



**FRIENDS OF FISH CREEK
PROVINCIAL PARK SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT
OCTOBER 2017 - SEPTEMBER 2018**



**BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH
EACH OTHER THROUGH OUR
CONNECTION WITH
FISH CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK**

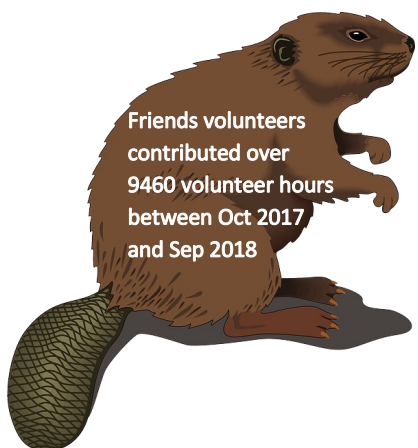
The Friends of Fish Creek organize and facilitate well over twenty volunteer programs, courses, events and activities in Fish Creek Provincial Park each year. Rather than examining all of these activities in depth in this Annual Report, we are presenting program information in a more general and meaningful way. In this document we provide some general statistics, but focus mainly on highlights of the 2017-18 season and explore how these highlights relate to the mission and vision of the Society. We hope that you enjoy this new report format and we look forward to continuing along this journey with you.

Autumn Colour, Fish Creek Provincial Park, painting by Jim Pescott, contoured in the shape of Fish Creek Provincial Park. Cover photo by Shane Long. Graphics courtesy of pixabay.com

In the spring of 2018 the Friends staff members worked together to re-evaluate and enhance our program and work practices for the continued safety of our staff, volunteers and program participants. We are in the process of further developing our Safety Program to proactively continue providing a safe environment for the programs and work we do at the Friends of Fish Creek.
- Bob Morrin, Friends of Fish Creek Board Chair

From September 2017 - September 2018, 47 TD Learning Naturally program days took place. 2461 students between grades K—6 and 415 teachers and parent volunteers were able to come to Fish Creek Provincial Park for an environmental education field trip .

As one participant teacher noted, *"Some students and their families did not know that Fish Creek Provincial Park existed in the city before we came here with the TD Learning Naturally program. Now we are all going to be coming back to enjoy this amazing natural space, that makes it so easy to learn and be excited about the outdoors!"*



Friends volunteers contributed over 9460 volunteer hours between Oct 2017 and Sep 2018

37 Birding Course Instructors contributed over 4000 volunteer hours leading Autumn 2017, Winter 2018 and Spring 2018 courses. Over 440 individuals participated in these popular courses and enjoyed learning about birds, other wildlife and conservation.



The Friends engaged 41 Community groups during the 2017-18 program season



The Friends staff, volunteers and community members led 320 program sessions between September 2017 and October 2018



Over 220 individual volunteers helped in Friends programs, courses and events



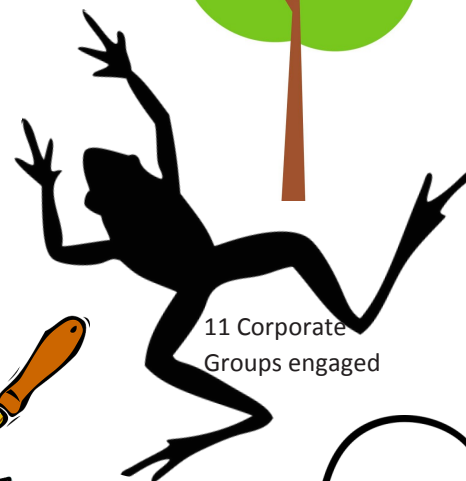
CONNECTING volunteers and community groups to nurture an island of native grasses and forbs in the Fish Creek valley. 1602 kg of weeds were removed from the ATCO Heritage Grassland and various other spots in Fish Creek.

Individuals contributed 400 volunteer hours and 3 community groups were engaged through weed pulls.

