



**Annual Report
1999 – 2000**

Entering our 30th year as
Nova Scotia's environmental watchdog

Ecology Action Centre

1999-2000

Executive

Holly Reid, Chair
Charlene Christopher, Treasurer
Luke Pelot, Secretary

Board of Directors

Karen Beazley (resigned)
Cheryl Benjamin
Tony Bowron
Peggy Cameron
Tony Charles
Derek Davis
Meredith Flannery
Susanna Fuller
Stuart Gilby (resigned)
June Hall
Karen Hollett
Erin Rankin
Sue Watson (resigned)
Sara Wilson

Office Manager

Lynn Brookes (- April 2000)
Ruth MacKenzie (April 2000 -)

Ecology Action Centre Library

Ellen Redden, Librarian

First International Symposium on Deep Sea Corals

Susan Gass, Symposium Secretariat

Marine Issues

Mark Butler, Coordinator

Nova Scotia Coastal Trail Project

Sue Browne, Coordinator

Wilderness Issues

Kermit deGooyer, Coordinator

Contract Employees

Caroline Cameron, Coastal Water Trail
Christine Patterson, First International Symposium on Deep Sea Corals
Heidi Schaeffer, Marine Invertebrate Diversity Initiative
Jane Roma, Marine Invertebrate Diversity Initiative
Jessica Kim, Membership Coordinator
Rebecca O'Brien, TRAX
Sally Hilton, Coastal Water Trail
Sean Smith, Coastal Water Trail
Sheena Masson, Coastal Water Trail
Steve McCormack, Coastal Water Trail
Sue Watson, TRAX
Tony Bowron, Saltmarsh Project

Mission Statement

To encourage a society in Nova Scotia which respects and protects nature and also provides environmentally and economically sustainable jobs for its citizens.

Balanced Approach

The EAC relies on education, advocacy and action to bring about change. Each year we respond to hundreds of information requests, maintain one of the best environmental libraries in the Maritimes, Offer informed analysis of issues and initiate community development projects.



Report from the Chair

Welcome members and guests to the EAC's 29th Annual General Meeting. This year has been an exceptional one at the Ecology Action Centre.

Here are some highlights of the year's events:

- Fall Retreat and Strategy Session at the home of Lynn Brooks in Hammonds Plains for board members. We produced an action plan of goals and objectives for EAC for the year at this daylong session. Luke Pelot, appointed "keeper of the action plan", reminded us at every board meeting to continue working on the objectives we set out to accomplish.
- A successful sale of chemical free Christmas trees and wreathes. We also sold Advent calendars, designed by Chris Haag. Thanks to board members Meredith and Erin who coordinated this fundraiser.
- In March, Karen Hollett organized two workshops for EAC board members and staff. Thanks to financial assistance from the CAP program and two professional facilitators. At the first workshop we worked on developing fundraising strategies to improve our financial situation. At the second workshop, we identified ways to market ourselves better and to improve our presence in the province. And as we head into our 30th year, we hope to use the tools and ideas from these workshops to help us grow as an organization and raise our profile.
- Also in March, Rochelle Owen facilitated a strategic planning session for staff and board members. Rochelle has worked hard to produce a draft strategic plan based on this workshop and will hold another session with members and staff to put the finishing touches on this document. EAC is well on its way to having its first strategic plan in its 29-year history.
- Susanna Fuller, on behalf of the board, developed a proposal tips fact sheet to help committees when they're writing grant proposals. The pamphlet is a great way to guide committee members through rules set in place by the board for new project proposals.
- In April Lynn Brooks, our office manager of 4 years, retired. We held a wonderful retirement party for her in April with over 50 people attending the event. In EAC low-budget style we organized a potluck dinner at a church hall. The icing on the cake was really a chocolate cake, decorated in a garden theme by Susanna Fuller and her cake-decorating friends. Mark Butler and members of the Hemlock Circus wrote and performed a special play to honor and thank Lynn for all her work. It was a wonderful event, proof that we need to get together and celebrate special events more often. Thanks to everyone who helped coordinate the event.

