

# MANUELS RIVER NATURAL HERITAGE SOCIETY

## Annual Report 2016





# A Message From The Chair

Dear Members and Supporters;

I am pleased to advise that 2016 was a successful year for Manuels River Natural Heritage Society, its members and supporters. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of the management and staff as well as our volunteer board and committee members, we continued to deliver on our mission related to education, conservation and recreation at Manuels River.



**Don Sword**

As demonstrated by this year's Annual Report, the Manuels River Hibernia Interpretation Centre and the Manuels River Trails have truly become an essential part of the social, recreational, educational, tourism and business life of the Northeast Avalon. We have continued to do more and do better in all areas, including school field trips, summer camps, events and admissions. Beyond the numbers, the smiles and enthusiastic feedback from our members, visitors and supporters provide the best measures of our success.

The highlights of 2016 were many. Here are three: The launch of our fantastic stream table; the return of the famous *paradoxides davidis* fossil "MR#1"; and the beginning of Phase One of our Trails Master Plan. These highlights demonstrate how we continue to make the Manuels River experience - both indoors and outdoors - better and better.

Despite the overall weakening economic environment in our province, we continued to see growth in programming, usage and operating revenues in 2016. Unfortunately, we experienced an unexpected reduction in operating financial support from the Town of CBS leading to an operating deficit in 2016. On a positive note, we have received the final donations from our capital campaign and will retire our building loan in July. This year (2017) will be challenging. While the use of our Centre, and the quality of our facilities and programming remains high, so does the cost to maintain our facilities and continue to provide our programming. Since the Centre opened in 2013 we have benefitted from the Town's operating support, educational programming funding from Hibernia and corporate sponsorship for our Summer Camps. The economic downturn in the province will affect the ability of each of these entities to continue their support at previous levels. This will directly affect our educational funding but we are confident that we can continue to deliver high quality educational programming.

Manuels River's board, management and staff are dedicated to continuing to deliver on our important mission but may have to make adjustments in the way the Centre operates to avoid a significant operating deficit in 2017. At the same time, we will be launching a new fundraising initiative to help us to continue to deliver quality educational programming as well as to complete our Trails Master Plan.

Thank you for supporting Manuels River with your "time, talent or treasure". More than ever we will need the support of our members, volunteers and supporters in 2017 and beyond to ensure that Manuels River can sustain the quality of its facilities and operations both inside the Centre and outside on the Trails.

I hope to see you at the Centre and on the Trails during 2017!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald G. Sword".

Donald G. Sword  
Chair

# Executive Director's Report



**Michael Mooney**  
Executive Director

This past year was another successful and enjoyable year at Manuels River. Continuing the trend since the Manuels River Hibernia Interpretation Centre opened, 2016 saw growth in programming, usage and operating revenues. In 2016, we welcomed more guests to the Centre and considerably more trail users enjoyed the wonders of the Manuels River valley.

More than three years on from the opening of the Centre, our educational and community programming has continued to expand and mature. With a 35% increase in the number of educational offerings over 2016, we continued to reach and inspire more young minds and provided stimulating, fun “teachable moments” for young and old. The number of community events and rentals increased by 73%, cementing the Centre and trails as key community assets. We strive to offer inspiring, valuable experiences to visitors of all ages and will work to improve our current programming and offer new opportunities for residents and visitors to our community.

With the design of a Trail Master Plan in 2016, we are in a good position to move forward with enhancements to the Manuels River trail system. Implementing the Master Plan will enable trail users to better appreciate their surroundings and have better access to valued experiences while minimizing impacts on the land resource and protecting the character of the landscape. Phase One of the implementation of the Master Plan began in 2016 and will be completed in 2017. With the completion of Phase One, both upstream and downstream sections of the trail will have an improved trail surface, less structures presenting barriers to access, protection from flooding and considerable wayfinding signage.

Given the economic downturn in the province, our success in 2016 is in no small part due to our passionate, dedicated management, staff and volunteers including the Board of Directors, as well as our members and supporters who continue to enjoy the Centre and trails. In 2017, we look forward to another year of learning, socializing, and celebrating.

Despite the economic headwinds and associated funding issues in 2017, we are confident that the upcoming year will be another bright one at Manuels River. To become more involved and to share this special place with more people, I encourage you to follow our social media channels, sign up for our eNewsletter, make a donation, or volunteer for an upcoming event. I would like to thank all those who have played a part in our success and look forward to our continued work together in a spirit of community and collaboration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Mooney', written in a cursive style.

**Michael Mooney**  
Executive Director



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Manuels River Natural Heritage Society Inc., I am pleased to present you with the 2016 Audited Financial Statements, which are contained in Appendix A.

