

Shubenacadie Canal Commission

2022-23

Annual Report





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# ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge that the Shubenacadie Canal Commission is located within Mi'kma'ki, the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people.



## THE SHUBENACADIE WATERWAY

The Shubenacadie Waterway is a world-class destination for recreation, historical interpretation, and cultural heritage that connects the Atlantic Ocean and the Bay of Fundy. The waterway includes the historic Shubenacadie Canal, which was completed in 1861. The canal system was comprised of nine locks, two marine railways, eight lakes, several natural and artificial channels, and the Shubenacadie River. The system crosses Mi'kmaki, beginning at Kjipuktuk (Halifax Harbour) in Punamu'kwati'jk (Dartmouth) and ends at Pekwitapa'qek (the Minas Basin, Bay of Fundy) in Maitland.

Today, the Shubenacadie Waterway includes a diverse range of resources. The Fairbanks Centre in Dartmouth serves as the main interpretive hub for the system, including a small museum and a working model of a set of canal locks. The remnants of six of the locks are accessible to the public for historical interpretation, including Lock 5 in Wellington which is fully restored, and three more locks in Dartmouth have been mostly restored. A newer addition to the canal interpretation experience is Shubenacadie Marine Railway in Dartmouth. It was reconstructed in 2018 and opened to the public the following summer. The system is dotted throughout its length with mixed-use trails and parks, docks for small watercraft, small museums and interpretive material explaining the history of key sites.

# THE SHUBENACADIE CANAL COMMISSION

The Shubenacadie Canal Commission (SCC) was established through an Act of the Nova Scotia Legislature in 1986. Its mission is to restore, protect, and promote the historical, cultural, and natural heritage of the Shubenacadie Canal Waterway for all Nova Scotians, visitors, and future generations. The SCC operates and maintains several parcels of land in conjunction with provincial and municipal governments. It is headquartered at the Fairbanks Centre in Dartmouth, which it also operates.

The SCC is a registered charity with a board composed of 15 volunteer commissioners. As of 2020, it has two permanent staff positions, with additional staff often hired during peak tourist periods.

## MISSION

The mission of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission is to preserve the historic features of the Shubenacadie Canal and to provide access to the waterway for the education and the enjoyment of the public.

In order to achieve its mission, the Commission will pursue the following objectives:

- To carry out stabilization, preservation, and restoration work to the locks and associated features including the dams, head ponds, and channels.
- To provide for the maximum practical use of the waterway by shallow draft watercraft.
- To provide for the interpretation of sites for visitors.
- To provide park-like settings for residents and tourists.

# COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF



## OFFICERS

Sylvain Allaire, Chair  
Robert Shaw, Vice Chair  
Rachel Boehm, Vice Chair  
Carolyn Johnson, Treasurer  
Brad Hodgins, Secretary  
Bill McIntyre, Past Chair (Ex Officio)

## COMMISSIONERS

George Clarke  
Cait Green  
David Bligh  
Donald McIver  
Mike Cooper  
Jan Raska  
Katherine McLellan  
Anne Patterson  
Sam Austin (Ex Officio)  
Tony Mancini (Ex Officio)  
Tara Crandlemere (Ex Officio)



## STAFF

Claire Halpern, Executive Director  
Paula Wheaton, Office Manager  
Anna Richard, Research Coordinator, Transitions  
(September 2021- March 2023)

Hanna Rudderham, Summer 2022 Tour Guide



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The past year can be described as a year of transition for the Shubenacadie Canal Commission (SCC). First, as the effects of COVID pandemic became less concerning for all, operations adjusted to a new normal. The previously approved multi-year Transition project reached steady state and engaged numerous stakeholders along the Shubenacadie waterway through pilot projects and community engagement activities. Finally, the Commission transitioned from not having enough Commissioners to perform its functions, to having a nearly full slate of Commissioners.

The staff of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission are key to its success. I must commend the work of our Executive Director Claire Halpern and our Office Manager, Paula Wheaton for their commitment and dedication. I must also single out the research work of Anna Richard within the context of the project Transition. She has provided the SCC with valuable information that will help modernize the Fairbanks Center in the coming year.

