



ISLAND NATURE TRUST REPORT

by Pat Doyle, Charlottetown

The year's activities in the Trust climaxed with the annual meeting held at the Farm Centre on the evening of May 17th. The guest speaker was Mr. Reg Porter of the P.E.I. Museum and Heritage Foundation speaking on "Trees and Civilization". Also as part of the evening's entertainment was an audio-visual presentation on the need for preserving natural areas entitled "Island Wild - A Place For You" by Mike Willoughby.

The annual meeting was the forum for the election of officers for the coming year. The new directors include Wayne Barrett of St. Catherines, a well known photographer; Lindi Climo, a resident of Lewes and one of our best known painters; King Howatt of Tryon, a market gardener; and Dr. Edgar MacDonald, a member of the Faculty of Education at U.P.E.I.

The past year has been a banner one for the Trust. Intensive negotiation and dogged perseverance have resulted in three major accomplishments. These include:

- 1) Finalization of a cover design for the Trust's newsletter.
- 2) Acceptance of two Environment 2000 projects.
 - "Natural Areas Biota Inventory" of selected natural areas in Kings and Queens Counties employing five people.
 - "Living Wildflower Garden" in Brudenell Provincial Park employing three people.
- 3) Successful negotiation of a contractual agreement with the P.E.I. Department of Energy and Forestry to provide biological survey information, brochures, and film strips of natural areas. This \$30,000 contract will be used to initiate the hiring of an Executive Director for the Trust. The General Council established selection criteria and advertising procedures for the position of Executive Director. The procedures were finalized and implemented. The successful candidate is Diane Griffin, a renowned and well respected expert and pioneer in the field of natural areas preservation and acquisition.

The Trust continues to be active in the pursuit of funds to acquire and conserve fragile or representative lands for future generations. The task is much more demanding on the Island than elsewhere because the bulk of the land is privately owned. Currently the Trust is actively participating and negotiating for the acquisition and/or management of such areas as Blooming Point, Royalty Oaks, Little Courtin Island and Ram Island.

The last major area of work is in increasing public awareness and memberships in the Nature Trust. We hope that as a sister organization of the Natural History Society, we will continue to receive your generous support to the Trust in the future.

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* Do you have a friend or relative who may enjoy the Natural History *
* Society? potential members perhaps? Send along *
* their names and addresses and we will send them complimentary copies *
* of the current issue of the newsletter. *
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