

## Land Trust Alliance of BC Newsletter



**Land Trust Alliance**  
BRITISH COLUMBIA



### LTABC News

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**Land Conservation  
and Stewardship  
Seminar Series 2011  
April 1-3rd in Victoria  
BC**



Join us this year for our exciting, educational program on stewardship and conservation!

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### In this Issue

LTABC News  
Conservation News  
Upcoming Events  
Job Opportunities  
Board Bio  
Funding Deadlines

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**February 2011**

Hi {FIRST\_NAME|LTABC Supporter},

Don't forget to register for this year's [\*\*LTABC Seminar Series\*\*](#) held April 1st through 3rd at the Harbour Towers Hotel in Victoria, BC. Covering topics like Conservation Finance, Climate Change and Conserving Nature, and Communicating Conservation, this year's program promises to be one of the best line-up yet! Early bird rates until February 28th. For further details visit [www.landtrustalliance.bc.ca](http://www.landtrustalliance.bc.ca).



The Land Trust Alliance of British Columbia believes the strength of land trusts in our province lies in the work volunteers, donors, staff, and others do to protect and conserve British Columbia. **We are pleased to announce the new revamped Land Awards for 2011.**

This new awards program is designed to showcase the exemplary achievements land trusts – large and small – in BC. In one community, a volunteer may contribute hundreds of hours to establishing a land trust while in another a donor may financially make acquiring a property possible. LTABC encourage nominations from all members as submissions will be evaluated based on scale and land trust capacity.

For more information of the **2011 Land Awards** or for a nomination package, please email [info@landtrustalliance.bc.ca](mailto:info@landtrustalliance.bc.ca). Nominations are due by February 28, 2011.

Sincerely,  
Paul McNair



## Board Bio



**Lisa Fox** has spent the last twenty one years in the non-profit environmental sector. She is a Wild BC Facilitator and owns her own Environmental Education business, Fox Trax, under which she has provided in-service workshops for hundreds of formal and non-formal teachers and written two educational curriculum documents. Hired as the coordinator for the Abbotsford Land Trust in 2002, Lisa successfully raised funds to continue the work of the land trust while transitioning the Society to its own separate and independent board and diversifying the land trust's funding structure. In 2005, Lisa was instrumental in moving the local trust into a regional scope and has built up the credibility and profile of Fraser Valley Conservancy to have three full time staff and one part time staff.

In addition to her role as Executive Director at FVC, Lisa has extensive experience in organizational governance models and has been involved in the

Executive Director

## Conservation News

### Oyster River environmental 'pearl' to be protected in new nature park

- Environment Canada, Ducks Unlimited Canada

(DUC) and the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) announced the purchase of a woodland river floodplain along Oyster River, Shelter Point Farms, and the creation of a new protected wildlife area called Bear Creek Nature Park.



Former host to a world-renowned pansy seed farm, University of British Columbia experimental site, dairy farm and now whiskey distillery, Shelter Point Farms is well known in the community. As one of the largest, intact stretches of ocean front farmland on Vancouver Island at 357 acres, the farm currently grows vegetables, grains and berries for market and use at its distillery. Get the full story [here](#).

### A riverside property in the Chilliwack River Valley has been donated to the Abbotsford-based Fraser Valley Conservancy (FVC) by the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD)

- The property, at 48513 Auchenway Rd., will be used for conservation purposes in perpetuity and connects Crown land to provincial parkland. FVC needs your help to raise \$20,000 for the recently acquired property as it is in need of habitat restoration and rehabilitation work. Restoration of both riparian and terrestrial habitats is crucial to support a significant wildlife corridor that connects crown land to provincial park land. For more information on the project or to give a donation, click [here](#).

### Field guide to coastal B.C.'s rare species now available on-line

- A central database of coastal B.C.'s rare species is now only a common mouse away. Factsheets on 95 plants and animals at risk have been posted on a central website serving as an on-line field guide for forest and wildlife managers and an educational tool for the public. Click [here](#) for more info.

### Fairy Fen Nature Reserve Management Plan: Public Consultation

- The Islands Trust Fund and Bowen Island Conservancy are planning the future of the Fairy Fen Nature



Reserve. They are asking the community for input on how the Reserve and its sensitive ecosystems should be managed and stewarded in the future. Download and complete their questionnaire by February 28th and find out more information [here](#).

formation of two Societies, one Corporation, and an agricultural fund. Lisa is a member of three National Recovery Teams for Species-at-Risk: Pacific Watershrew, Phantom Orchid and Townsends Mole. She currently serves as co-chair of the Land Trust Alliance of BC.