The affairs of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission are managed by a dedicated group of volunteer commissioners. This past year, we welcomed Anne Patterson and Jan Raska who both were appointed in June 2022 for terms of four years. We also welcome back Katherine McLellan who was re-appointed in June 2022 for a three-year term. In October 2022, the Halifax Regional Municipality re-appointed Cait Green and George Clarke for three years. At the time of writing this report, there were still two vacancies on the SCC. The provincial appointee for the region of Colchester remains unfilled as is the appointee for the Municipality of East Hants.

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The concerns I elaborated in last year's report remain top of mind as we close FY 2022-23. While Lock 3 has not yet been repaired, an engineering study is currently underway to better determine cost estimates and remediation strategies. This is progress which hopefully will see a solution being implemented in the coming year.

The operational budget of the Commission remains woefully inadequate to address the challenges of inflation and to maintain the current level of services. It would be disappointing to reduce the hours of operations of a newly refurbished Fairbanks Center for lack of resources. Finally, with the construction in the Parks of Lake Charles going ahead, the plan by Halifax Water to install water and sewage pipes across the Shubenacadie Canal near Lake Charles is likely to become reality in 2023. This will likely reduce access to a section of the park during construction and create some negative reactions.

On a sadder note, Dr. John Frederick O'Connor, a strong supporter and a past chair of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission passed away in March. I would also like to thank posthumously Betty Victoria Anderson who passed away in 2021 for her generous bequest to the Shubenacadie Canal Commission.

Finally, I would like to thank our funding partners, donors, and sponsors. It would be impossible to accomplish the mission of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission without their support.

Sylvain Allaire, Chair  
Shubenacadie Canal Commission



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The 2022-23 fiscal year was a year of recovery for the Shubenacadie Canal Commission. As COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, we made strides towards achieving our mission of preserving the historic features of the Shubenacadie Canal and providing access to the waterway for the education and the enjoyment of the public.

Throughout the year, we initiated two new capital projects. The first, was a banner program on Waverley Road. With funding from Councillor Mancini, we installed banners on 20 lampposts near Shubie Park. The visual representation of the waterway is an effective awareness and tourism campaign and has been very well received by the community.

The second capital project is enhancing Portobello Incline Plane by making it more accessible with better parking, a trailhead and wayfinding sign. Funding for the project was received by Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, the Province of Nova Scotia and HRM Capital District Funds. The project has begun with an engineering report and a trail map designed by Upland + Design Studios. The project will be completed in the fall of 2023.

From May to October, we were pleased to offer a wide range of public programs and activities. History Hikes at Shubie Park took place twice a week and the Flume House was open once a week for tours. Volunteer Richard MacMichael also led tours during the off season for school groups and home schoolers. Our summer student updated the scavenger hunts and created an indoor and outdoor version. These programs have provided opportunities for individuals and families to be active, learn a little history, and connect with one another.

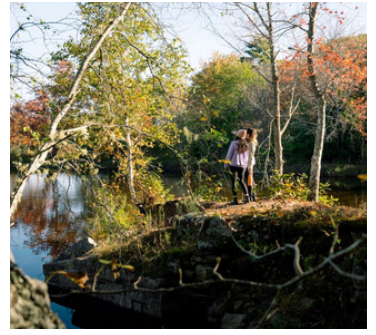
One of the highlights of the year was the successful fundraising initiatives raffling off two kayaks. 8,542 tickets were sold and over \$3 000 raised to improve infrastructure along the waterway. Thank you to the Revenue Development Committee for your hard work.

Thanks to the dedication of Commissioners, staff, and volunteers, we have been able to make a meaningful impact on our community. This achievement is a testament to the importance of our organization's work in preserving our cultural and natural heritage.

Thank you to all the SCC's supporters for your continued support and dedication. Your contributions are what make our work possible, and we are grateful for your partnerships. Thank you for making the Shubenacadie Waterway and truly "yours to explore".

Claire Halpern, Executive Director  
Shubenacadie Canal Commission





# TRANSITIONS REPORT

Launched in 2020, Transitions is a three-year research and planning project to increase awareness, access, and usage of the Shubenacadie Waterway as a natural and cultural resource, emphasizing rural histories and contributions from underrepresented peoples. In 2022-23, Transitions continued in Phase 2: Research, Design, and Pilot Projects. There were many accomplishments, thanks to the hard work of the research coordinator and the volunteer Transitions Advisory Committee.

