

PEI Watershed Alliance 2019-2020 Activities

Report to the PEI Watershed Management Fund

Prepared by Mary Finch

Composition of PEI Watershed Alliance Board:

The PEI Watershed Alliance held its' Annual General Meeting on April 25th, 2019. The board for the 2019 – 2020 year included:

Western Region	Central Region	Eastern Region
Dale Cameron – <i>Trout Unlimited, Prince County Chapter</i>	Jim Jenkins – <i>Friends of Covehead- Brackley Bays Ltd.</i>	Fred Cheverie- <i>Souris and Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation</i> *Vice-Chairperson
Jason Campbell – <i>Harmony and Area Watershed Enhancement Group</i>	Mike Durant – <i>Central Queens Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation</i> *Chairperson	Emilie Morrell – <i>Hillsborough Area Watershed Cooperative</i> *Secretary
Karen Rank – <i>Lot 11 and Area Watershed Management Group</i> *Treasurer	Johanna Kelly – <i>Kensington North Watersheds Association</i>	Scott Roloson – <i>Belfast Area Watershed Group</i>

Activities of the PEI Watershed Alliance:

The PEI Watershed Alliance Board met 9 times throughout the year to discuss watershed management activities, work and issues of the member groups (minutes available online:

https://peiwatershedalliance.org/?page_id=26162). The role of the PEI Watershed Alliance is to empower Island watershed groups to achieve their goals by promoting cooperation, serving their needs and by promoting a strong, united voice on addressing Island-wide watershed issues. Some of the issues dealt with this year by the Alliance included:

- Communicating with newly elected provincial government officials including presentations and discussion with all political caucuses.
- Advocating for increases to WMF and group funding and continued discussion with government over WMF formula
- Communicating with Agricultural community including participation in the Agri-Watershed Partnership and discussions regarding high capacity well research.
- Highlighting Conservation License plates as a way to help PEI wildlife and conservation projects
- Participating in provincial *Water Act* consultations
- Providing comment for DFO's *Aquaculture Act* consultation
- Initial discussion with Holland College regarding a PEI Watershed Centre of Excellence
- Managing PEI Watershed Alliance's Coastal Restoration Fund (DFO) project:

- Increased training and learning opportunities for groups
 - Development of demonstration rehabilitation projects
 - Maintaining and adding to equipment bank
- Expansion of resources in equipment bank with funding from other sources (WCF, Forested Landscape Priority Places) to include:
 - Outreach and education materials including wildlife track kits
 - Wildlife survey equipment including bat and bird acoustic detectors
 - Promotional materials to highlight the Wildlife Conservation License plates
- Managing PEI Watershed Alliance's Atlantic Ecosystems Initiative project:
 - Addressing water quality issues through monitoring of sediment and nutrient input into watercourses and utilization of BMPs
- Participating in Living Laboratory Initiative through Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada with East Prince Agri Environmentalists.
 - Lead on a Best Management Practice (BMP) project looking at wetlands as a way to improve water quality due to agricultural run-off
- Hiring an equipment manager tasked with the following duties:
 - Facilitating sharing of Alliance equipment to all groups
 - Training groups on equipment use
 - Maintaining equipment
 - Assisting with field work and providing administrative support to the Alliance and groups
 - Assisting with data upload to Atlantic DataStream
- Improving communication with groups and stakeholders
 - Frequent updates to the website posting board minutes online
 - Increased presence on Facebook and Instagram
 - Weekly update email to groups
 - Maintaining mobile data upload feature and Google team drive for database management
- Participating in committees and working groups related to Island watershed management including:
 - Agri-Watershed Partnership (Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Committees)
 - Wildlife Conservation Fund Advisory Committee
 - PEI Environmental Advisory Committee
 - ClimateSense Program Steering Committee
 - Atlantic Water Network
 - Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation Advisory Committee
 - AquaHacking Challenge– the Alliance is a Water Issue Leader for the sediment and agricultural run-off issue
 - Project Manager, Watershed Ecologist and Equipment Manager took part in numerous conferences and training on and off island
- Fostering communication and partnerships between watershed groups and other stakeholders
 - Held brainstorming sessions with groups to discuss potential watershed projects

- Organized meetings with provincial biologists and groups to discuss research and monitoring initiatives
 - Undertook gap analysis of watershed group activities within Forested Landscape to help with future project planning including discussion with interested stakeholders
 - Hosted a UPEI Environmental Studies Intern who assisted with literature reviews and field work
- A list of project proposals that the Alliance is involved with includes:
- Lead on Proposal:
- Habitat Stewardship Program –DFO for salmon
 - Habitat Stewardship Program – ECCC for bats
- Involved in the following projects:
- Canada Nature Fund Aquatic Species at Risk Program through DFO with Abegweit Conservation Society. Assisting 3 watershed groups involved in this project
 - Canada Nature Fund Forested Landscape Priority Place through ECCC with Provincial Fish and Wildlife
 - Canada Nature Fund North American Waterfowl Management Plan through ECCC with Nature Conservancy Canada
 - Canada Nature Fund Community Nominated Priority Places through ECCC with Island Nature Trust