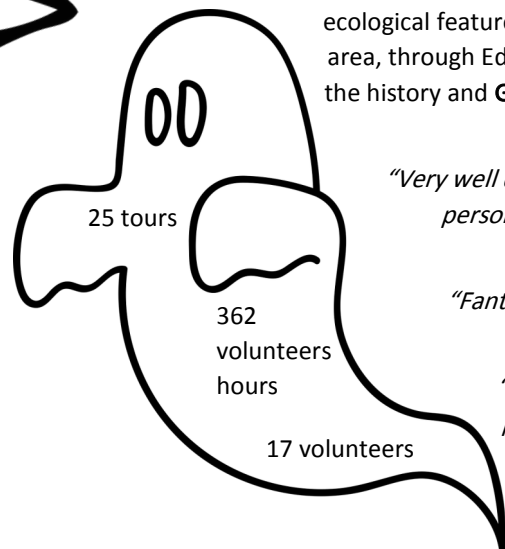
BUILDING organizational capacity through **COMMUNITY** partnerships to mobilize skilled volunteers to assess riparian health along Fish Creek for Future ReWilding work.

700 metres of streambank assessed

460 native trees and shrubs planted
15 volunteers completed 226 assessment hours



11 Corporate Groups engaged



25 tours

362 volunteers hours

17 volunteers

EMPOWERING volunteers in the ongoing development and delivery of educational tours that highlight the unique cultural, historical and ecological features of the Fish Creek area, through Educational tours like the history and **Ghosts of Fish Creek** walks.

"Very well done; exceptionally personable, engaged and passionate guide."

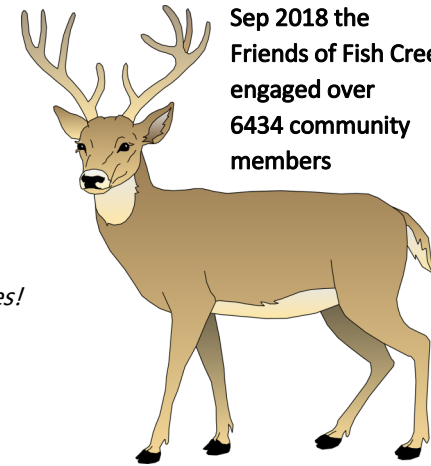
"Fantastic program; very informative!"

"I'd like to see more programs like this!"

Mission - To engage the community through activities and awareness to conserve a truly unique naturalized urban park.

Vision - A sustainable Fish Creek Provincial Park that improves the quality of life for present and future generations.

PARTNERSHIP with Alberta Parks – working together to create safe, meaningful and diverse volunteer opportunities!
- Julia Millen, Acting Community & Partner Relations Team Lead
Kananaskis Region, Alberta Parks



Between Oct 2017 and Sep 2018 the Friends of Fish Creek engaged over 6434 community members

Highlights of this past year -

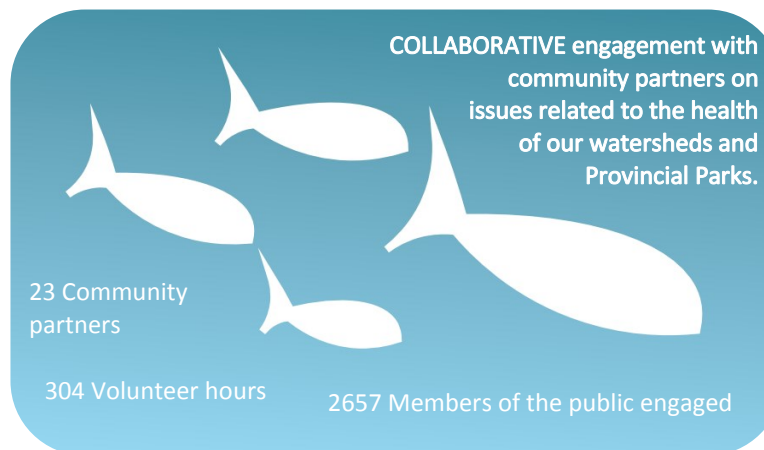
- BUILDING** relationships with supporters and welcoming new supporters to help us build our programs.
- Working with the board of the Alberta Real Estate Foundation on our ideas for repurposing and refurbishing the Jobber's (Bunk) house and then receiving the phone call that they decided to fund the entire feasibility study and project plan.
- Watching staff grow into new roles and responsibilities and commit to growing our organization and add more value to the community.