The 2016 fiscal year results show continued growth in our sales revenue, which includes admissions, gift store, education and interpretation, beverage and catering revenues and facility rentals, along with the continued support from our partners including the Town of Conception Bay South, Hibernia Management and Development Company Ltd., Nalcor, United Way, the provincial and federal governments, as well as our many donations and capital pledges from private and corporate supporters.

The results of the past fiscal year show a net income deficit of \$19,592, which would have been eliminated had the Society realized the full extent of operational funding available from the Town of CBS.

However, the past year has resulted in significant strides in the progress of the Society with respect to the development of our Trail system, significant reduction in the outstanding balance of our capital loan on the building, continued growth and development of our education programs and greater utilization of our facility for weddings and other events.

Our success could not have occurred without the dedicated efforts of our management and staff, volunteers, Board of Directors, committee members and private and corporate supporters.

While the upcoming year presents us with some fiscal challenges as a result of lower funding levels from some major supporters, I am confident that we will work through the issues to deliver disciplined and sustainable growth to meet the long-term objectives of the Society and our stakeholders. I believe that strong financial management is essential to the long term stability and security of the Society.

I would like to thank our stakeholders for their continued confidence and support for our organization and look forward to continued success of the Manuels River Natural Heritage Society for this fiscal year and beyond.



Douglas Russell  
Treasurer

## Treasurer's Report



**Doug Russell**  
Treasurer



**John Berniquez**  
Accountant & Financial Advisor

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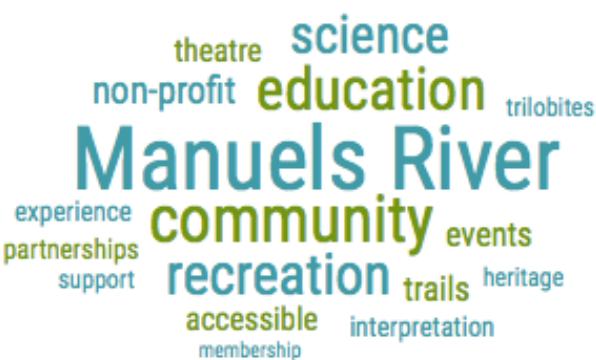
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- Pat Sword

# Board of Directors



Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting 2016

In 2016 we welcomed six new directors, broadening the variety of skills and expertise of the Board of Directors of the Manuels River Natural Heritage Society.

The Board is fully engaged in governing the organization and promoting the mandate of the Manuels River Natural Heritage Society.

## 2016 Board of Directors

Donald G. Sword - Chair

Chris Lake - Vice Chair

Doug Russell - Treasurer

Gail Butler - Secretary

Lori Anderson - Director\*

Nancy Bennett - Director\*\*

Dawn Dalley - Director

Andrea Gosse - Director

Ryan Lawlor - Director\*

Shelley Moores - Director\*

Jolene O'Connell - Director\*

Phil O'Connell - Director\*

Chris Pyne - Director\*

Jan Spracklin - Director\*\*

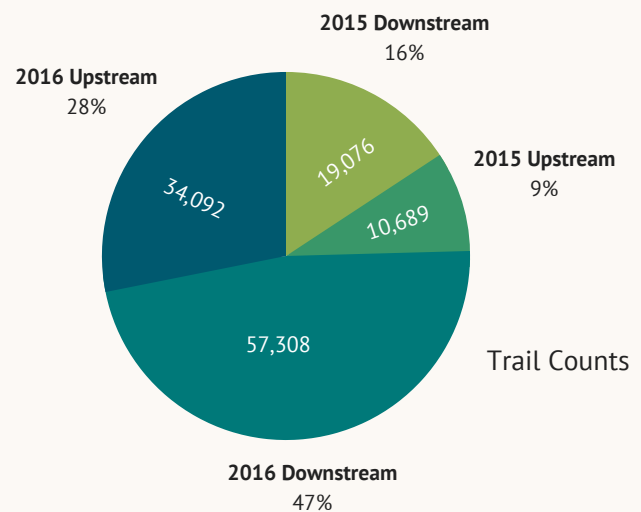
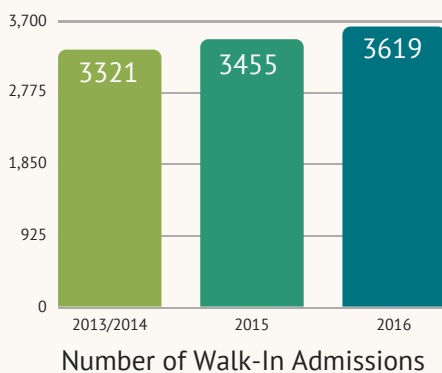
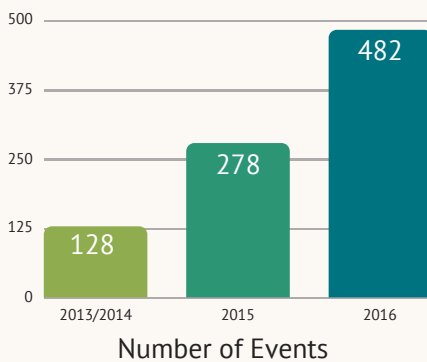
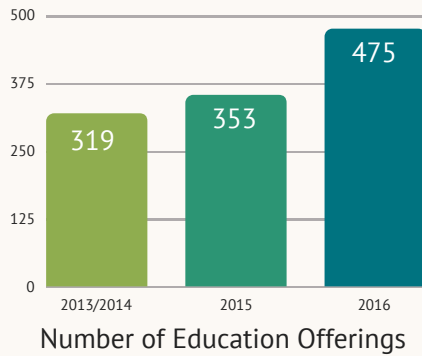
Dave Works - Director

