



New Species at Risk Program!

Injection of \$597,000 to
protect threatened species
in the Islands Trust area *p. 2*



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Climate Change Projections Report
Response to COVID-19

The Opportunity Fund

Linda Adams'
Islands Trust journey

Infusion of Species at Risk funding

What does this mean for the islands we all love?

Environment and Climate Change Canada has invested \$597,000 in Islands Trust Conservancy's new Species at Risk Program, enabling increased efforts in protecting species at risk on islands in the Salish Sea.

- Do you know about the range of species where you live? And which of those might be at-risk species? We will be conducting surveys and monitoring.
- Can the land you live on support at-risk species, with a bit of help? We will be working to restore critical habitat.
- Do you need more information to better consider how you can contribute? We will be providing information,

hosting events, and assisting if you wish to protect species at risk where you live.

- Indigenous Knowledge Holders and Traditional Ecological Knowledge Holders have understanding passed down over 10,000 years about how to live and care for the lands and waters. We want to work with Knowledge Holders to support species at risk, now and into the future.

While these funds are not for land purchase, they can be used for costs associated with land purchases. Funding will run until March 23, 2023.

For more information, contact Kate Emmings, Manager, kemmings@islandstrust.bc.ca

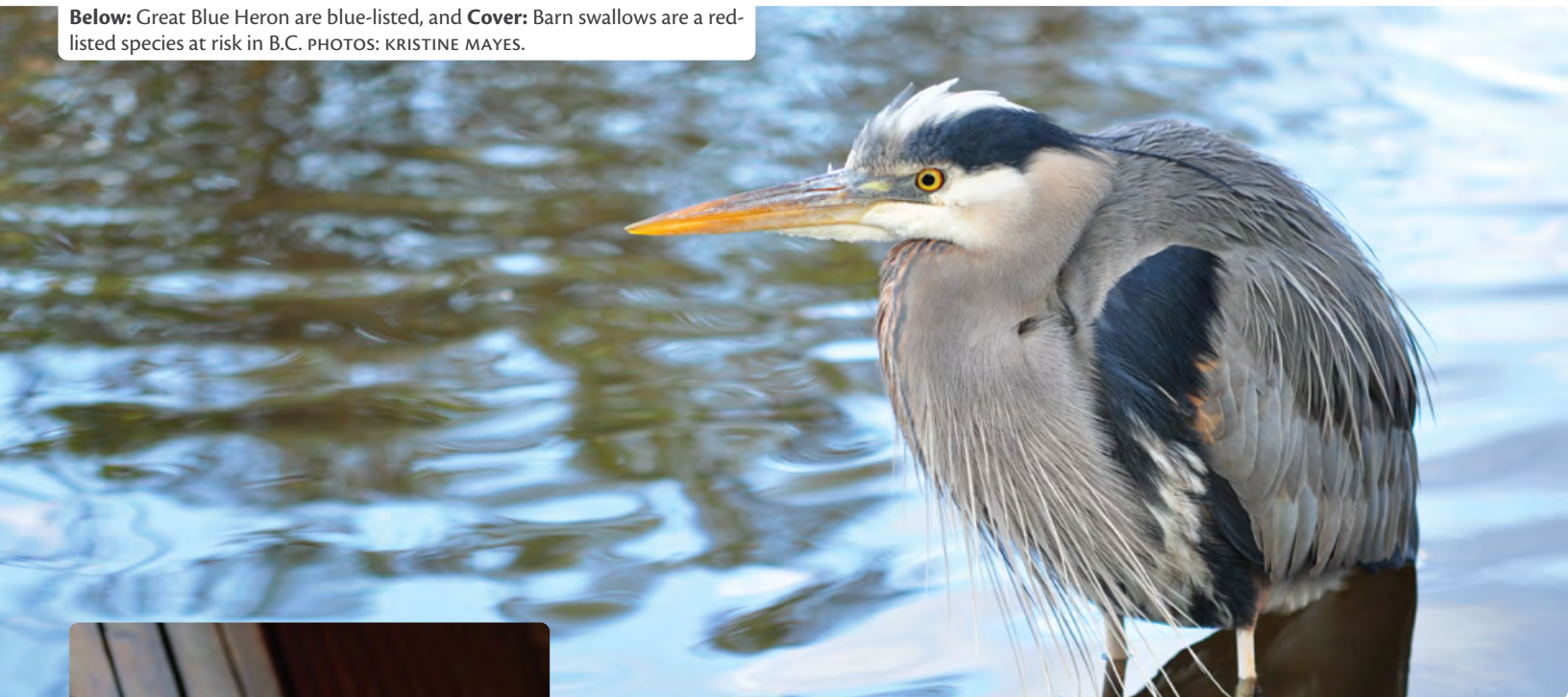
This project was undertaken with the financial support of:
Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier de :



