

INDIAN BAY ECOSYSTEM NEWS



Mission Statement: 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.

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Summer 2015

Message from the Chair - Don Sturge

Last fall at our community meetings in New-Wes-Valley and Centerville-Wareham-Trinity, I noted in my opening remarks that we, the citizens of Bonavista North, have a real opportunity through IBEC to properly manage and protect the natural resources of our region on a go forward basis.

For decades, Newfoundlanders and Labradorians cried out to the federal government, pleading to give us management rights over our offshore fish stocks because we felt that we could do a better job of taking good care of our fish resources! Well here's our challenge! Let's see how well we can do at self-regulating and managing our inland trout and salmon stocks, as well as the other natural resources of the land in the Indian Bay watershed and the greater Bonavista North region?

The IBEC Board and staff strives to promote a message of conservation in the protection of our precious resources. Within the past year some of our projects and activities include: 1. Project Webfoot school field trips (160 students) and duck nesting box construction (approx. 50 boxes); 2. Stream restoration work at Moccasin Pond Brook and North West Brook; 3. Ongoing surveys and trout data collection during the winter trout fishery as well as new signage in the watershed regarding the trout fishing regulations; 4. Meetings with Town Councils in the region to help identify conservation zones as part municipal land planning; 5. Ongoing water quality testing in the streams, rivers and ponds in partnership with Saint Mary's University; 6. Work in partnership with the town and school on the CWT Community Garden project etc.

Our IBEC Board welcomes input from all citizens of the region and we also invite you to join the work of our IBEC Committees such as Fisheries, Natural Resources, Stewardship and Education, etc. There are many opportunities to volunteer with our organization and make a real difference in protecting the fish and wildlife of Bonavista North for the future generations to enjoy!

In conclusion, I want to sincerely thank all the Board members, other volunteers and staff of IBEC for their ongoing dedication and commitment to the work of our organization.



Meet Our Interns

Mr. Abayomi Ogayemi is delighted to work in the town of Indian Bay with IBEC on a 12 weeks internship to assist us with our stewardship agreement program on wetlands. Currently a Masters student in Environmental Policy at Memorial University (MUN). He obtained his LL.M from the University of Exeter, England, Barrister-at-Law (BL) Nigeria Law School, (LL.B) from Obafemi Awolowo University in Nigeria. He is a qualified Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria. He recently attended the Stewardship Association of Municipalities Annual General Meeting with IBEC and had a rewarding experience.

Mr. Jannatul Islamam from Dhaka, Bangladesh is also currently working with us at IBEC. He is a current Masters student in Environmental Policy at MUN. He completed his MSc from the University of Gloucestershire, United Kingdom and secured his first degree from Dhaka University. He has been involved with the community garden project and represented IBEC as part of a team at the last Economic Development forum in the town of CWT.

Summer Students

IBEC is pleased to announce that we have 6 summer students joining us this year in the following positions:

- . Field Officers - Kyle Rimmer and Hayley Rogers
- . Community Outreach/ Marketing Officer - Austin Clark
- . Restoration Technician Assistant - Ryan Haley

Restoration Technician - Keelan Drumm

Keelan graduated with a degree in Environmental and Resource Science from Trent University located in Peterborough, Ontario. She has also received an Advanced Diploma in the Ecosystem Management Technology Program at Fleming College located in Lindsay, Ontario. Keelan will be developing a long-term plan for fisheries habitat protection and restoration efforts in the Bonavista North region.



Hon. Dan Crummell,
Minister of Environment
and Conservation with
Abayomi Ogayemi, IBEC
Representative at the SAM
AGM

Staff Announcement

Stella Gale recently joined us as Office Manager. Stella has a strong administrative and management background and will be working with our summer students and interns on upcoming projects.

Who We Are

We are a non-profit community organization with the goal of protecting the Indian Bay watershed and surrounding Bonavista North Region.