**Wendy Innes** has worked for [The Land Conservancy](#) since 2006 and has been fortunate to work within many areas of the organization from monitoring conservation covenants to fundraising. She is currently responsible for overseeing the membership division of the organization and enjoys working with members, donors, volunteers and staff across the province. Through growing up on Vancouver Island, many years as a Kayak Guide in Clayoquot Sound and through her B.Sc. in Geography from the University of Victoria, Wendy has a deep appreciation for the places that make BC unique and is very excited to be working to protect them. In her spare time, Wendy can be found pursuing one of her many passions including sailing, traveling, snowboarding, and surfing. Currently, Wendy is LTABC's Board Secretary.

**Benchlands important for future** - The District of Invermere's Nature Conservancy Canada (NCC) branch's office staff met at Kicking Horse Coffee Cafe on February 10 for an information session regarding their work, specifically with the conservation of the Marion Creek Benchlands. The Benchlands is a 504 acre plot of land, located on the west side of Columbia Lake in the Upper Columbia Valley and Rocky Mountain Trench, close to Fairmont, Canal Flats, and Invermere. The property ranges from grassland and open Douglas fir forests to a wetland complex of marsh and riparian habitat. Read more [here](#).

**Vancouver Foundation is celebrating young ideas for green neighbourhoods** - If you are aged 6 to 24, we're challenging you to come up with your best idea for a project (big or small) on how to improve the environment in a Vancouver neighbourhood. Your project can take place on a Vancouver street or local neighbourhood, and/or at a school, community centre, Neighbourhood House, library or other community facility. The top 20 projects (10 small and 10 big) will be picked by an independent panel of youth and environmental experts. Small projects will get \$1,250 and big projects will be awarded \$12,500 to help make the idea a reality. Apply by March 4. For more information, click [here](#).

**Conservation Groups Join to Help BC Protect the Flathead River Valley** **Historic agreement supports long-term conservation** - The Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) have announced a multi-million dollar funding commitment to help remove major threats to British Columbia's Flathead River Valley – a spectacular wilderness area that straddles the Canada-U.S. border. The two leading conservation organizations will provide \$9.4 million to the Province of British Columbia to help offset the costs of enacting a historic memorandum of understanding signed a year ago by BC Premier Gordon Campbell and the Governor of the State of Montana, Brian Schweitzer. That agreement permanently prohibits coal mining as well as exploration and development of oil, gas and mineral resources on nearly 400,000 acres (160,000 hectares) in southeast British Columbia. In addition, the conservation groups will assist the BC government in maintaining and enhancing high conservation standards in the natural area in order to protect the rich diversity of plant and animal life. Get the full story [here](#).



**Islands Trust 2011 Community Stewardship Awards**  
**Nominations open** - The Islands Trust 2011 Community Stewardship Awards Program is now open for nominations. If you know of a person, business or group that has made a big

Board Secretary.

*Thank you to Lisa,  
Wendy and all of our  
hardworking board  
members!*

## Funding Deadlines

### Real Estate Foundation

#### Student Bursaries, March 1

- Real Estate Foundation of BC will be making a limited number of bursaries available to non-profit organizations to encourage the hiring of students for co-op education terms or internships. The purpose of this program is to provide a valuable learning opportunity for a student which will promote their knowledge of sustainable and responsible land use as well as help a non-profit organization doing work related to the Foundation's mandate access a valuable human resource.

### Mountain Equipment Coop

#### - Community Contribution

#### Grants, March 10 -

Applications for Land Acquisition, Capacity Building, Research, Advocacy and Education, and Access support are accepted twice a year: March 10 and September 10. Product Donation applications are accepted anytime.

### The Canadian Wildlife

#### Federation Endangered

#### Species Fund, March 15 -

The Endangered Species Fund provides researchers with funding for research on species at risk in Canada.

difference to life on your island, please nominate them. "Through this program we honour the organizations and people who make our communities better," said Sheila Malcolmson, Chair of the Islands Trust Council. "Members of the public can nominate any individual, group, organization, school or classroom that has protected the environment or enhanced a community in the Trust Area." Read more [here](#).

**IdealWare: A Few Good Online Survey Tools** - Online surveys can be a huge help in understanding what your constituents think and how successful your programs are, without breaking your budget. Last year we spoke to five non profit staff members to understand how existing online survey tools compare—this is an update of that article with current information about the tools' features and pricing. Read more [here](#).

