



The Newsletter

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Welcome to the March 2010 newsletter of the [Haliburton Highlands Land Trust](#). We will keep you up-to-date on what is happening with the Land Trust and its mission to protect the natural heritage of Haliburton County for future generations.

The Board of Directors

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust

Haliburton County Enviro-Heroes Awards

We invite you to nominate Enviro-Heroes to be honoured at our Gala Celebration of Environmental Excellence on the evening of Friday, May 28, 2010 at the Minden Hills Community Centre.

An Enviro-Hero has made a major contribution to the protection and sustainability of our natural resources and environment through education, stewardship, healthy living, "green" business or the arts in Haliburton County. An Enviro-Hero may be an individual, business, or organization. A distinguished panel will select the winners in each of six categories. The winners will receive an award specially designed by renowned artist, Mary Anne Barkhouse, a past member of HHLT's Board of Directors.



Nominations must be submitted by Friday, April 2, 2010.

Enviro-Hero Categories

1. **Health** - a person or organization whose environmental activities promote, exemplify or result in healthy lifestyles. (Past award winners: Margaret & Peter Brogden and Rosie Kadwell)
2. **Stewardship** - a person, landowner or organization that has provided leadership in conserving and protecting our water, forests, flora, fauna or mineral resources. (Past award winners: Ed Poropat and Donald Benson)
3. **Education** - a person or organization that has effectively organized and delivered environmental education opportunities for children, youth, or adults. (Past award winners: Jim McHardy and Chris Magwood)
4. **Business** - a business or non-profit organization that has excelled in developing "green" business practices and/or providing "green" products/services that protect the environment. (Past award winners: Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve Ltd and Glenside Ecological Services)

5. **The Arts** - an artist who has produced a body of work that celebrates our natural environment. (Past award winners: John Lennard and Wendy Bateman)

6. **Youth** - a student up to 18 years of age who has demonstrated a commitment to the protection and sustainability of our natural resources and environment through education, stewardship, healthy living, or the arts. (Past award winner: Kyla Suchovs)

(Past 2008 Enviro-Hero of the Year: Heather Ross)

Click [here](#) for the Nomination Form

Third Haliburton Land Trust Gala

"Wild about Nature"

A Celebration of Environmental Excellence.

Friday May 28, 2010 at 6 p.m. at the Minden Community Centre.

Dinner catered by Bonnie View; hors d'oeuvres by Wild Orchid Bistro

Presentation of six Environmental Hero Awards

Silent & loonie auctions of environmentally themed art, products and activities

Entertainment by Bethany Houghton and Jerelyn Craden

Three raffles (licence # M290697)

1. Sterling silver choker with pearls by Susan Watson Ellis, Paradigm Designs
2. Moose antler basket by Sheila Ziman
3. Wire sculpture "Garden Heron" by Charles O'Neil, Bent Offerings Studio



* Hosted by the talented and entertaining Jack Brezina and Jerelyn Craden

Tickets are \$40.00 per person

Raffle tickets are \$10.00 each.

For tickets to the Gala and/or for the raffles, please call Wendy at 705-457-4816 or email waldow@sympatico.ca

Job Opportunities with the HHLT

Program Co-ordinator

This is a one-year contract position, with the possibility of renewal for an

additional two years.

The candidate will have demonstrated an ability to provide co-ordination of programs and management of staff and volunteers. This is an exciting opportunity for an individual with superior research and writing skills, including successful grant writing. Excellent communication skills will be utilized to work closely with the Board and its committees to facilitate organizational and resource development, public relations, fundraising and educational events, and HHLT land acquisition and management.

Minimum of three years experience in program coordination with a bachelor's degree or college certificate in a related field. The successful candidate will report directly to the Chair of the Board of Directors.

The fee for service is \$18,000/annum for a flexible two day a week position. (pro-rated from \$45,000 for five days a week)

A detailed job description is available upon request. Please send resume and cover letter to s.ziman@sympatico.ca by April 15, 2010.



Administrative Assistant

This is a one-year contract position, with the possibility of renewal for an additional two years.

The candidate will have demonstrated efficient office management and record keeping skills, and effective database design and management. Attention to detail and superior organizational skills are required. Experience in event planning, donor and ad solicitation, and the issue of charitable tax receipts is essential.

The successful candidate will work in close partnership with committees of the Board of Directors and will report directly to the Program Coordinator.

Minimum of three years experience in office systems and database with a bachelor's degree or college certificate in a related field.

The fee for service is \$12,500/annum for a flexible 16-20 hours a week.

A detailed job description is available at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca
Please send resume and cover letter to s.ziman@sympatico.ca by April 15, 2010.

Dahl Forest Acquisition

On December 23, 2009, the Dahl Family passed the stewardship torch to the

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) when title of the Dahl Forest was transferred from the landowners, Peter Dahl and his sister Nana McKernan to HHLT. Peggy Dahl, the family matriarch, was instrumental in encouraging the transfer of ownership.

