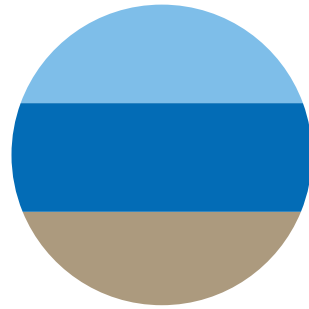


GEORGIAN BAY **FOREVER**



FALL 2015
VOL. 6, ISSUE 3

Protecting your water.

WATER LEVELS, WATER QUALITY, ECOSYSTEMS AND INVASIVE SPECIES

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Georgian Bay Forever is a proud member of the Waterkeeper Alliance.



GEORGIAN BAY FOREVER IS PROFOUNDLY GRATEFUL FOR THE GENEROSITY OF THESE SUPPORTERS



Lower Lakes Towing



Georgian Bay Forever is a community response to the growing need for major research and education to sustain the Georgian Bay aquatic ecosystem and the quality of life its communities and visitors enjoy.

We help monitor the Bay's well being, throughout the seasons, year after year.

We fund the research needed to protect the environmental health of Georgian Bay and the surrounding bodies of water. Using our research findings, we inform and educate the general public and governments about threats to environmental health and propose possible solutions.

Through workshops and seminars we are educating the Georgian Bay community. By teaming up with reputable institutions, we enhance the credibility of our research and we strengthen our ability to protect what's at stake.

Georgian Bay Forever, formerly the GBA Foundation, is a registered Canadian charity (#89531 1066 RR0001). We work with the Great Lakes Basin Conservancy in the United States, as well as other stakeholder groups all around the Great Lakes.

Deeply rooted and broadly drawn, Georgian Bay Forever is steered by lifelong devotees of the Bay. We are committed advocates, educators, environmentalists, realists, idealists, and of course, residents.

DIRECTORS

Derek Bowen	Neil Hutchinson
Janet Burt	Rod Jones
Adam Chamberlain	Anne Randell
Terry Clark	Peter Singer, <i>Chair</i>
Jennifer Ferguson	Erwin Stuart

Executive Director

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Canadian citizens may send their donations to the Caledon address above.

U.S. citizens wishing to make a donation to support our work can do so by giving to:
Great Lakes Basin Conservancy
PO Box 504, Gates Mills OH
44040-0504, USA

(Please add a note saying: "For Georgian Bay Forever")

This newsletter is just a snapshot of our work. For the most up-to-date information on our projects, longer versions of newsletter articles and on breaking news about Georgian Bay, please become a regular visitor to our website and Facebook page.

GBF.ORG

Design by Key Gordon (keygordon.com)
Editor: Carole White

Follow us on   

PETER SINGER - YOUR NEW CHAIR REFLECTS ON HIS COMMITMENT TO GEORGIAN BAY

By Peter Singer

With 27 years of cottaging with family and friends in the Sans Souci area, we are proud "Bay people" and are deeply committed to its preservation. Our family shares your concern over the presence of algal blooms, invasive Phragmites, zebra mussels, the decline in certain native bird and fish populations and the extremes of water levels.

The health of Georgian Bay requires a long-term commitment to understanding the complexity of its water systems. It also requires patience for tracking changes by statistical methods in place of anecdotal evidence. At Georgian Bay Forever, we believe approaching issues with scientific rigour and respectful stakeholder engagement are the only ways to find sustainable solutions to protect and preserve the Bay's water.

That purposeful approach is apparent on several of our ongoing projects that focus on detailing the current conditions of the Bay's aquatic ecosystem. Critical projects include DNA barcoding, standardizing water quality measurement, assessing damaged fish habitats, and mapping invasive species. These projects will enable the scientific identification of areas and species of concern, thereby expediting restorative action plans. In fact this summer, the team worked with communities such as Honey Harbour, Collingwood, and Pointe au Baril to identify, cut and destroy about 4000 kg of invasive Phragmites.

Extreme water level variability needs our attention even though the water has risen to average levels in the last two years. Over the long-term, there is high risk of severe economic fallout from unusual water levels that will require thoughtful mitigation and widespread collaboration.