### **BC Advisory Council for Social Entrepreneurship**

- The Advisory Council on Social Entrepreneurship, made up of members from business, government and community (including David LePage from enp), met today for the first time to discuss how to implement and maximize the potential of the business sector for innovative responses to social issues in BC. Premier Gordon Campbell, Finance Minister Colin Hansen, Parliamentary Secretary for Social Entrepreneurship Gordon Hogg, B.C. MLAs, and members of the Advisory Council for Social Entrepreneurship met in Vancouver to discuss how to implement and maximize the potential of the business sector for innovative responses to social issues in B.C. February 7, 2011. Learn what they had to say [here](#).

### **Forest Minister to protect Ancient Trees**

- Forests minister Pat Bell said Friday that ancient trees in British Columbia need more



protection than they now have under existing legislation. The minister's acknowledgment that more needs to be done to protect monumental trees is not exactly a revelation. Environmental groups, particularly the Ancient Forest Alliance and the Wilderness Committee have been pushing for it for years. However, it took the government's own advisory group, the independent Forest Practices Board to climb on board before Victoria responded. Read more [here](#).

### **Effects of agriculture on adjacent grassland studied**

- Tanis Gieselman's UBC thesis project investigated changes in grassland plant communities affected by habitat fragmentation due to roads and agriculture. Significant edge-related changes in plant composition were present near paved roads and fruit crops. When edge-related changes were present, they extended on average about 30 m from the developed edge. This means that a grassland patch would need to be at least one acre in size to maintain a

Projects must address marine or freshwater species at risk in Canada particularly those designated by COSEWIC as at-risk or data deficient. The fund will focus primarily on aquatic and marine species. It will also consider projects addressing iconic, terrestrial species at risk.

**Nature Conservancy of Canada's Natural Areas Conservation Fund, April 1** - Please be advised that the Nature Conservancy of Canada will be accepting applications from "Other Qualified Organizations" for the Natural Areas Conservation Fund. Please read more details about the application guidelines and process [here](#).

**enterprising non-profits, May 26** - The next grant deadline is May 26, 2011, so if you haven't attended a workshop, which is required before applying, sign up for one of our spring social enterprise orientation sessions. Workshops are in Vancouver (March 15), Squamish (March 17), Victoria (March 22), Campbell River (March 24), Trail (April 11), Cranbrook (April 13), Vernon (April 18), Revelstoke (April 20), Smithers (April 26), Vanderhoof (April 27), Williams Lake (April 29) and Fort St. John (May 3).

minimal amount of the interior core composition. There was also an increase in invasive plant species at the edges of paved roads and reduced cryptogam cover. Tanis is interested in collaborating with the conservation network, native plant nurseries, and other grassland stakeholders. For details contact [Tanis.Gieselman@gmail.com](mailto:Tanis.Gieselman@gmail.com).

**Pocket Guide for Road Maintenance Contractors** - The Invasive Plant Council of BC has assisted the BC Ministry of Transportation and Highways by producing "Best Practices for Managing Invasive Plants on Roadsides". Read it [here](#).

**SSI Conservancy school program gets \$10K from Ducks Unlimited** - The Salt Spring Island Conservancy started 2011 with good news for its Stewards in Training School Program following a new partnership and \$10,000 in funding from Ducks Unlimited. The organization is a partial owner of Ford Lake and has previously allowed the conservancy to conduct its education programs for Grade 2-3 and 6-7 students on site. Grade 2- 3 class members learn about wetland stewardship while creating a nature journal, examining freshwater invertebrates (insects) and weaving with natural wetland plant material. Grade 6-7 students go to the lake to learn about beaver ponds, marshes and how to tell if a creek is healthy. Get the full story [here](#).

**Food Security Focus of Islands Trust Report** - The Islands Trust has released a report on food security in the Islands Trust Area that highlights the importance of food security and provides a foundation for developing model policies at the local level to help islanders to grow more food. During the December 2010 Trust Council meeting in Victoria, Islands Trust Council endorsed and supported the recommendations in the report titled "Exploring Food Security in the Islands Trust Area." Read the report [here](#).

## Upcoming Events

**Softshores for Shoreline Care Workshop, February 19th, Mayne Island** - The Mayne Island Conservancy Society (MICS) is pleased to invite you to Softshores for Shoreline Care. The purpose of this informational workshop is to provide a forum for collaboratively deciding on next steps for marine conservation in the region. This gathering is timely because the Islands Trust recently adopted Green Shores for Homes. Get more information [here](#).