## Pilot Projects

As part of Phase 2, nine pilot projects have been awarded and many completed. The broad range of projects raises the public awareness, appreciation, and access to the benefits of this unique waterway. Here is a summary.

### A for Adventure – Swim the Shubie Documentary

The Swim the Shubie documentary by A for Adventure follows Nick Russell's incredible journey of swimming the entire Shubenacadie Waterway. The documentary was screened for the public at Shubie Park in the fall of 2022. It was also part of the 2023 Night of the Adventure Film Festival.

### Nancy Chiasson – Acadian Surfaces

Artist Nancy Chiasson developed and exhibited a three-panel ceramic mural entitled Acadian Surfaces that evokes the natural and built world of the Acadian settlers along the Shubenacadie Waterway. The mural was displayed at the Elmsdale Branch Library in spring 2022.

### Waverley Amateur Athletic Association – New Waterway Access Point

The WAAA partnered with Old Creel Canoe and kayak to install a dock and interpretive signage at the McDonald Sports Park, bringing water access to Lake Thomas. The dock was officially opened in the fall of 2022.

### Lock 6 Park Upgrades

An engineering assessment of Lock 6 was completed that reviewed the condition of the site and provided preliminary cost estimates for stabilization and Lock restoration and park improvements. The Lock is in poor condition and needs extensive restoration work. The committee is now working on a Lock 6 Park Plan, which includes short- and long-term objectives for park improvements and heritage preservation. Funding commitments need to be secured for the stabilization and restoration of the park.

# TRANSITIONS REPORT

## Reclaiming our Roots- Land Based Workshops

The SCC partnered with Reclaiming our Roots (RoR) to put on a series of workshops. Led by Chenise Hache and James Doucette, the mission of Reclaiming Our Roots is to (Re)connect Indigenous and Non-Indigenous youth with meaningful land-based knowledge rooted in Mi'kmaw values.

RoR hosted two public Ash Processing Workshops. They shared traditional and contemporary methods of processing black and white ash into splints used for basketry and the Ji'kmaq, a traditional Mi'kmaw instrument. RoR also hosted basket weaving and clay workshops for indigenous youth.

## Tourism – Experience the Shubenacadie Waterway

The Transitions project funded four professional writers to develop articles and itineraries that highlight all that the Shubenacadie Waterway has to offer. Two of the stories were shared in 2022 and two are being shared in 2023. The articles are also being developed into itineraries available on our website.

## Dashboard Living – #MyShubieMilestone

A video storytelling series that will highlight sustainable uses of the waterway and create a platform for sharing stories. This is projected to be completed in July 2023.

## Letitia Fraser – African Nova Scotian Heritage

Artist Letitia Fraser will create and exhibit a series of artwork based on Black settlement and community along the Shubenacadie Waterway. This is projected to be completed in May 2023.

## Ducks Unlimited – Treasured Wetlands

Working with Ducks Unlimited, Lock 6 Park was designated a Treasured Wetland. Ducks Unlimited is creating a video of the park and adding geocache spots to the site. In June 2023, we will also be partnering for a full day of workshops at the site.





# TRANSITIONS REPORT

## **Fairbanks Interpretive Centre**

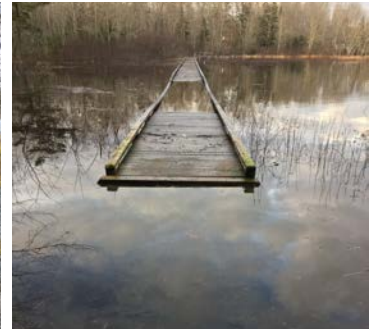
In 2022-23 we made strides on the second priority of Transitions, updating the exhibits at the Fairbanks Interpretive Centre. Through a rigorous RFP process, supported by a five-person committee, Panther Creative Inc was chosen to design and build the updated Fairbanks Interpretive Centre. Anna Richard worked closely with the design team to create the exhibition package. The content and design were approved by the Commission in March 2023. The new exhibits will open to the public in November 2023.

## **Canadian Heritage Rivers System Nomination**

Transitions also made headway on the Canadian Heritage Rivers System Nomination. In the fall of 2022, we presented to East Hants Council and asked for them to support the nomination. After a follow up report by staff, East Hants Council unanimously voted to support the SCC's nominating the Shubenacadie Waterway to the Canadian Heritage Rivers program. Another project milestone was the Province of Nova Scotia formally supporting updating the background study. Ongoing consultations will support a CHRS nomination request.