Climatologists continue to predict the overall decline of Lake Huron

water levels as the earth gets warmer. This will have significant negative impact on the \$5.8 trillion Great Lakes' economy including property values and drinking water at a cost that is estimated at close to \$19 billion (US\$) over 35 to 40 years (Shlozberg and others, 2014). At Georgian Bay Forever, we are partnering with highly respected engineers and experts on Great Lakes water level protection to recommend structural options and viable locations to control water levels within manageable historic norms. The highly qualified team will explore the latest in engineering design that is environmentally responsible and resilient in the face of future climate change scenarios. Due to be released early in 2016, the Engineering Options Study report will also include estimated start-up and operating costs and a summary of key stakeholders to engage for advancement of this critical project.

These initiatives are a great demonstration of why I became a part of Georgian Bay Forever. I want to extend my deepest appreciation to the previous Chair, Brenda Drinkwalter, who was tireless in pursuing all of the projects I have mentioned and also guided the Board through a period of substantial growth and effectiveness. GBF has been very fortunate to have had Brenda as our leader for the past two years. I would also like to express my gratitude to our donors for their continued care and vigilance of Georgian Bay. It is a great honour to be invited to serve as your Chair as we continue to pursue meaningful outcomes that protect Georgian Bay.



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* Shlozberg, R., Dorling, R. and P.Spiro, 2014. *Low water Blues: An Economic Impact Assessment of Future Low Water Levels in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River*. Council of the Great Lakes Region, Mowat Centre. ISBN 978-1-927350-77-5. JUNE 2014. Retrieved August 31, 2015 from www.georgianbayforever.org/reports-deputations-presentations-and-letters

Peter and Cathie Singer, long-time and generous supporters of GBF, often host holiday parties at their home for friends and family. In 2014, their guests, many of them Bay cottagers, were asked to make a donation to support GBF research projects in lieu of a hostess gift. At the end of their special night this small group of individuals raised over \$2,000! Please consider following their example – if you are hosting a party, ask for a donation instead of a gift. The donation is tax receiptable for your guest and every donation has an impact on the health of your Bay.



FIGHTING PHRAGMITES

By Amber Gordon-Bunn

Non-native Phragmites (European common reed) is an invasive bamboo-like reed that is on a mission to take over Georgian Bay wetlands and decimate native shoreline biodiversity.

If you've walked or taken a boat ride along the shore, you will have seen this plant. You may have even thought that it looked nice and reminded you of native ornamental grass. But don't be fooled! This reed, if ignored, will grow into an extremely tall and dense monostand that will take over your beach, choke out

native flora, fauna, and fish habitat and obstruct your beautiful view of the water. In essence, it will wipe out the beauty and functionality of your local ecosystem that supports many at-risk species, and continue to spread unimpeded along our coast.

This summer dedicated volunteers all around the Bay fought back. We call them Phrag Busters. These heroes took time out of their day to boat around and map Phragmites stands so that areas for eradication could be prioritized and resourced. These volunteers participated in our educational workshops and then recruited their friends and family to put on their waders, grab their work gloves and cutters, and spend hours in the water chopping and hauling Phragmites away. It was truly inspiring to see members of different communities—from Collingwood to the North Channel—come together to fight this common threat.

This extraordinary community action would not have been possible without the support of the many dedicated individuals and organizations that provide funding to Georgian Bay Forever. This funding enables us to provide educational expertise and lead practical in-the-water, hands-on restoration projects. Thanks to our forward-thinking supporters at the RBC Blue Water Project, The Great Lakes Community Guardian Fund, the Schad Foundation, the Lake Simcoe Southeastern Georgian Bay Clean-up Fund, and individual contributors like you.

Georgian Bay Forever knows it will take everyone's cooperation to control invasive Phragmites, but we are confident that together, we will prevail!

For information on how to be a Phrag Buster and help your community control invasive Phragmites, contact Georgian Bay Forever by email at georgianbaykeeper@gbf.org.

COGNASHENE



HONEY HARBOUR



POINTE AU BARIL



Cognashene: Father and daughter Rob and Sandy Thompson remove a Phragmites stand; **Honey Harbour:** Community organizer Kathryn Davis helped coordinate over 80 person hours to remove a huge amount of Phragmites; **Pointe au Baril:** Community organizers Anne Stewart and Councillor Peter Frost work hard with volunteers.

