

Our mission is: To engage the community through education and awareness to conserve a truly unique naturalized urban park.

www.friendsoffishcreek.org

PO Box 2780 Stn M Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M7 403-238-3841

Volume 22, Issue 6
Dec 2017 / Jan 2018

Warm Holiday Wishes from the Friends of Fish Creek!

Thank you to our volunteers, members, donors and partners for helping to make 2017, our 25th Anniversary year, a truly memorable one! The Friends of Fish Creek could not have succeeded without your hard work, dedication and support for Fish Creek Provincial Park – a cherished urban park that means so much to so many. We wish you and your family all the best this holiday season and in the New Year, and invite you to drop by for a visit anytime!

- Nic Blanchet, Executive Director, Friends of Fish Creek

The Friends office will be closed December 23 – January 1, reopening January 2.



WINTER BIRDING COURSE

REGISTER NOW FOR THE WINTER BIRDING COURSE STARTING MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2018

Learn about the variety of bird species in Fish Creek Provincial Park and other natural areas within Calgary through the Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park Society's Winter Birding Course. In the winter months, birds are much easier to see since the deciduous trees have shed their leaves, there are fewer species present and they often occur in flocks. "In fact, there may well be more individual birds within Calgary during the winter than in the summer months," said lifelong naturalist Gus Yaki, who, along with other experienced birding instructors, conducts these outings as a fundraiser for the Friends of Fish Creek.

Registration Required. \$60 for Friends members and \$100 for non-members. \$5 for a youth 16 or younger with a registered adult. To register or for course times, please visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/programs/birding-course

Varied Thrush, photo courtesy of Debbie Simonds



Also in this Issue:

Page 2: Fish Creek Speaker Series
Quiz Question
Page 3: TD Learning Naturally Coordinator
Park Watch Award
Page 4: 25th Anniversary Bricks
ReWilding Through Restoration
Page 5: 25th Anniversary Update
Page 6: Annual General Meeting

Page 7: Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
Page 8: Autumn Colour, Nature Calgary Outings
Page 9: Thank You Donors
Page 10: Year-End Donations
Page 11: Park Protectors Needed
Memberships
Page 12: Supporters, Quiz Answer, 2017 Executive
Birdies for Kids Update

Fish Creek Speaker Series

The Friends of Fish Creek Speaker Series program has been combined with the Alberta Parks and Protected Areas Slideshow series. Presentations will take place at the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre at Shannon Terrace in Fish Creek Provincial Park (13931 Woodpath Rd. SW, access via 130 Ave. SW and 37 St. SW.) Refreshments are available on a first come, first served basis. Presentations are free to Friends members and \$5 for non-members. **Please park near washroom facility.**

Whirling Disease in Alberta

Presented by Lesley Peterson, Alberta Provincial Biologist with Trout Unlimited Canada

Thursday, January 11, 2018 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm



Lesley Peterson is Trout Unlimited Canada's Alberta Biologist, based in Calgary. She is a member of the provincial Whirling Disease Committee, which was established late in the summer of 2016 in response to the first detection of Whirling Disease in Canada. Whirling disease, which affects salmonid species such as trout and whitefish, was confirmed in Banff in August 2016 and has since been confirmed at several sites along the Bow River, Crowsnest River, in some rivers within the Red Deer and North Saskatchewan River basins as well, and in some commercial aquaculture facilities. Lesley's presentation will include background on whirling disease, including the life cycle of the parasite that causes it, the history

and distribution of the disease, and how it can affect fish. She will provide an update on the situation in Alberta, and information about how we can prevent the spread of whirling disease and other aquatic invasive species. *Pictured here, Lesley releasing a Brown Trout, that was rescued from an irrigation canal, into the Waterton River.*

Trekking Across Alberta Near the 49th Parallel - From Saskatchewan to Writing-On-Stone

Presented by Gus Yaki, Lifelong Naturalist and Dedicated Friends of Fish Creek volunteer

Wednesday, February 14, 2018 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