- Prior to Lynn's departure, a small committee of the board embarked on a hiring process to find a new office manager. We were very pleased to hire Ruth McKenzie who brings experience in accounting, small business and membership campaigns for non-profits. Welcome Ruth to the EAC family. You're doing a great job so far.
- We grew in all directions. Our committees hired many new staff (2 for transportation, 4-6 for Marine Issues, 2 for Coastal Water Trails and 1 membership coordinator) to work on our projects and issues. We also expanded physically by renting additional space beside the main office. But even with this new space, the Centre is still bursting at the seams. Several staff work from home because of the lack of space, desks, phones and computers at the Centre. The Board of Directors needs to spend some time next year figuring out how to accommodate all our staff at the Centre.
- We have 10 very active issue committees. Please check out their accomplishments at the kiosks.
- June Hall and volunteers produced four excellent issues of BTI for our members.

We're in good financial shape although the Centre as a whole still works within an extremely limited budget.

In closing, I want to thank everyone involved in the EAC. Whether you're a member, a volunteer, a staff person, or a board member, you contribute to the success of the Centre. We are a great organization that continues to lead the way on environmental issues and solutions for this province.

I'm so glad to have had the opportunity to be chair of this organization for the last 2 years. Thank you all.

Regards,

Holly Reid



Award from Halifax Regional Municipality

As part of its 250th birthday celebration, Halifax Regional Municipality presented awards to groups who have made a significant contribution to this community. For its contribution over the past twenty-nine years, the Ecology Action Centre was an honoured recipient.



Publications

Between the Issues:

Winter 1999, Volume 17, No. 1
May 1999, Volume 17, No. 2
August 1999, Volume 17, No. 3
November 1999, Volume 17, No. 4
Spring 2000, Volume 18, No. 1

Marine Issues Committee Publications

The Decline of the Cape Breton Swordfish Fishery: An Exploration of the Past and Recommendations for the Future of the Nova Scotia Fishery, by Gretchen Fitzgerald. January 2000. 57 pages. (This is the first comprehensive study of the swordfish fishery in Atlantic Canada and has generated widespread interest.)

Epibiota of Scallop Shells from the Digby Area of the Bay of Fundy, by Sarah Magee, Ellen Kenchington, Derek Davis and Mark Butler. January 2000. 100 pages.

Community and Social Considerations in Salt Marsh Restoration Work in Nova Scotia, by Tony Bowron. October 1999. 15 pages.

Diversity and Distribution of Associated Fauna of Commercial Scallop Grounds in the Lower Bay of Fundy, by Sarah Magee, Ellen Kenchington, Dale Roddick, Derek Davis and Mark Butler. 1999. 75 pages.

Impact of Dragging on the Ocean Floor - Poster with accompanying pamphlet. 1999

Submission to the Georges Bank Review Panel submitted by the Committee from the Ecology Action Centre. Written by Erin Rankin, Mark Butler and Tim Church. January 1999. 100 pages.

A multimedia educational kit, *Nova Scotia's Corals and Canyons*, was completed and will be loaned to interested schools.



Ecology Action Centre Issue Committees

Marine Issues Committee (MIC) prepared by Mark Butler

The goal of the Marine Issues Committee is to promote marine conservation and sustainable ocean based livelihoods. We do this through research, education, and advocacy. We work with a wide range of individuals, groups and institutions to further this goal.

Think of the Marine Issues Committee as a seastar, perhaps *Solaster endeca*, the multi-armed purple sunstar, and think of the campaigns and projects of MIC as the arms of the sunstar. (Note also that when one early aquaculturist tried to destroy seastars by cutting them in half all he did was double the number of seastars.) Below are descriptions of the campaigns and projects of MIC written by the coordinator for each initiative.

Oil and Gas – *Mark Butler*

Most of us don't see what is happening on the water, especially when it's miles from the shore, be it a swordfish longline vessel on the edge of the Scotian Shelf discarding dead fish or an oil rig off Sable Island discharging produced water. Part of what the Marine Issues Committee tries to do is to bring information about abuses on the water to the attention of Nova Scotians.

In its campaign around petroleum extraction in Nova Scotian waters MIC is focusing on the licensing process which is fundamentally flawed. It is our view that the most important decision in the petroleum project cycle is whether an area should be opened up to petroleum. At present, exploration licences are issued without any environmental screening or public input. The worst example of this was the decision by the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board to issue an exploration licence for the waters off Western Cape Breton. Fishermen, tourism operators, (and the fish) woke up one morning to hear on the radio that the oil companies were bidding on their waters, an area which stretched from Port Hood to Cheticamp. The MIC is a member of the Save our Seashores, Save our Seas(SOS2) Coalition which is calling for the licence to be revoked and an environmental assessment undertaken.

