

NEWSLETTER

November
2015



Nature Moncton

***Celebrating Over
40 years***

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**"Frequently updated
message line"**

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www.naturemoncton.org

November 17, 2015 Meeting Program

Tony Diamond and the changes in bird life in and around the Bay of Fundy

For the last 20 years Tony Diamond has been privileged to be involved with a variety of studies of birds up and down the Bay of Fundy. In addition to being one of the most respected professional ornithologists of our province he has fostered the love of birds and the knowledge of our avifauna in a myriad of students over his several decades as a professor at UNB. Based on his wealth of experience Tony will try to summarize for us, the major changes he has seen in that time in and around the waters of the bay, illustrated with some examples of case studies ranging from sandpipers to seabirds and songbirds.

This is definitively one presentation you don't want to miss!

Inside This Month...

Minutes October meeting	Page 2-3
From Editor's Desk	Page 4
Events Calendar	Page 5
Events reports	Page 6
Related items of Interest / Advertising	Page 7
Membership form 2015-16	Page 8

MINUTES of the October 20th, 2015 General Meeting of Nature Moncton

HELD at the Rotary Pavilion, Rotary Park, Moncton, New Brunswick.

PRESENT: About 25 members, by Dale Gaskin's count.

President John Foster **called** the meeting **to order** at about 7:04 p.m. ADST and welcomed those present. He asked whether there were any **Guests** but none introduced themselves. The President took a visual **Roll Call** and concluded that a **Quorum** existed.

Notice of the time and place of the meeting had been emailed to all members at least a day before the meeting, so the meeting was deemed **duly constituted** for the transaction of business.

The President introduced the **Guest Speaker**, Andre Bourque of Ski Codiac, a cross-country skiing club. Andre delivered an interesting presentation on cross-country skiing in New Brunswick, describing the sport, local clubs and exhibiting some equipment. Following the presentation, the President thanked Andre and presented him with a gift in appreciation of his remarks.

The Break then took place. Following the **Break**, the meeting resumed at about 8:15.

The President asked whether everybody had had an opportunity to read the

Minutes of the September 15th, 2015 Meeting of Nature Moncton which had been printed in the Newsletter circulated by email. He asked whether anybody had noted any errors or omissions. None were raised. UPON MOTION duly moved by Secretary John Filliter, seconded by Jane Aikman and unanimously carried, it was resolved to **adopt** the said Minutes as circulated.

In the absence of Treasurer Margaret Fanjoy, John Filliter presented her **Financial Report** since August 31st, 2015. Receipts had totalled \$587.60 and Disbursements of \$527.57 had been paid, bringing the Balance as of September 30th to \$5,267.32. UPON MOTION duly moved by John Filliter, seconded by Rosemary MacAulay and unanimously carried, it was resolved to **adopt** the said Financial Report as presented.

Bird Alert: In the absence of David Christie, Nelson Poirier reported that a Tropical Kingbird had been seen in Tabusintac.

Ways and Means: Dale Gaskin conducted the **50-50 Draw**, with John Foster drawing Dale's number for the \$12.00 draw prize and Diane Hebert was drawn for a gray squirrel-proof bird feeder.

Nature Information Line: Nelson Poirier reported that he had procured a new recorder through Amazon.com and also ordered a back-up one. The new equipment for the Line was working well, producing clear and crisp recordings. He advised that members can respond to daily mailings and encouraged such feedback. Nelson noted that this is the 23rd year of operation for the Information Line.

Field Trips/Workshops Committee: Nelson reported for Louise Nichols that there will be an *Inter-tidal Life Workshop* by Alain Clavette beginning at Tankville School on Friday night and continuing in Fundy National Park on Saturday, October 24th (birding in the morning and beach investigation at low tide during the afternoon). As well, Nelson will be presenting his annual *Birdfeeding Workshop* at Tankville School on November 8th.

Membership: Shirley Hunt reported that 48 members have renewed their memberships since August.