- Nic Blanchet, Friends of Fish Creek Executive Director



Youth Programs - Making space for **MARGINALIZED** children to **HEAL, LEARN,** and **GROW** through nature exploration and stewardship.

- 758 youth engaged
- 373 volunteer hours
- 5 subsidized programs for marginalized youth



23 Community partners

304 Volunteer hours

2657 Members of the public engaged

COLLABORATIVE engagement with community partners on issues related to the health of our watersheds and Provincial Parks.

Friends of Fish Creek and Nature Calgary Bird Camp

SHIFTING focus from a world of plastic toys to a world of birds and nature, one child at a time.

INSPIRING the next generation of bird watchers through nature observation and appreciation opportunities like Bird Camp. 18 participants, aged 7 - 14, took part in the Bird Camp.

"Lego used to be my favourite thing. Now it's birds!"



THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Alberta Environment and Parks
Fish Creek Provincial Park Staff
The Venturers Society of Calgary
Cows and Fish (Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society)

2018 EXECUTIVE

Chair	Bob Morrin
Vice-Chair	David Mitchell
Treasurer	Phil Greer
Secretary	Lori Mainland
Founding Director	Wayne Meikle
Governance Chair	Henry Villanueva
Director at Large	Stewart Scott
Director at Large	Robert Bell
Director at Large	Kari Horn
Park Liaison	Naomi Parker
	Julia Millen

FRIENDS OF FISH CREEK STAFF

Nic Blanchet, Executive Director
Katie Bakken, Program Coordinator
Shana Barbour, Program Coordinator
Chris Lalonde, Communications Coordinator

FRIENDS OF FISH CREEK CONTRACTORS

Bookkeeping Services	Bob Andrew
TD Learning Naturally	Claire Petursson
TD Learning Naturally	Jenna LeBlanc

VENTURERS SOCIETY OF CALGARY

Matthew Beaulieu, Trevor Boardman, Jonathan Bricker, Mike Depper, Len Esau, Chris Flint, John Hank, Linda Harvey, Michele Jean, Tim Krynen, Fred Lorenz, Mitch McCarthy, Ed Quiring, Rachel Ryan, Travis Schwab, Lynndsay Smeltzer, Spencer Stevens, Conrad Tiedemann, Lindsay Watkinson, and Kelsey Wood

FISH CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK STAFF

Murray Ingstrup, Andrew Schoepf, Irene Till, Meagan Montgomery, Julia Millen, Stephanie Findlay, Roland Kirzinger, Shalane Friesen, Troy Christianson, Ryan Hannusch, Taylor Coveart, Travis Beran, Brian Ferguson and the Sikome Aquatic Staff, Joan Friedel and the Sikome Gate Staff, Rob Hummel, Jeremy Bakken, Jody Bares, Blake Weis, Rudy Szymanek, Lisa Grant, Dan Skahan, Noah Sherlock

CONTACT US

The Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park Society
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403-238-3841, (fax) 403-297-5284

Our office is in the Cookhouse, Bow Valley Ranch, Fish Creek Provincial Park, 15975 Bow Bottom Tr. SE T2J 6T5
www.friendsoffishcreek.org info@friendsoffishcreek.org
twitter.com/fish_creek facebook.com/friendsoffishcreek
Instagram.com/fish.creek
Charitable Registration #891199747RR0001

TREASURER'S REPORT

Phil Greer, Treasurer
Friends of Fish Creek Board of Directors

Summarized Financial Information (unaudited)

Revenues and expenses	Year ended September 30,	
	2018	2017
Total revenues	\$ 367,426	\$ 288,970
Member and education program expenses	280,454	216,905
Administration expenses	86,967	82,707
Total expenses	367,421	299,612
Excess of revenues over expenses (expenses over revenues)	\$ 5	\$ (10,642)