During May and June 2017, Gus Yaki, a lifelong naturalist and educator in his 85th year, led 39 like-minded individuals on a hike near the 49th parallel stretching over 300km along southern Alberta. Over the course of the journey they observed the area's unique wildlife, geology, and vegetation including 170 bird, 27 mammal, four reptile, two amphibian and over 600 vascular plant species. The hike commemorated Canada's 150th anniversary and raised more than \$35,000 for the Alberta Wilderness Association, Bird Studies Canada and the Nature Conservancy of Canada. Participants also met with some landowners and leaseholders, whose families have been careful environmental stewards for over a century, and who shared their knowledge of both the human and natural history of these unique and beautiful areas. Join Gus as he presents on the first section of this journey at the Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre



Pronghorn in southern Alberta, photo courtesy of Jennifer Solem

For more information about Fish Creek Speaker Series presentations stay tuned to www.friendsoffishcreek.org/programs/speaker-series



Quiz Question

Patrick Burns, rancher and meat packing giant was one of Calgary's Big 4, can you name the other 3 members of this historically significant group? *The correct answer will be announced in the next issue of Voice of the Friends.*

Welcome to the Team Jenna!

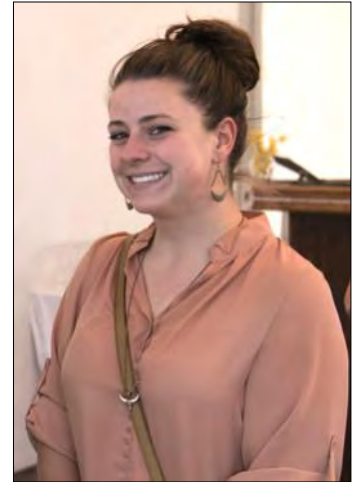
TD LEARNING NATURALLY POSITION PROVIDES NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN FISH CREEK

Jenna LeBlanc
TD Learning Naturally Coordinator

I am a 26-year old Biology student, born and raised in Calgary, Alberta. I've always had a passion for the outdoors and enjoy learning as much as I can about the natural world around me. While I am not studying to be an environmental educator per se, I relish every opportunity to help foster a sense of curiosity and environmental stewardship in the next generation. My first experiences in scientific education were through a program called Discovering Science: a hands-on project-based camp for junior high school kids, based out of St. Mary's University. Being a Discovering Science instructor showed me just how satisfying it was to share the subjects I'm passionate about with the next generation, and it opened my eyes to the world of extracurricular education. This newfound interest soon led me to become part of the Alberta Parks Interpretive team in Kananaskis, where I not only got to share my knowledge of the outdoors in situ, but learned how to share that knowledge in new and engaging ways (for example, through song-and-dance routines while dressed up as a golden eagle!)

The TD Learning Naturally Coordinator position offers

yet another opportunity for me to combine my love of science and the outdoors, and the chance to pass that passion along to students who otherwise might not have such opportunities. My experiences with the program thus far have been immensely rewarding; the position challenges me to test my knowledge and develop new educational techniques, all while allowing me to share firsthand the students' curiosity and new discoveries. I am particularly keen on the TD Learning Naturally program for its capacity to provide opportunities to new Canadians and students who otherwise might not get to experience such enriching educational opportunities. I am very grateful for the opportunity to facilitate such opportunities, and I look forward to a new year of exploring and learning in Fish Creek Provincial Park.



PARK WATCH STEWARDS RECEIVE TRAILNET AWARD



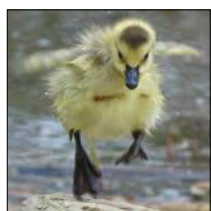
Park Watch is one of the Friends' flagship volunteer programs, which started over twenty-years ago, as a way to help Fish Creek Provincial Park management and keep an eye on the park. Park Watch stewards help park visitors by answering questions or providing directions, and assist Conservation Officers in monitoring the park so that important issues such as graffiti, regulatory infractions and injured wildlife can quickly be addressed.