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

Below: Great Blue Heron are blue-listed, and **Cover:** Barn swallows are a red-listed species at risk in B.C. PHOTOS: KRISTINE MAYES.



Acknowledgement

Islands Trust Conservancy acknowledges that we work within the treaty lands and territories of the BOKÉCEN, Cowichan Tribes, Halalt, Homalco, K'ómoks, Klahoose, Ts'uubaa-asatx, Lək'wəŋən (SXIMELEEL, Songhees, T'Sou-ke), Lyackson, MÁLEXEL, Penelakut, Qualicum, Scia'new, səlilwətaʔt, SEMYOME, shíshálh, Snaw-naw-as, Snuneymuxw, Skw̓xwú7mesh, STÁUTW, Stz'uminus, Tla'amin, scəwáθən məsteyəxʷ, We Wai Kai, Wei Wai Kum, WJOLELP, WSIKEM and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm.

Canoe detail. PHOTO: LISA WILCOX

Conservation fieldwork just wasn't the same this year

We missed you all!

Islands Trust Conservancy fieldwork was very different this year.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, work in the islands was postponed for several months out of respect for the communities who asked off-islanders to stay away to prevent virus transmission.

Spring and summer are typically busy seasons of fieldwork: visiting prospective conservation lands, monitoring nature reserves and conservation covenants on private land. Each year we look forward to this fieldwork to reconnect with the land and the local conservancies and private landholders that we partner with to protect it.

When it was considered safe to do so, staff cautiously resumed travel between communities under enhanced Islands Trust safety protocols. Due to loss of time fieldwork was condensed and included precautions to minimize risks to all of you — Coast Salish Nations, conservation partners, and islanders in general.