**Soil Bioengineering Workshop, February 19th and 20th, Cowichan Station** – Please join the Cowichan Land Trust for this two day workshop. Soil bioengineering is an applied science that uses live plant materials to perform an engineering function such as slope stabilization, soil erosion control, or seepage control.

This two day course will focus on soil bioengineering techniques and options involved in restoration and reclamation of damaged ecosystems using a combination of structural materials, vegetative cuttings and other specialized methods. For more information, please click [here](#).

**Celebration and Information Session for Comox's Northeast Woods, February 23rd, Comox**

- The CVCS, a growing coalition of 17 local environmental and residents' associations, invites the public to come out and learn about the strategy to protect the integrity of the Northeast Woods in Comox. The Northeast Woods has been called the "Stanley Park" of Comox. This large natural area has sensitive ecosystem lands that include natural springs, mature second growth forest, meadows, wetlands, and important wildlife habitat. The area is also used by local residents for recreation and acts as a living laboratory for students of the local schools. However, nearly twenty well-used hectares of these woods, occupying approximately one half of District Lot 194, remain unprotected. More information can be found [here](#).

**Salt Spring Island Conservancy presents David Suzuki: Force of Nature, February 26th, Salt Spring Island** - David Suzuki will lead a public discussion following a screening of Force of Nature: the David Suzuki Movie. The documentary is a sort of 'last lecture', which David describes as – "a distillation of my life and thoughts, my legacy, what I want to say before I die". For tickets or more information, click [here](#).

**Get off the couch to give a hoot, March 3, Skaha** - Join traditional knowledge keepers Richard Armstrong & Chad Eneas, biologists Dick Cannings & Michael Bezener, park supervisor Mark Weston and other owl friends to learn about the secret life of the Okanagan's Endangered Western Screech-Owl and what it takes to protect them and their stream-side habitats. We hope to share an encounter with this elusive species at-risk. Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Alliance, Reconnect Event, Skaha Conservation Area, Smythe Road (off Eastside Road) Skaha Lake. Contact [amb.aic@telus.net](mailto:amb.aic@telus.net) for details.

**TLC's Mason Bee Workshop, March 5th, Burnaby** - Learn how to have happy healthy mason bees in your garden with Brian Campbell. Brian has a certificate in Permaculture Design, is a Certified Bee Master, and is very active in food security and conservation issues. In this introduction to the native Blue Orchard Mason Bee you will learn about their life cycle and how to attract them to your garden. There will be a hands-on opportunity to wash cocoons and identify some common diseases and pests of these gentle beneficial insects. Mason Bee cocoons will be available for purchase at the workshop. Refreshments and snacks will be provided. To register or get more information, click [here](#).

**Habitat Acquisition Trust's 2011 Annual Gala Dinner, March 10th, Victoria** - HAT is pleased to announce its Gala Dinner on Thursday, March 10, 2011 at the Fireside Grill. This Green Tie Dinner is HAT's premier fundraising event of the year, and are pleased to be joined by distinguished guests, our host /A\ TV's Erick Thompson, keynote speaker Dr. Chris Darimont and noted jazz guitarist Rob Cheramy. Other highlights include a silent auction featuring unique items donated by local businesses and the presentation of HAT's Conservation Legacy Award. For more information or to reserve tickets, click [here](#).



**Join CRA for a webinar where you can learn more about the tools and learning resources available to help you comply with the Canada Revenue Agency's Guidance on Fundraising**  
- Apply the practices and guidelines to your next fundraising campaign, event or even your existing fundraising practices. Check out their webinar schedule [here](#).

## Job Opportunities

**Executive Assistant, Northwest Wildlife Preservation Society, Burnaby** - NWPS is a non-profit environmental education organization based in Burnaby. The Society is seeking the services of a full-time Executive Assistant to manage the day to day operations of the organization. This position reports directly to the Executive Director and Board and requires a committed, mature and resourceful individual. There is an opportunity for advancement if the successful applicant shows the necessary strengths and achievements. Get more information [here](#) by February 18.

**Development Officer, Grants, David Suzuki Foundation, Vancouver** – The Development Officer, Grants works as a member of DSF's Major Gifts team to raise funds from grant making foundations. This portfolio includes proactive fundraising in support of the strategic priority areas, collaboration and coordination with other development programs and initiatives, finance and program staff to ensure the development of donor strategies, relationships and ongoing stewardship. For more information, click [here](#) by February 20.

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