The Alberta Trail Net Foundation, recognizing the volunteers' significant contribution to supporting safe recreational trails in Fish Creek, recently honoured the Park Watch program with a "Trail Hero" Award. Thank you and congratulations to all Park Watch Stewards!




PHASE 1 NOW INSTALLED AND PHASE 2 BRICKS ARE SELLING FAST!

An anniversary brick would make an amazing gift for anyone on your list who enjoys visiting Fish Creek or as a memorial to a loved one. Become part of history and show your support for this cherished natural area by dedicating a brick today. All funds raised through this program will help us to realize our vision of a sustainable Fish Creek Provincial Park that improves the lives of current and future generations. There are less than 150 anniversary bricks available to be installed in front of the Friends' office at the Cookhouse and we are planning to install them in early spring 2018. Bricks are only \$250 each and you will receive a tax receipt. **For more information contact the Friends or visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/brick**



ReWilding Through Restoration is a program that encourages the regeneration of natural ecosystems within Fish Creek Provincial Park, allowing current and future generations of Albertans to reconnect with, and wonder at, Alberta's natural beauty.

- 
- ReWilding Through Restoration involves actions like the planting of poplars and other native vegetation along the banks of Fish Creek in areas that have become degraded by human activity.
 - ReWilding Through Restoration serves to accelerate the natural processes along the creek, positively influencing the overall watershed health as vegetation quickly begins to grow and balance the system.
 - Friends of Fish Creek volunteers take part in the planting, maintenance and monitoring of the ReWilding Through Restoration sites until the sites are fully established.
 - ReWilding Through Restoration is only possible with the hands on support of volunteers and through donations that allow us to purchase the necessary supplies and equipment to make it happen.

For more information and to support ReWilding Through Restoration, visit

Photo courtesy of Anne Elliott

25th Anniversary UpdateFRIENDS OF FISH CREEK 25TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR IN REVIEW

The Friends of Fish Creek was founded in 1992 by a group of concerned citizens who saw great potential for volunteers to contribute time, effort and skills to the long-term sustainability of Fish Creek Provincial Park. 2017 has been a year of reflection and celebration of how far we have come since then, and a chance to look into the future to consider different ways of engaging the public in opportunities to learn and give back to this place that is loved by so many. With this in mind, Friends' staff worked closely with a strong contingent of volunteers to plan and implement five special anniversary projects. We are grateful for the dedication, ideas, feedback and hands-on volunteer efforts that made these projects possible.

Commemorative Sign Project

Recognizing that the two information signs in front of the Cookhouse were out of date, we began to work collaboratively with volunteers Drew McKibben and Wayne Meikle to research and design new signs intended to reflect the history of the park landscape, the Friends' role in the park, and to commemorate Canada's 150th birthday. The Friends' information sign has been installed, while the historical sign installation will wait until the ground thaws in the spring. Many thanks to Wayne for his unique historical perspective, and to Drew for his research and creative writing skills on this project!

25th Anniversary Art Project

The Friends have been looking for an opportunity to work on an art project for some time, and this year the timing seemed just right! Thanks to the guidance we received from artist and long-time supporter, Jim Pescott, we now have the rights to a signature image that can be used for a wide variety of purposes to support our organization long into the future. Jim's original painting entitled *Autumn Colour, Fish Creek*

Provincial Park, was used to create 25 limited edition prints as well as open edition posters that are available for sale in our online store and in our office (see page 8.) These prints were also used as 2017 volunteer recognition awards (see page 7,) and are a beautiful way to



Local artist and long time Friends member, Jim Pescott, signing a Limited Edition print of *Autumn Colour, Fish Creek Provincial Park*

celebrate the significant contributions of a handful of volunteers during our anniversary year.

