



# AGM 2026

# Agenda

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- Welcome
- Land Acknowledgement
- Approval of Minutes of 2025 AGM
- Financial Statements Review
- Approval of Financial Reviewer & Financial Statements
- 2025-2026 Highlights
- Presenting 2026-2027 Board of Directors
- Mingling & Snacks!



## **Annual General Meeting of Toronto Field Naturalists October 22, 2025**

### **DRAFT MINUTES**

#### **1. Welcome and opening remarks**

Lynn Miller called the meeting to order, declared a quorum and welcomed members both in-person and virtually by Zoom.

#### **2. Land Acknowledgement**

#### **3. Minutes of 2024 AGM**

Lynn Miller moved that the minutes of the October 2, 2024, AGM be approved.  
Fatima Abrar seconded the motion. Carried.

#### **4. Financial Statements Review**

Secretary-Treasurer Fatima Abrar presented the Financial Statements for the fiscal period 2024-2025 which had been approved by the Board. Fatima pointed out that the cash operating fund was high because as of June 30<sup>th</sup> we had not reinvested funds back into GICs, but this has happened. The General Fund and Mailed Newsletter Fund have non-zero balances this year. The revenue looks good because of a \$7500 donation to the Mailed Newsletter Fund and a \$50,000 bequest. Some money in the Stewardship Fund will be spent this year on nature reserve maintenance. Our donations this year went up from last year, due to the 'Double Your Impact' campaign.

#### **5. Approval of Financial Reviewer & Financial Statements**

Because Peter Hogg retired, he could not complete our financials, so the Board vetted and approved another firm. Fatima put forward a motion to retroactively approve hiring VMD Professional Corporation to complete the 2024-2025 year-end review engagement.  
Lynn Miller seconded the motion. Carried.

Fatima put forward a motion to approve hiring VMD Professional Corporation to complete the upcoming 2025-2026 year-end review engagement.  
Michele Macartney-Filgate seconded the motion. Carried.

Fatima put forward a motion to approve the financial statements for the year ending June 2025.  
Philip Jessup seconded the motion. Carried.

#### **6. Year in Review**

Lynn Miller started by thanking everyone who donated \$100 or more. She then reviewed the major accomplishments over the past year. All our wonderful volunteers were thanked.

#### **7. Election of Officers and Board of Directors**

Lynn Miller expressed gratitude to Donata Frank, who was retiring from the board, and welcomed two new members: Peter Smith and May Massijeh.

The nominating committee's slate of Officers and Board of Directors for the 2024-2025 year was presented and approved by the membership. Philip Jessup seconded the motion.

#### **Officers:**

President: Lynn Miller

Vice President: TBD

Secretary-Treasurer: Fatima Abrar

#### **Directors:**

Zunaid Khan, Jessica Iraci, Lynn Short, Lillian Natalizio, Philip Jessup, Lam Tran,

Michèle McCartney-Filgate, Allison Best, Peter Smith and May Massijeh

#### **8. Motion to Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

# Financial Review

2025 - 2026



**TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS**  
**STATEMENT OF GENERAL FUND OPERATIONS**  
For the year ended June 30,

|                                                     | 2026                    | 2025                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                                                     | <u>TOTAL</u>            | <u>TOTAL</u>            |
| <b>REVENUE</b>                                      |                         |                         |
| Membership fees                                     | \$ 27,151               | \$ 23,295               |
| Donations                                           | 25,519                  | 10,252                  |
| Bequests                                            | 10,000                  | 50,000                  |
| City of Toronto Grants                              | 5,000                   | 5,000                   |
|                                                     | <u>67,670</u>           | <u>88,547</u>           |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                                     |                         |                         |
| Administration and member services                  | 13,093                  | 31,601                  |
| Office rent and occupancy                           | 5,651                   | 4,547                   |
| Financial review fee                                | 2,956                   | 2,884                   |
| Telephone and internet                              | 1,852                   | 1,980                   |
| Lecture series                                      | 1,200                   | 1,270                   |
| Amortization                                        | 476                     | 580                     |
| Legal fees                                          | -                       | 4,722                   |
|                                                     | <u>25,228</u>           | <u>47,585</u>           |
| <b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b> | <b>42,442</b>           | <b>40,963</b>           |
| Transfer to Mailed Newsletter Fund Operations       | - 3                     | -                       |
| <b>FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>             | <u><b>40,963</b></u>    | <u>-</u>                |
| <b>FUND BALANCE - END OF YEAR</b>                   | <b>\$ <u>83,402</u></b> | <b>\$ <u>40,963</u></b> |

Support from the membership!