Bay of Islands

McGregor Bay



Sturgeon Bay



Manitou



Shebeshekong



Blackstone



Woods Bay



Cognashene



Go Home Bay



Honey Harbour



Penetanguishene



Victoria Harbour



Owen Sound



Collingwood



Phragmites Activity

Place	Activity
Bay of Islands	Training/Education
Blackstone	Mapping
Cognashene	Educate/Cutting
Collingwood	Educate/Train/Cut
Go Home Bay	Training/Education
Greater Georgian Bay	Educate
Honey Harbour	Educate/Train/Cut
Manitou	Educate
McGregor Bay	Training/Education
Owen Sound	Training/Education
Parry Sound	Training/Education
Penetanguishene	Training/Education
Shebeshekong River	Cutting
Sturgeon Bay/Pointe Au Baril	Educate/Train/Cut
Victoria Harbour	Educate/Train/Cut
Woods Bay	Educate

COLLINGWOOD



Collingwood: Town of Collingwood, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, RBC Branch, and GBF representatives pictured above accepting a \$50,000 grant donation from the RBC Blue Water Project. About 4000 kg of Phragmites have been removed. Photo: Jennett Mays.



By David Sweetnam

FROM BATTLING PHRAGMITES TO TOXIC CHEMICALS, IT'S BEEN A BUSY SUMMER

Another summer is behind us and much of the fieldwork planned during the past couple of years has now been completed.

Communities unite to fight phrag

Public awareness of the invasive plant, Phragmites Australis (common reed), reached a critical mass in communities around Georgian Bay this past summer. It was a topic of discussion at many gatherings. Our action plan to mobilize these communities met with great success.

Coastal mudflats exposed when water levels were at sustained and record lows over the past 15 years provided perfect germination conditions for Phragmites, which has steadily expanded its footprint along our coast. Whether it washed into the Bay from streams that intersect our highways or was blown into the

from Collingwood to the Bay of Islands responded by identifying and removing the invasive plant from our coastal wetlands.

GBF has been organizing and supporting "Phrag Buster" restoration events and speaking to numerous community groups to share the stories of the work being done all along the coast. As Betty Beacon of Collingwood observed, "What it made me realize, and hopefully others, is that we think in terms of our little communities. This project brought together the larger community we live in, Georgian Bay. Well done!"

Coordinating research projects

As a member of the Georgian Bay Research Consortium, an Environment Canada initiative in cooperation with the Ontario Government and key research institutions and NGOs, GBF has been working to support a coordinated approach to scientific research in Georgian Bay.

Scientists from the University of Toronto joined me twice on the Baykeeper, GBF's 19' Stanley Islander, to take more core samples from the

to measure suspended sediments and monitor water quality and climate conditions to get a more detailed perspective on processes in coastal embayments with varying water circulation patterns and development pressures.

GBF continues to work with our partners on the Township of Georgian Bay's Water Committee to monitor baseline conditions and measure impacts of specific concerns in the Bay.

Tackling toxic chemicals

I attended the Great Lakes Executive Council (GLEC) meeting in Chicago in June. This gathering of Great Lakes officials and advocates occurs twice a year to deliver reports from the various U.S.-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Annex leads.

One slightly confusing decision by the Chemicals of Mutual Concern Annex team needs some clarification. The team decided that instead of listing all harmful chemicals in the Great Lakes and establishing target levels to work toward as it has done in the past, going forward the Annex team will only list a small, manageable set of seven chemicals at a time. The thinking is that the Canadian and American governments will then be compelled to make the proper investments to address listed contaminants. Once actions are agreed upon and results achieved, new chemicals will be added to the list for future attention. While this decision may seem counter-intuitive, the team believes this approach will stimulate meaningful work to reduce or eliminate these toxins from the water.

It was also noted in the Climate Change Annex presentation that only one per cent of the 203 climate change studies reviewed by the team had an engineering focus. Elsewhere in this issue, you can read about GBF's current research project to enhance our understanding of possible structural approaches to managing water levels.

GLEC members also toured Northey Island to take a look at the work that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has done to transform this artificial island from a private airport into a naturalized habitat. There were birds all over the island and fish swimming in the interior lagoon despite the fact that the restoration project is not yet finished. Hopefully, what we saw there can be replicated throughout the Great Lakes region.



Honey Harbour volunteers. Barge services generously donated by Armin Grigaitis from A&A Services & Marine Contracting Limited. Photo: Kathryn Davis.

Bay from seed-heads that produce up to two thousands seeds each, as water levels returned to more average levels this summer, the established plants thrived.

To protect fish and other wildlife, and to ensure our drinking water is safe, GBF has been recruiting and training volunteers for the past few years. During the summer, concerned volunteers

bottom of our bays to improve our understanding of the Bay's processes and conditions over time. This builds on the work GBF did in 2012 with Hutchinson Environmental to look at the climate and water conditions that existed 400 years ago, which helps put current conditions in context.