Community Research Project

Times change quickly, and non-profit organizations must be responsive to the changing needs in society to ensure that programs and services offered stay relevant and accurately reflect what the public wants and needs. Our anniversary year seemed to be the perfect time to re-evaluate our role in the community and help us determine the best way to move into our next 25 years. We were fortunate to have Murray Thompson and David Shackleton - two amazing volunteers from Data for Good - on board for this project, as well as Friends' volunteers Michelle Mueller, Bryan Simpson and Bob Bakker, all of whom took on integral roles in the design, implementation and analysis of data gathered through various public engagement efforts, including the Parks Day & Creekfest sounding board, the online survey, public outreach activities and qualitative interviews.) Preliminary research findings were shared at our annual volunteer appreciation dinner in November, and the full research report will be presented at our AGM on January 30.

Cont'd on next page

FRIENDS OF FISH CREEK ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Have Your Voice Heard! Attend the AGM!

Tuesday, January 30, 2018 - Registration at 6:30 pm, Meeting starts at 7:00 pm
Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre, Shannon Terrace, Fish Creek Provincial Park

It is because of our members, volunteers and donors that the Friends have accomplished so much. Join us at the Annual General Meeting to meet our board and staff. Refreshments will be served. Only members who have paid their 2017–2018 Membership dues are eligible to vote. Enjoy a special presentation from Research Planner, Michelle Mueller, about our 25th Anniversary Survey results!

To register please visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/event/agm

25th Anniversary - cont'd from prev page



Volunteers and members of the Venturers Society in front of the new kiosk sign at the Cookhouse.

Cookhouse Improvement Project

2017 also seemed to be a good year to spruce up our office building! A crew of volunteers took on the initial brainstorming of what needed to be done, followed by a few exciting improvements to the building; a new information kiosk (the installation of which also lead to the design, creation

and planting of two native plant gardens) and a custom-built storage cabinet in our front entrance that will allow us to securely store program supplies and equipment and display public outreach materials. Thank you to the following volunteers who contributed in different and important ways to this project: Gwen Draude (cabinet designer,) Larry Newel and Neil Puffer (entrance painters,) Ron Deshayes, John Bradley, Rose and Karen Ratliffe (landscapers,) David Arnott and Bob Bakker (stairs and screen door rebuilding and painting,) Lori Mainland, Esther Weibe and the Venturers Society (garden planting,) and Bruce Mitchell (cabinet construction and installation.) We are also grateful to Alberta Environment and Parks for donating the

information kiosk, facilitating its installation and for purchasing the project supplies. We are excited to work on additional renovation plans for a much-improved office space in 2018, so stay tuned for more details!

ReWilding Through Restoration

In response to the aging cohort of poplar trees and lack of poplar age diversity in the park, ReWilding Through Restoration has become a way of branding our annual riparian restoration projects while creating different opportunities for the public to support this important work. ReWilding work emphasizes the planting of native trees and shrubs along the banks of Fish Creek to contribute to increased watershed health through hands-on stewardship efforts. People can get involved as volunteers or through donations that support the ongoing planning and implementation of this program (see page 4 for more info.) Volunteers Reka Vasarhelyi, Lori Mainland, Bruce Mitchell, Len Zybutz and Deb Wood-Zybutz and Robb Bell were instrumental in making this exciting new opportunity a reality!

We very much look forward to seeing the impact of these projects in the coming years and know that they each will help ensure our continued success in the future.



Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS WITH 110 OF OUR CLOSEST FRIENDS!

What better way to celebrate our 25th anniversary year than by spending an evening with approximately 110 of our hardworking volunteers? It has been a truly unforgettable year for the Friends of Fish Creek and the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on the evening of November 7 was the perfect way to get together and recognize our shared success this past year. We are truly grateful to the skilled and dedicated volunteers who helped make our anniversary year one of the most memorable.

For this year's dinner we developed some new award categories rather than simply giving out an award for each volunteer category. While we gave out fewer awards than in previous years, we endeavoured to provide more meaningful recognition to several key volunteers who really made a significant difference. We had two special guest presenters this year who gave informative and entertaining presentations. Julia Millen, Flood Recovery Volunteer and Partner Coordinator for the Kananaskis Region, presented about her recent flood clean-up efforts on Poplar Island in Fish Creek and the volunteers who helped out, in addition to a summary of the recent Alberta Parks Volunteer Conference. Don Hladiuk, aka Starman on CBC Radio, was our keynote speaker and he gave a fascinating slideshow presentation entitled *Urban Astronomy Enjoying the Sky from within the City Lights*.