Website developer

Positive balance

**TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS**  
**STATEMENT OF NATURE RESERVE AND PROJECTS FUND OPERATIONS**  
For the year ended June 30,

|                                                     | 2026                     | 2025                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                                     | <u>TOTAL</u>             | <u>TOTAL</u>             |
| <b>REVENUE</b>                                      |                          |                          |
| Investment income                                   | \$ 3,705                 | \$ 8,233                 |
| Donations                                           | 1,395                    | 860                      |
| Rental income                                       | 852                      | 815                      |
|                                                     | <u>5,952</u>             | <u>9,908</u>             |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                                     |                          |                          |
| Stewardship plan                                    | 10,351                   | 9,352                    |
| Property taxes and maintenance                      | 800                      | 758                      |
| Grants - Ontario Nature Youth Programs              | 553                      | 2,785                    |
|                                                     | <u>11,704</u>            | <u>12,895</u>            |
| <b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b> | <b>(5,752)</b>           | <b>(2,987)</b>           |
| <b>FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>             | <b><u>451,980</u></b>    | <b><u>454,967</u></b>    |
| <b>FUND BALANCE - END OF YEAR</b>                   | <b><u>\$ 446,228</u></b> | <b><u>\$ 451,980</u></b> |

← Invasive species treatments

**TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS**  
**STATEMENT OF MAILED NEWSLETTER FUND OPERATIONS**  
For the year ended June 30,

|                                                     | 2026                | 2025                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
|                                                     | <u>TOTAL</u>        | <u>TOTAL</u>           |
| <b>REVENUE</b>                                      |                     |                        |
| Newsletter surcharge                                | \$ 2,360            | \$ 2,375               |
| Donations used                                      | 1,760               | 8,415                  |
|                                                     | <u>4,120</u>        | <u>10,790</u>          |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                                     |                     |                        |
| Printing                                            | 4,276               | 4,841                  |
| Mailing                                             | 2,839               | 2,957                  |
|                                                     | <u>7,115</u>        | <u>7,798</u>           |
| <b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b> | <b>(2,995)</b>      | <b>2,992</b>           |
| Transfer from General Fund Operations               | 3                   | -                      |
| <b>FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>             | <b><u>2,992</u></b> | <b><u>-</u></b>        |
| <b>FUND BALANCE - END OF YEAR</b>                   | <b><u>\$ -</u></b>  | <b><u>\$ 2,992</u></b> |

← Fund has been depleted

**TORONTO FIELD NATURALISTS**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**As at June 30,**

**2026**

**2025**

**ASSETS**

**Current**

|                                    |                |                |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Cash - Operating fund              | \$ 41,485      | \$ 118,394     |
| Guaranteed investment certificates | 200,986        | 97,875         |
| GST/HST receivable                 | 15,029         | 12,495         |
| Publication inventory (Note 2(e))  | 100            | 100            |
| Photo library (Note 5)             | 10             | 10             |
| Prepaid expenses                   | 2,773          | 2,847          |
|                                    | <u>260,383</u> | <u>231,720</u> |

**Capital (Note 2(b))**

|                                                   |                |                |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Office equipment (net of amortization of \$3,028) | 398            | 874            |
| Nature reserve properties                         | 281,702        | 281,702        |
|                                                   | <u>282,100</u> | <u>282,576</u> |

**\$ 542,483      \$ 514,295**

**LIABILITIES**

**Current**

|                                        |               |               |
|----------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Accounts payable and accruals          | \$ 3,473      | \$ 7,631      |
| Mailed newsletter accruals (Note 2(c)) | 320           | 170           |
| Prepaid membership fees (Note 2 (c))   | 9,060         | 10,560        |
|                                        | <u>12,853</u> | <u>18,361</u> |

**FUND BALANCES**

|                                              |                |                |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Nature reserve and projects fund (Note 2(a)) | \$ 446,228     | \$ 451,980     |
| Mailed newsletter fund (Note 2(a))           | -              | 2,992          |
| General fund (Note 2 (a))                    | 83,402         | 40,963         |
|                                              | <u>529,630</u> | <u>495,935</u> |

**\$ 542,483      \$ 514,295**

Approved on behalf of the Board:

*Fatima Abrar*

Director

Fatima Abrar - Treasurer

*Lynn Miller*

Director

Lynn Miller - President

Timing of GIC purchase

# Year in Review

2025 - 2026



# Donations \$100 or more\*

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|                      |                    |                 |                   |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Adrienne Silnicki    | Dale Anne Bartlett | Joan Richard    | Margaret Procter  |
| Alexander Cappell    | Dale Gray          | Joyce Feinberg  | Marion Jamieson   |
| Andre Willi          | Domenica Ganguli   | Kathleen Brooks | Martha Ter Kuile  |
| Ann Atkinson         | Donald Roebuck     | Kathy Chung     | Nancy Dengler     |
| Anne Butt            | Elizabeth Block    | Kathy Paidock   | Nancy Reynolds    |
| Barbara Titherington | Elizabeth Reid     | Keith McColl    | Nicole La Prairie |
| Barbara Trott        | Fred Atkinson      | Ken Jackson     | Nora Axbey        |
| Beverly Bristow      | Hilary Judy Ayres  | Ken Whiteside   | Robert Wells      |
| Brenda Penak         | Ian Johnson        | Leslie Padorr   | Wendy Rothwell    |
| Brian Wendler        | James Decandole    | Lynn Miller     | William Hewitt    |
| Corinne McDonald     | Joan Calcott       | Mara Glebovs    |                   |