In July of 1999 a government appointed Panel recommended that Georges Bank off SW Nova Scotia remained closed to oil and gas. MIC was part of the NORIGS Coalition which fought to have the moratorium extended. Yea.

Sustainable Fisheries – *Mark Butler*

The MIC continues to work for sustainable fisheries, in particular, for recognition that some gear types and fisheries are more sustainable than others. We continue to be deeply concerned about the impact of bottom dragging on the ocean floor, particularly on fragile fauna and features, such as deep sea corals. It doesn't take much imagination to understand what happens when a 2000 lb. piece of dragger equipment meets a 500 year old, two metre high coral tree.

From bottom to top, another gear-type we are concerned about is pelagic or surface long-line gear. Pelagic or swordfish long-lining involves the setting of up to 60 kilometres of baited hooks in the surface waters. With so much gear and so many species present in these waters the potential for by-catch is high. Observer reports indicate that sharks, marlins, tunas, turtles and the occasional bird or whale is caught. As with any fishery we have concerns about we don't just condemn, but also promote alternatives.

Another way to catch swordfish is with a harpoon—one of the most selective methods of fishing in the world. In January 2000 we released a report on the history of the swordfish fishery in Atlantic

Canada—the first of its kind. The report's author, M.Sc. student, Gretchen Fitzgerald interviewed over 40 fishermen from across Nova Scotia. The report will serve as a basis for further work we do on this issue.

First International Symposium on Deep Sea Corals: Science and Conservation of Deep Sea Corals July 30 – August 2, 2000 -*Susan Gass*

The First International Symposium on Deep Sea Corals will take place July 30 - August 2, 2000 at Dalhousie University. We have had a wonderful response to the Symposium's call for papers and have received over 60 abstracts from researchers in thirteen different countries. We have confirmation of attendance from the majority of the top researchers from around the world.

The Symposium begins on the evening of Sunday July 30, with a welcome reception at the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History and the presentations begin Monday July 31 at 9:00 a.m. Presentations will continue for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, with a panel discussion in the afternoons of Tuesday and Wednesday.

There are two special events scheduled for the Symposium. We are holding a movie night on Monday evening at which the participants will have a chance to show any video footage of deep sea corals they might have and enjoy popcorn. The Symposium Banquet will take place on Tuesday evening and will consist of a lobster dinner, live band and dancing.

On August 3, 2000, immediately following the Symposium, there will be a workshop at Dalhousie University on developing a global conservation strategy for deep sea corals. This does not involve presentations of papers and there is no additional registration fee.

The Symposium proceedings will be published and will be the first collection of papers on deep sea corals in the world. The Symposium proceedings will be an indispensable tool for scientists, managers, resource users, conservationists, and policy makers wishing to conserve corals.

The Marine Invertebrate Diversity Initiative (MIDI)-*Derek Davis*

MIDI got under way after more than a year of planning. A Steering Committee, with representatives from EAC, Museum of Natural History, DFO, and Environment Canada are supporting the project with technical assistance and funding. Three internships with DFO: Heidi Schaefer in 1999-2000, and currently Jayne Roma and Lesley Carter have organized the material for establishing a data base on marine benthic invertebrates species and a website that will be accessible through the Fundy Forum website. EAC is looking for more partners in the project, including naturalist groups, fishing organizations, as well as university classes that could prepare species records as class assignments. To support other projects currently underway, we are focussing on the invertebrates of salt marshes, mudflats, and deep sea coral associations. The inventory will eventually provide information on all species from bottom habitats in the Gulf of Maine and on the Scotian Shelf.

Slayers of Bioinvaders-*Gretchen Fitzgerald*

This sub-committee of the MIC formed in response to growing concerns about marine biological

invaders. Just as on land, the potential for an introduced species to damage marine ecosystems is great, and there is essentially no remedy once the species is established. Members of the S.O.B. Committee are currently working to improve regulations for the discharge of ballast water from ships—the major vector of marine bioinvaders. We are also organizing a workshop on ballast water management and bioinvaders for next March.

Salt Marsh Restoration in the Bay of Fundy-*Tony Bowron*

An exciting new area for MIC this past year has been the issue of tidal barriers and habitat restoration in the Bay of Fundy. MIC members, Jennifer Graham, Mark Butler, and Tony Bowron have been collaborating with groups such as the Conservation Council of New Brunswick and the Global Program of Action Coalition for the Gulf of Maine (GPAC) on these issues and we have undertaken two projects. The first project, funded through GPAC, resulted in the production of a report entitled *Community and Social Considerations in Salt Marsh Restoration Work in Nova Scotia*.

