816. Photo Eric Onasick

Wildwood became recognized as a world-class model for ecoforestry. Over the years, thousands of people have come to learn from Merv's work.

In 1999, Merv and his wife Anne, approached TLC about taking care of Wildwood and continuing to use it as a showcase for Merv's pioneering work in ecoforestry. TLC purchased the property in 2001 with a life estate. "To TLC, Merv has always been a shining star - a visionary, a teacher, an inspiration, and a great friend," says Bill Turner, TLC's Executive Director.

Time is an essential factor in forest stewardship so it is fitting that Merv's long legacy at Wildwood is being continued by TLC. The goal is to use the cultural and natural heritage of this special place to educate people about better land stewardship practices and to contribute to the development of a sustainable land-use ethic - an everlasting legacy. ■

The Life of Norma Lohbrunner

By Deborah Hudson
Heritage Conservation Advisor

Norma Lohbrunner will be remembered fondly by all TLC staff who had the privilege of getting to know her since she donated her property as a life estate in 2007.

"Norma had a wonderful spirit that was evident from the first time you met her," notes TLC's VI Region Maintenance Warden, Scott Harris. "She always greeted you with a smile, and if you were lucky, with some of her famous baked goods or a story."

Norma first moved onto the 40-acre farm in Langford after she married her husband Joseph in 1945. Norma and Joseph grew hay and vegetables and raised beef cattle. Joseph had a great passion for birds and Norma recalled how he would feed them in the kitchen. After Joseph passed away in 1968, Norma was determined to find a way to uphold his wish that the land never be developed. "Seeing land swallowed up for development all around at such a quick pace led me to make the decision: Not on this land!" she once said.

Norma's determination was just as well known as her baking skills. She was notorious for her dislike of the grey squirrels that frequently trespassed onto her property to eat the birdseed she left out. Norma kept a close watch though, and was quite successful in the protection of the food for the birds. Sharon Curtis, Site Manager for TLC's Sooke Potholes, recalls that on one of her visits not that long ago, Norma told her she had to chase away a bear when he appeared at the birdfeeder just a few feet from the house. Norma was a character - that is for certain.



Norma Claire (Brown) Lohbrunner
October 14, 1927 - October 18, 2011
Norma's legacy will live on through the protection of the Joseph Lohbrunner Farm and Ecological Reserve. TLC is grateful for her contribution and the many others, that have chosen to leave land to TLC as part of a life estate. Photo Dennis Kangasniemi

Norma loved her property and held a dual vision for it. She wished the forest to remain untouched as a calm sanctuary for her beloved bird community, and the farmland to remain as a valuable local food-producing resource.

TLC is honoured that Norma has entrusted us to carry out her vision. The land will remain protected forever as the Joseph Lohbrunner Farm and Ecological Reserve. Norma will be greatly missed. ■

Editors note: TLC would like to thank R & D Roofing and Siding Ltd. and General Paint for their generous donations towards a new roof and fresh coat of paint on Norma's house, completed with the help of volunteers just before her passing.



Embrace the passions that define your life. Please consider a bequest to The Land Conservancy and help protect special places in B.C.
Call: **1-877-485-2422**

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In memory of Stewart Boddy (1940 -2011)

TLC lost a true friend when dedicated volunteer Stewart Boddy passed away on October 28th. Stewart was a TLC member for over 10 years and a volunteer for almost as long. His stories and wisdom will be missed. TLC extends heartfelt condolences to his family.



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