\$10K bequest from the estate of Michael Christian de Pencier

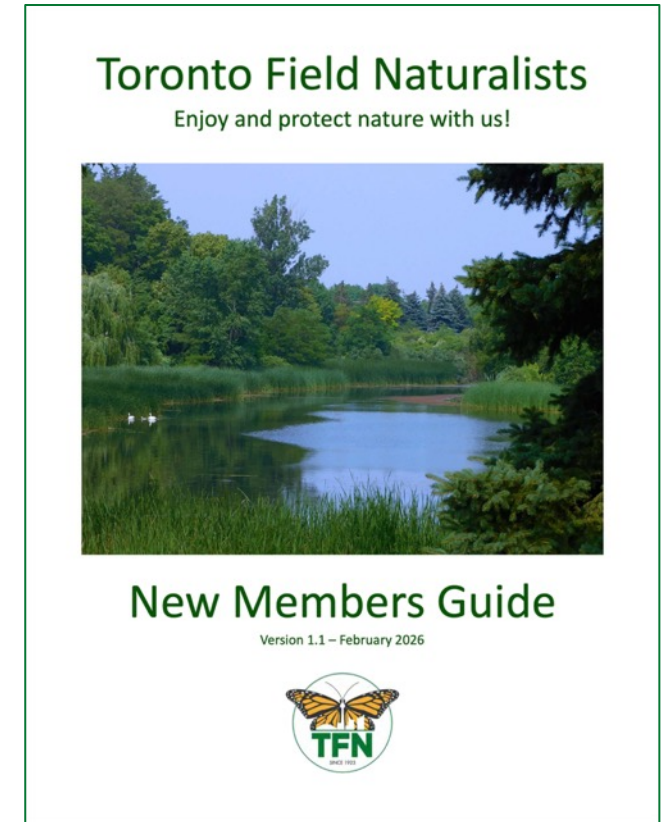
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\* June 30, 2025 – June 30, 2026



# This year...

- 655 memberships
- New Members Handbook
- Volunteer Handbook
- 2 youths sponsored for ON's Youth Summit
- Membership fee changes



# Partnerships

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- Toronto Nature Stewards
- Impact Net Zero (panel presentation)
- LEAF's Urban Forest Leaders (YUFL) program
- U of T class “Writing with Environmental Groups”
- Lorraine Johnson's “Urban Habitats and Restoration Ecology” class
- Culture Link & Ontario Land Trust

Partnerships enable us promote a love of nature to more people



# OUTINGS



# Outings

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## Committee Members

Lynn Miller

Brian Wendler

Dale Butterill

Maddie Mackay-  
Walkley

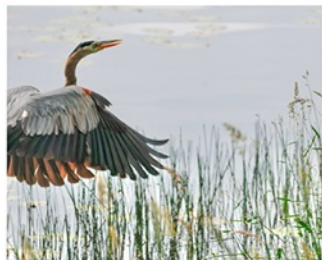
- 113 guided outings
- Outings leaders' workshop and social
- Walk Leader training course, 2<sup>nd</sup> year
- Eventbrite registration to manage numbers

Huge THANK YOU to all  
walk leaders and shepherds!



# TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 694 September 2025



Great Blue Heron "Winging It" 2025. Photo: Jim Goad

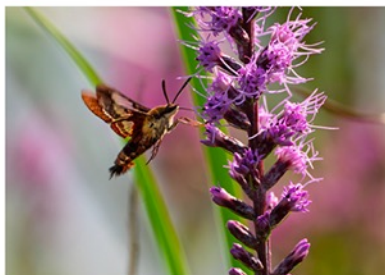
| REGULARS                      |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| About TFN                     | 19 |
| Extracts from Outings Reports | 15 |
| Focus on Nature               | 20 |
| In the News                   | 12 |
| Junior Naturalists            | 11 |
| Lecture Notice                | 20 |
| Lecture Report                | 4  |
| President's Report            | 2  |
| Sharing Nature Encounters     | 18 |
| TFN Outings Information       | 3  |
| For Reading                   | 10 |
| Weather (This Time Last Year) | 7  |

| FEATURES                                     |    |
|----------------------------------------------|----|
| TFN Annual General Meeting                   | 2  |
| Message from the Newsletter Committee        | 5  |
| Insect of the Month: Bees                    | 6  |
| Good News re the New Woodbine Beach Wetland  | 8  |
| Meeting the Northern Flicker on Migration    | 9  |
| Stewardship at Jim Baillie Nature Reserve    | 12 |
| Stewardship – A Rewarding Experience         | 13 |
| Moth Night at Cottonwoods Flats              | 14 |
| Bayview Village Turtle Stewards              | 16 |
| My Favourite Nature Place: Taylor Creek Park | 17 |



# TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 695 October 2025



Hummingbird Clearwing Moth on Blazing Star. Photo: Marlene Duhig

| REGULARS                      |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| About TFN                     | 15 |
| Extracts from Outings Reports | 10 |
| For Reading                   | 14 |
| In the News                   | 13 |
| Junior Naturalists            | 9  |
| Lecture Notice                | 16 |
| Lecture Report                | 4  |
| President's Report            | 2  |
| TFN Outings Information       | 5  |
| Weather (This Time Last Year) | 14 |

| FEATURES                                   |    |
|--------------------------------------------|----|
| AGM Notice                                 | 3  |
| Tiny Birds, Lasting Impressions            | 6  |
| Insect of the Month: Wasps                 | 7  |
| My Favourite Nature Place: Centennial Park | 12 |
| Sharing Nature Encounters                  | 2  |
| Focus on Nature – Insects                  | 16 |



# TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 696 November 2025



Great Egret, 2025. Photo: June D'Souza

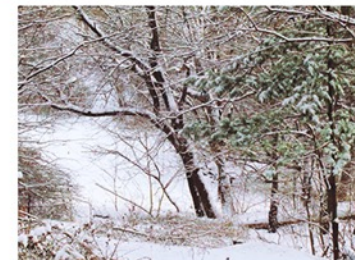
| REGULARS                               |    |
|----------------------------------------|----|
| About TFN                              | 15 |
| Extracts from Outings Leaders' Reports | 12 |
| For Reading                            | 7  |
| Junior Naturalists                     | 9  |
| Lecture Notice                         | 16 |
| Lecture Report                         | 3  |
| President's Report                     | 2  |
| TFN Outings Information                | 4  |
| Weather (This Time Last Year)          | 14 |

| FEATURES                                    |    |
|---------------------------------------------|----|
| Welcoming New Board Member                  | 2  |
| Sharing Nature Encounters                   | 5  |
| Illegal Raves at Cottonwoods Flats          | 6  |
| Insect of the Month: Moths                  | 7  |
| Dark-eyed Juncos – Harbinger of Winter      | 10 |
| My Favourite Nature Place: Cedarvale Ravine | 11 |
| In The News                                 | 14 |
| Focus on Nature – Water                     | 16 |



# TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 697 December 2025



A Snowy Scene in High Park, January 2025. Photo: Charlotte Broome

| REGULARS                               |    |
|----------------------------------------|----|
| About TFN                              | 19 |
| Extracts from Outings Leaders' Reports | 13 |
| For Reading                            | 10 |
| In the News                            | 16 |
| Junior Naturalists                     | 8  |
| Lecture Notice                         | 20 |
| Lecture Report                         | 4  |
| President's Report                     | 2  |
| TFN Outings Information                | 3  |
| Weather (This Time Last Year)          | 17 |

| FEATURES                                      |    |
|-----------------------------------------------|----|
| Welcoming New Board Member                    | 2  |
| Have Your Donation Matched                    | 5  |
| By the Numbers – October 2024 to October 2025 | 5  |
| Insect of the Month: Dragonflies              | 6  |
| Nature Images Show                            | 10 |
| Listening for Cardinals                       | 11 |
| Sharing Nature Encounters                     | 12 |
| Congratulations to TRCA!                      | 16 |
| My Favourite Nature Place: St James Cemetery  | 18 |
| Focus on Nature – Autumn Colours              | 20 |



# TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 698 February 2026



Red Squirrel, 2025. Photo: Theresa Moore

| REGULARS                               |    |
|----------------------------------------|----|
| About TFN                              | 15 |
| Extracts from Outings Leaders' Reports | 12 |
| In the News                            | 9  |
| Junior Naturalists                     | 9  |
| Lecture Notice                         | 16 |
| Lecture Report                         | 3  |
| President's Report                     | 2  |
| TFN Outings Information                | 4  |
| For Reading                            | 10 |
| Sharing Nature Encounters              | 14 |
| Weather (This Time Last Year)          | 5  |

| FEATURES                                            |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----|
| Nature Images Show                                  | 2  |
| Membership Fees                                     | 5  |
| Ontario Nature's 2025 Youth Summit for Mother Earth | 10 |
| Remembering Helen Juhola                            | 6  |
| Insect of the Month: Beetles                        | 7  |
| Trail Cam Photos From TFN Nature Reserves           | 8  |
| Remembering Richard Partington                      | 10 |
| Look Up for Red-Tailed Hawks                        | 11 |
| Focus on Nature: Black and White                    | 18 |



# TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 699 March 2026



Great Egret. Photo: Gerry Zeil

| REGULARS                               |    |
|----------------------------------------|----|
| About TFN                              | 19 |
| Extracts from Outings Leaders' Reports | 17 |
| Junior Naturalists                     | 13 |
| Lecture Notice                         | 20 |
| Lecture Report                         | 3  |
| President's Report                     | 2  |
| Sharing Nature Encounters              | 18 |
| TFN Outings Information                | 4  |
| Weather (This Time Last Year)          | 18 |

| FEATURES                                                                         |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Nominations for Lifetime TFN Award                                               | 2  |
| Get to Know Your Walk Leaders Part 1                                             | 5  |
| Building on Ravine Slopes is a Terrible Idea                                     | 6  |
| Fifty-two Years of Advocacy Led to Success                                       | 6  |
| Nature Images Event                                                              | 8  |
| Before He Finishes Singing: The Female Red-winged Blackbird's Voice              | 11 |
| Congratulations to Anne and Jim Purvis on the Creation of Inscape Nature Reserve | 12 |
| Insect of the Month: True Bugs                                                   | 14 |
| Volunteer with Cottonwood Flats Monitoring Project                               | 16 |
| Focus on Nature: Animals in Snow                                                 | 20 |



# TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 700 April 2026



Hepatica. Photo: Donata Frank

| REGULARS                               |    |
|----------------------------------------|----|
| About TFN                              | 15 |
| Extracts from Outings Leaders' Reports | 11 |
| For Reading                            | 14 |
| In the News                            | 13 |
| Junior Naturalists                     | 8  |
| Lecture Notice                         | 16 |
| Lecture Report                         | 2  |
| Sharing Nature Encounters              | 12 |
| TFN Outings Information                | 4  |
| Weather (This Time Last Year)          | 7  |

| FEATURES                                  |    |
|-------------------------------------------|----|
| Monarch Ultra                             | 2  |
| Signs and Colours of Spring               | 3  |
| Getting to Know Your Walk Leaders: Part 2 | 5  |
| Insect of the Month: Flies                | 6  |
| The Song Sparrow's April Declaration      | 10 |
| Focus on Nature: Shadows and Light        | 16 |



# TORONTO FIELD NATURALIST

Number 701 May 2026



American Robins. Painting by Joanne Doucette

| REGULARS                               |    |
|----------------------------------------|----|
| About TFN                              | 23 |
| Extracts from Outings Leaders' Reports | 18 |
| Focus on Nature – Circles and Ovals    | 24 |
| In the News                            | 20 |
| Junior Naturalists                     | 15 |
| Lecture Notice                         | 24 |
| Lecture Report                         | 3  |
| President's Report                     | 2  |
| Sharing Nature Encounters              | 22 |
| TFN Outings Information                | 6  |
| Weather (This Time Last Year)          | 21 |

| FEATURES                                                        |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Message from the Editor                                         | 2  |
| 2026 TFN Lifetime Award                                         | 4  |
| Stewardship Season                                              | 5  |
| Getting to Know Your Walk Leaders – Part 3                      | 7  |
| Top Reasons to Protect Toronto Islands' Nature                  | 8  |
| Plants and Their Insect Pollinators                             | 10 |
| Reminder re Fee Increase                                        | 12 |
| Insect of the Month: Ants                                       | 13 |
| The Cedar Waxwings' Courtship Dance                             | 16 |
| At the Table: Four City Projects TFN is Fighting for Right Now  | 17 |
| Looking Back 50 Years: Reflections on the April 1976 Newsletter | 19 |
| Pharmacists' Services                                           | 20 |

NEW  
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# Newsletter

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## **Committee Members**

Wendy Rothwell

Leslie Padorr

Charlotte Broome

Elisabeth Gladstone

Jennifer Smith

Jenny Bull

Kathleen Brooks

Katrina McGuire

Wendy Winters

- 8 amazing issues of the newsletter
- Challenges:
  - Oct 2025 Canada Post strike
  - Switch to Affinity Publisher 2

Thank you to all members who submitted  
articles, images and letters!



# LECTURES



# Lectures

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## **Committee Members**

Philip Jessup

Ellen Schwartzel

Michèle Macartney-  
Filgate

Peter Smith

Robert Wilson

- 6 lectures
- Recordings available from the members' website
- 1 in-person film: Monarch Ultra on Earth Day