The second and more ambitious project is a two year(1999-2001) community-based salt marsh restoration project which the North American Fund for Environmental Cooperation(NAFEC) is funding. The aim is to establish a working partnership with a community organization(s) to undertake the restoration of an altered or degraded salt marsh. Together we will be working to restore a salt marsh, monitor the results, and explore the educational and economic opportunities around the marsh. This is a pilot project and as such will hopefully act as a catalyst for future

projects by other communities and as a model of what to do(or what not to do). We are presently engaged in the community and site selection process following which we will begin a baseline study and restoration planning.

Wilderness Issues – prepared by Kermit deGooyer

The EAC Wilderness Committee's primary goal is to expand and defend Nova Scotia's protected areas network. We also try to promote ecologically prudent land uses in the "working landscape", especially with respect to forestry practices.

Our advocacy role in protected areas focuses on public lands, as the provincial government is the largest landowner in Nova Scotia and landscape scale protection of private lands is not yet practical.

The Wilderness Committee's single largest project is our "New Vision for Public Lands", which comes in response to the provincial government's "Integrated Resource Management" long-term land use planning exercise for Crown lands. Through this process, future land uses for over one million hectares of public land will be determined. In conjunction with several local organizations the WC has drafted about a dozen new wilderness proposals. Many have been submitted to the provincial government. Because local level advocacy and support is essential for most new protected areas, we assist local groups with media,

lobbying, meeting with politicians, coalition building, promotion, etc. Through this project we have also developed a public lands website (www.publicland.ca) and produced 25,000 copies of an eight page tabloid called **Last Call for Public Lands!** which is available at the Ecology Action Centre.

Nova Scotia Coastal Water Trail- *prepared by Sue Brown*

The big news is Atlantic Canada's first water trail will be officially launched July 1, between Lunenburg and Halifax. In the past year and a half we have accomplished much on the pilot project with much work still to do. Our first task was field research to collect data on all potential launch sites, accommodations, campsites, and waterfront services and attractions between Lunenburg and Halifax Harbours. Then we checked with each site owner to see if they were interested in being part of the Water Trail project. We also identified danger zones and ecologically sensitive areas. All our information has been gathered into a database and incorporated onto maps courtesy of the Nova Scotia Geomatics Centre in Amherst. The NS Geomatics Centre is also at work on a web site that will provide short descriptive details such as useful contacts, natural history and safety concerns and basic maps of the pilot project area. Look for it at: trails.gov.ns.ca

We will also produce a guide book describing natural and cultural features along the Water Trail and listing comprehensive details of all the services, launch sites etc. in the project area. The first printing will show mainland sites only (with the exception of the Tancook Islands). The guide will be available as a photocopied hardcopy or sent out as a PDF file for a cost recovery fee. (PDF is a Portable Document File viewable on Adobe Acrobat that can be downloaded for free). We hope to have the first edition of the guidebook available by July.

Still ahead is the long process of establishing wilderness campsites on islands and other coastal areas accessible only by boat. We started this process with public lands and will soon be contacting private landowners. Once we have permission from interested landowners, we will work with local residents and boaters to set up a volunteer network to help protect islands and other sensitive coastal areas. Part of this process involves a joint project with the Bluenose Atlantic Coastal Action Plan to assess conservation priorities for islands in Mahone Bay. We hope we can extend this process to other islands in NS. We have also initiated a meeting on Coastal Access and Conservation with various government, non-profit and business organizations throughout NS to look at the problems facing coastal NS and to come up with ways of addressing them. Our work will continue in the fall with more fundraising efforts.

AN INVITATION TO THE WATER TRAIL LAUNCH !

Please join us for the launching of the Nova Scotia Coastal Water Trail on July 1, from 8am-10am Lunenburg, Nova Scotia on the NS Sea School wharf near the Fisheries Museum. Look for our banner. CONTACT US AT: seatrail@istar.ca OR (902) 852-3082

Community Gardens – prepared by Thea Wilson-Hammond

On March 7, 2000, the Ecology Action Centre's Working Group on Edible Landscapes and Community Gardens presented the following motion to HRM Council, which was accepted:

- Call for the creation of an advisory committee comprised of staff from the appropriate departments and representatives from community gardens and community groups such as the Ecology Action Centre.
- Ask that the Advisory Committee recommend before October 1, 2000 a community gardening policy for the Halifax Regional Municipality.