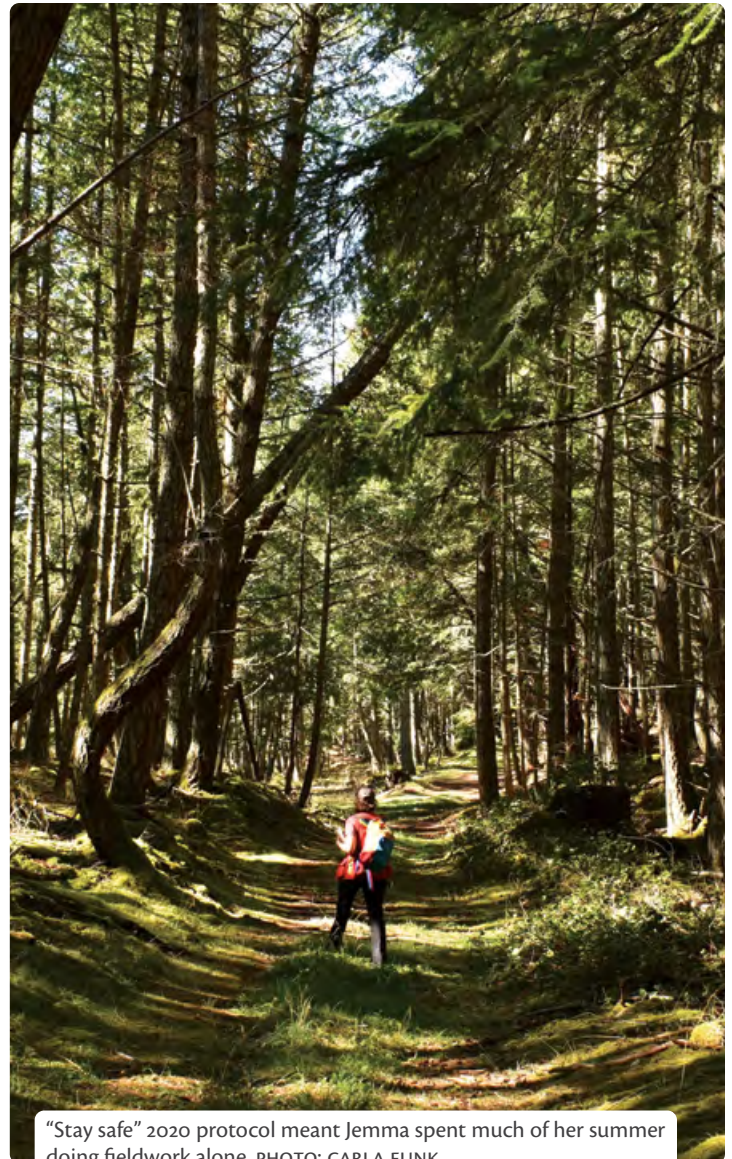
Traveling and conducting fieldwork happened with as little contact with islanders as possible. This meant we did not encourage local conservancy members and covenant landholders to join us in walking the land with us.

Trust me when I say we missed you!

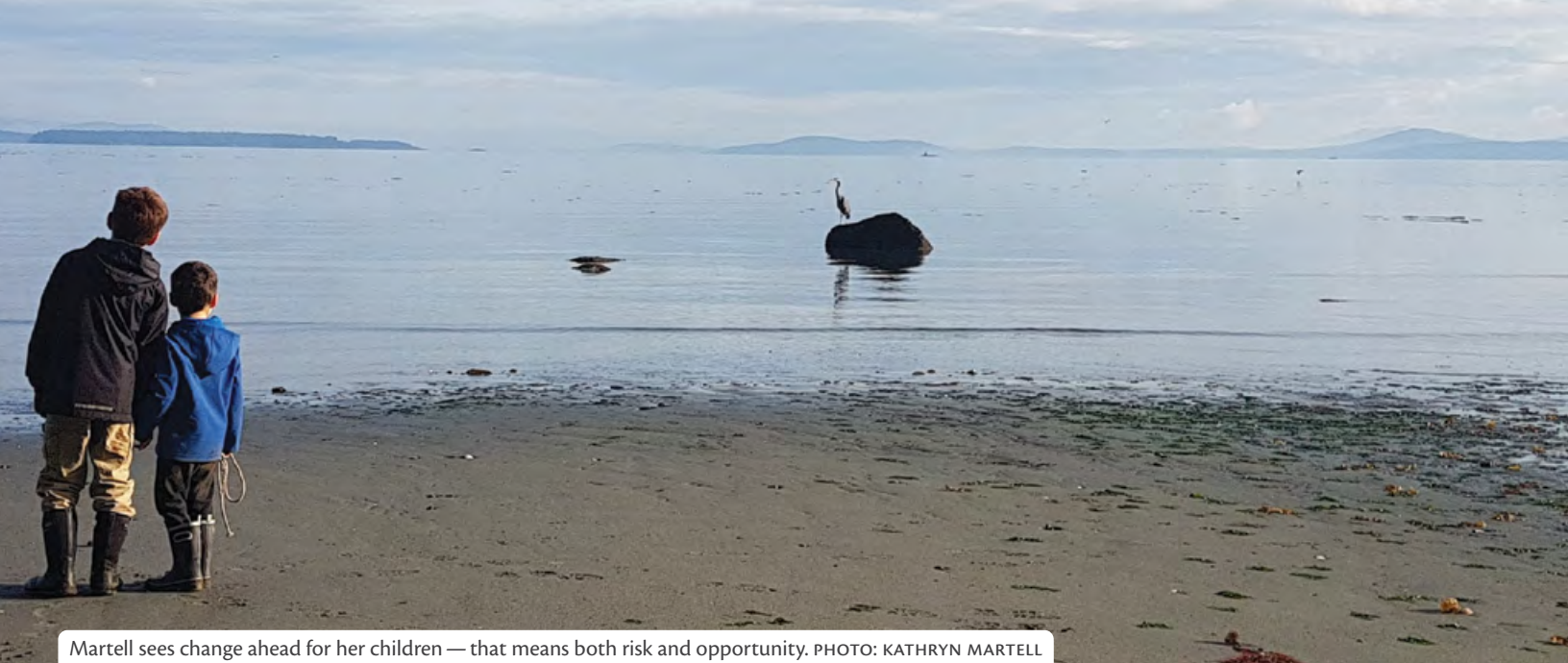
Jemma Green, Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist, jgreen@islandstrust.bc.ca