Our Projects

Project Webfoot

IBEC recently hosted Grade four students from Pearson Academy, Centerville Academy and Gander Academy in conjunction with Ducks Unlimited Canada via Project Webfoot. Project Webfoot enhances the wetland appreciation through species identification within the habitation as well as teaches the roles and importance of wetlands to primary school children.

Northwest Brook Stream Restoration Project

The goal of this project is to increase the migration capacity of trout and salmon populations. Look out for us in August constructing a low-head weir at the intersection of Northwest Brook and Highway 320.

Indian Bay Watershed Enhancement Project

The Indian Bay Watershed Enhancement Project will target three sites for restoration work in order to improve local salmon and trout habitats. Two new culverts will be placed at Number 22 Brook and Country Road to replace the rusted and blocked up culverts. Additionally, the second bridge past Indian Bay Park will be restored in order to improve passage for ATVs and skidoos. Finally, the remnants of an old bridge that have collapsed into a tributary will be removed to ensure proper fish passage in the future.

Centreville-Wareham-Trinity Community Garden

This is a joint project between community volunteers, IBEC and the town of CWT. Vegetables, herbs, and flowers have been planted for the enjoyment of the entire community. Keep your eyes peeled for the announcement of a fall harvest party! Contact us if you would like more information, would like to volunteer, or if you would like to rent a garden plot.

Bonavista North Stewardship and Enhancement Project

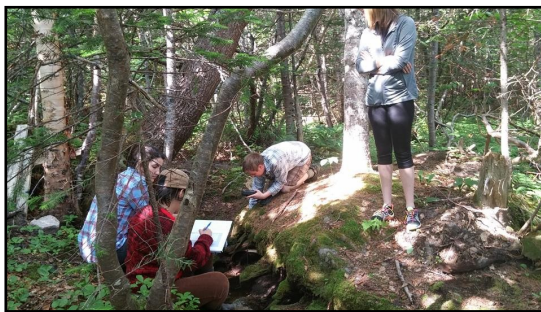
IBEC will engage in habitat restoration in Indian Bay Big Pond and Number Two River. This restoration project will remove a portion of the dam that has washed away and is creating a partial stream blockage at the mouth of Indian Bay Big Pond to increase salmon access to the rest of the watershed.

Ecoaction

This is the final year of our Ecoaction project and the focus continues to be on creating stewardship agreements with both individuals and the local municipalities. Other activities included in this project are bird boxes, tree planting, increased educational signage throughout the Indian Bay Watershed as well as the restoration projects in process.

Bonavista North Region Fisheries Habitat Protection and Restoration Planning

The ultimate goal for this proposed project is to develop a long-term plan for fisheries habitat protection and restoration efforts in the Bonavista North region. IBEC plans to identify important habitats and areas of concern in the region that should be prioritized for future protection and stewardship efforts. Priority sites will be identified that require rehabilitation work due to natural or man-made causes. Identification of specific threats to target species will allow for planning of management and stewardship activities to mitigate these threats. Contact us if you have any specific concerns with the watershed you would like to see addressed.



Removing blockages at the Moccasin Pond Brook

SAM AGM @ Flat Rock

"IBEC has done so much good work in the area of stewardship." This was one of the numerous comments of appreciation IBEC attracted at the Stewardship Association of Municipalities Annual General Meeting 2015. IBEC has, in the last few months, carried out many restoration and securement projects, such as the Moccasin Pond Brook Enhancement Project, in various ponds and riparian areas of Bonavista North.

2015 Events to Watch Out For!

Throughout the summer the IBEC team will be participating in various festivals throughout the local communities. Our students here at IBEC are preparing both educational and entertainment activities for these events and we hope you will drop by and see us!

- New-Wes-Valley Crab Festival – July 20 – 26, 2015
- Greenspond Capelin Festival – July 30 – August 2, 2015
- C-W-T Recreation Summer Festival – August 6-9, 2015
- Indian Bay Salmon River Days: August 13 – August 16, 2015

Some of our Partners



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada



For more information about our projects, events and company please refer to our website:
<http://indianbayecosystem.com/>