The Dahl Family is making this generous donation under Environment Canada's Ecological Gifts Program. It is an enduring gift to the people of Haliburton County and the province of Ontario.



Under the Ecological Gifts Program, the Dahl Family will retain a life interest in the property. This will allow them to continue to live in the family home and help maintain the conservation reserve as they have for over 50 years.

The Dahl Forest is approximately 500 acres and straddles 2.7 km of the Burnt River in Haliburton County south of Gelert. William Dahl bought the property in the early 1950s. At that time it was abandoned farmland with depleted soil, crisscrossed with collapsed barbed wire fences where cattle scrounged for what little feed remained on the land. In the years following, the family planted more than 100,000 trees in plantations covering about 40 per cent of the property. The remaining acreage was left to regenerate naturally and has returned to wilderness.

The ecological significance of the Dahl Forest is evident in the diversity of species and habitats found on the property. The property has been a model of conservation planning and HHLT is looking forward to continuing the excellent stewardship of the Dahl Family.

HHLT's conservation goals for the Dahl Forest are to:

- protect and maintain biodiversity
- protect habitat and potential habitat of Species at Risk as well as locally or regionally rare species
- promote water quality and riparian habitat through the protection of shorelines and wetlands
- promote succession from plantations to forests
- monitor and promote forest health
- promote ecology and conservation education
- provide non-motorized recreational opportunities

The Dahl Forest property will remain as a natural conservation reserve, with access by permission of the HHLT only. Access will be restricted to non-motorized recreational activities such as hiking, skiing and birding.



HHLT has established The Dahl Forest Endowment Fund (DFEF) to ensure that it has the ability to carry out its conservation goals in perpetuity. Presently it has \$20,200 in the fund. The goal is to raise \$60,000 so that the yearly interest will cover the annual expenses for the property. This strategy has worked well for HHLT's first property acquisition, Norah's Island on Kennisis Lake. The goal there was \$50,000. It now stands at \$53,000 and has provided sufficient yearly interest to cover the annual expenses such as insurance, signage, monitoring, and taxes.

HHLT was very fortunate because the Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners' Association took responsibility for raising the Endowment Fund for Norah's Island. Since there is no community association near the Dahl Forest the HHLT is relying on the generosity of people and organizations that wish to see the Dahl Forest protected as a conservation reserve in perpetuity to contribute generously to the endowment fund. If you would like to ensure that this ecological gift is maintained and wisely stewarded, please contribute to the DFEF. HHLT can issue charitable tax receipts for all donations.

Be a part of the green solution and support conservation in the place you call home.

Donations can be made on-line at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca or cheques can be mailed to Haliburton Highlands Land Trust, P.O. Box 792, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

Mountain Equipment Co-op Supports Dahl Forest acquisition

Mountain Equipment Co-op has recently announced a significant contribution to the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust. The Co-op, a major Canadian retailer of outdoor gear and clothing, has agreed to provide \$21,525 to support the acquisition costs of Dahl Forest, a 500-acre conservation reserve on the Burnt River south of Minden.

The member-owned organization, with stores in most major cities across the country, strives to demonstrate leadership in sustainability by supporting conservation organizations like HHLT. Of 14 applications submitted for the September 2009 round of grants under MEC's Land Acquisition category only six organizations, including HHLT, were funded.



The HHLT is currently campaigning for local support of the initiative. An endowment fund of \$60,000 must be raised to ensure ongoing maintenance and stewardship of the forest reserve, which is to be held as a protected area in perpetuity.



Giving Away the Farm

A Letter by Peter Dahl

After fifty years of family ownership the deed to Dahl Forest is now in the hands of the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust. At the flick of a pen, the smack of a rubber stamp, our 500 acre stewardship project leaves the family and becomes entrusted to a community group ... forever.

Forever? An elusive concept, and one of the first we had to tangle with. Nothing is forever - we can only try to get close. There aren't many options for people wishing to preserve a property for posterity, but selling the place was obviously not one of them.

For my family, disposal of our property in Haliburton County was not so simple - not by a long shot.

My father purchased the land in the mid-1950s. It didn't cost much then because it wasn't worth much. The meagre topsoil was all but gone and wouldn't grow weeds. Real crops were out of the question and scrawny cattle ranged free, scrounging for what they could get.

Dad came from Sweden and brought with him the romantic European ideal of the great Canadian wilderness: endless forests, hunting and trapping, aboriginals living off the land. That's not what he found. But part of that Swedish culture was the principle of sustainable forestry - planting and stewarding forest, replacing it as it was harvested. He determined to replicate the model by setting up a 'tree farm', and it became known to

family and friends as 'the farm'.

A tree farm, as a small scale private venture, was almost unheard of in those days. There were no breaks, tax or otherwise, for an individual with land to practice reforestation. But he did it anyway, completely at his own expense and trusting in the value of a long term investment.

to read more click [here](#).



Sincerely,



Haliburton Highlands Land Trust