Your conservation contact: Jemma Green

Jemma Green was hired in 2019 as the Covenant Management and Outreach Specialist. Her background is in wildlife and habitat conservation: she holds a BSc in Natural Resources Conservation, and an MSc in Environmental Studies specializing in ecological restoration. Jemma is your contact for monitoring and land management in conservation covenants.



"Stay safe" 2020 protocol meant Jemma spent much of her summer doing fieldwork alone. PHOTO: CARLA FUNK.



Martell sees change ahead for her children — that means both risk and opportunity. PHOTO: KATHRYN MARTELL

Does what you do today make a difference to the future?

A Reflection on Climate Projections

When I first read the *Climate Projections for the Islands Trust Area Report* I was filled with despair.

My young sons and I explore nature, looking at shorebirds, insects, kelp beds, and soaring red cedars — I worry, what will the world be like for them? Climate instability will define their lives. As well-read as I consider myself on the topic, this latest report on the future of climate in the Salish Sea helped me realize the true extent of the changes to come. The scales of disruptions to our island communities seem immense.

But then I paid attention to the rest of my Islands Trust Conservancy team's reactions: they saw risks but more important, they also saw opportunity.

The climate of the 2050s will be variable and unstable. By the 2080s, it will become a substantially different climate than our islands experience today. While the changes of the next 30 years are already largely determined, conditions in 2080 and beyond depend on what we do now.

The climate projections in this report are based on a “business as usual” scenario. Decisions made in the next 30 years will set the course for sea-level and climate conditions for years ahead.

Is the situation extreme? Yes. Is it the end of the story? Absolutely not.

Hope lies in the ways that we transform how we see ourselves within local ecosystems, and then imagine and create a world where societies and natural areas are better prepared for climate impacts.

The lives our children and grandchildren lead will be different from ours. But you and I are not helpless in this changing world—climate change is present but what we do, each of us, here and now will truly make a difference.

To read the report visit: islandstrustconservancy.ca/about-us/our-publications/

Kathryn Martell, Ecosystem Protection Specialist,
kmartell@islandstrust.bc.ca



What does the future hold in store for you?