Financial Position

Assets		
Unrestricted cash	\$ 62,716	\$ 81,059
Restricted cash	179,877	108,569
Restricted term deposits	35,794	35,369
Total other assets	82,311	63,452
	\$ 360,698	\$ 288,449

Liabilities

Deferred contributions	\$ 275,666	\$ 187,181
Other liabilities	72,087	88,328
	347,753	275,509

Net assets

Internally restricted	9,520	9,999
Unrestricted	3,425	2,941
	12,945	12,940
	\$ 360,698	\$ 288,449

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2018, the Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Society reported net income (excess of revenues over expenses) of \$5 compared to a net loss of \$10,642 in 2017.

Our revenues for financial reporting purposes were \$367,426 in 2018 compared to \$288,970 in 2017. This improvement is primarily the result of strong sales of our anniversary bricks and dedication benches. Our most recent Casino, in July 2018, provided us with \$67,315 in net proceeds, used to partially cover operating expenses in 2018 and 2019.

We incurred expenses for financial reporting purposes in 2018 of \$367,421, an increase of \$67,809 over 2018 expenses, reflecting the continuing increase in our programs and projects such as the bird blind installation. The most significant individual cash expense is staff salaries and benefits which amounted to \$203,000 in 2018.

Our total cash position was \$242,543 at September 30, 2018, compared to \$189,628 at September 30, 2017. This position provides us with a strong opening cash balance to fund our operations for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

THANK YOU TO ALL DONORS

The following individuals and companies donated between October 2017 and October 2018, and the list includes in-kind support. Thank you to all donors who wish to remain anonymous.

Deer Level – \$5,000 - \$24,999

Bob Bowman Rene Blair Norman Clarke Matt Keay Aaron Keobke Ida Notermans Nicole Roe Ilca Taylor Shelley Turner
Canyon Meadows Golf & County Club

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

Elaine Barnes Alyssa Bruce Shannon Chisolm Barry Cousins Greg Dietrich Mark Farris Anjana Hardy Karen Hobbs
Peter Holst Peter Hoyer Jenny Leckie Stuart Leckie Douglas McIntosh David Mitchell Noela Moffit Bob Morrin David Mueller
Rick Mueller Rob Mueller Thangavelu Natarajan Diane Pilbeam Scott Sargeant Wayne Walker Lynn Young Gus Yaki
EON Foundation HSBC Bank of Canada Husky Energy Stantec Trail Appliances

Aspen Level - \$500 - \$749

Daniel Arndt Jeff Biggs Richard Bird Susan Casanova Sandra Davis Mark Farris Barry Hertz
William Moysiuk Robert Myers Stephen Phelps Stephen & Dorothy Spring John Stegeman Jeff Tonge Lynn Young
Sylvis Environmental Inc

Birch Level - \$100 - \$499

Bruce Allan, Norma Anderson, Tracy Anderson, Christina Arnold, Gail Bajer, Katie Bakken, Shana Barbour, Judy Bares, Dianne Berkeley, Michele Bilan, Graeme & Jill Bishop, Emma Blake, Nic Blanchet, Marg Blondheim, Don Bosomworth, Graeme Bota, Robert Bracken, Gail & Neil Bridge, Rob Brown, Patricia Cadman, Sean Carey, Jay Carson, Pam Chorley, Carmen Chrumka, Georgina Clark, Lorna Coglon, Kim Cole, Steve Coneybeare, David D'Amico, Donna David, Jim Davis, Kari Fairman, Brian Felesky, Ken Ferguson, Beatrice Flood, Donna Fonteyne, Wlad Franco-Valias, Janet Gabel, Shannon Gibbs, Janet Gill, Jill Goth, Breelyn Gray, Tanis Greenlaw, Phil Greer, Matthew Hall, Jacquie Halpen, Frank & Jan Henderson, Anne Hills, Karen Hindle, Don Hladiuk, Harold Hovdebo, Lise Hubbard, Tina Huybregts, Annette Jerse, Jaylene Kavanagh, Verna Kehler, Pat Kelly-Bigras, Nicole Kiefuik, Christa Klapko, Ruediger Klaubert, Brenda Kowalchuk, Sharon Kramer, Ryan Krenz, Madeline Krokum, Michelle Kromplak, Katrina Kubinski, Millie Kwok, Christopher Lalonde, Ralph Lane, Dale Leckie, Patricia Lee, Alexandre Liapounov, Lisa Listgarten, Michael Littler, Lynda

