

# 2015

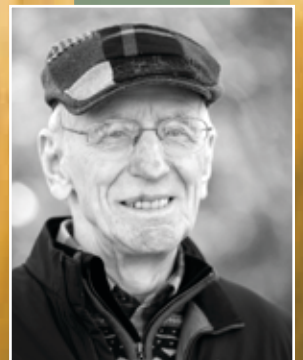
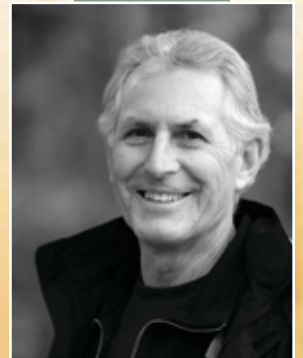
# Latornell Leadership Awards

From 1999 to 2013, the Latornell Conservation Symposium honoured individuals who have demonstrated life-long, outstanding contributions to the field of conservation. They were recognized for their innovation, leadership and dedication to the conservation field. Either through their personal activities and/or leadership, they have gone beyond the call of duty or responsibility to an employer, client, or their community.

These individuals have helped to celebrate and inspire innovation in the conservation field and have made a difference in their field of expertise. Nominees have encouraged and motivated

others to take similar leadership roles towards conservation work. To commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Symposium in 2013, it was decided to revise this award in order to also recognize individuals who have made significant contributions at any time, for any duration – and not just over the course of their entire lifetime as long as their achievements demonstrate leadership accomplishments. To reflect this, the award was renamed the Latornell Leadership Award.

Nominations are reviewed and evaluated by a special sub-committee of the Latornell Steering Committee.



**LATORNELL**  
CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM

## Muriel Andreae | London, ON



From a young age, Muriel Andreae has been captivated by natural history and botany. As a child, she grew up being very much involved with London's local naturalist club, Nature London (NL). From 1983 to 1991, Muriel served as Recording Secretary; in 2013 she became Vice President of NL. Since 2014, Muriel has served as the club's President. During her recent tenure, she has been involved in strategic planning and led actions to help protect Ontario's pollinators.

In 1998, Muriel helped develop the Thames Talbot Land Trust (TTLT) where she diligently worked to protect natural areas. She provided strong leadership, as a Director from 2004 to 2006, and President from 2006 to 2010. She served on various committees including Land Securement, Property Management, and Governance.

While involved in conservation as a volunteer, Muriel worked for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) from 1981 to 2015 in land management, water management, planning and research, including working with the Board of Directors to explain water quality and the interactions between land use and water.

She played a critical role in projects and programs relating to Healthy Lake Huron, Lake St. Clair Coastal Habitat, Sydenham River Recovery Team (Co-chair), Watershed Report Cards, the Lambton Natural Heritage Study and the Ontario Freshwater Mussel Recovery Team. She also played an important role in the development of a partnership between Conservation

*Nominated by: St. Clair Region Conservation Authority*

Authorities and Fisheries and Oceans Canada for municipal drainage review programs.

Muriel was instrumental in the formation of strong agency partnerships which helped achieve significant accomplishments for the recovery of endangered and threatened fish and freshwater mussel species at risk. This included the completion of Canada's first aquatic ecosystem-based recovery strategy, on the Sydenham River. She promoted the conservation of species at risk and partnered with DFO and other agencies to advance many research and monitoring projects over the years. She also helped facilitate stewardship and outreach programs that improved habitats in the Sydenham River watershed (more than \$1.2M in federal funding).

Muriel's passion for nature has been inspiring and contagious to many young people in the conservation field, working under her supervision. She has led countless hikes, sharing her vast knowledge of wildflowers, trees and plants. She has trained education staff; spoken on Conservation Authority bus tours and given municipal council presentations on challenging topics such as species at risk.

Through outreach and education she has raised local awareness of natural treasures and the actions required for their protection. Her successful career in preserving natural heritage shows that with determination, future generations will be able to explore good quality habitat in Lambton and Middlesex Counties.

## Ian Buchanan | Newmarket, ON



Ian Buchanan developed an early connection with nature while spending his youth exploring the highlands of Scotland. He has worked to protect and restore the natural environment since the early 1980's. After graduating from the University of Guelph in Fish and Wildlife, he worked with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) developing partnerships and restoring species and their habitats, including reintroduction of Atlantic salmon, peregrine falcon and wild turkey. He provided science and environmental leadership to priority initiatives such as the Toronto

Remedial Action Plan, Lake Simcoe Environmental Management Strategy, and authored the Lake Simcoe Muskellunge Reintroduction Feasibility Study.

Environmental education and connecting people with nature were always a priority. Ian championed the first Urban Fisheries Festivals in the early 1990's, delivered classroom and field programs, and implemented many tree planting and habitat restoration projects. For over 18 years he worked for the OMNR in the Greater Toronto Area as ecologist, supervisor and Fish and Wildlife lead, to advance natural heritage systems protection in pressured landscapes.