Descriptions of work related to the funded activities listed in the PEI Watershed Alliance’s Watershed Management Fund Contract (Schedule A) is provided below:

- 1) Provide training and technical support for Island watershed groups areas such as stream restoration, riparian zone management and forest management, among other things;**
- Having Coastal Restoration Funding (DFO) meant that the Alliance could increase the amount of subsidized training and capacity building offered to groups. Courses offered in 2019 – 2020 included:
 - MacPhail Woods Ecological Forestry Training (2 courses)
 - In-stream rehabilitation technique demonstration with Central Queens Wildlife Federation (Over 30 participants!)
 - Backpack Electrofishing Certification (Including training the trainer component for Watershed Ecologist and Provincial Freshwater Fish Biologist)
 - Wildlife Workshop including training on creating backyard wildlife friendly habitat with Canadian Wildlife Federation
 - Project Management Course including information on completing large fish passage projects including presentation from Alan McLennan
 - Offered CRI course: River management in addressing conflicting priorities and long-term maintenance
 - Atlantic Salmon walks with Daryl Guignion and Gary Schneider to look at habitat conditions and provide information on rehabilitation options (1 offering in Pisquid, 1 in O’Leary)
 - Culvert mitigation training with Nova Scotia Adopt-a-Stream staff
 - Atlantic DataStream upload and data management training
 - ClimateSense 101 and 102 training with UPEI Climate Lab

- PIT tagging training sessions with Sean Landsman

2) Coordinate Silviculture Lesson Plan Training

- Two courses offered this past year had watershed group participation (Wellington and Southampton).

3) Coordinate First Aid Training for Island watershed groups

- 2 First Aid Training courses for watershed groups were offered groups this past year, one course offered in O’Leary and one in Hunter River. Fees were covered for groups by the Alliance.

4) Coordinate the 3rd Party Liability Insurance Policy for Island watershed groups

- 3rd Party Liability Insurance was offered to all watershed groups who receive money under the PEI Watershed Management Fund. (Attachment 1).
- Watershed Alliance is investigating options for a Group Benefit plan for interested groups that would include medical, dental and life insurance for participants.

5) Work with Government to begin implementation of the PEI Watershed Management Strategy

- Some parts of the strategy worked on this year include:
 - Goal 1, short-term strategy 5, working with Atlantic Water Network/Hillsborough River Association and Department of ECCW to upload water quality information to Atlantic DataStream so that information is available to groups and the public. Hiring of an equipment manager to assist in data upload and analyses.
 - Goal 1, long-term strategy 2 and Goal 4, short-term strategy 6, Discussion and debate with industry and academia about possible research into high capacity well extraction on water resources and wildlife. **Alliance involvement is pending a membership discussion and vote.
 - Goal 2, short-term strategy 3&4; and Goal 3, short-term strategy 1, working with Agricultural Community and Government (Provincial and Federal) on the following BMP projects: Agri-Watershed Partnership, Alliance’s AEI project, AAFC’s Living Laboratory Project.
 - Goal 4, short-term strategy 4, working with Department of ECCW on ClimateSense advisory committee and involved in Forested Landscape Project
 - Goal 4, short-term strategy 6, within the CRF and AEI projects, the Alliance is working with academia (UPEI, St. Mary’s University) on watershed relevant projects including fish passage, oyster reefs, Agricultural BMPs
 - Goal 5, short-term strategy 2, working with Department of ECCW on Climate Change. PEI Watershed Alliance is a member of the ClimateSense program. Watershed groups were subsidized to attend ClimateSense 101 and 102 training in October.


6) Share and disseminate information with Island watershed groups

- The PEI Watershed Alliance maintains a website, Instagram, Facebook page and email distribution list to facilitate sharing and dissemination of relevant information to groups. On average posts are made 3 times weekly to groups alerting them of opportunities, information and events.
- Use of Google Team Drive to share information with groups including pictures, presentations, articles and other resources. An example is that Wildlife Folder where groups can access template outreach presentations and educational materials.
- Numerous training, demonstrations and networking events were held this year. All training events have a networking component to facilitate discussion between groups. For example, a Holiday social was held following the November meeting where groups could casually discuss watershed management.

7) Host Watershed Conference, Fall/Winter 2019.