Friends of Fish Creek staff Nic, Chris, Shana and Kumiko enjoyed presenting, handing out awards and recognizing the volunteers. We were very pleased to award volunteers with open edition prints of Jim Pescott's 25th Anniversary artwork *Autumn Colour, Fish Creek Provincial Park* as a small token of our appreciation. Friends of Fish Creek Board members also helped with set up and take down responsibilities as well as serving food. Local organization The Main Dish catered the dinner and we have received very positive feedback about the food and the event as a whole.

2017 Volunteer Award Winners

- Board of Directors – Board Member of the Year: Henry Villanueva

- Board of Directors – Community Service Award: Tom Jackman
- Special Award Presentation to Wayne Meikle
- Friendmaking and Fundraising: Carl Johnson
- Steward in Action: John Bradley (pictured here with Shana Barbour, Friends of Fish Creek Program Coordinator)
- New and Noteworthy Award: Bruce Mitchell
- 25th Anniversary Project Award: Michelle Mueller
- Bill Hiebert Inspiration Award (Volunteer of the Year:) Gail Goldsmith
- IT Genius Award: Benjamin Baragar



Special Recognition Recipients

- Gus Yaki and the Birding Course Leaders
- Youth Nature Program volunteers
- Social Enterprise Instructors and Tour Guides - Wayne Meikle, Drew McKibben, Bob Bakker, Diane Smith, Gwen Draude, Naomi Parker, Ronna Schneberger, Gerry Mulhall, Yasmin Irani, and Jim Pescott.
- Weed Whackers - Bev Lane and Esther Wiebe
- The Venturers Society
- All of the volunteers who heled the 25th Anniversary Projects

Special thanks to our event sponsors Alberta Environment and Parks - Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program, Land Stewardship Centre, Alberta Conservation Association and Spectra Energy. Thank you to everyone who attended and to all of our volunteers. Please come by and visit us at the Cookhouse any time!

AUTUMN COLOUR, FISH CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK



Limited Edition 25th
Anniversary
Signature Painting by
Jim Pescott
Makes a Great Gift!

As a part of our 25th Anniversary celebrations local artist, Master Pointillist, and long-time Friends supporter Jim Pescott, created this beautiful original painting. There are only 25 limited edition prints available and each one is numbered and signed by Jim, and comes with a certificate of authenticity, making each print truly one of a kind! We also have smaller "open edition" prints (not numbered or signed by the artist) for sale.



For more information or to purchase *Autumn Colour, Fish Creek Provincial Park* please drop by the office or visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/store

Nature Calgary Outings



These free Birding seminars will take you to various natural areas in and around Calgary where you can explore the bird species found in these diverse environments, increase your bird knowledge and have fun. Willing to share your knowledge with others? Call the Calgary Field Naturalists' Society - 403-243-2248 to specify a date and location. For a complete list of upcoming outings, visit naturecalgary.com

Sunday, January 1, 2018 - New Year's Day Bird Count in Fish Creek Provincial Park, For more info please contact Jim Washbrook at 403-282-8849 or jwashbrook@prairiesky.ab.ca.

Thank You 2016 - 2017 Donors

The Friends of Fish Creek would like to thank the individuals and organizations below for their generous donations! These contributions were made between October 2016 and October 2017. We are truly grateful for your support and look forward to another great year in Fish Creek!

Deer Level \$5,000 - \$14,999

Max Feldman
SunLife Financial

Beaver Level \$1,000 - \$4,999

Lori Beattie, Keith Ferguson, Tim Hopwood, Peter Hoyer, Douglas McIntosh, David Mitchell, Noela & David Moffit, Murielle & Chester Nagy, Stewart & Janice Scott, Wayne & Joan Walker, Gus Yaki & Aileen Pelzer, M-E2 Foundation

\$1000 has been donated to the Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park Society on behalf of chief Bullhead, a great lover of Fish Creek, from McIntosh "favs"!