Newsletter: Susan Atkinson was not present to report but the President observed that she had done a nice job on the October issue.

Environment Ideas: Jane Aikman reported that the Canadian Wildlife Federation had warned that heated bird baths could kill birds and asked whether this was true. Nelson Poirier expressed his doubts.

Irishtown Nature Park: Committee Secretary David Cannon reported that INP had held its Annual General Meeting on October 4th. Members had walked the newly restored Scouts Trail before proceeding to the Tankville Schoolhouse for a corn boil and the meeting. Two trails in INP

were restored during 2015 and the City is seeking further funds to continue the trail work in 2016 and/or 2017. INP's five-year Management Plan is due to be revised in 2016 and David invited Nature Moncton members to submit suggestions for the Plan through him, in his capacities of Nature Moncton INP Representative and Secretary for INPC, at david.cannon@rogers.com. Issues to be considered for the revised Management Plan could include (a) protection of the boundaries between the Park and both Royal Oaks and Baron Heights subdivisions, (b) a connecting corridor between the INP and the McLaughlin Reservoir, (c) acquisition of the shoreline edging the Tankville Airport, and (d) repositioning the INP from a 'learning centre' to an 'activity centre'. In response to questions, David said that while snowshoeing is permitted in INP, the walking trails are not prepared for cross-country skiing because they are plowed and sanded; however, such skiing can be done on the lake (which can be accessed by the snowmobile trail) and is encouraged at Centennial Park. The land beside the airport belongs to the airport. INP can't fundraise at present but will be able to do so once a Foundation is created for it. The trails cost over \$100,00 to construct because the bridges are very expensive. The summer algae bloom died off but more was observed during the AGM hike and it is to be tested.

Joys and Sorrows: Cathi Smith was not present to report. Nobody was aware of any of these.

Web Site: Susan Atkinson was not available to report for Katherin Atkinson but the President observed that the Website is still not working. Members should keep sending website submissions to Katherin through Susan's email address.

Next Monthly Program: Nelson Poirier reported that Tony Diamond of Fredericton will be presenting on *Environmental Changes to the Bay of Fundy* at the November monthly meeting.

New Business: The President asked if there was any New Business. UPON MOTION duly moved by David Cannon, seconded by John Filliter and carried, it was resolved that the President should request the new federal government complete the Petitcodiac River causeway project with the proposed and already designed partial bridge from Moncton to Riverview as soon as possible.

Sightings: Robins had been flocking; a tree with cherry-like berries (possibly a Crab-apple) had been spotted in Mapleton Park; a Sharp-shinned (or possibly Cooper's) Hawk had been observed killing Mourning Doves; and a Coyote had been seen in Riverview.

There being no further business, UPON MOTION by Dale Gaskin, the meeting was **adjourned** at 8:48 p.m. ADST.

Verified and approved by:

by:

John Foster, President

Respectfully submitted

John Filliter, Secretary



Courtesy of Brian Stone

From the Editor's Desk

Nature Moncton's Newsletter

This November issue of the Nature Moncton Newsletter is being emailed later than expected due to some last minute updates. Please note the change of date for the Nature Moncton AGM. It will be held after the December presentation and break. As this meeting is our last before the New Year perhaps a few members might like to share some favourite Holiday goodies during the break.

The Activities Committee (Workshops, Outings etc) chaired by Louise Nichols, met in October 26th and our program slots are filling in nicely. The wonderful meeting and workshop presenters have much to share so watch for the details to be published soon. Any last minute changes will be posted on the Info-line. Be sure to follow along with what is happening via the Info-Line, Website and monthly NM meetings.

Even though our beautiful fall coloured leaves have fallen we have been fortunate to enjoy the wonderful fall weather. Nature Lovers certainly enjoyed the outing to the Sackville Waterfowl Park led by Louise Nichols. Nelson's informative workshop on how to prepare your feeders for the arrival of the winter birds is to be followed on December 5th by Roger LeBlanc who will discuss what birds to expect to see this winter. He will also take the opportunity to discuss the Annual Christmas Bird Count and its significant importance to the international data base.