EAC would like to have the following goals considered:

- Recognition and support of community gardening projects as an integral part of the community infrastructure.
- Consolidation of existing staff involvement in order to ensure fair access and usage to all existing and potential gardening programs.
- Such consolidation will make existing resources stronger, more cost effective and eliminate duplicate services.
- Standardization of the provision of resources from the municipality such as water, compost, transport and land usage.
- Provision of coordinating services to allow for students and volunteers to carry the burden of gardening programs during the peak times from February to October.
- Assistance of volunteers in fundraising efforts.

Environment and Development Committee—prepared by Tony Charles

Since 1987, the Committee has been working through research, education and advocacy, to support sustainable communities locally and worldwide. The Committee highlights connections between the environment and the economy, and interactions between Canada and other nations, focusing attention on the challenge of creating an economy which fits sustainably within the ecosystem, and which works for people and their communities, rather than the other way around.

2000 Sustainable Communities Award

Spryfield is the recipient of this year's Sustainable Communities Award, from the Ecology Action Centre's Environment and Development Committee. Each year, the Award recognizes a Nova Scotian community engaged in environment-enhancing, community-building projects, and environmentally-sound economic development.

The Committee was impressed by the range of positive work underway in Spryfield. Among the community-run projects are the CRABapple Mapping Project, MacIntosh Run Watershed Project, the People Around Communities Every Day group & Herring Cove Road Project,

and the Urban Farm Museum Project. These, and other initiatives in the community of Spryfield, help to address local environmental concerns, create a cohesive community atmosphere and promote local economic development. Such efforts are aided by the Captain Spry Community Centre, which serves as a hub of much of the community's volunteer activity.

Spryfield joins past Award recipients such as Bear River, Sambro, the Clean Annapolis River Project and the Mi'kmaq Fish and Wildlife Commission.

Transportation Committee (TIC) – prepared by Susanna Fuller

Since last June, TIC has been very busy. Through funding from the Climate Change Action Fund, we have been able to start the TRAX (Transportation Halifax) project (see TRAX report for more details), which has contributed greatly to our ability to affect changes in the way people think about

transportation. As a committee, we have analyzed bicycle accident statistics throughout the province to get an idea of the risks of cycling in Nova Scotia. The results will be published in an article in an upcoming BTI! We are working with HRM to develop a plan for the improvement of access to the MacDonald Bridge and consider bicycle safety a major objective in increasing the number of people who forgo their cars and opt for two wheels instead of four when travelling around the city.

TIC has applied for funding for a car-sharing co-operative, to reduce car ownership, but still give people the opportunity to use a car when it is necessary. Changing attitudes in a car culture is a slow process, but we are working towards that goal, with a vision of efficient public transportation, and a decline in the need for parking in HRM, especially downtown Halifax. All of our activities are in the interest of reduced emissions and an active lifestyle.

TRAX - Urban Transportation Project – Sue Watson

TRAX, EAC's newest project started by the Transportation Issues Committee, has been working on "changing the climate" of transportation in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). The project is being undertaken by Rebecca O'Brien, full time coordinator, and Sue Watson, half time coordinator. Working with local employers, TRAX helps implement Trip Reduction Programs in workplaces. We first survey the employees to find out about current travel habits and willingness to switch to other modes of travel, then work with them to put incentives in place to reduce the number of single occupant vehicles (SOV) coming to their workplace. We can, for example, organize carpooling and work with parking management to put priority parking in place for carpoolers. Currently, our Trip Reduction Programs are under way with the NS Dept. of Transportation and Public Works and Environment Canada, and the QEII Health Sciences Centre, the IWK Grace, and the HRM will be starting up their programs in the coming months. We will soon be potentially reaching over 9000 employees in the HRM.

Changing the Climate

Our first goal is to reduce the effects of greenhouse gases (GHG) these SOV's are guilty of

producing. Transportation is the largest single source of GHG emissions in Canada, and about 45% of the emissions in the transportation sector are from passenger travel. Urban passenger travel is the worst culprit, producing 58% of the GHG emissions from all forms of passenger transportation.

Making it Public

Our second goal is to educate the public on the effects their transportation habits are having on climate change. We have made public presentations on many aspects of transportation and climate change to our regional council, to workplaces, to the national Transportation Climate Change Issue Table, the Nova Scotia Safety Council, the Nova Scotia Environmental Industries Association conference on Partnerships, a Clean Nova Scotia Climate Change Conference, and others. Look for our brochure and website in the coming weeks, or contact us at (902) 429-0924.

