



FRIENDS OF NATURE
CONSERVATION SOCIETY

CHESTER, NOVA SCOTIA, B0J 1J0 CANADA
Telephone: 902-275-3361 Martin R. Haase, Executive Secretary

Friends of Nature 64rd Annual General Meeting

October 11, 2017

Saint Stephens Community Hall, Chester, NS

1. Introductions:

1. MLA Hugh MacKay, Ray Plourde, Connie Duchene, Danielle Barkhouse

2. Activities

1. Our Founder, Rudy's celebration of Life was held just one year ago. We pause to remember Rudy.

1. First Rudy and Mickie Scholarship awarded to Gabrielle Rivard

1. We plan to make this an annual event – please donate

2. Farmers markets: we were represented at several farmers markets this year thanks to Ed Porter and Andy Breen

3. Campaigns

1. Biomass & Forestry, especially clear cutting

1. Continue to be a Founding Member of the Healthy Forest Coalition

2. Continued to write letters and meet politicians to point out the harmful effects of forestry practices generally, clear cutting, clearcutting in old growth areas and biomass.

3. Promoted carbon credits for forests utilizing selective cutting

4. Presentation to Bill Lahey's Forest Inquiry

1. Disappointed in:

1. Government's lack of response to the Lahey Report

2. Lack of reference of Biomass

3. Recommendation to subsidize spraying of a version of Agent Orange over our forests

4. No recommendations to restrict clear cutting on private lands

5. No recommendation for FSC certification

5. Documentary tonight, thanks to EAC

4. Government:

1. Meeting with MLA Hugh MacKay –very positive



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1. Serving on an advisory Board to MLA MacKay
2. Met MP Bernadette Jordan, agreement on whitefish but little else
5. Many letters to government, editors, phone in calls, etc.
6. Participated in a protest march in Pictou re mill effluent organized by Ray Plourde of EAC and others
7. Fracking: continued to monitor and write letters supporting the ban
8. Salmon farming: continued to recommend boycotts and write letters exposing the detrimental effects to the environment and native salmon gene pools.
9. Offshore oil exploration: Continued to write letters and meet politicians to point out the potential disastrous effects of a spill and the harmful effects to marine life from sonic booms, aka seismic testing.
10. Spoke out against mining and golf courses in Protected Areas
11. Atlantic Whitefish: Letters and support for Andy' Breen's campaign through BACF. Good news! 20 fingerlings found and saved for a breeding program
12. Childrens' Island picnics were scuppered by the insurance industry
13. Student involvement: Maria Kirby Breen represented us at Forest Heights Community High School promoting the environment and green practices and co-leading a student walk to Labrador castle with MODC rec.
14. Shoreline protection:
 1. Participated in a public information session hosted by ECLAW and EAC in anticipation of upcoming provincial legislation for shoreline protection
 2. Participated in two MODC public meetings on zoning for areas outside the Village. Wrote MODC re island lot sizes (partially successful) and shoreline protection (unsuccessful).
15. Environmental Justice
 1. Our own director Jamie Simpson continued NS's first private prosecution against polluters
16. Protected Areas:
 1. Continued to support Panuke and Holden Lake
 2. Birch Cove Blue Mountain
 1. Partners with EAC, meetings with Mayor Savage
17. Tree planting
 1. OHC- 5 trees



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18. Website –most excellent thanks to Grace Bezanson

Thanks to Directors:

1. Ed Porter – schooner man and long-time director and past Chair
2. Brad Armstrong – Conservation Director
3. Shelia Knowlton-MacRury - Secretary , Nominations & convener
4. Ken MacRury – in house forester
5. Maria Kirby Breen - Membership
6. Andy Breen- Treasurer
7. Sandy D – convener, hostess of meetings,
8. Special thanks to Grace Bezanson -web master
9. Jamie Simpson – sustainable forester
10. Elizabeth May - Director and ambassador and conscience for us all.
11. Ambassadors to America: Liz and Ted Brainard

Welcome to new director: Shanna Frederick

Syd Dumaresq, Chair, Friends of Nature

Show documentary “Burned”