Our walks in the Park before the meeting will resume in the spring.

Nature Moncton Website

Apologies from Katherin for the continued delay with getting the new site live. The old site has now been removed and it is expected that the new site should be live by the end of this week.

The address will remain the same: www.naturemoncton.org.

Remember: the purpose of the Newsletter is keep our members informed of the monthly meeting minutes, announcements, reports of our club's field trips, workshops and other matters of interest.

Please feel free to let me know of items of interest or comments. susanatkinson29@gmail.com

Reminder: if you have not yet renewed your Nature Moncton membership please do so as it is the most important source of revenue for the Club. The attached 2015-16 Membership form can be filled in and printed off and mailed or brought to Shirley Hunt at the meeting.

Deadline for submission(s) for the December Newsletter is Monday November 22, 2015 so that this issue can contain the required information for the AGM.

Submissions can be sent by:

- 1) Email: susanatkinson29@gmail.com
- 2) Telephone: 506-384-2332 to make arrangements to deliver article(s) or photo(s) which you cannot email.
- 3) Leave the material with Susan at any monthly meeting.

Calendar of Nature Moncton Presentations, Workshops and Field Trips

Everyone is welcome to participate in our activities

All meeting presentations, workshops and field trips are posted on the NM Info-Line (384-6397 or email) during the week leading up to the event on or the NM website (www.naturemoncton.org) when they are confirmed. Check regularly for updates on the Info-line or website as they are subject to change.

Louise Nichols is our Activities Committee Co-ordinator and she and the members of the Committee are always seeking input and suggestions from members. All ideas are welcome.

Contact Louise at: nicholsl@eastlink.ca

Workshops:

Pre-registration is requested as some events have a maximum or minimum number of participants. It also assures effective planning and to allow for contact to be made in the event of changes. Pre-register with Judi Berry-Steeves at 506-387-4778 or at jbsteeve@nbnet.nb.ca. A modest \$8 fee is charged for workshops which are held at the Tankville School, 1665 Elmwood Drive, Moncton.

Field Trips:

Generally no fee is charged. For outings car-pooling is organized to allow seats be available for those who need rides. If car-pooling, please remember to share the gas costs.

Date 2015	Event	Presenter/ Outing Leader
Ongoing	<u>"Impromptu Outings"</u> – These field trips visit sites in the Greater Moncton area and are designed for everyone and are usually accessible to those who have limited time or mobility. They can take place at any time and will last 2-3 hours at the most. Timing will be dependent on nature's schedule. Listen to the Info Line 384-6397 and be ready to go.	Various
Tuesday November 17, 2015	Note change: Nature Moncton Regular Meeting: Bay of Fundy Biosphere and the changes in bird life in and around the Bay of Fundy	Tony Diamond
Saturday December 5, 2015	Workshop: Winter Birds and Christmas Bird count See write-up below for further details.	Roger LeBlanc
Tuesday December 8, 2015	Nature Moncton Annual General Meeting: Annual Reports of 2014-15 fiscal year & Election of the Executive for 2015-16 Presentation: A visually aided tour of the Arctic with segments of our shooting up there in July.	Roger LeBlanc
Saturday December 19, 2015	Annual Christmas Bird Count	Roger LeBlanc
Tuesday, January 19, 2015	Nature Moncton Annual General meeting: Presentation: This our Member's Night so if you have something you would love to share please let John know.	Members
TBA	Annual Bird Feeder Outing	



News flash: winter is coming! But instead of getting depressed over something so natural that can't be changed, a lot of bird watchers are looking forward to winter because the changing season will bring with it the chance to see some of those famous "winter birds" that seasoned birders talk about all the time. Which species are we talking about and why – and when are they coming?