Transitions is funded by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency and the Province of Nova Scotia, Communities Culture and Heritage and the Shubenacadie Canal Commission. The Transitions Advisory Committee meets monthly and provides ongoing guidance.

Advisory committee members: Edward C. MacDonell, Elaine Seniuk, Robert Walsh, Brad Hodgins, Katherine Maclellan, Anna Richard, Alanna Syliboy, Aurora Douthwright, Beth Hill and Claire Halpern



# MAINTENANCE REPORT

Under a License Agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia, the Commission has responsibility for the maintenance of provincial lands, buildings, and assets along specific areas of the Shubenacadie Canal. In 2022-23, the Commission carried out regular maintenance on these lands.

## Lock 1

Lock 1 is maintained with a SCC contract with Clintar Landscape Management. The only additional maintenance project at the site was the removal of knotweed by an SCC contractor.

## Shubie Park

The SCC has an agreement with HRM for park maintenance, and the fantastic park staff keep the well-used park in excellent condition. Hurricane Fiona damaged the Lock 3 fence, that was repaired by a contractor. Another contractor also removed the trees that had fallen into the waterway.

## Portobello

Portobello is maintained with a SCC contract with Clintar Landscape Management. Trees blown over during winter storms and Hurricane Fiona were removed from the path by a contractor.

## Lock 4

Lock 4 is maintained with a SCC contract with Clintar Landscape Management. A contractor repaired the dock landing. The interpretive sign fell during a winter storm and was repaired. There is major work to be done at Lock 4, the path over the lock has very large roots and the lock wall is caving in.

## Lock 5

Lock 5 is also maintained with a SCC contract with Clintar Landscape Management. Security problems are a concern at Lock 5, and a gate was installed to close off access during the winter months. Going forward, the site will be closed from November to April.

## Lock 6

A local resident maintains Lock 6 Park, and we are thankful for this partnership. High waters and subsequent freezing during winter of 2021 caused the platform to be lifted from the screw piles. Repairs were done by Clintar. However, the rising water levels during winter 2022 has caused more damage to the site.



# FINANCE REPORT

Committee members: Carolyn Johnson, Sylvain Allaire, Brad Hodgins, and Claire Halpern.

The Shubenacadie Canal Commission's (SCC) Finance Committee was formally established in 2020 with an expanded membership and an updated Terms of Reference with a focus to assist the Commission in carrying out its financial oversight responsibilities by performing ongoing monitoring, review, and advisory functions.

Meetings were held monthly throughout 2022-23 using a hybrid of ZOOM and in-person meetings. Committee members also sit at various SCC sub-committees such as Revenue Development, Governance and Executive which allows for liaising across committees.

The Finance Committee provides a Finance Report to the Executive Committee and to the Board four to six times per year. In 2022-23 the committee reported to the Board five times. These reports inform as to status of accounts, all revenue streams including the securement of grants and donations, all expenses, including project spending and identified finance policy needs and development.

SCC's yearly budget proposal is submitted to the Board for approval annually at their February meeting. The 2022-23 budget was approved by the Board on February 28th, 2022. In addition to the budget, the committee developed a Contingency policy. The policy was approved on June 27th, 2023.

The main projects of the Finance Comm. in 2022-23 have been the Transitions and the Portobello Bridge projects. The latter half of 2022-23 saw a major focus of Transitions on the detailed design work. Construction and installation of the SCC Interpretive center will be completed in the late fall of 2023.

The SCC receives a small provincial operations budget. This adds constraints and demands creativity to maintain revenue streams, secure the necessary funding for projects, ongoing maintenance, multiple pending Lock repairs, and staff remuneration. Committee discussions around funds to have accessible washroom, bilingual park signage, a welcoming Interpretive Centre, a Heritage River designation, and revised strategic planning are top of mind.