Aspen Level \$500 - \$749

Jeff Biggs, Neil Burns, Graeme Connell, Margaret Elzinga, Janet Gill, Barry Hertz, Perry Longinotti, Judy MacLachlan, Bob & Louise Morrin, Larry & Helen Newel, Lori Ryan, Linda Saunders, Nadine Sawotin, John Stegeman, Jeff Tonge, Julie Wasson

Birch Level \$100 - \$499

David & Norma Anderson, Tracy Anderson & Alan Harvie, Deborah Apps, Gail Arienze, Dan Arndt, Bob & Christina Arnold, Katie & Jeremy Bakken, Wyatt Balko, Shana Barbour, Rick & Elaine Barnes, Catriona Bedford, Brenda Berge, Laura Bicknell, Emma Blake, Nic Blanchet, Norma Boa, Rita Borrow, Sally Bowen, Bob Bowman, Robert & Maureen Bracken, Mark & Mary Ruth Bradley, Simon Brante, Nico Brennan, Neil & Gail Bridge, Rob & Teresa Brown, Gerry Burger-Martindale, Michael Buschman, Andrew Choules-Nisbet, Karen Chow, Sylvia Clark, Lorna Coglon, Kim Cole, Barry Connatty, Carol Davenport, Suzanne Dias, Bill & Elizabeth Dittmer, Larry Doucet, Nadiya Dubinina, Julie Figures & Rory Young, Tim Flaherty, Bea Flood, Rick Foster, Wlad Franco-Valias, Grant Gale, Elaine Gidluck, Gail Goldsmith, Lili Goncalves, Donna Goy-Edwards, Phil & Ellen Greer, Shannon Greer, Elaine Gussman, Vicki Gustafson, Erin Hallahan, Greg & Jacquie Halpen, Sheila Hardman, Diane Healy, Terrance Hergott, Wendy Herrler, Bill Hiebert, Don & Marianne Hladiuk, Laurie Hodson,

Kari Horn, Michael Ingham, Yasmin Irani, Marcie & Dave Jensen, Carl Johnson, Bill Klasky, Christopher Lalonde, Beverley Lane, Krista Langille, Cathy Leroux, Marsha Levy, Lisa Listgarten, Kathy Livingstone, Andra MacLauchlan, James Marshall, Jeff Maser, Deborah Massier, George & Margaret McBride, Gillian McCarron, John & Susan McWilliams, William Moysiuk, Peter Mullaney, Lynda & Gordon Needham, Sheena Parker, Ralph & Jo-Anne Parks, Katherine Pederson, Stephen Phelps, Joe Plazio, Jill Pollock-Ceh, Sylvia Prochownik, Valerie Pruegger, John Pysklywec, Robin Read, Sharon Richardson, Barbara Ross, Scott Sarjeant, Ronna Schneberger, Douglas Sharp, Richard Slopek, Dorothy & Stephen Spring, Angela Springer, Kris Stanley, Ellen Stewart, Diane Stinson, Carol Stokes, Mike Thomas, Victoria Tkaczyk, Bree Tucker, Carol Uggerslev, Jill Ukrainec, Andrew Van Oene, Kevin Van Tighem, Leao Vermeylen, Joan Wauters, Ruby Whelan, Esther & David Wiebe, Susan Williams, Rob Worona, Julia Zagorsky, Pure Cycle

Cont'd on next page

Help Support a Sustainable Fish Creek!



WRAP UP THE YEAR BY GIVING BACK!

Now is the best time of year to make a donation. As we approach the end of the year, we invite you to make a donation to the Friends of Fish Creek that will be used to support a sustainable park environment. A donation also makes a great gift for anyone on your list who also enjoys this park. When you contribute to the Friends in someone's honour, we will send that person a certificate, and you will receive a valuable tax receipt!

