



QUEBEC-LABRADOR FOUNDATION

*With its roots in the Atlantic Region of North America,
QLF engages environmental leaders worldwide to advance
community-based and larger-scale conservation and
stewardship of natural resources and cultural heritage.*

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In my 20+ years at QLF, I have witnessed this small, remarkable organization evolve in ways unimaginable at its creation over 60 years ago. Along the way, QLF has produced an enviable record of success guiding a multitude of conservation initiatives at the local, regional, and increasingly, the global level. While the tools have remained the same – learning, leading and sharing – this “scaling up” now presents QLF with a larger platform at a time when the stakes are growing exponentially.

A prime example of QLF’s current-day capability and readiness is its support of the world-wide “30x30” initiative. Read on to learn about two ways QLF staff and programs are working to conserve the planet’s health and biodiversity.

In this issue, we also profile the work of four QLF alumnae. One is an innovator in climate change education, another champions a unique landscape scale biodiversity project in New Zealand, and two are helping to preserve the cultural memory of a time, people, and places within our home region in danger of slipping from the public consciousness.

Beth Alling
President



QLF SUPPORTS THE 30X30 GLOBAL INITIATIVE

30x30, aka Target 3, is the best known of the 23 “targets” identified in the 2022 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), in which nations of the world agreed to ambitious action targets to slow the precipitous decline of nature by 2030, and to reverse it by 2050.

QLF’s participation in the implementation of 30x30 globally is led by QLF Senior Vice President Brent Mitchell. In his capacity as a Vice Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), Brent works with technical experts worldwide to provide guidance on implementation strategies that address the Earth’s increasingly perilous health.

Most efforts are aligned with the 30x30 global pledge to “ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 percent of terrestrial and inland water, and of coastal and marine areas...are effectively conserved and managed through...systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable...”

To that end, Brent has helped guide several 30x30-related activities promoting greater awareness and participation in the important Target 3 initiative, including:

- A high-level session at the UN Biodiversity Conference of the Parties (December 2022, Montréal) aimed at forming new partnerships to realize the ambition of 30x30. The half-day event was co-hosted by the UN Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);
- A new partnership of governments, NGOs, major donors, and Indigenous peoples and local communities to assist in the implementation of 30x30 with the CBD Secretariat, organizing a 70-person planning meeting in June at the David Attenborough Building in Cambridge, UK;
- Development of *30x30: A Guide to Inclusive, Equitable and Effective Implementation of Target 3*. Launched at the Seventh Assembly of the Global Environment Facility (August 2023, Vancouver, BC);
- Harmonizing definitions and clarifying details of the three central features of Target 3, protected areas, other area-based conservation areas (defined only a few years ago), and “recognizing indigenous [*sic*] and traditional territories, where applicable” (terms used for the first time in the December GBF and as yet undefined).

Follow these links for more information on the 30x30 initiative:

- [T3 Guide](#)
- [Target 3 \(official\)](#)
- [Cambridge, UK Meeting](#)



MARITIMES CONSERVATION AND STEWARDSHIP: LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO A GLOBAL INITIATIVE



(Left to right) QLF summer staff, Victoria Boiling, Madeleine Cumplido-Wilson, and Chloe Nasralla, alongside Nature Trust of New Brunswick staff Grace Maclean, Sugar Island Nature Preserve. PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF BETHANY POHL

As leaders worldwide collaborate to achieve “30x30,” the global campaign to protect 30% of the world’s land and oceans by 2030 – a target aimed at maintaining biodiversity and building ecosystem resilience, QLF field teams work on the premise that it’s just as much about the quality of protected area as it is the quantity. Conservation efforts need to target regions of high biodiversity and ecological significance to have the greatest impact – this is the philosophy behind QLF’s stewardship work in the Maritimes region.

For six weeks this summer, QLF staff members Krista Grant and Madeleine Cumplido-Wilson directed a team of interns undertaking field work in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia in partnership with the Nature Trust of New Brunswick (NTNB) and the Nova Scotia Nature Trust (NSNT). The team conducted species biodiversity surveys, educational outreach promoting citizen science, and stewardship initiatives aimed at protecting key resources on ecologically significant land owned by the Nature Trusts.



QLF Staff with Nova Scotia Nature Trust (NSNT) staff and volunteers gather to remove environmental debris from Crows Nest Nature Preserve, a Protected Area of NSNT. PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALEXA SCHUBAK



The Maritimes region is rich in biodiversity, providing critical habitat for many migratory and resident species. New Brunswick alone is home to salt marshes and forested wetlands that provide habitat for many songbirds, shorebirds, and waterfowl; of which 100 are priority-listed and 25 are threatened. The QLF field team, along with NTNB and Nature Conservancy of Canada staff, conducted stewardship work in one such region – Grand Manan Island and Ross Island in the Bay of Fundy.