Carolyn Johnson, Finance Committee Chair  
Shubenacadie Canal Commission



# GOVERNANCE REPORT

Committee members: Robert Shaw, Sylvain Allaire, Bill McIntyre, Debbie Windsor, and Claire Halpern

Governance Committee 2022-23 Priorities:

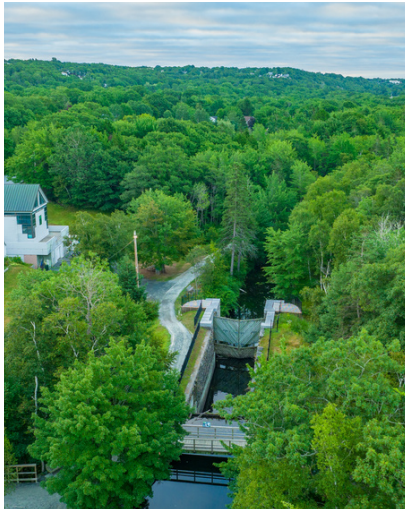
1. Review, revision, and approval of all Committee Terms of Reference.
2. Population of Standing and Operational Committees (Chairs, Commissioners and Volunteers) for 2023-24.
3. Vetting of SCC policies for approval by the Commission.
4. Request to the Province to engage changes to the Act that affect the appointment process of Commissioners to insure the functionality of the Commission throughout the year.
5. Request the Province to engage consideration of changes to the Act that may enable indigenous representation within the mandate of the Commission.

Due to the long-term influences of the Covid Pandemic the Governance Committee has not maintained regularity of meetings and the needed momentum to complete the mandate of the Committee had fallen short.

Recommendations:

1. That Anne Patterson be nominated and accepted as the incoming Chair of the Governance Committee at the earliest reasonable date to enable knowledge transfer and achieve mission continuity.
2. That I step down as Governance Committee Chair and remain on the committee for an undetermined period of time to offer context and connection to the priorities at hand.
3. That the incoming Chair act upon the Governance Committee priorities as illustrated herein with the support of the Committee.

Robert Shaw, Governance Committee Chair  
Shubenacadie Canal Commission



# WATERWAY AND LOCKS REPORT

Committee Members: Dave Bligh, Alden Killen, Mike Hughes, Bill McIntyre, Nancy Sutherland, Tim Murphy, Darrick Killen, Grant Blackman and Claire Halpern

The committee took a structured approach to maintenance this year by creating template checklists for parks and locks and each committee member contributed to the project by visiting an asset and filling out the checklist. This allows the SCC to maintain a record of the condition of each asset and prioritize maintenance activity.

Work done by Barry Hurndall and Nancy Sutherland were the basis of templates created for the maintenance information we have gathered through surveys of the park properties. These templates include a risk rating to categorize the severity of the potential consequences and probability of an event. The information collected in these templates will document the state of the infrastructure, keep track of any ongoing maintenance, and hopefully spur the province to address the higher risk items.

There have been few updates from HRM, PNS, Halifax Water, and their consultants on the proposed utility corridor. A public engagement event was held at the Fairbanks Centre in the fall and several members of the committee attended. Concerns were raised at this session regarding the design of and look of the bridge, and further engagement was promised by the consultants as they reach design milestones.

The upstream gate/wall at Locks 2 and 3 were inspected several times during 2022 and deterioration of some of the main timbers documented. A consultant was hired to carry out an assessment of the gate structure. The report recommended that parts of the structure be replaced, and other repairs made. NS Department of Natural Resources and Renewables were informed of the SCC concerns over the structure and the report has been forwarded to them for further consideration. There have not been any updates on this work provided to the committee.

# WATERWAY AND LOCKS REPORT

The presence of blue-green algae in waterways in HRM was noted last summer, and the water quality in the deep cut was raised as a concern by members of the committee. Several interventions were considered but this committee does not have a mandate to address environmental issues.

Portobello was identified as an asset that will experience growth in visitors over the medium term due to the extension of the existing SWEPS trail and connection to the Trans-Canada Trail. An expansion of the parking lot and entrance as well as new seating and wayfinding is being planned to accommodate new visitors. The committee reviewed proposed plans for expanded parking and contributed to a scope of work.

A proposal to install equipment allowing Lock 3 to be made operational to small boats was reviewed by the committee. Grande Water Management gave a presentation on their proposed solution, which included civil works, mechanical systems, and control systems at an estimated cost of \$2-3 million. The committee agreed that this cost was infeasible and that the main goal of our initiative is to restore and maintain the locks from an aesthetic standpoint and as a water control structure.