Luken, Ashlie MacDonald, David Magdich, Lori Mainland, William Martin, Norah McCann, Jackie McCarroll, Marylin McDonald, Jim & Wanda McNeil, John McWilliams, Murielle & Chester Nagy, Larry & Helen Newel, Alan Novakowski, Louise Olson, Kerry Opas, Max Ortiz-Aguilar, Jim Parker, Sheen Parker, Gordon Bruce Peers, Aileen Pelzer, Jim Pescott, Patricia Prevey, Ken Pride, Zeke Purves-Smith, Nancy Ragan, Robin Read, David Reid, Barbara Ross, Linda Saunders, David Schaus, Jan Schwartz, Walt Sedler, Douglas Sharp, Mark Smith, Scott Smith, Nancy Smyth, Marina Spahlinger, Paula Stewart, Diane Stinson, Carol Stokes, Kenneth Stowell, Anne & Gene Swain, Daryl Thompson, Melissa Thorne, Tamara Thorpe, Ron Timmons, Alan Twigge, Leao Vermeylen, Celina Wauters, Deanne Wheeler-Felstad, Sigrid Wili, Rob Worona, Melissa Yamniuk, Julia Zagorsky, Henry Zak, Leonard Zybutz & Debra Wood-Zybutz

Fish Creek School, MPak Plastic, The Society Of Healthy Okotoks, Staples, Wild Rose Brewery

Special Recognition

Bob Andrew, Sandra Annesley, Suzanne Arnold, Brenda Beamish, Melinda Bell, Tom Belzerowski, Maria Bernadin, Diana Bird, Jay Bradley, Mark & Mary Ruth Bradley, Robert Bridge, Pat Brown, Carol Brydon, Meghan Butler, Bob Byers, Olga Bymak, Christine Caddell, David Campbell, Joe & Toni Cavar, Gail Chapman, Deborah Clare, Mike Coe, Rachel Cooper, Dawn Craig, Sharon Cross, Cory Davison, Anona Dowling, Mary Enright, Terrie Faber, Rebecca Fairbanks, Brian Farewell, Keith Ferguson, Edward Frost, Linda Garside, Shelley Greenfield, Mary-Ann Grey, Paige Hamilton, David Hastings, Peter Healy, William & Denise Hiebert, Marianne Hladiuk, Michelle Hoare, Lavina Hoffman, Anne Howard, Rob Hummel, Christine Ingham, Sonya Jakubec, Barrie Johnson, Craig Jones, Mark Jordan, Fran Kavanagh, Arthur Krentz, Hetty Laidlaw, John Leeson, Dianne Leonhardt, Jacqueline Lewis, Kate Lindfield, Perry Longinotti, Sunil Maharaj, Lori

Mainland, Deanna Markle, Michelle Mather, Bob McInnis, Bev McQueen, John Mendham, Bruce Mitchell, David Mitchell, Andrew Morris, Lee Morris, Wacey Morrison, Masao Nagao, Cal Nagel, Alan Naylor, Dorainne Neal, Stacia Nelson, Kristin O'Connell, Ron Ostrander, Lyndsey Paterson, Robert Pollard, Mona Prather, Neil Prather, Sylvia Prochownik, Valerie Pruegger, Janet Ratliffe, Rose Ratliffe, Manoj Raythatha, James Redditt, David Reid, Sharon Richardson, Virginia Rowe-Hardie, Joey Sayer, David Schuler, Rose Scollard, David Shackleton, Judy Shandro, Lisa Smithwick, Don Stiles, Ingrid Stolzenberg, Graham Sucha MLA, Patricia Sullivan, Marilyn Talbot, Tanya Tersemette, William Tymchyshyn, Jill Ukrainec, Peeranut Visetsuth, Larry Wasyliw, David Wiebe, Syl Zacher, Ruth Zinck

