

**NATURE CONSERVANCY OF THE NORTH OKANAGAN SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT OF DIRECTORS FOR 2022
for the 22st Annual General Meeting – April 26, 2023**

Officers and Directors

Officers:

President – John Ensing Secretary - Marnie Williamson
Vice-President – Al McNiven Treasurer - Bill Wagner

Board Members:

Andrew Miller - Director
Jeff Ward - Director

General Meetings held in 2022

Regular Board meetings were held Jan 19, February 23, April 6, May 11 (also the 2021 AGM date), June 15, September 21, October 19, and November 23.

Conservation Covenants

Clerke Nature Reserve (Vernon)

The annual monitoring of the property will be completed in the spring of 2023.

Woodland Haven Bird Sanctuary (Spallumcheen)

Directors Al McNiven and John Ensing conducted an annual monitoring on October 6, 2022. It was concluded that the property meets the requirements specified by the covenant.

Windfalls Nature Conservancy [Middle Shuswap River]

The annual monitoring of the property will be completed in the spring of 2023.

Tassie Properties ("Phina Tassie Conservation Area", Coldstream Creek)

Both sites of the Phina Tassie Conservation Area will be monitored in the spring of 2023

Anne Tchvyl Covenant (Coldstream Creek)

A monitor visit was conducted on October 19, 2022. We are consulting with the landowner regarding the control of Scotch Thistle; in the future we would also like to facilitate an update of the woody species composition of the site. It was concluded that the property meets the requirements specified by the covenant.

Covenants in Process

NCNO is currently also working on a conservation covenant on land near the Shuswap River east of Lumby. The Montgomery Road Conservation Covenant is approaching completion. It consists of 25.5 ha of forested land located between Lumby and Cherryville. Primarily a south-facing slope just north of Highway 6, this site is a dry interior forest dominated by Douglas Fir, Ponderosa Pine, Paper Birch,

Western Redcedar, Black Cottonwood and Trembling Aspen. The land contains a mix of forested areas, previously disturbed sites and rocky outcrops that provide significant wildlife habitat for mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

Last year's AGM report also reported on a query by a landowner asking if NCNO might be interested in a conservation covenant that permits a limited timber harvest as part of a managed forest agreement. The landowner of this potential covenant is considering a report by a forestry consultant funded jointly by the landowner and NCNO. Meanwhile, the discussion of this type of covenant has led to a consideration of the long-term ecology of conservation covenants in wildland urban interface areas that is typical of several of our existing conservation covenants.

Other

Jeff Ward was appointed as a Director of NCNO. The Board is actively recruiting additional Board members.

NCNO has completed its revision of its Strategic Plan, which also includes a review of the Vision and Mission Statements. The revised document will be included in a 2023 update of the Directors' Manual.

NCNO is represented on the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee, whose functions include providing input to RDNO on its 2022 Report on Trails and Natural Spaces.

Over the past 15 years, NCNO has been successful in establishing conservation covenants on a growing number of properties in the North Okanagan. The Board is currently considering if NCNO has reached a size in which professional administrative assistance is required to assist in record keeping, document filing, meeting our Society obligations and in providing continuity to our Board over time.

NCNO appreciates the support of its patrons as well as the continuing financial support of the Greater Vernon Services Commission [North Okanagan Regional District].