The committee reviewed a draft plan for the park at Lock 6 intended to guide discussions over the medium term. The committee agreed to begin developing plans for other parks, starting with Portobello and Lock 5. These living documents will help inform the SCC response to future increases in visitors to these areas and serve as a record of proposed infrastructure upgrades.

A generous friend of the waterway left a substantial bequeathment to the Shubenacadie Canal Commission (\$55,000). Lock 4 was of significance to her, and the committee is considering a number of possible projects to honour her memory, possibly coinciding with the Bicentennial celebrations. Many thanks for the hard work and perseverance of the Waterways and Locks Committee.

David Bligh, Waterway and Locks Committee Chair  
Shubenacadie Canal Commission







## REVENUE DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Committee Members: Rachel Boehm, Katherine McLennan, Cait Green, Bill McIntyre, Anne Patterson, Adam Freeman, Victoria Flemming, and Claire Halpern

Our Revenue Development Committee has grown this past year and so too have our achievements! Our Planned Giving program, now fully established, provides opportunities to match donors with opportunities for legacy gifts. We have received notification of a large legacy donation this past year, which points to the importance of maintaining an active planned giving program and promoting it with canal and park users and supporters. Planned giving represents an ideal way for citizens to honour the memory of a loved one or leave a personal legacy that will impact our province for generations to come.

Our inaugural kayak raffle in 2022 was a huge success, both in raising important funds for park and paddling infrastructure while also building our brand as a world-class paddling destination. The raffle had a strong social media presence and was featured with an in-person story by CBC's Portia Clark on Information Morning. Last year's raffle was our highest producing fundraiser in recent years. We sold 8,542 tickets and netted \$3,156.68. We are well into our 2nd annual kayak raffle, with proceeds on track to exceed last year's results. We recognize Freedom Canoe and Kayak for their strong support of this fundraiser.

Our first winter online silent auction was a great way to connect with local businesses. The auction ran from November 28 to December 12. We had the support of 17 businesses and raised \$985 for SCC projects. We are grateful for the many commissioners and volunteers who support our work with time, creativity, financial and in-kind donations.

# REVENUE DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Our new Leadership Giving program continued to build relationships with several corporate donors. Leadership Giving recognizes donors who contribute gifts of \$1,000 or more and matches them with a specific recognition level named after the various lakes in our waterway. The Leadership Giving program is being fully integrated into the new design of the Fairbanks Centre, with dedicated donor recognition space prominently displayed.

We continued to promote established programs such as the Adopt-a-Lock program that matches donors with a particular lock along the canal, allowing meaningful personal and family connections with our historic waterway.

Rachel Boehm, Revenue Development Committee Chair  
Shubenacadie Canal Commission