Together we can make plans with climate change in mind

The climate of the 2050s will be even more variable and unstable, and by the 2080s our islands will experience a substantially different climate. We can expect:

- Warmer summer temperatures, with hotter and more extreme heat days in summer. (For example, in the Northern Gulf Islands the number of days over 25°C will increase from 21 in the past to approximately 55 by 2050, and may be as high as 91 by 2080.)
- Warmer winter temperatures, an earlier spring, and a longer growing season.
- Less rain and more frequent, longer dry spells in the summer months.
- More frequent, more intense storms with higher rainfall.
- Annual precipitation more concentrated in the fall instead of winter.
- The sea level is predicted to rise at least 15cm by 2050, and 34cm by 2080.
- The ocean will increase in acidity and temperature, and oxygen levels will decrease.

Species and ecosystems will be impacted in complex ways. It will alter biological diversity as well as the range and abundance of species and their habitats. While Islands Trust will consider the impacts to communities on the islands, Islands Trust Conservancy will look at more specific anticipated impacts to its nature reserves and will consider climate impacts for future land purchases.

For specific climate projections in your area please refer to the [Climate Projections for the Islands Trust Area](#).

Whether you have at-risk shoreline property or are a citizen concerned about species that are already at risk, we want to hear about your thoughts on climate.

Kathryn Martell, Ecosystem Protection Specialist,
kmartell@islandstrust.bc.ca



Bee on phacelia. PHOTO: CARLA FUNK

The Opportunity Fund needs you!

A surge in requests has almost emptied the Fund

The Opportunity Fund provides support for ‘hard to fundraise’ costs for land protection. These aren’t large sums, but sometimes they mean the difference between our local conservation partners moving forward on a land purchase.

The Fund is experiencing increased demand: a ‘normal’ year would see one request, an ‘exceptional year’ three requests. In the past nine months we have received four requests, each requesting \$5,000. There is only \$10,000 left.

These small grants, relative to steep land purchase costs, often are those timely and critical funds that determine the ecological validity of a land purchase, or assist with legalities of land acquisition.

There is GOOD news in this! Increased requests for funds indicates increased local land conservation activity — something we all support!

To support the Opportunity Fund visit islandstrustconservancy.ca/donate/

Carla Funk, Communications and Fundraising Specialist,
cfunk@islandstrust.bc.ca

Preserving and protecting for thirty years 1990–2020

Gratitude to Linda Adams for her role at Islands Trust

Few can boast as long a commitment to Islands Trust as Linda Adams.

In 1991 she was the first Islands Trust planner hired to work on an island. She quickly rose to senior planner responsible for Salt Spring Island from an office in downtown Ganges. “Working from an island office was different then,” says Adams. “The bulk of Islands Trust staff were situated in Victoria. There were no computers in our offices at the time; no email, or websites. We relied on typewriters, phone and fax for so much of our work.”

Islands Trust Conservancy (formerly Islands Trust Fund) had been founded the year prior. “Only one staff person ran the organization for a very long time, steadily gaining momentum” she recalled, “and then there was a sudden burst of activity around the year 2000.”

Adams’ memory serves her well. By the year 2000 fifteen conservation covenants and eight nature reserves were created on ten islands and by 2005 fifty places had been protected.

Over her 25 years on staff with the organization, Linda’s own position within Islands Trust gained momentum. She switched from planning, to the role of Director of Trust Area Services, then Chief Administrative Officer, and now an Islands Trust Conservancy Board member.

When asked about the creation of Islands Trust Conservancy, Adams spoke about the misunderstanding and fears that islanders had that conservation was going to be mandated:

The creation of the Conservancy shifted the conversation from ‘regulation’ to ‘vision.’



“The fact that property owners could voluntarily choose to place land into the care and protection of the Conservancy shifted the conversation from ‘regulation’ to ‘vision.’ People really responded to that. Each island has had their own key conservation moment when some special place was really threatened and then the community rallied to protect it.”

When Islands Trust Conservancy was founded in 1990, the concept of land conservation was fairly new. There were parks, but those were lands that often had a significant recreation purpose. “There was a real dilemma; there were few ways to hold island lands for conservation,” says Trustee Adams. “The Conservancy has helped shape the ‘preserve and protect’ mandate of Islands Trust to ensure there is an on-going focus on the really critical issues of conservation for the region.”