On TRAX

We hope that TRAX will be able to significantly reduce the HRM's contribution to climate change, make our citizens healthier along the way, and reduce the problems with traffic congestion on the peninsula. A tall order? We think we're on TRAX!!



Other EAC Committees & Groups

Fund Development

Garden Party

The second annual Garden Party fundraiser, held on April 30 at St. Mary's Boat Club, was a huge success. A large crowd attended to purchase wonderful auction items and support EAC. Close to \$9000.00 was raised! Thank you to all the sponsors, donors and supporters who made this such a successful event for the Centre.

Chemical Free Christmas Trees

For the past seven years, EAC has sold chemical-free Christmas trees to increase awareness about pesticides and to raise funds to support the organization's work. More and more people are sold on the benefits of chemical-free Christmas trees and 1999 was our best year ever for tree sales. Unfortunately, due to a tough wreath market, our sales were down from last year.

Advent Calendars

Finally, this year, thanks to the imagination and generosity of Chris Haag, MIC launched its own Christmas fundraiser—the sale of advent Calendars. This coming Christmas we will once again be selling calendars, which from all reports were much enjoyed by children and adults. Money raised went to support MIDI and other worthwhile projects.

Library – prepared by Ellen Redden

It has been somewhat busy in the library this year. Lara, who's been helping in the library for the last couple of years did continue to come in most months for a couple of hours to do some cataloguing, LEEANNE, from Australia also came in and catalogued. The three of us have managed to keep things running fairly smoothly and a lot of work has been accomplished.

I was very pleased that we had the HRM library grant which paid me a small salary to work in the library but unfortunately that grant ran out in November 1999.

We have had the access to the library database removed from the Chebucto Community Net because it was causing some problems. We have had people writing EAC from other parts of Canada and the World looking for library material that sometimes turns out to be missing from our collection. That is why an inventory of the library collection is important to weed out the material that is no longer available. If we still had the material they requested they wanted us to send them the information. We are not a circulating library and therefore could not send them the actual materials. Unfortunately we do not have the staff or resources to photocopy large amounts of information to send to them. The EAC library is full of valuable information available for students and the general public but due to staff and fund restrictions, EA C can't do research for those outside HRM.

The serials collection has been inventoried and is now listed on the same computer database as the other library materials, including videos. They are not given a cataloguing number but are stored in alphabetical order on either the top or bottom shelves in the library. They are given keywords to index the serials by subject. So now if someone comes into the library and wants to know what information we have on composting, it will list all the regularly catalogued material, videos and serials that cover that subject area. I hope that the listing will result in the serials be used more regularly.

There are more signs up in the library explaining how to borrow videos, about the library being non-circulating and how to use the serial collection. I hope people find these signs useful.

And finally, as many of you know, I have left the library after 7 years of volunteering and this will be my last annual report. Maybe I'll be back again sometime. In the meantime, I want to thank everyone and I wish you all the best. Thank you.



Hemlock Circus (Roving Theatre Troupe) – prepared by Mark Butler

Hemlock Circus, EAC's very own theatre troupe, continues to perform at schools and community events throughout the province. Their play, *Revolving Doors*, mixes the impacts of clearcutting with the travails of canvassing for the Ecology Action Centre. Over the last year, the troupe performed *Revolving Doors* for community groups in Digby Neck, Musquodobit Harbour, at the Nova Scotia Environmental Network annual gathering and at Rudy Haase's birthday celebration. Across the province, you will find fans of Bear, Pigeon, Beetle and Raven. They have also

performed skits on other topics and are currently working on a new play called *More*. Hemlock Circus is Nancy Shackell, Veronica Sherwood, Rob Hansen, Martin Willison, Denise Demoura, Lisa Jacobs, Tony Bowron, Emma Boardman, Caitlin Hancey, Shannon Lynch and Mark Butler.

They are interested in performing at your school or event! Please contact coordinators Veronica Sherwood 454-2555 or Nancy Shackell 455-5486 for a booking. There is no charge for this entertainment but a membership in EAC or an honorarium is both welcome and encouraged.



Thanks to Our Supporters for 1999-2000!