- A watershed conference was held on November 27 in Charlottetown with approximately 60 participants. Attached is an agenda from this event (Attachment 2)

Attachment 1: Insurance certificate showing liability insurance for watershed groups

CSIO		CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE								
<p>This certificate is issued as a matter of information only and confers no rights upon the certificate holder and imposes no liability on the insurer. This certificate does not amend, extend or alter the coverage afforded by the policies below.</p>										
1. CERTIFICATE HOLDER - NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS			2. INSURED'S FULL NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS							
Proof Of Insurance / Groups/ List attached			PEI Watershed Groups c/o PEI Watershed Alliance Inc.							
			PO Box 377							
Alpharetta	GA	POSTAL CODE	Kensington	Prince Edward Island	POSTAL CODE C0B 1M0					
3. DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS/LOCATIONS/AUTOMOBILES/SPECIAL ITEMS TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE APPLIES (but only with respect to the operations of the Named Insured)										
Environmental Management, Watershed Restoration and Tree Planting - List of Groups attached										
4. COVERAGES										
<p>This is to certify that the policies of Insurance listed below have been issued to the Insured named above for the policy period indicated notwithstanding any requirements, terms or conditions of any contract or other document with respect to which this certificate may be issued or may pertain. The insurance afforded by the policies described herein is subject to all terms, exclusions and conditions of such policies.</p>										
LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS										
TYPE OF INSURANCE	INSURANCE COMPANY AND POLICY NUMBER	EFFECTIVE DATE YYYY/MM/DD	EXPIRY DATE YYYY/MM/DD	LIMITS OF LIABILITY (Canadian dollars unless indicated otherwise)						
				COVERAGE	DED.	AMOUNT OF INSURANCE				
COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS MADE OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCURRENCE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRODUCTS AND / OR COMPLETED OPERATIONS <input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYER'S LIABILITY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CROSS LIABILITY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TENANTS LEGAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> POLLUTION LIABILITY EXTENSION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOMOBILES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOMOBILES	Northbridge Financial Corporation - P04031505	2019/07/26	2020/07/26	COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY	\$1,000	\$5,000,000				
				BODILY INJURY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE LIABILITY			- GENERAL AGGREGATE	\$5,000,000		
								- EACH OCCURRENCE		\$5,000,000
								PRODUCTS AND COMPLETED OPERATIONS AGGREGATE		\$5,000,000
								<input type="checkbox"/> PERSONAL INJURY LIABILITY OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PERSONAL AND ADVERTISING INJURY LIABILITY		\$5,000,000
								MEDICAL PAYMENTS		\$25,000
								TENANTS LEGAL LIABILITY		\$500,000
								POLLUTION LIABILITY EXTENSION		
								NON OWNED AUTOMOBILE		\$5,000,000
				AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> DESCRIBED AUTOMOBILES <input type="checkbox"/> ALL OWNED AUTOMOBILES <input type="checkbox"/> LEASED AUTOMOBILES ** ** ALL AUTOMOBILES LEASED IN EXCESS OF 30 DAYS WHERE THE INSURED IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE INSURANCE				BODILY INJURY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE COMBINED		
BODILY INJURY (PER PERSON)										
BODILY INJURY (PER ACCIDENT)										
PROPERTY DAMAGE										
EACH OCCURRENCE										
AGGREGATE										
EXCESS LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> UMBRELLA FORM <input type="checkbox"/>										
OTHER LIABILITY (SPECIFY) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Directors' & Officers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Northbridge Financial Corporation - P04031505	2019/07/26	2020/07/26			\$1,000,000				
5. CANCELLATION										
Should any of the above described policies be cancelled before the expiration date thereof, the issuing company will endeavour to mail 30 days written notice to the certificate holder named above, but failure to mail such notice shall impose no obligation or liability of any kind upon the company, its agents or representatives.										
6. BROKERAGE/AGENCY FULL NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS			7. ADDITIONAL INSURED NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS (but only with respect to the operations of the Named Insured)							
Charlie Cooke Insurance Agency Ltd			Proof Of Insurance / Groups/ List attached							
125 Pownal Street										
Charlottetown	PE	POSTAL CODE C1A 3W4								
BROKER CLIENT ID: PEIW55			Alpharetta	GA	POSTAL CODE					
8. CERTIFICATE AUTHORIZATION										
ISSUER Charlie Cooke Insurance Agency Ltd			CONTACT NUMBER(S)							
AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE Scott Cameron			TYPE Main NO. (902) 566-5665 x4819 TYPE Fax NO. (902) 566-4662							
SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE 			DATE July 29, 2019 EMAIL ADDRESS scameron@cooke.ca							

Attachment 2: Agenda from the Winter Meeting of the PEI Watershed Alliance.

PEI Watershed Alliance Fall Meeting

November 27th, 6pm - 9pm

Bar 1911, Charlottetown

6:00pm - Welcome and summary of recent Watershed Alliance activities

6:20pm - Financial Review

6:25pm - Watershed Ecologist Report

6:35pm - Project Manager Update

6:45pm - Break

7:00pm - Monitoring Initiatives - Matt Ginn, Wildlife Biologist, Forests, Fish and Wildlife, ECCW

7:30pm - Agri Watershed Partnership - Chair of Alliance; and Gwen Vessey, Agrologist

8:00pm - Social

9:00pm - Closing Remarks