Also this summer, Environment Canada researchers installed yellow data collecting buoys



By John Allis

THE COMPLEXITIES OF WATER LEVEL MANAGEMENT

In recent years, the St. Clair River, a Great Lakes connecting channel, has received a great deal of attention from stakeholders concerned about the extended period of below average water levels on Lake Michigan-Huron.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has a long water resources history on the Great Lakes and its connecting channels. The Corps' missions over the years include constructing and maintaining federal navigation channels through the Great Lakes as well as being responsible for monitoring conditions affecting the water levels and channel flows.

Water evaporating off the lake surface and water flowing down the St. Clair River are by far the two largest mechanisms for water loss from Lake Michigan-Huron. With outflow into the St. Clair River being almost double the amount of water lost to evaporation in an average year, scientists continue to investigate how the river geometry has changed and will continue to change over time.

Portions of the St. Clair River have deepened over time, while other areas have filled in, thus changing the conveyance, or the ability of the river to carry water. Understanding this is important because as the cross section of a river is made larger, its conveyance increases. And, as conveyance in the St. Clair River increases, the water level of Lake Michigan-Huron drops and Lake Erie's water level rises over time, until the lakes reach a new equilibrium.

In the 1920s, 30s and 60s, the Corps carried out Canadian and United States government-mandated deepening projects in the St. Clair River to benefit commercial navigation on the Great Lakes. Sand and gravel mining was also performed by private entities in the river until 1926. It is estimated that the federal deepening projects and the private mining operations led to a 10 to 16 inch permanent reduction of water levels on Lake Michigan-Huron. The system has since reached equilibrium and further lowering due to those projects is not ongoing.

The International Joint Commission's Upper Great Lakes Study has since concluded that some natural underwater scouring has occurred since the last deepening in 1962, which may have caused erosion of the river bed. These events have caused an estimated additional 3 to 5 inch drop in Lake Michigan-Huron water levels.

These conveyance changes raise several

important questions such as: what could be done in the river to compensate for these conveyance increases; should anything be done to compensate; and how do we recognize further changes in the future?

What could be done to compensate for these changes has been studied from an engineering perspective. Structures could be designed and placed along the bottom of the river to reduce the conveyance of the river and raise the water level of Lake Michigan-Huron.

A tougher question to answer is whether or not compensating structures should be constructed. Compensation has been constructed in other channels of the Great Lakes, although compensation has been constructed at the time of the channel change in the past. As the Corps deepened portions of the Detroit River for the navigation channels, compensating dikes and other structures were constructed to offset the change in conveyance.

In the case of the St. Clair River, almost 50 years has passed since the last channel-deepening project. During that time environmental laws and the Great Lakes basin have changed, and further study would be required to determine if compensation still makes sense. Although some stakeholders would benefit from higher water levels on Lake Michigan-Huron resulting from compensation, others would be affected negatively. If adjustable structures were created, plans for operating those structures most efficiently would also need to be studied to balance the needs of all affected interests, possibly requiring an International Joint Commission (IJC) Control Board.

Finally, the Corps has implemented a conveyance change-monitoring plan. This plan includes mapping the channel bottom every 5 to 7 years and analyzing the impacts of those changes on the conveyance of the river. The Corps will release the first of those analyses this year, which will examine changes between data collected in 2007 and 2012.

Regardless of how the St. Clair River changes over time, stakeholders are encouraged to recognize that all of the Great Lakes will experience future periods of high and low water and they should prepare for it. The Corps continues to improve its understanding of how the Great Lakes and their connecting channels are changing over time and will strive to continue to serve its many stakeholders.



Evaporation a major influence in record low water levels

When Lake Huron water levels hit their all-time low in 2012 and early 2013, the average outflow in the St. Clair River was 12 per cent below its long term average* and precipitation was higher than average between the late 1990's and 2012. Scientists suspected that something else was impacting decreasing water levels – evaporation was trending higher than average*. Restricting USACE to focus on the St. Clair River as per Congress' authorization in 1956 and to limit compensating structure choices to those designed prior to the 1970's has not allowed them to account for climate change, look at technological advancements, or address negative consequences to Lake Erie. We agree with Mr. Allis that the entire Great Lakes system needs to be considered. GBF is working with experts on an Engineering Options Study to address these restrictions and mitigate the risk of extreme water impacts on all of the Great Lakes. Turn to page 8 to read more.

*1948 to 2006 outflow was 189 thousand cubic feet per second; Hydro-Climate Dashboard in Great Lakes Water Level Dashboard. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory: www.glerl.noaa.gov/data/dashboard/GLHCD.html.