Members

Although we cannot mention each of our members here, we would like to send out a heart felt "thank-you" to those of you who provide the baseline support upon which we can continue to work for the environment in Nova Scotia. Our members are crucial to our existence. Again, a big thank you.

In-Kind Sponsors

Alberta and Donnie Martin

Atlantic Boating News

Bright by Design

Costanzo Sculpture

Dal-Tech

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Department of Transportation &

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DHM Communication

Down East Environmental Homecare Products

EDM Environmental Design & Management

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Green Rider Van Pools

Grunts Art Glass

Halifax Seed

Just Us!

Kel-Ann Organics

Metro Transit

Mid-Canada Fibreglass

Miller Waste Systems

Nova Scotia Potters Guild

NS Geomatics Centre

Seaman's Beverages

shunpiking

Todd Graphic

Tree Work

Volunteers/Advisors

Alan Gates
Allison Cude
Allison Evans
Andre Freiwald
Andrea Johnson
Anna Van der Meulen
Anne Keiver
Beth Cameron
Bev Lamb
Bonnie Vanechuk
Boris Worm
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Marilla MacLeod
Mark Butler
Martin Willison
Maya Mukhida
Melissa Watkins
Metro Food Bank

Programme Funders

Climate Change Action Fund
Community Animation Program
Dalhousie University
Davis Conservation Foundation
McLean Foundation
Canadian Council for Human Resources in Environmental Industries
Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Science & Technology Youth Internship Program
Department of Natural Resources
EJLB Foundation
Environment Canada
Henry P. Kendall Foundation
Human Resources Development Canada
Labatt's People in Action
Lunenburg/Queens Regional Development Authority
Marine Conservation Biology Institute
Millennium Bureau of Canada
Mountain Equipment Coop
Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History
Nova Scotia Sport and Recreation Commission
Nova Scotia Tourism and Culture
The North American Fund for Environmental Cooperation (NAFEC)
World Wildlife Fund Canada



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2000

ECOLOGY ACTION CENTRE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT MARCH 31, 2000

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	91,220	70,412
Marketable securities - at cost (market value \$4,750; 1999 - \$420)	4,275	150
Accounts receivable	26,081	4,568
Prepaid expenses	292	159
	121,868	75,289
CAPITAL ASSETS (note 3)	1,850	1,270
	123,718	76,559

LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	21,501	6,687
Deferred revenue (note 4)	75,473	55,550
	96,974	62,237

NET ASSETS		
NET ASSETS	26,744	14,322
	123,718	76,559

COMMITMENTS (note 5)

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

 Director

 Director

ECOLOGY ACTION CENTRE
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2000

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
FUNDRAISING REVENUE		
Membership and donations	18,134	15,085
Auction (net of expenses of \$566; 1999 - \$290)	6,667	1,567
Christmas trees (net of expenses of \$3,683; 1999 - \$3,402)	3,765	4,023
Miscellaneous	12,738	1,292
	41,304	21,967
PROJECT (LOSS) REVENUE		
School grounds naturalization (net of expenses of \$2,108; 1999 - \$19,549)	5,370	-
WWF project (net of expenses of \$3,407; 1999 - \$897)	(1,667)	-
Wilderness (net of expenses of \$38,237; 1999 -\$538)	(5,183)	-
Wildlife Habitat (net of expenses of \$519; 1999 - \$11,462)	(519)	(462)
Coral (net of expenses of nil; 1999 - \$3,402)	-	(2,471)
Scallop	219	-
	(1,780)	(2,933)
BETWEEN THE ISSUES (see schedule B)	(3,319)	(1,964)
NET REVENUE BEFORE OPERATING EXPENSES	36,205	17,070
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Staff wages	23,762	12,213
Rent	10,836	9,559
Telephone	3,676	2,360
Office	4,196	2,829
Equipment lease	1,284	988
Advertising	1,548	31
Interest and bank charges	650	678
Library	495	330
Depreciation	489	451
Membership and workshop dues	913	135
Professional fees	2,425	3,175
Insurance	676	428
Miscellaneous	808	-
Recovery of office expenses (note 6)	(27,975)	(16,271)
	23,783	16,906
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR	12,422	164

NET ASSETS - beginning of year	<u>14,322</u>	14,158
NET ASSETS - end of year	26,744	14,322