As a community-focused non-profit based in Fish Creek Provincial Park, we rely on donations to maintain and expand our programs, courses and events throughout the year. In order to create a community of informed park users and work towards a more sustainable park environment, we require reliable funding sources. In recent years, personal donations made by community members like you have provided essential and appreciated funding. In these times of economic uncertainty, it is reassuring to know that there is such support for this breathtaking cherished urban park. Our hardworking and knowledgeable team of volunteers and staff have experience with making the most of your financial contribution, so you can be sure we will put your donations to good use.

The season of giving is here, so please keep up the amazing spirit of generosity and we will continue striving to make this park more accessible to everyone. To donate, please visit our website at friendsoffishcreek.org/ffc-donate/ give us a call at 403-238-3841, or visit us at the Cookhouse at the Bow Valley Ranch in Fish Creek Provincial Park.

White-tailed deer, photo courtesy of Anne Elliott



2016 - 2017 Donors cont'd from prev page

Special Recognition

Sandra Annesley, Bob & Marie Bakker, Ray Bazan, Barb Borchert, Jay Bradley, Robert Bridge, Marg Burgart, Lorraine Campbell, John & Joan Davies, Ray Demers, Ron Deshayes, Jim Donohue, Anona Dowling, Joan Duffy, Noreen Dyck, Michael & Bush Eastep, Joy Ely, Mary Enright & Keith Morton, Terrie Faber, Mary Fay, Kris Fernet, James Fielding, G Andrew Fitch, Debra Giba, Sharon Gray, Gerald Halford, Robert Hardie & Virginia Rowe-Hardie, Pam Hawkes, Lavina Hoffman, Louis Hogan, Harold Hovdebo, Allan Hunt, Tom & Tracy Jackman, Barrie Johnson, Jason Kang, Susan Keen, Adrianna Lazlo, John Lecuyer, Ross T Lennox, Bob & Dianne Leonhardt, Lori Mainland, Charlie Manucot, Al Maser, Kyle McKinnon, Joanne McNair, Bruce Mitchell, Carol Moore, Masao & Sheila Nagao, Dorainne Neal,

James Ostrander & Elena Scahcherl, Shirley Otway, Wendy Palichuk, Ronald & Rochelle Platt, Robert & Patricia Pollard, Gerald Pulak & Elizabeth Churchill, Janet & Anthony Ratcliffe, Rose & William Ratcliffe, Manoj Raythatha, Errol Renwick, Cathy Ross, David & Rose Scollard, David Shackleton, Joanne Smart, Nancy Smyth, Michelle Stager, Don Stiles, Hans & Ingrid Stolzenberg, Graham Sucha MLA, Gene & Anne Swain, Francine Swanson, Nancy Swerhun, Donald & Marilyn Talbot, David Taylor, Scott Thomas, Kylee Van Der Poorten, Larry Wasyliw, Sigrid Wili, Terry Wilson, Donald & Louise Yont, Syl & Mary Zacher, Ruth Zinck, Banff Centre For Arts And Creativity, Team TELUS Cares, Tuesday Hikers, West Island College

Includes donors of in-kind goods and services. Thank you also to all donors who wish to remain anonymous.

BECOME A PARK PROTECTOR

AND HELP PROTECT AND PRESERVE FISH CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK!

As an alternative to annual membership renewals, the Park Protector program may suit your busy lifestyle a little better. As a Fish Creek Provincial Park Protector, you can make monthly donations to the Friends of Fish Creek, which are automatically withdrawn from your bank account, VISA or MasterCard account. A steady, reliable source of funding will enable the Friends to continue with ongoing field work, raising awareness about the park, and organizing and participating at community outreach activities. Park Protectors never have to worry about keeping donations or membership up to date and will receive one tax receipt a year.

Why become a Park Protector?

- Because monthly donations are one of the best ways to support the Friends of Fish Creek!
- It's flexible! You can increase or decrease your support, put it on hold for a few months or cancel at any time!
- You will receive monthly updates on Friends activities so you know how your donations are being used!