John Allis is the Chief of the Great Lakes Hydraulics and Hydrology Office for the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Detroit District. Guided by environmental sustainability, a key responsibility of the U.S. organization is to ensure the efficient navigation of the Great Lakes.

NEW ENGINEERING OPTIONS STUDY TO IDENTIFY STATE-OF-THE-ART STRUCTURAL ALTERNATIVES TO MANAGE WATER LEVELS

Georgian Bay Forever (GBF) is undertaking a major engineering options study that will advance bi-national dialogue on prospective solutions to ongoing, pronounced water level fluctuations in the Upper Great Lakes system and, in particular, Lake Michigan-Huron and Georgian Bay.

The study draws from and builds upon previous work to take the critical next step of identifying and evaluating a range of specific structural alternatives for the long-term, climate-resilient protection of water levels.

Human-induced impacts on water levels in Lake Michigan-Huron and Georgian Bay are well documented (e.g., navigation dredging, aggregate extraction, climate change) and, collectively, contribute to pronounced variations in lake levels.

Extremely high levels exacerbate coastal erosion and increase shoreline maintenance requirements while extremely low levels are problematic for commercial and recreational navigation as well as beach quality. All such impacts adversely affect the economic, ecological and quality of life dimensions of the system and its users.

Interest in examining structural alternatives that “take the edge off” extreme high and low conditions was expressed in the recent Upper Great Lakes Study of the International Joint Commission (IJC) and, in fact, a long-dormant U.S. Congressional authorization calls for compensating works in the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers.

GBF has retained the services of the bi-national Great Lakes Team at AECOM, a global consulting firm with extensive expertise in Great Lakes

water level engineering, modeling, planning, environmental assessment and policy. The Team will employ a 12-step methodology that will yield, in early 2016, a report identifying and assessing various conceptual level structural alternatives for reducing the range of water level fluctuations due to human-induced impacts. Alternatives to be examined will include, but not be limited to, control measures in the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers.

GBF will use outcomes of this scientific study to engage Canadian and U.S. decision makers and opinion leaders in dialogue focusing on specific alternatives for water level controls, including those that warrant detailed engineering design. It’s a topic that warrants additional attention as noted in the IJC’s recent Upper Great Lakes Study.

PARRY SOUND TRIBUTARIES STUDY TO ASSESS SPAWNING LOCATIONS

The Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council (EGBSC) and Georgian Bay Forever (GBF) are pooling their resources to map fish habitat in the Parry Sound District.

Walleye, Lake Sturgeon and Sucker species are in decline in certain areas of Eastern Georgian Bay. EGBSC was awarded \$225,000 to survey 10 tributaries within the Parry Sound District and assess the suitability of spawning, rearing, nursery and foraging habitat for these species. Starting this fall, the 32 month project will evaluate the quantity and quality of fish habitat available through bathymetry mapping, aerial and underwater photos and spawning assessments. Any potential restoration sites will be prioritized, and one restoration project will be completed before the project’s end. GBF is a project partner and is assisting with field work, bathymetry mapping and water transportation for fellow scientists and project partners. Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve is also a project partner, along with the Upper Great Lakes Management Unit.

Thank you to all partners for their important contributions in advancing healthy fish

habitats. This project was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada. Ce projet a été réalisé avec l’appui financier du Gouvernement du Canada.



Julia Sutton pilots the drone into the outstretched hands of Eric McIntyre

PETER & MARGIE KELK

By Amber Gordon-Bunn



Some people live to work. Others work to live. Still others work so they can spend time in or retire to their most favourite place in the world. For Peter and Margie Kelk and their family, that happens to be Georgian Bay.

The family's love affair with this amazing body of water began over a century ago when Peter's great grandfather, George Clendenan, purchased the family's first island property located in Pointe au Baril around 1900. Every generation of the Kelk family thereafter has developed a deep love and respect for the Bay and has come to treasure every square inch of land and water from the Bustards to Twelve Mile Bay,

and every place in between where they have owned and still own amazing Bay properties.

Peter met the love of his life, Margie, and they were married in 1972. They have three children together, Ian, Julia and Laura and are just about to become proud grandparents. "Summers with the kids were spent exploring all of the hidden nooks and crannies of the various islands around us," remembers Peter. "Our memories of Georgian Bay are very different from those in the city. Here, there are no deadlines, schedules or places to be. The cottage has a special role in our lives: it is where the extended family comes together. We relax and take each

day as it comes, looking forward to the unparalleled sunrises and sunsets and the adventures that each day brings."