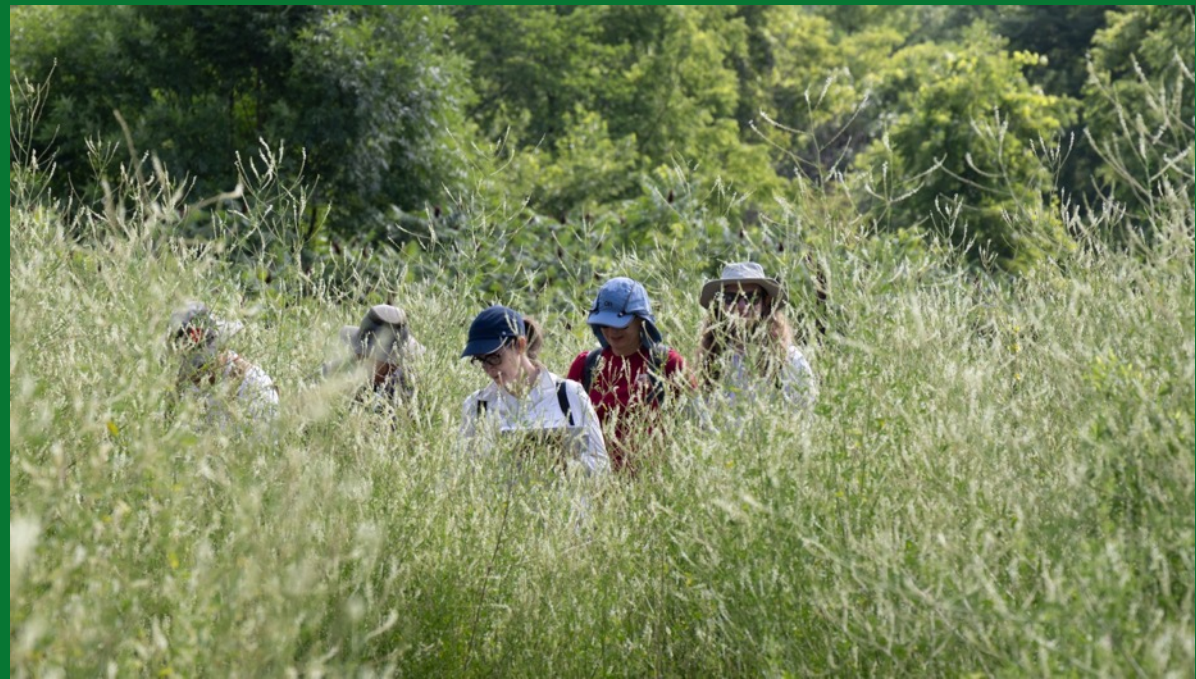


**MONITORING FOR SUCCESS**

The City of Toronto works with the Toronto Field Naturalists (TFN) on volunteer ecosystem monitoring. In advance of the Prescribed Grazing Project, the City partnered with TFN to expand the monitoring protocol to the meadow at Don Valley Brick Works Park. The goal is to create an inventory of flora and fauna biodiversity prior to, and following, the introduction of prescribed grazing to assess overall trends in vegetation and examine whether the introduction of grazers has a net positive impact. Photo monitoring plots have also been set up by the City to observe changes to the meadow over time.

[toronto.ca/grazing](https://toronto.ca/grazing)

# STEWARDSHIP



# Stewardship — Toronto

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## Leaders

Jason Ramsay-Brown

Lillian Natalizio

Anna Waldvogel

Christian Nakla

Tulika Bose

Cori Linetsky

Lynn Miller

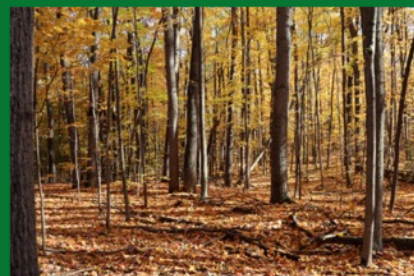
- Cottonwoods Flats Monitoring Project (10th year!!)
- CSP at Cottonwoods Flats/Beechwood and Humber Arboretum
- CSP vegetation monitoring
- Prescribed Grazing Project (Goats!)

Thank you to the volunteers who came out  
in all weather to make these possible!

# Stewardship — Reserves



- 30+ hours of trail maintenance (major tree falls)
- 4 new sections of boardwalk
- Large steel toolbox to store tools
- UFORA treated phragmites and DSV at JBNR
- Year two of Forest Bird Monitoring Program
- Boat trip to HAJNR



### **Ontario Is Going the Wrong Way in Protecting Nature**

**October 17, 2025**

Nature remains the strongest symbol of Canadian identity, according to a recent poll. In 2022, Canada committed to protecting 30% of its land, inland waters, and coastal waters by 2030 ... [Read More](#)



### **Fifty-two Years of Advocacy Led to Success**

**January 9, 2026**

We owe a massive congratulations to Land Over Landings for their 53-year citizen-led campaign. I'm certain the original organizers of People Over Planes back in 1972 didn't anticipate a half-century ... [Read More](#)



### **Protecting the Vision of Humber Bay Park**

**January 24, 2026**

Humber Bay Park was originally designed as a quiet refuge on Toronto's waterfront. However, this natural sanctuary is now under threat by a proposal to allow noisy, polluting jet-ski rentals ... [Read More](#)



### **Building on Ravine Slopes is a Terrible Idea**

**February 12, 2026**

Toronto learned a hard lesson 71 years ago, when Hurricane Hazel tore a path of death and destruction across the region. The lesson was that we absolutely must protect our ... [Read More](#)



### **At the Table: 4 City Projects TFN is Fighting for Right Now**

**April 3, 2026**

Most of our members know Toronto Field Naturalists for our wonderful guided walks, photography and education programs. But there is a lot of work happening behind the scenes. Our Advocacy ... [Read More](#)



### **Your feedback needed now: Let's keep Tommy Thompson Park an urban wilderness**

**April 30, 2026**

The City of Toronto and TRCA are now consulting on how to improve the "visitor experience" at Tommy Thompson Park, through a project called the Visitor Experience Plan (VEP). The ... [Read More](#)

# ADVOCACY



### **Coalition intervenes at Supreme Court of Canada in case challenging Ontario government's destruction of Ontario Place**

**July 19, 2026**

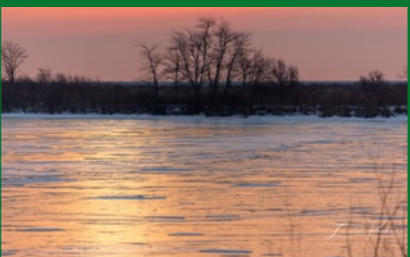
Can a government shield its decisions from existing laws and court review, and is Ontario Place a protected "public trust"? [Read More](#)



### **Speak Up for Toronto Island: How to Stop the Airport Jet Expansion**

**June 25, 2026**

The Federal Government holds the ultimate authority to prevent the expansion of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport to accommodate commercial jets. Right now, we have a critical window to make ... [Read More](#)