## LEADERSHIP GIVING

### GRAND LAKE

Title plaque on the Fairbanks Centre Wall of Giving

Acknowledgement on the leadership giving webpage

Special Listing in the Annual Report

Recognition certificate

\$20 000 +

### FLETCHER LAKE

A plaque on the Fairbanks Centre Wall of Giving

Acknowledgement on the leadership giving webpage

Special Listing in the Annual Report

Recognition certificate

\$10 000

### LAKE THOMAS

Acknowledgement on the leadership giving webpage

Special Listing in the Annual Report

Recognition certificate

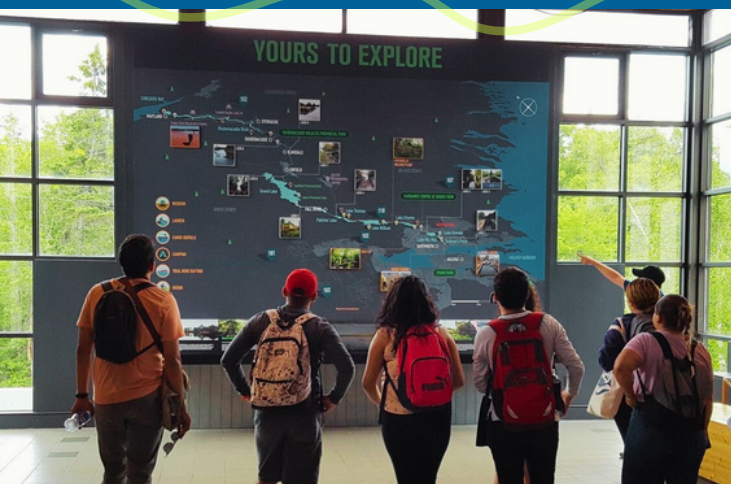
\$5 000

### LAKE WILLIAM

Acknowledgement on the leadership giving webpage

Special Listing in the Annual Report

\$1 000



## THE FAIRBANKS CENTRE

The Fairbanks Centre, located at the entrance of Shubie Park (54 Locks Road, Dartmouth), is the main interpretive centre for the Shubenacadie Waterway and serves as the headquarters for the Shubenacadie Canal Commission. It features a small museum that is open year-round during regular business hours. Admission is free. The Avery Room space can be transformed for many different events, from meetings to receptions. This destination location has made the Avery Room a very favourable venue for repeat bookings.

## GUIDED TOURS

The Shubenacadie Canal Commission historical guided tours program was a hit once again this summer and fall. Capturing the interest of young and old, volunteer Richard MacMichael lead groups through two unique tours. The first were scheduled historical hikes at Shubie Park which gave folks a glimpse into how the canal operated and the construction of the deep cut.

The second tour was onsite at the Marine Railway in Starr Park, Downtown Dartmouth. Richard welcomed the community to see the inside of the full-scale replica of the Flume House and explained the mechanics that controlled the Marine Railway. Thanks to the support we received from the Canada Summer Jobs program we were able to hire Hannah Rutherford for 9 weeks to help with the guided tours.





## WALK THE WATERWAY

2022 marked the second annual Walk the Waterway. Each week, from May to October, we sent a suggested hike to participants and provided background historical information about the site.

Through weekly emails, Nova Scotians learned about the Acadian history of the dykes, Mi'kmaq creation stories from the Bay of Fundy, the flora and fauna of the river, and the mastodons that once roamed Nova Scotia.

## SHUBIE PARK TREE LIGHTING

The Shubie Park Tree Lighting was back and bigger than ever. The event is a partnership between Councillor Tony Mancini and the Shubenacadie Canal Commission. The event featured live music, marshmallows roasted on the fire, hot chocolate and coffee donated by Tim Hortons, and a visit from Santa Claus. New this year was an outdoor movie and free popcorn.

Two short films were screened: How the Grinch Stole Christmas and Mickey's Christmas Carol. Fun was had by all.



## SHOP

Our merchandise features the Yours to Explore Logo and the original Shubenacadie seal. These items include water bottles, t-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, toques, and ball caps. Besides branded items, we also offer books and prints of canal scenes by artist Tom Forrestall. These items are available for sale at the Fairbanks Centre and online.

## DEDICATION PROGRAM

The Shubenacadie Canal Commission's dedication program was created to provide individuals and organizations the opportunity to commemorate a person, place or event, while at the same time enhancing the Shubenacadie Canal Waterway. The program includes benches at various SCC managed sites along the waterway and plaques on the Hart Bridge in Shubie Park, Dartmouth. The office sold two benches in 2022-23.

## ADOPT A LOCK

For a tax-receipt donation of \$25 or \$50, an individual may symbolically "adopt" a lock or other significant site along the canal. Each \$25 donation comes with an adoption certificate and an eight-page booklet about the site. For \$50, adopters receive the same package as the \$25 tier, plus their choice of a stuffed animal inspired by local fauna or a framed photo of the site. You can symbolically adopt the Dartmouth Marine Railway, Lock 3, Lock 4, Lock 5, and Lock 6.



# PARTNERSHIPS

As part of its efforts to generate revenues to support its operations, the SCC has implemented a few commercial initiatives in addition to the rental of the Avery Room.



## WILDWOOD WATER SPORTS

Wildwood Water Sports offered canoe and kayak rentals for recreational paddling from June to October. The service enables hundreds of locals and tourists to experience the Shubenacadie Canal the way its builders intended: from the water.



## LEMON DOGS BURGERS & LEMONADE

Lemon Dogs currently operates the Lockside Canteen, adjacent to the Fairbanks Centre. They offer a variety of items, including their uniquely flavoured lemonade, handmade freezies and ice pops, vegetarian smash burgers, and other snacks.



## CAFFÈ LUCCA

Caffè Lucca is a little Piaggio Ape 50 scooter-truck carrying a mobile espresso bar. They are based in Dartmouth, NS and serve a full menu of espresso-based drinks and delicious, locally made treats. Appreciated as much for the classic Italian coffee it serves up as it is for the magical and magnetic atmosphere it creates, this hard-working 'Ape' (Italian for bee as Vespa is for wasp) is a fun-hub.