In 1988, Peter and Margie decided that they should invest in their own "little piece of heaven" and purchased a drive-to location on Twelve Mile Bay. In 2000, they decided to expand their Georgian Bay "heaven" and purchased a wilderness island cabin located in Wah Wah Tay-see. In 2004, when the old Native Schoolhouse adjacent to their Twelve Mile Bay property came up for sale, they couldn't pass up a chance to own and preserve this piece of history. Both Twelve Mile Bay and Wah *(cont. on next page...)*



(...cont. from previous page) Wah Taysee have their own special charms and unique features, and the family divides its time between both properties as much as they can.

To say the Kelk family has a long and rich history on Georgian Bay is an understatement. Because of his passion and overwhelming desire to preserve the Bay, Peter joined the Georgian Bay Association in 1990, following in his father's footsteps, until he retired from the Board in 1997. He was also on the committee that created and formed Georgian Bay Forever in 1995.

The Kelks have seen their cottage area in Twelve Mile Bay grow and transform over the years. Although they and others have feared overcrowding, water pollution and overuse, thanks to responsible management and the pride that cottagers have for their beloved Bay, those fears have not been realized.

"We need to preserve what we have and take responsibility for how our activities and actions affect the Bay," says Peter. "I have a great love and affection for Georgian Bay that makes me want to protect it for the generations who come next. I want my grandchildren to know and love the Bay as I do." The Kelks feel that they and their families will be "Georgian Bayers" for life!



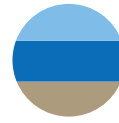
THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES STEPPED UP TO HELP PROTECT THE BAY.



GEORGIAN BAY FOREVER THANKS THE ABOVE MARINAS AND BUSINESSES FOR THEIR STEADFAST SUPPORT OF OUR WATERKEEPERS' BOAT FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH. WITHOUT THEIR HELP, WE WOULDN'T STAY AFLOAT!

"THE BAYKEEPER" INDICATES THAT GEORGIAN BAY FOREVER IS A MEMBER OF THE WATERKEEPER ALLIANCE, A GLOBAL MOVEMENT OF ON-THE-WATER ADVOCATES WHO PATROL AND PROTECT OVER 100,000 MILES OF RIVERS, STREAMS AND COASTLINES IN NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA, EUROPE, AUSTRALIA, ASIA AND AFRICA. FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO WATERKEEPER.ORG

**Georgian
Bay Forever
Fund**



MAKE AN
IMPRESSION
THAT WILL
LAST FOREVER

Georgian Bay - what it means to you can be so different from what it means to another, but one thing that each and every one of us who loves the Bay can agree on is that it is worth protecting.

Think back to the very first moment you saw that vast, pristine body of water. What did it say to you? How did it make you feel? When we ask that question to people we meet, we get many responses - peace, tranquility, heaven, never-ending, enduring, home. For many, it has provided solace and memories that span a lifetime and a

special piece of “heaven on earth” for generations. To others who are just discovering its unspoiled beauty, the journey of making memories is just beginning, but they already say it has captured their heart.

But have you ever looked around you – at the water, the shoreline, the fish that you caught for dinner - and contemplated that one day it may not be there to enjoy? That your great-great-great grandchildren may not have the chance to experience what you have?

There are several ways to ensure that they can and will. One way is to think about

leaving a gift to Georgian Bay Forever in your will. Leaving a bequest can ensure the passion and legacy of your philanthropy remains for the benefit of others long after you are gone. The next step is to talk to your financial advisor to decide what method of giving is right for you. We are happy to arrange a preliminary meeting to discuss various options with you if protecting Georgian Bay forever speaks to what you want your legacy to say about you.

GBF is pleased to recognize the members of the Georgian Bay Forever Circle

PROTECTOR | \$250,000+

Great Lakes Basin Conservancy, Inc.
RBC Foundation

DEFENDER | \$100,000 - \$249,999

The CSL Group Inc.
Doug and Ruth Grant
Husky Injection Molding Systems Ltd.

Jackman Foundation
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John Seagram

The Schad Foundation

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Echo Foundation
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The Langar Foundation

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Marye McCaig
Robin and Robert Ogilvie

The W. Garfield Weston Foundation

HERO | \$25,000 - \$49,999

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Brian and Janey Chapman
Peter Hatcher and Family
Robert Hay and Family
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Ernest Howard
Peter and Margie Kelk
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