Since 2002, Ian has worked as Manager Natural Heritage and Forestry with the Regional Municipality of York. He leads environmental initiatives including; the Greening Strategy, management of the York Regional Forest, and delivery of Urban Forest programs including invasive species. He is recognized as an environmental expert by Regional Council and his peers, and helps to develop

*Nominated by: Environmental Services, Regional Municipality of York*

legislation, policy and guidelines that protect and restore natural areas. He has nurtured partnerships with the Nature Conservancy of Canada, land trusts and Conservation Authorities which have protected thousands of acres of land.

Ian takes pride in managing the York Regional Forest, which is Canada's first publicly owned Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified forest. He also spearheaded the construction of accessible trails and the Bill Fisch Forest Stewardship and Education Centre. The all wood building targets LEED platinum and will be one of Ontario's first Living Building Challenge certified buildings.

One of Ian's most significant accomplishments was protecting Rouge Park, and contributing to Parks Canada's advancement of Canada's first national urban park, the Rouge National Urban Park. He was asked to provide direction on legislation to create the park, and spoke at both the House of Commons Environment committee and at the Senate on the importance of nature in and around urban areas. He is a strong advocate of the urban forest, and was appointed first chair of the Urban Forest Subcommittee of the Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario.

Ian is an Associate of the Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto, was vice President and Director with the Ontario Forestry Association, and is a Director on the boards of both the Invasive Species Centre and Forests Ontario. Ian loves his work and has spent his career protecting the environment, and encouraging and inspiring youth and others to take action. His environmental leadership, passion and enthusiasm has driven change and made a difference.



## Master of Ceremonies | Peter Middleton

- Was one of Latonell Conservation Symposium's Leadership award recipients in 2013
- Has been a naturalist for over 50 years and an outdoor education teacher, principal and guide, with 25 of those years spent at the Bruce County Education Centre.
- Known to be a fine interpreter of the natural environment as a nature guide, and has guided groups to many areas of the globe to observe birds, animals and plants.

## Tom Prout | Exeter, ON



Tom Prout, P.Ag., MPA served for more than three decades as General Manager (1981) and Secretary-Treasurer of Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority. In his lifelong relationship with the conservation authority, Tom has done everything from camp, to cutting grass, to serving as General Manager. He has also helped to grow what may be Ontario's longest-running outdoor conservation education program with an overnight component. As an advisor to the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation, ABCF, Tom encouraged a Junior Conservationist position that gave young people

a chance to work in the conservation field and gain experience, steering them to consider a career in a conservation-related field. He also served for eight years on the Latonnell Symposium Committee during its early years.

At a time when other Conservation Authorities struggled with the farming community, the relationship at ABCA flourished. This is evident in the Lake Huron Southeast Shores Initiative, where five priority watersheds have been identified where landowner involvement in environmental stewardship is high and on the ground projects planned. Three of those watersheds fall entirely or partially within the ABCA catchment area. This is no accident, but a result of years of working with the community by Tom Prout and his staff. His leadership helped ABCF to facilitate the creation of the Huron Tract Land Conservancy, in which local people donate land to the new land trust in order to protect and preserve their natural areas permanently.

When he joined the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority in 1979,

*Nominated by: Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority*

Tom was able to obtain funding to implement a series of agricultural best management practices. He established a new standard for design, construction and maintenance of municipal drains that is widely applied today, yielding environmental and economic benefits to landowners, while still getting the job done for agriculture.

Tom helped build an organizational focus on 'Healthy Watersheds', environmental monitoring and stewardship, as well as protecting life and property through robust flood prevention, warning and planning regulations programs. He has represented Canada on the Board of the Soil and Water Conservation Society; his expertise and knowledge, particularly on the topic of engaging farmers in the implementation of projects that promote watershed health, while benefiting their bottom line and contribution to the health of the agriculture sector is highly valued. He has also challenged thinking about how best to achieve results, for instance in his thought-provoking columns in the newsletter, Conservogram, of the Soil and Water Conservation Society: "Will more of the same produce different results?" (April 2013); "The Social Component of Conservation: An Ontario Perspective" (July 2014); and "Response to Fulfilling Ontario Agriculture's Social Contract Future Farming Practices" (May 2015).

Tom Prout's ability to inspire young conservation professionals, his very unique and valuable style of quiet leadership, and his roots in agriculture helped him forge a meaningful career, leading both those whose livelihoods are derived from the land and those who perceive Nature as an end in itself to develop better understanding of how various factors impact on the total environmental landscape.

## Bob Rogers | Sudbury, ON



"Water is life; healthy water is essential to a sustainable future. Protecting Greater Sudbury's watersheds is vital to the economy, environment and health of our community."