These are the kinds of questions that will be addressed in the upcoming workshop offered by Nature Moncton on "winter birds." Join Roger LeBlanc who has been watching and trying to understand the behaviors of these winter visitors for a long time. And if you by chance participated in the recent bird feeding workshop offered by Nature Moncton, this would be a very natural follow-up to help you recognize what you might be attracting to your backyard. Together we will try to work out some of the patterns that will help you know what is to be expected as well as when and where you should be looking. In addition, Roger will help you understand exactly what you are looking at on that snow-covered branch in a workshop that will combine bird photographs with a few video surprises.

So whether you are quite content with checking out the "winter birds" that will be invading your feeders or are ready to bundle up and head outside to search for them in the snow-covered landscape, this workshop aims to help you enjoy their presence even more. Roger will also talk about the annual Christmas Bird Counts that take place throughout the province. Roger is the organizer of the Moncton count and is always looking for eager participants – a chance to put your new knowledge of winter birds to work!

Date: Saturday December 5th, 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Tankville School, 1665 Elmwood Dr., Moncton

Registration with Judi Berry-Steeves at jbsteeve@nbnet.nb.ca or phone Judi at 387-4778.

\$8 to cover costs payable at the door. All are welcome, Nature Moncton member or not.

XX



Courtesy of Brian Stone

Outings Report

On October 31, 2015 The Nature Club members were joined by the Chignecto members for a wonderful outing to the Sackville Nature Park. The weather was perfect and as the Info-Line reported many birds and ducks were still very much present. The upgrade to the boardwalk trails means that visiting the Park is accessible to everyone. An outing to this wonderful park needs to be back as a regular event on our list.

Related Items of Interest



Nature NB E-news is a monthly email sent out sharing news and upcoming events. Would you like to be added to the distribution list?

Send an email to nbfm@nb.aibn.com requesting to be put on the Nature NB E-news distribution list.

Not a member of Nature NB but would like to find out more?

<http://www.naturenb.ca/becomeamember.aspx> or Visit Nature NB at <http://www.naturenb.ca>

The advertising in the Newsletter, at a cost of \$10.00 per issue, provides some additional club revenue. J & P Farm Services, one of our regular advertisers, also supports members by offering a 10% discount if you show your NM membership card.



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Courtesy of Brian Stone.

Note: If others are willing to permit use of their photos from the Info-line to be used in the NM Newsletter please let me know. It would be most appreciated.



2015-2016 MEMBERSHIP FORM (2015/07/01 to 2016/06/30)

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

SINGLE \$25

FAMILY \$35

STUDENT \$10

PAID \$

CHEQUE or CASH

RECEIPT #

RENEWAL ☐ or NEW MEMBER ☐

NAME _____

LIST OTHER NAMES SAME ADDRESS (for family membership ONLY):

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____

DO YOU WISH TO RECEIVE THE DAILY NATURE INFO LINE & PHOTOS BY EMAIL? YES _____ NO _____

DO YOU WISH TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL? YES _____ NO _____

PLEASE CHECK or WRITE, AS APPLICABLE:

ACTIVITY	WILLING to LEAD: if applicable	WILLING to HELP: with others or on a committee	JUST INTERESTED in PARTICIPATING & ENJOYING MY MEMBERSHIP!	ANY NEW SUGGESTIONS /COMMENTS FOR THIS ACTIVITY? (write on back of form if not enough room)
BIRD ALERT				
WORKSHOPS				
FIELD TRIPS				
PUBLICITY				
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT				
MONTHLY MEETINGS /PRESENTORS				
WAYS & MEANS FUNDRAISING				
PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION				
NEED TRANSPORTATION				
TRANSCRIBING DAILY INFO LINE				
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, example: website, archiving documents				
EXECUTIVE ROLES: President, VP, Treasurer, Secretary, or Executive Committee Chair				Nomination suggestions:

Payment: cheque payable to 'Nature Moncton'

At any monthly meeting see Shirley Hunt (Membership chair) or mail completed form & cheque to mailing address:

Nature Moncton

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