### **Jets Over Nature: The True Cost of Island Airport Expansion**

**May 15, 2026**

The proposed expansion of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport to accommodate jet aircraft threatens several of the most significant natural habitats in our city. Toronto identifies 89 Environmentally Significant Areas ... [Read More](#)



### **87,000 Voices Strong: How Toronto Rose Up to Save the Island's Wildlife**

**August 3, 2026**

What an extraordinary summer for Toronto's nature community! When the Province of Ontario announced plans to take over Billy Bishop Airport and open the runways to commercial jets, the Toronto ... [Read More](#)



### **Help Keep Tommy Thompson Park Wild**

**September 18, 2026**

Tommy Thompson Park is one of Toronto's best places to experience nature and see wildlife. Let's make sure it stays that way. The City of Toronto and Toronto and Region ... [Read More](#)



### **Good News: Fish Thriving in the Don Mouth after Naturalization**

**October 1, 2026**

Back in 1987, the environmental degradation of Toronto's waterfront was so severe, it was listed as an Area of Concern, and was at risk of impacting the wider Great Lakes ... [Read More](#)

# Advocacy

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## Committee Members

Ellen Schwartzel

Peter Smith

Michele  
Macartney-Filgate

Chloe Wang

- 14 blog posts
- Representatives:
  - Toronto Island Working Group: Ellen Schwartzel
  - Queens Park North Project: Peter Smith
  - Community Advisory Group for the Visitor Experience Plan (VEP), Tommy Thompson Park: Lynn Miller
  - Scarborough Bluffs Community Advisory Group: Peter Smith
- Big issues:
  - Keeping jets out of the Island Airport
  - Ontario Place Protectors Coalition lawsuit
  - Flemingdon Park development
  - Municipal election in October 2026

# JUNIOR NATURALISTS



# Junior Naturalists

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## **Committee Members**

Anne Purvis

Jim Purvis

Marina Sokol

Vannessa McMain

Lily Berenchtein

Harriet Simand

Allison Best

- 9 events : Brickworks, salmon migration, FLAP, Biidaasige, winter birds, winter survival skills, turtle conservation, migrating birds, NestWatch
- 20-30 people per event
- 7-10 families per event

# Outreach Events

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## Event Table Volunteers

Lynn Miller

Lillian Natalizio

Lynn Short

May Massijeh

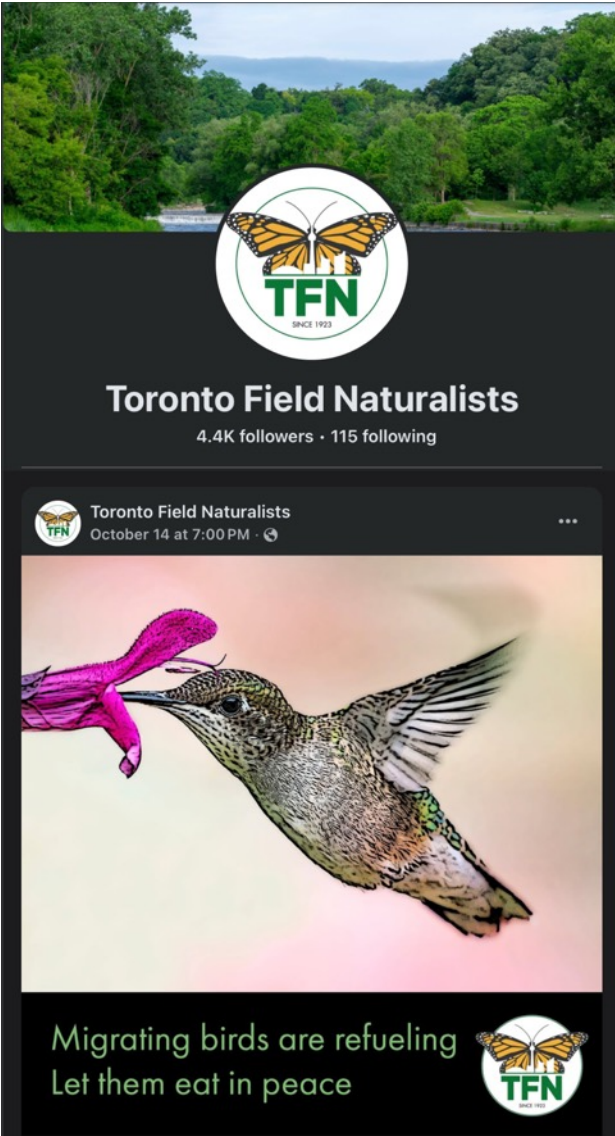
Peter Smith

- Table at events:
  - Downsview Earth Day
  - North American Native Plant Society
  - Colonel Sam Smith Park Spring Bird Festival
  - TRCA Butterfly Festival at Tommy Thompson Park
  - Long Branch Tree Fest
- Talks
  - 8 Ravine talks by Ellen Schwartzel

# Outreach Walks for New Canadians

- Lillian Natalizio, High Park  
February 28, 2026
- Lynn Miller, Cottonwoods Flats  
March 8, 2026
- Lillian Natalizio, Humber River  
September 26, 2026