Carla Funk, Communications and Fundraising Specialist,
cfunk@islandstrust.bc.ca

Western red cedar, Salt Spring Island. PHOTO: CARLA FUNK



5 REASONS TO DONATE GIFTS OF SECURITIES



You love the islands of the Salish Sea

There is a quality of life on the islands that is unique. Kathryn Aberle tells us Gambier Island is one of her favourite places: "It's an hour from the city and a million miles from anywhere." You'd like to help keep it special.



You own shares that have appreciated

You've made some great investments! You bought low — they grew! But now, selling high means triggering capital gains tax. By donating directly to Islands Trust Conservancy those taxes are 100% waived.



You want to share your passion

You have enjoyed a love of nature. Kayaking, hikes, beachcombing, and simply breathing fresh air. Will your children and grandchildren enjoy the same pleasures? You want to help preserve and protect the things you love to do, for the people you love.



It's a smart way to donate

Donating appreciated securities is simple, cost-effective and the most tax-efficient way to make a charitable gift today or through your estate. And did we mention it's easy...?



It's easy!

Securities are easy to transfer. Your broker simply transfers the shares from your account to Island Trust Conservancy's brokerage account. You can use the downloadable form from our website to instruct and authorize your broker to transfer the stock.

For more information

Call: Carla 250-405-5171

Email: cfunk@islandstrust.bc.ca

Or visit: [islandstrustconservancy.ca/donate/gift-and-estate-planning/
publically-traded-securities/](https://islandstrustconservancy.ca/donate/gift-and-estate-planning/publically-traded-securities/)

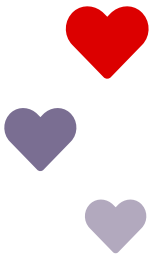
Fond farewell.

A Board member since 2019, **Susan Hannon**'s wealth of ecological knowledge and expertise proved helpful for decision-making on conservation issues at the governance level. All is not lost though, since Susan has taken the role of President at Salt Spring Island Conservancy. So we say a fond farewell with great gratitude.



Welcome to the Board!

Don Clarke is a member of the Black River First Nation, with a professional, social and educational background from the Universities of Winnipeg and Manitoba. Don has worked in over 50 First Nations communities (throughout Western Canada) for 25 years. We welcome the knowledge and expertise that Don Clarke brings to the Board.



Gratitude

We are grateful to all of you who make it possible to preserve and protect the islands of the Salish Sea.

We can't do this without you!



Like us on Facebook
facebook.com/IsITrustConservancy/



Follow us on Twitter
twitter.com/IsITrustConserv

Newsletter Production

Erika Rathje | erikarathje.ca

Printed on 100% post consumer recycled paper. Please recycle.

YES! I want to preserve and protect the islands!

100% of your donation goes directly to protecting endangered habitat on the islands you love.

Your donations of \$20 or more will receive an official donation receipt for income tax purposes.*

To donate online visit:

islandstrustconservancy.ca/donate/give-now/

Questions? Contact us!

250-405-5186

itcmail@islandstrust.bc.ca

islandstrustconservancy.ca

Share your vision with future generations — please consider remembering Islands Trust Conservancy in your will.

*Islands Trust Conservancy is a qualified donee as a Crown agent under B.C.'s *Islands Trust Act*. Islands Trust business # 122013576 RT0001

My donation amount: \$50 \$100 \$200 \$_____

Name	
Address	
City	
Prov/State	Postal/Zip code
Phone	
Email	

Yes, I am okay with public recognition of my donation.

I wish to donate by:

- Cheque (made payable to the Islands Trust Conservancy)
 Visa MasterCard

Card Number	
Expiry Date mm/yy	Security Code (back of card)
Signature	

**Please mail to: 200-1627 Fort Street
Victoria, BC V8R 1H8**