Situated on a major Eastern flyway, Grand Manan and Ross Islands are areas of high avian biodiversity. Several rare bird species have been observed in the area, along with various rare plant species and a diverse population of benthic organisms. This makes the area a region of high marine productivity and ecological value. The QLF field team and regional partners completed biodiversity surveys and monitoring as well as stewardship tasks such as large debris removal at locations previously surveyed, in an effort to maintain habitat integrity for critical species.

This is one example of how data collection is used by regional partners to be integrated in longitudinal studies tracking biodiversity and ecosystem health, while also addressing conservation concerns. The local work in the Maritimes is simply one component of a large network of intertwined tasks needed for not only conserving land, but maintaining its ecological value.



QLF staff alongside Nova Scotia Nature Trust (NSNT) staff Janine Jaffrey looking out at McGowan Lake, a Natural Area protected by the NSNT.
PHOTOGRAPH BY CHLOE NASRALA

Frequent monitoring to maintain longitudinal datasets and inform direct action is critical in ensuring the longevity of lands designated as protected and those yet to be conserved in the effort to realize the 30x30 pledge.



Seaside cliffs along the Northern tip of Grand Manan Island, part of the Thomas B. Munro Preserve, along the Bay of Fundy protected by the Nature Trust of New Brunswick. PHOTOGRAPH BY MADELEINE CUMPLIDO-WILSON

QLF BOARD APPROVES NEW MISSION, VISION, AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

During its April 2023 Director's meeting, the Board of the Quebec-Labrador Foundation – U.S. finalized its review of key strategic documents by adopting new mission and vision statements and a set of guiding principles.

Mission Statement

With its roots in the Atlantic Region of North America, QLF engages environmental leaders worldwide to advance community-based and larger-scale conservation and stewardship of natural resources and cultural heritage.

Vision Statement

The Quebec-Labrador Foundation envisions a world in which nature and human societies thrive together and people of good will collaborate to solve the global issues of our time - climate change, depletion of natural resources, biodiversity loss, and planetary health.

Building on its decades-long legacy of engaging a worldwide network of conservation and community leaders, QLF seeks innovative solutions and shares knowledge across generations, cultures, and borders.

QLF addresses pressing global environmental challenges through impactful programs in three focus areas: environmental leadership, biodiversity conservation, and stewardship of natural resources and cultural heritage. Through its work, QLF nurtures and trains current and future conservation leaders while fostering diversity, equity and inclusion in all its programs.

In these ways, QLF strives to be a highly relevant and effective non-profit conservation organization that contributes to a vibrant future for humanity and our planet.

Guiding Principles

1. Create and cultivate enduring relationships within the Atlantic Region and worldwide.
2. Invest in the talent, energy, and optimism of current and future conservation leaders.
3. Contribute to and share knowledge, strategies, and innovation across cultures and borders.
4. Uphold a commitment to serve people, places, and the environment.
5. Lead with boldness, creativity, and conviction.
6. Act with humility, respect, and integrity.



QLF ALUMNA SPURS CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION INITIATIVE IN WALES

Bearing testament to the durability and value of the QLF experience, we share news of QLF Alumna leadership of a climate change education initiative taking root in Wales, UK.

In 1986, Lucy Kirkham participated in QLF's North America-UK Youth Conservation Exchange ('86 Exchange Team) in New England and New Brunswick. The experience influenced her career choice of teaching school age children about the natural world.

Today, educators around the globe struggle to find ways to communicate the importance and urgency of climate change to young people who increasingly shoulder the response to the environmental upheaval around them.

In discussions with her '86 Exchange Team and fellow educators, Lucy was encouraged to organize a climate change education conference with a twist – involving students in the planning and participation. Turns out that engaging students leads to a deeper understanding of the challenges and empowers them to take action.

Following the June event, Lucy said “it is such a replicable model: creating a space for dialogue between young people and their teachers on how schools should be addressing the climate and ecological emergency to support/prepare/empower young people but so impactful in different ways: individual, organizations and policy (we hope).”

In the future, QLF hopes to inspire others by sharing more about Lucy's experience.



Lucy Kirkham (with camera) with members of the 1986 North America-UK Youth Conservation Exchange, including Phil Huffman, now QLF Senior Vice President for Regional and Global Programs (far right)



Lucy Kirkham (third from left) with participants in Teens and Teachers Climate Change conference held 29 June 2023 in Cardiff, Wales. PHOTO COURTESY OF LUCY KIRKHAM