For more info visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/park-protector-signup

Annual Membership Renewal Form -

The Friends of Fish Creek, PO Box 2780 Stn M Calgary, AB T2P 2M7
403-238-3841 info@friendsoffishcreek.org www.friendsoffishcreek.org

For info about the Park Protector program visit
www.friendsoffishcreek.org/park-protector-signup

Name: _____ Phone: _____

email: _____ Address: _____

City and Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Work place (optional): _____

☐ Membership Renewal ☐ New Member ☐ I would like to make a donation

☐ Please send me information about leaving a gift in my will

Membership: Individual ☐ \$35.00 Family ☐ \$45.00

Senior (+60 years of age), Individual ☐ \$25.00 Family ☐ \$30.00

Donation: ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other: \$ _____

Please Fill out: Membership \$ _____ Donation \$ _____ Total \$ _____

To pay online: www.friendsoffishcreek.org/membership or donate on CanadaHelps.org

(Charitable Registration #891199747 RR0001)

NEWSLETTER: ☐ email ☐ send paper copy

Signature of donor or member: _____

Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$10.00 or more or if requested.



Thank You Supporters!

Bobcat Level:



TD Friends of the
Environment
Foundation

**Beaver
Level:**



QUIZ ANSWER - OCT / NOV ISSUE

Which breed of Woodpecker is the smallest and most common during the winter months?

The Downy is the smallest breed of Woodpecker, and at only 15 - 18 cm in size, it is slightly larger than another winter resident, the Boreal Chickadee. Like the Chickadee, the Downy is also black and white, however males are readily identified by a red splash of colour on their head. The Downy Woodpecker is common year-round and can be observed in wooded areas throughout most of Canada and the US. This bird has been spotted around the city and in many different regions of Fish Creek Provincial Park, including Bankside, the Bow Valley Ranch, and Votier's Flats. For such a small bird, it can be very loud when calling out or hammering into trees looking for dormant insects. Sign up for the Winter Birding Course starting January 8 to learn about the Downy Woodpecker and many other bird species who inhabit and pass through this park in the winter. To register or for more information visit www.friendsoffishcreek.org/programs/birding-course Birds of Alberta, Chris Fisher and John Acorn

2017 Executive

Chairman	Tom Jackman
Vice-Chairman	David Mitchell
Treasurer	Phil Greer
Secretary	Stewart Scott
Director at Large	Bob Morrin
Director at Large	Henry Villanueva
Director at Large	Linda Dudar
Director at Large	Lori Mainland
Director at Large	Robert Bell
Director at Large	Kari Horn
Park Liaison	Jennell Rempel

Staff

Nic Blanchet, Executive Director
nic@friendsoffishcreek.org

Katie Bakken, Program Coordinator
katie@friendsoffishcreek.org

Shana Barbour, Program Coordinator
shana@friendsoffishcreek.org

Chris Lalonde, Communications Coordinator
chris@friendsoffishcreek.org

FRIENDS SURPASS OUR FUNDRAISING GOAL FOR THE BIRDIES FOR KIDS PRESENTED BY ALTALINK PROGRAM!

Birdies for Kids wrapped up another successful year and the Shaw Charity Classic Golf Tournament brought in over \$8.3 million for children's charities in Alberta. Our goal was to raise \$10,000 in support of the TD Learning Naturally program through Birdies for Kids and we surpassed this goal to raise \$12,834! Thanks to the generosity of community members and the matching program, 1,283 students between grades K – 6 from Calgary area schools, who otherwise may not have this opportunity, will enjoy an unforgettable day of learning in Fish Creek Provincial Park. The Shaw Charity Classic Golf Tournament ran from August 30 – September 3 at the Canyon Meadows Golf and Country Club and the complementary Birdies for Kids matching program is a truly remarkable way to support TD Learning Naturally in Fish Creek. The Friends would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Patron Group, Shaw Communications, AltaLink and the Shaw Charity Classic foundation for once again welcoming TD Learning Naturally into the Birdies for Kids program as one of more than 120 local charities. A huge thank you goes out to everyone who donated to make this a record-breaking year!