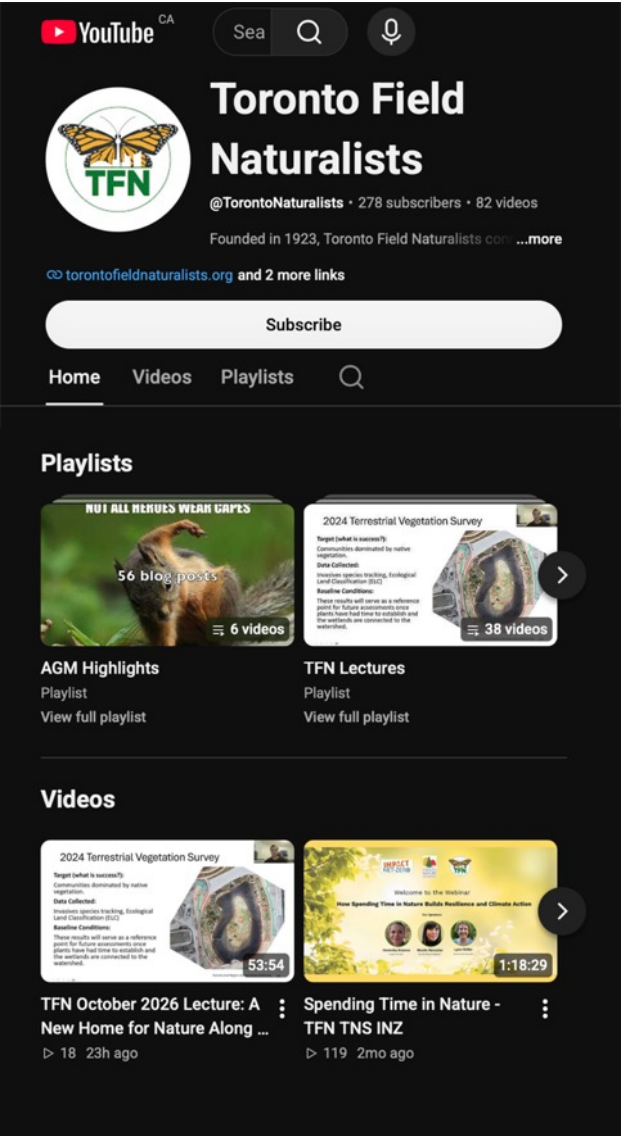




Facebook  
Followers: 4.4K



Instagram  
Followers: 3,180



YouTube  
(Lectures)



As of Oct 3, 2026

Ephemeral plants take years to build up enough energy to flower and can be difficult to spot during that time so...

## STAY ON THE PATH



Using recordings to attract birds can interfere with their ability to find a mate and set up a territory so...

## DON'T USE RECORDINGS TO ATTRACT BIRDS



A "perfect" close-up isn't worth disrupting an animal's life.

Stay back, use a long lens, stay on the trail.

## PRIORITIZE THE WELL-BEING OF NATURE OVER GETTING A PHOTO



When multiple people collect from the same source, it reduces reproductive success.

## WILD SEED COLLECTING CAN LEAD TO POPULATION DECLINE



## Protect Snowy Owls!

Snowy owls need to rest and conserve their energy. Getting too close will disturb them!



## Animals can survive the winter by themselves

Human food isn't healthy for wild animals and disrupts natural feeding behaviours



## Some social media photos aren't ethically taken

Look for signs of wildlife disturbance before liking a photo



## Wildlife Protection Group:

Lynn Miller,  
Theresa Moore,  
Zunaid Khan

# Photography Group / Nature Images Show

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- Led by Lynn Miller
- Evaluation sub-group led by Theresa Moore
- 30 members
- 11 monthly meetings & Photo Challenges
- Used for newsletter, website, & social media
- Nature Images Show: 14 participants (3 new)



Lillian Natalizio

# Behind the Scenes Core Volunteers

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- Membership Services – Corinne MacDonald
- Communications – Lynn Miller
- Volunteer Coordinator – Lynn Miller



# That's Our Year

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100% volunteer!



# Extension of President's Term

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- Position of Vice President was empty for 2025-2026
- Peter Smith has accepted the VP role for 2026-2027
- Requires Lynn Miller to continue as President until October 2027
- Need a special vote



# Board Members Retiring

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- Lillian Natalizio (2022-2026), stewardship representative
- Philip Jessup (2022-2026), lectures representative
- Zunaid Khan (2019-2026), past president

Thank you for all the work and time they have have given TFN!



# New Board Member

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Anna Waldvogel



Lei Cai



Kat Lucas



# Nominees: Board of Directors 2026-2027

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**The nominating committee recommends this slate of nominees to the Board for the year 2026-2027:**

**Officers:**

President: Lynn Miller

Vice President: Peter Smith

Secretary-Treasurer: Fatima Abrar

**Directors:**

Allison Best

Lei Cai

Michèle McCartney-Filgate

Jessica Iraci

Kat Lucas

May Massijeh

Lynn Short

Lam Tran

Anna Waldvogel





Thank you!