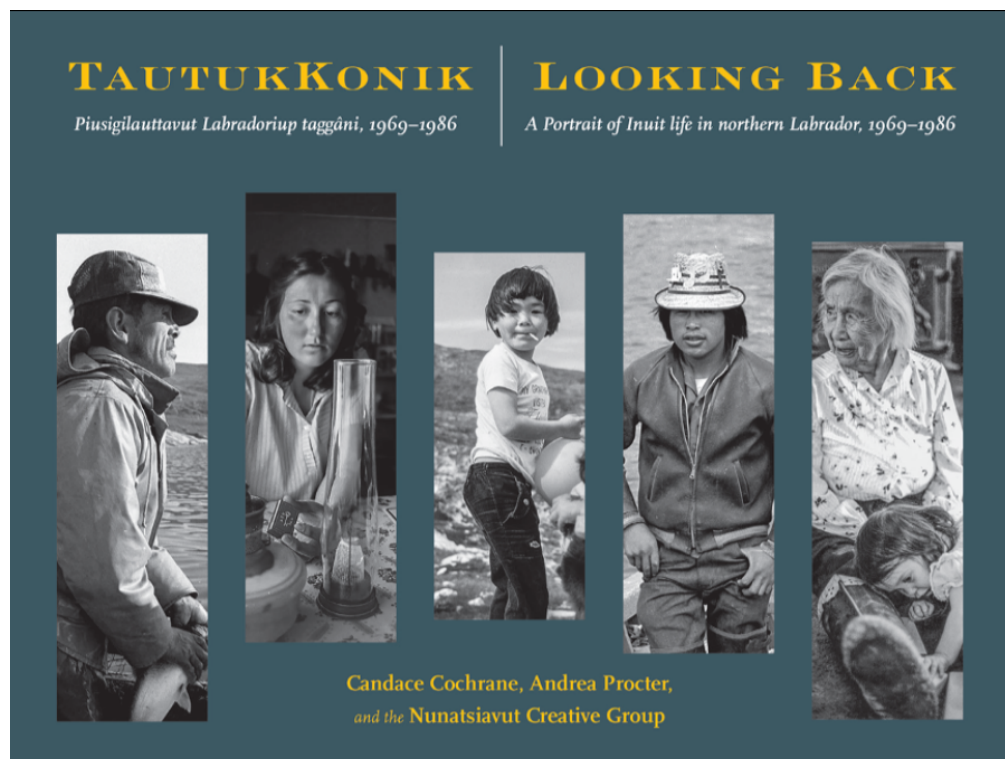
QLF ALUMNA PUBLISHES AWARD-WINNING BOOK ON NORTHERN LABRADOR

Candace Cochrane first photographed Inuit life in Northern Labrador as a QLF summer intern in the late 1960s. At the behest of QLF founder Bob Bryan, she returned and continued to compile an extensive archive that would form the basis of her 2023 book, *TautukKonik/Looking Back: A Portrait of Inuit Life in Northern Labrador 1969-1986*, co-authored with Andrea Procter, QLF Alumna.

In the book, Candy and Andrea use images and stories as instruments for learning how Inuit culture changes to include traditional and modern lifeways. Notably, the book won the 2023 Peter Cashin Prize, awarded annually by Memorial University to the "best piece of scholarly work on the history and/or political economy of Newfoundland and Labrador."

Candy and her book were featured in a recent QLF webinar found [HERE](#).

The book may be purchased by contacting Memorial University Press.



NEW BRUNSWICK EXHIBITION FEATURES 50-YEAR-OLD PHOTOGRAPHS OF QLF ALUMNA

This spring, the Beaverbrook Art Gallery in Fredericton, the official museum of New Brunswick, hosted an exhibition featuring photographs taken in the early 1970s by Melinda Blauvelt. Like most QLF summer interns of the era, Melinda was recruited to help operate day camps for children in the province's small fishing communities. As a Yale University student pursuing a master's degree in photography, she used a heavy 4 x 5 view camera to capture black and white images of daily life in coastal Brantville in northeast New Brunswick.



Breakfast 1973 ©Melinda Blauvelt

the exhibition or has seen her work is that Melinda had amassed a unique and important record of community life that no longer exists in coastal New Brunswick..

Learn more about Melinda's work [HERE](#).

Melinda's book Brantville can be ordered [HERE](#).



Jeannette & Her Children 1972 ©Melinda Blauvelt

Gathered during several summer visits, the compelling imagery of families living and working in challenging circumstances have stayed with Melinda for more than 50 years. It was during the pandemic that she "rediscovered" the treasure rove of Brantville photographs, many never printed or seen.

Moved by the emotion and timeliness of the photos, Melinda reached out and was able to stage the Beaverbrook exhibit. What is clear to anyone who saw



Children Playing 1972 ©Melinda Blauvelt

ANNOUNCEMENT



QLF AWARDED CHARITY NAVIGATOR'S HIGHEST RATING

For the third year in a row, QLF is thrilled to be awarded the coveted 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, the world's most-utilized independent nonprofit evaluator. It's highest rating was received following a review of QLF's finances, accountability and transparency, governance and best practices. Quoting Charity Navigator's president, the 4-star rating indicates that QLF "...adheres to sector best practices and executes its mission in a financially responsible way. Attaining a 4-star rating verifies that the Quebec-Labrador Foundation exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in your area of work."



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