ECOLOGY ACTION CENTRE
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2000

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash provided from operations		
Excess of revenue over expenditures	12,422	164
Add depreciation which does not involve cash	<u>489</u>	451
	12,911	615
Change in noncash working capital balances		
Marketable securities	(4,125)	-
Accounts receivable	(21,513)	611
Prepaid expenses	(133)	(159)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	14,814	2,942
Deferred revenue	<u>19,923</u>	36,386
	<u>21,877</u>	40,395
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Acquisition of capital assets	<u>(1,069)</u>	-
CHANGE IN CASH DURING THE YEAR	20,808	40,395
CASH - beginning of year	<u>70,412</u>	30,017
CASH - end of year	<u>91,220</u>	70,412

**ECOLOGY ACTION CENTRE
SCHEDULE A**

SCHEDULE FOR BETWEEN THE ISSUES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2000

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
Advertising	2,957	3,249
EXPENSES		
Printing	(4,018)	(3,017)
Postage	(542)	(581)
Other	(1,716)	(1,615)
	(6,276)	(5,213)
	(3,319)	(1,964)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2000

1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

The Ecology Action Centre is a non-profit organization which aims to increase the appreciation, protection, and enhancement of the environment of Nova Scotia.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Capital Assets

Capital assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is provided by the diminishing balance method at the following annual rates:

Furniture and equipment	20%
Computer equipment	30%

Deferred Revenue

Project revenue received in advance of related expenditures are deferred and are recognized as revenue when the expenditures are incurred.

Revenue Recognition

All fundraising revenue is recorded in the year that it is received.

Project revenue is recorded using the deferral method for restricted contributions, which means that the revenue is deferred and recognized in the statement of operations when matched with related expenses.

3. CAPITAL ASSETS

	2000		1999
	Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Net
	\$	\$	\$
Furniture and equipment	26,455	26,035	420
Computer equipment	3,410	1,980	1,430
	<u>29,865</u>	<u>28,015</u>	<u>1,850</u>

4. DEFERRED REVENUE

	Opening Balance	Grants and Donations	Expenditures	Closing Balance
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Transportation	-	56,564	29,896	26,668
Salt Marsh	-	22,920	15,022	7,898
Coastal Water Trails	26,634	36,016	52,313	10,337
Marine Issues	16,939	52,063	43,232	25,770
Environment & development	342	-	43	299
Deep Sea Corals	-	16,233	11,732	4,501
Scallop project	219	-	219	-
Wilderness Project	3,835	29,219	33,054	-
School Grounds Naturalization	5,841	1,548	7,389	-
Marine Issues - WWF	1,740	-	1,740	-
	<u>55,550</u>	<u>214,563</u>	<u>194,640</u>	<u>75,473</u>

5. COMMITMENTS

The Centre is renting its premises under a long-term lease expiring January 31, 2001. The annual rent will be approximately \$12,900.

The Centre is also renting office equipment under a long-term lease expiring in 2004. The annual rent is \$1,393.

6. RECOVERY OF OFFICE EXPENSES

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Salt Marsh	3,965	-
Transportation	8,253	-
Wilderness Project	1,842	221
School Grounds Naturalization	-	1,093
Coastal Water Trails	4,375	6,075
Marine Issues	8,690	3,953
Deep Sea	388	-
Marine Issues - WWF	55	76
Scallop Project	-	1,800
Wildlife Habitat Project	407	3,053
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	27,975	16,271
	<hr/>	<hr/>

7. INCOME TAXES

Ecology Action Centre is a registered charitable organization under the meaning assigned in Section 149 of The Income Tax Act, and as such is exempt from income tax.

8. UNCERTAINTY DUE TO THE YEAR 2000 ISSUE

The Year 2000 Issue arises because many computerized systems use two digits rather than four to identify a year. Date-sensitive systems may recognize the year 2000 as 1900 or some other date, resulting in errors when information using year 2000 dates is processed. In addition, similar problems may arise in some systems which use certain dates in 1999 to represent something other than a date. The effects of the Year 2000 Issue may be experienced before, on, or after January 1, 2000, and, if not addressed, the impact on operations and financial reporting may range from minor errors to significant systems failure which could affect an entity's ability to conduct normal business operations. It is not possible to be certain that all aspects of the Year 2000 Issue affecting the entity, including those related to the efforts of customers, suppliers, or other third parties, will be fully resolved.



General Office Information

For further information, please contact:

Ruth MacKenzie, Office Manager

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Email: eac_hfx@istar.ca

Web: www.chebucto.ns.ca/Environment/EAC/EAC-Home.html

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Friday : not officially open so please call first to ensure someone is in the office