

Indian Bay Ecosystem News



Contact Information:

Phone: 709-522-3222

Email: ibec@eastlink.ca

General Delivery

Indian Bay, NL

A0G 2V0

Mission: "We believe that all of us together have a shared responsibility to conserve and enhance our wilderness heritage, that our forests, rivers and streams form the life blood of our cultural and economic identity, and that this priceless gift must be preserved, protected and passed on as our legacy to generations yet unborn."

Directors Message

The past couple of years have been difficult for IBEC. We are a not for profit ecosystem based organization that have relied heavily on government funding to staff our organization and carry out research, monitoring and conservation initiatives. We are at a time where government funding cuts threaten many organizations like ours. Unfortunately, over the past couple of years we were unable to secure funding causing us to lose all of our staff and had to reduce day to day operations. Through the commitment and determination of the board members, who shared a passion for this great watershed, we strived to adjust. Late spring 2010 we hosted a planning session to help us focus and set goals. One of the first goals was to source funding to hire staff. Some other priorities included, increasing membership and awareness, reestablishing monitoring efforts in the watershed and increasing the utilization of the field study station located at Indian Bay Big Pond. Highlighted in this newsletter is the field course that took place summer 2010.

Summer 2011 we secured funding for staff, went through a hiring process and hired two new individuals: Johann Pickett, and Elaine Feltham. Welcome aboard ladies! Despite our dormancy over the past couple of years, things are looking up at IBEC. There is new optimism and excitement within our organization.

Drop by the office anytime to get more information about the watershed or IBEC activities. We have knowledgeable, friendly staff and other resource material you may find interesting. Sign up and become a member! Join us and learn more about the organization at our upcoming Annual General Meeting on November 8th. If you have ideas to move the organization forward and are not afraid to roll up your sleeves and dig in, consider running for a board position at the AGM.

Introducing Our New Staff

Our new staff members, Johann Pickett and Elaine Feltham both have ties to the community and a vested interest in the Indian Bay watershed. Johann Pickett was raised here in the surrounding communities and worked as a field technician with IBEC during the summer of 1997. After spending many years studying and working across Canada, she has returned home to help revitalize IBEC's mission of protecting the watershed. Elaine has extensive administration experience and great people skills which make her a great fit for her role here at IBEC. We invite you to drop by the office in Indian Bay to welcome our new staff.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Indian Bay Ecosystem Corp Annual General Meeting
November 8, 2011 7 pm
Indian Bay Ecosystem Office, Indian Bay

Are you a cabin owner in the Indian Bay Watershed, a community member or just a concerned citizen wishing to protect our watershed? **Become a member and vote for your local Board of Directors.** We believe that since the users of a resource have the greatest knowledge of the resource and the most to gain from it, they should share responsibility for its conservation, enhancement and sustainable economic development.

Membership is open to the public! Only members will be eligible to vote at the AGM and annual membership fee is \$5.00. Call the office for more information.

On a go-forward basis, in an effort to move towards a "greener" future all newsletters will be available by email distribution or pick-up at the office. Please send us your email address if you would like to receive future newsletters or general updates from IBEC. Coming soon: New website and Facebook page.

Board of Directors

John Waterman, Carl Howell,
Shane Noble, Gary Collins,
Michael Cutler, Daniel Whitten,
Tanya Noble, Perry Cook

Staff

Johann Pickett,
Executive Director
Elaine Feltham,
Office Administrator

Newsletter Editor

Johann Pickett

Call for Resumes

IBEC is currently compiling an eligibility list of potential candidates for the following positions: laborers, caretaker, cook/cleaner, creel surveyors, enforcement and compliance monitors.

We are in the process of sourcing funding for the maintenance of current facilities, as well as, monitoring and research. We are also intensifying promotion of the field research station located at Indian Bay Big Pond, and are seeking an on-call caretaker and cook/cleaner. This could also become an exciting opportunity for a caretaker

couple. Sample duties could include maintenance of the facility, equipment operation, and meal preparation. Experience operating ATV's, snowmobiles, and boats, as well as knowledge of the trails/ponds in the watershed would be viewed as an asset.

All interested parties can submit resumes at the office or via email at ibec@eastlink.ca.



Cow moose spotted in the pond by Biology 4820 field course students.

Indian Bay Ecosystem Research Station

The 2010 summer season saw the third annual hosting of a terrestrial field course at the field research station in Indian Bay Big Pond. The field course was taught by Dr. Tom Chapman from Memorial University. Students participating in the course got the opportunity to design and implement a scientific investigation at the field station. Students were able to enjoy many real life animal encounters during their stay, including moose, beaver, owl, grouse, squirrel, and gray jay sightings. Participants shared their experiences on a Facebook page for the Field Course in Terrestrial Biology (Biol 4820).

We hope to see the continuation and growth of field courses like Biology 4820 in the future. We encourage all interested institutions or faculty members to contact us for more information on the research station.

The field station also has the capacity to host training sessions, research, symposiums, or corporate retreats for all interested organizations or individuals.

Climate Change Adaptation Study

During 2010-2011, the Towns of Indian Bay and CWT were one of 7 pilot communities that participated in a climate change adaptation study that was conducted by Memorial University, Dept. of Environment and Conservation, Municipalities NL, and Professional Municipalities Administrators (PMA). Key climate issues identified for the town of Indian Bay in this study were flooding of the river upstream of the bridge, changing winter weather conditions contributing to access problems to cabins and recreational activities in the watershed, and quality of drinking water in the watershed due to potential contamination as a result of increased recreational usage. A Pilot Planning Workbook was developed to assess the issues identified and to act as an adaptation guide for communities to plan for future climate change events. Emergency Planning processes were also discussed with municipalities as part of this project. IBEC is exploring how they can partner with the community and other participating members of this project to support climate adaptation efforts within the Indian Bay area.



Flood event in Indian Bay.