These words demonstrate Bob Rogers' great love of nature and his city. He has been very active in his community; after retiring from Laurentian University as an associate professor, where he coordinated the Outdoor Adventure Leadership Program, he has become one of the Sudbury champions in

environmental and conservation issues. As a strong proponent of healthy living, he has been involved in many initiatives including Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition and Chair of the Healthy Community Cabinet locally, leading to the designation of the City of Greater Sudbury as a Regional Centre of Expertise in Education for Sustainable Development through the United Nations University.

His role in environmental conservation became pivotal when he became the Chair of the Nickel District Conservation Authority. In this role, he has been a strong advocate for change in the community in order to protect the ecosystem. He was also a member of Conservation Ontario Environmental Education Task Group.

Bob Rogers always had a long term vision of Greater Sudbury as a green and environmentally friendly city. Locally, he was co-chair of the Sudbury

*Nominated by: Nickel District Conservation Authority*

Roundtable on Health Economy and Environment, co-chair of the Greenway Park Master Plan, chair of the Ramsey Lake Advisory Panel, and a member of the Education Task Force and Environment Task Force and Sudbury, The Next Ten Years, a community development process. Through his role at the NDCA, he was involved with other committees, including the Connect the Creek Partnership; whose primary purpose is to complete the Junction Creek Waterway Park over four years. Under his leadership, Conservation Sudbury increased awareness of Lake Laurentian Conservation Area and the promotion of water conservation events in Sudbury. He played a leading role in establishing the Friends of Lake Laurentian. Bob was also instrumental in creating the Greater Sudbury Climate Change Consortium; he was the Co-Chair of the consortium until 2012.

In 1998, Bob was Canada's Assistant Chef de Mission at the Olympic Winter Games in Nagano Japan. This year he was selected as the Community Torch Bearer for the Greater Sudbury celebration of the Pan Am Toronto 2015 Torch Relay when it came through Sudbury.

Bob Rogers' commitment to the protection of the environment is strong; through his numerous hours of volunteerism, he is a fervent contributor to the conservation of the ecosystem in the region. As the recipient of the Healthy Community Recognition Award, there is no doubt that he possesses a true passion for promoting and building a healthier and safer environment for all people.

- Is also a respected field ornithologist who, over the years, has contributed to many projects, including the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas, North America Breeding Bird Surveys, Grey-Bruce Records Committee and Endangered Species Recovery Programs.
- Was one of the leaders and mentors for a project to protect the nesting areas at Sauble Beach for the Piping Plover, an endangered species.
- His passion for environmental protection is an inspiration and his dedication to education has guided thousands of children and adults alike to explore, appreciate and respect nature

# Previous Award Winners

2014

Judi Brouse, Debbe Crandall, Lorrie Minshall

2013

Mike Garrett, Peter Middleton, Russ Powell, Bill Dickinson, Jean-Marc Filion

2012

Peter Orphanos, John Sibbald, Jack Imhof, Scott Gillingwater

2011

Jim Anderson, Liette Vasseur, Paul Aird, Tom Taylor

2010

Stew Hilts, Vicki Barron, Don Ross, Gil Henderson

2009

Ian Parrish, Ian Macnab, Allan Ralph, Ernie Crossland, Craig Mather

2008

Dr. John Gunn, Lorne Smith, Harold Parker, Jim Myslik, Bob Whittam

2007

Bruce Duncan, Deborah Beatty, Lou Wise, Michael Hough, Ted Mosquin

2006

Sally Beaton, Robert Bowles, Ron Reid, George Stormont

2005

Don Lobb, Dr. Gray Merriam, Dr. David Pearson, Dr. Anthony Smith, Ben Vanderbrug

2004

Malcom Kirk, Patrick J. McManus, Dr. Duncan Sinclair, David Cressman, Maria and Paul Heissler

2003

Ron Scott, Jack Macpherson, Arthur Herbert Richardson, Greta McGillivray, William McLean

2002

Hal Hooke, Terry Sprague, Jim Bruce, Terk Bayly, Rheel Proulx, Tom Millar, Peter Harvie

2001

Ken Mayall, Murray Miller, Douglas Hoffman, Elwood Moore, George R. Richardson, Gordon Oldfield

2000

Jim Bauer, Janet Fletcher, Harry Barrett, Trevor Dickinson, Ray Lowes, Bob Bugar

1999

John Murray, Charles Alexander, Len Johnson, Dr. Dave Ankney, Christine Nornabell, Russell Piper, Mac Coutts, Ken Higgs

*If you are interested in nominating an individual for consideration for the 2016 Latornell Leadership Award, see the criteria detailed on the Latornell Conservation Symposium website at [www.latornell.ca](http://www.latornell.ca)*



For more  
information

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