# THE HENRY FINDLAY LOCK KEEPER AWARD



## Bill McIntyre

This annual award is presented to a friend of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission who dedicate their time and effort towards improving this provincial heritage resource and its parklands for the enjoyment of all residents and tourists.

Bill McIntyre is recognized this year for his tireless work in leading the Commission as Chair from October 2016 to June 2021. Bill actively participated not only as Chair but as a member on all committees. He was dedicated to supporting the commission mandate and during his tenure the Flume House project was completed, a very effective governance model was adopted, and the Transitions Project was launched. He is recognized as someone who has gone above and beyond and for that we remain grateful. Congratulations to Bill McIntyre!

Previous recipients of the Lock Keeper award are:

- 2001: Peter Connor, long-term planning
- 2003: Scott MacKnight, environmental design
- 2005: Ian Bailey, Portobello inclined plane archaeology
- 2007: Joe MacDonald, parkland maintenance
- 2008: Bob McDonald, trail development
- 2009: Frank Horne, heritage preservation
- 2011: John O'Connor, fundraising
- 2012: Alden Killen, marine railway model and design
- 2014: Bernie Hart, longtime volunteer and canal historian
- 2015: Mike Hughes, longtime promotion, maintenance, and development
- 2016: Darren Fisher, development and ongoing promotion
- 2017: Suzanne Roy, leadership and extraordinary volunteer commitment
- 2018: Deborah Windsor, leadership, strategic planning, and advocacy
- 2019: Warwick Lambert, digital promotion of the marine railway
- 2020: Colin Mason, marketing and communications
- 2021: Barry Hurndall, capital projects leadership

# 2022-23 DONORS

Listed below are individuals and organizations who donated to the SCC between April 1, 2022, and March 31, 2023. Thank you all for your generosity! Your support of the of the Shubenacadie Canal Commission allows us to continue with historical restoration and reconstruction work as well as the development of new sites and recreational opportunities along the canal.

## GOVERNMENT FUNDERS

### Federal Government

- Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agencies
- Canada Summer Jobs

### Halifax Regional Municipality

- Cllr Deagle-Gammon, District Capital Funds
- Cllr Mancini, District Capital Funds

### Nova Scotia Provincial Government

- Department of Natural Resources and Renewables
- Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage

### Municipality of East Hants

### Halifax Foundation

## COMMUNITY GIVING

### \$1000 +

- Deborah Windsor
- Stantec

### \$200 - \$400

- Rosemary Bulley

### \$20 - \$199

- Beverley Brown-Sweeting
- Dawn MacDonald
- Tim Aggett
- Tracey Smyth
- J Dianne Geddes
- William McIntyre
- Ann Munro
- Bob Shaw
- John Macleod
- Cathy McKelvey
- Fedora Deveau
- J. Joice
- Acadian Seaplants Ltd.
- Dartmouth Book Exchange



# ASSETS AND LAND HOLDINGS

## HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

Property	Approx. Size	P. I. D.	Registered Owner
Lock 1 Lake Banook	0.75 acres	00094474	SCC & HRM
Locks 2 & 3 Shubie Park	55+ acres in 15 parcels	00255505 to 40857898	"The Queen" & DNR
Portobello Plane	6.3 acres	40128977	DNR
Lock 4 Lake Fletcher	0.75 acres	00510065	SCC & DNR
	0.32 acres	40645608, 40705501 & 40705519	DNR
Lock 5 Wellington	14+ acres in 8 parcels	00529727 to 40705063	DNR
River Access Hwy #2	0.5 acres	40662744	DNR

# ASSETS AND LAND HOLDINGS

## MUNICIPALITY OF EAST HANTS

Property	Approx. Size	P. I. D.	Registered Owner
Lock 6	7.1 acres	45289477	SCC
Horne's Settlement	2.2 acres	45218260	DNR
Lock 7 Enfield	0.5 acres	45077419	SCC
Riverbank in Elmsdale	1.5 acres	45151743	SCC





Lock 5, Wellington (c. 1990)

Thank  
You



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[Shubenacadiecanal.ca](http://Shubenacadiecanal.ca)



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