Chinook Outdoor Club, Deer Valley Villas Social Club

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

AB Institute for Wildlife Conservation, AB Liquor and Gaming Commission, AB Invasive Plant Council, AB Native Plant Council, AB Parks Interpretive Theatre, Auburn Bay Residents Association, Avenida Pet Clinic, Benevity Community Impact Fund, Bow River Basin Council, Braeside Community Association, Steve Bulman, Calgary Drop In Centre, Calgary Foundation, Calgary Hitmen Hockey Club, Calgary Jump Crew, Calgary Mountain Bike Alliance, Calgary Public Library, Calgary River Forum Society, Calgary Stampede, CPAWS, CREB Now, Calaway Park, Canada Helps, Canadian Forestry Institute, Canmore Nordic Centre, CareWest, Chinook Arch Meadery, The City of Calgary, Cenovus Employee Foundation, CAWST, Councillor Diane Colley-Urquhart, Deer Run Community Association, Donate a Car Canada, Gwen Draude, Fish Tales Fly Shop, Global News Radio, Richard Gotfried MLA, Green Calgary, The History Wrangler and The Dusty Saddle Gang, Holistic Institute of Health and Fertility, Ipses Community Outreach Club, Johnson Controls, the Juice Plus Company, Julie Marwood Interiors, Kananaskis Public Safety, Keating Painted Portraits, Mike Kelly, Jason Kenney MLA, Kensington Art Supply, McKenzie Meadows Golf Club, McLeod Law, Method Fitness, Michelle and Peter - the Juggling Clowns, Miistakis Institute, Mount Royal University, Nature Calgary, Oxford Learning, Pedalhead/Skiworks, Peter Puffin's Whale Tales, Pembina Pipeline Corporation, the Pumphouse Theatre, Rocky Mountain Adaptive, Rocky Mountain Eagle Research Foundation, Royal Tyrrell Museum, Royal Astronomical Society, St. Mary's University, Harry Sanders, Divya Singh, Phil Smith, Soffritto, Peter Spear, Spirit Hills, Starbucks, Strides Running Store, SunSational Day Spa, SunWest Church, Swerve, TELUS Spark, Tiber River Naturals, TransAlta, Trout Unlimited-Bow River Chapter, Trout Unlimited Canada, United Active Living, Under Armour, Vex Performance, the Wild Bird Store, Wildlife Preservation Canada, Youth Central

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

The following volunteers helped out with our various programs, courses, events and activities in the 2017-18 season. Those in bold received special recognition at our Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

Gerard Adamson, John & Lorrie Anderson, Bob Andrew, Daniel Arndt, **David Arnett - Volunteer of the Year**, Anna Aubrecht, Rebecca Auriti, Diana Badenduck, Bob & Marie Bakker, **Benjamin Baragar - IT Genius**, Don & Dani Barrington, Jo-Anne Bechtel, Valerie & Jason Bell, Robert Bell, Tobin Benedict, George Best, Darcy Biever, Kingsley Blades, John Bradley, Caroline Brooks, Paulina Brooks, Robert & Teresa Brown, Tim Carlielle-Shaw, Sheila Carter, Joe & Toni Cavar, Donna Cerchia, Stewart Simpson & Jean Channon-Simpson, Gail Chapman, Karen Chow, Agnes Chrzanowska, Trevor Churchill, Kayla Coady, Ethan Collister, Graeme & Lois Connell, Toni Constable, Mary Cook, Kathy Cottrell, Neil Puffer & Joyce Crew, Jacqueline Deegan, **Ron Deshayes - Friendmaking and Fundraising**, Bernie Diebolt, Lisa Doyle, Wendy Duha, Chris Dylke, Daniel Edwards, Jordan Ekelund, Bob Elsbett, Brian & Sheryl Farewell, Josh Feddema, Stephanie Findlay, Ymène Fouli, Wlad Franco-Valias, Donna Franke, Doreen Fulton, Alan Genereux, Joe Gerritsen, Josh Gibbs, Janet Gill, Rebecca Gillhespy, Margo Glover, Gail Goldsmith, Irma Goosen, Phil Greer, Joanne Hatch, Barry Hertz, William & Denise Hiebert, Don Hladiuk, Kari Horn, Peter Hoyer, Mike & Christine Ingham, Yasmin Irani, Tom Jackman, Teresa Jacome Mora, Wasan Jema, Carl & Elizabeth Johnson, Mark Jordan, Ihncheol Jung, Tomofumi & Kumiko Kamiike, Jason Kang, Matthew Keay, Chalise Kemp, Pam & Keely Kobluk, Mark Kolke, Kaya & Susan Konopnicki, Bianka Koszler, Adam & Anna Kucharski, Hetty Laidlaw, Dorothy Laing, Olivia Laing, Jodi Lammiman, Bev Lane, Dermot Lane, Bob Lefebvre, Carolyn Lefebvre, Bob & Dianne Leonhardt, Terryne Levine, Perry Longinotti, Lee-Ann Lukas, Jill Macaskill, Rachel Mackay, Sunil & Sara Maharaj, Coleen Mahoney, Lori Mainland, Deanna Markle, Natalie Masuda, Doug Maxwell, Janice McCaskill, Drew McKibben, Janis McKibbon, Gavin McKinnon, Wayne Meikle, **Bruce Mitchell - Volunteer of the Year**, Diana Mitchell, **David Mitchell - Behind the Scenes**, Bob Morrin, Rick Moses, Joyce Motyka, Michelle Mueller, Stephen Mulholland, Murielle Nagy, Darcy Nakamura, Marlito Navarro, Kenton Neufeld, Larry & Helen Newel, Jordan Nichol, Emma Norris, Christine O'Grady, Ron Ostrander, Rose Painter, Naomi Parker, Aislinn Perry, Jim Pescott, Tatjana Phan, Stephen Phelps, Lucy Poley, Alexandra, Natasha & Yvonne Popowicz, Sylvia Prochownik, Bill Quayle, Rose, Will, Karen & Michael Ratliffe, Robin Read, **Dave Reid & Diane Lyders-Reid - Steward in Action**, Colleen Reilly, Ian & Sharon Richardson, Mike Risely, Joyce Ritsco, Lynda Rive, Whitney Rivest, Richard Robb, Gabrielle Roberge, Colleen Rodgers, Erin Rosenthal, Ward Sanderson, Kirsti Sarrazin, Liza Schach, Travis Schwab, Stewart Scott, Paul & Kathy Seaman, Valerie Shartau, Bryan Simpson, Bill Skinner, Doreen Smale, Cassandra Smith, Rebecca Smith, Jennifer Solem, **Angel Spasoff - New and Noteworthy**, Stephen Spring, John Stegeman, Diane Stinson, Ellen Story Pegg, Emma Stroud, Patricia Sullivan, Thomas Sun, Anne & Gene Swain, Samantha Swain, Lynn Tajcnar, John Thompson, Lorna Thompson, Trevor Thompson, Sandy Tsa, Lesley & Tony Turner, Leao & Leagh Vermeylen, Henry Villanueva, Wayne & **Joan Walker - Community Champion**, Darren Way, Larry White & Mary Madeline White, Esther Wiebe, Rob Worona, **Gus Yaki & all of the Birding Course Instructors**, Tammy Yee, Jill Young, Syl Zacher, Samantha Zbinden, Ruth Zinck

THANK YOU 2017 - 2018 SUPPORTERS

Includes In-Kind Support

Eagle Level \$50,000 +




Bobcat Level \$25,000 - \$49,999



Deer Level \$5,000 - \$24,999





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





Aspen Level \$500 - \$749



Birch Level \$100 - \$499