Elizabeth Young - Director\*\*

*\* joined in 2016 \*\*10+ years of service*

# Year In Review

Activity at the Manuels River Hibernia Interpretation Centre continues to increase year-over-year with most areas of the operation up significantly in 2016.



Over  
**32,000**  
total visitors to the Centre  
  
&  
  
Over  
**24,000**  
customers served in the Cafe



# Capital Donors

2016 marked the end of our capital campaign to design and build the Manuels River Hibernia Interpretation Centre that opened in 2013.

Thank you again to all of our capital donors.

## Major Donor

Hibernia Management and Development Company Ltd.

## Government Partners

Government of Canada  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
Town of Conception Bay South

## Partners

The Morgan Family Group of Companies  
- Admiral's Coast Retirement Centre  
- Handyman Home Hardware  
- MBM Development  
- Morgan Enterprises  
Nalcor Energy  
Rotary Club of Avalon Northeast  
The Schibler Family (Tim Hortons)  
Vale








## Leaders

City Honda  
Barbara C. FitzGerald  
Household Movers and Shippers Limited  
Riccardo & Nika Levi-Setti (In Kind)  
Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union  
The Patten Family Foundation  
Pennecon Limited  
Platinum Construction Company Limited  
Robert R. Regular Law Office  
Donald & Pat Sword  
Terra Nova Motors Ltd.  
Toyota Plaza Scion  
Gerda & Klaus Tschira  
Villa Nova Pharmacy

## Friends

Noel Andrews and Janice Chaytor-Andrews  
Cynthia & Derek Brown  
CBS Lions Club  
Cooper Lighting (In Kind)  
Crosbie Job Insurance  
Elinor Gill Ratcliffe  
Jeremy Hall  
Johnson Inc.  
NL Construction Association - Rick Spracklin  
Greg & Regina O'Keefe  
Parsons & Sons Transportation Ltd.  
RBC Foundation  
Rideout Tool & Machine Inc.  
J. Thomas Ryan (In Memoriam)  
Ruth Slaunwhite (In Memoriam)  
Science and Reason in Society  
The Shoreline News (In Kind)  
Trident Construction Ltd. (In Kind)  
Vatchers Auto Parts  
Vigilant Technical Sales Ltd. (In Kind)  
Vivid Communications (In Kind)  
David Works

# Education & Interpretation

-  62 school groups with 2516 students
-  67 Young Scientist sessions with 571 participants
-  85 Birthday Parties with 1160 participants
-  10 weeks of Science Camp with 222 campers
-  13 Guides and Scouts Sleepovers with 310 participants
-  22 visiting camps with 978 participants
-  and many more education and interpretation events throughout the year.



**Eleanor Power**  
Lead Science Interpreter

Eleanor leads school programs, exhibit tours, trail hikes, Young Scientist, and more. Eleanor is originally from Paradise, NL and her favourite part of the job is spending time in nature and learning something new every day!

Rod can usually be found teaching school programs, leading tours, demonstrating our stream table, studying our fossil collection, or developing a new program. Rod is originally from Chamberlains, CBS, NL, and his favourite part of the job is talking about science every day!



**Dr. Rod Taylor**  
Lead Science Interpreter



**Sydney Greene**  
Weekend Lead

Sydney is our Weekend Lead and graphic design guru. She can be found running Young Scientist sessions, birthday parties, giving exhibits tours, and planning programs. Sydney's favourite part of the job is learning about science every day and interacting with people from around the community.

In addition, we have a dedicated team of part-time Interpreters who help us run our evening and weekend programs including sleepovers, evening Guides and Scouts programs, birthday parties, and Young Scientist sessions.

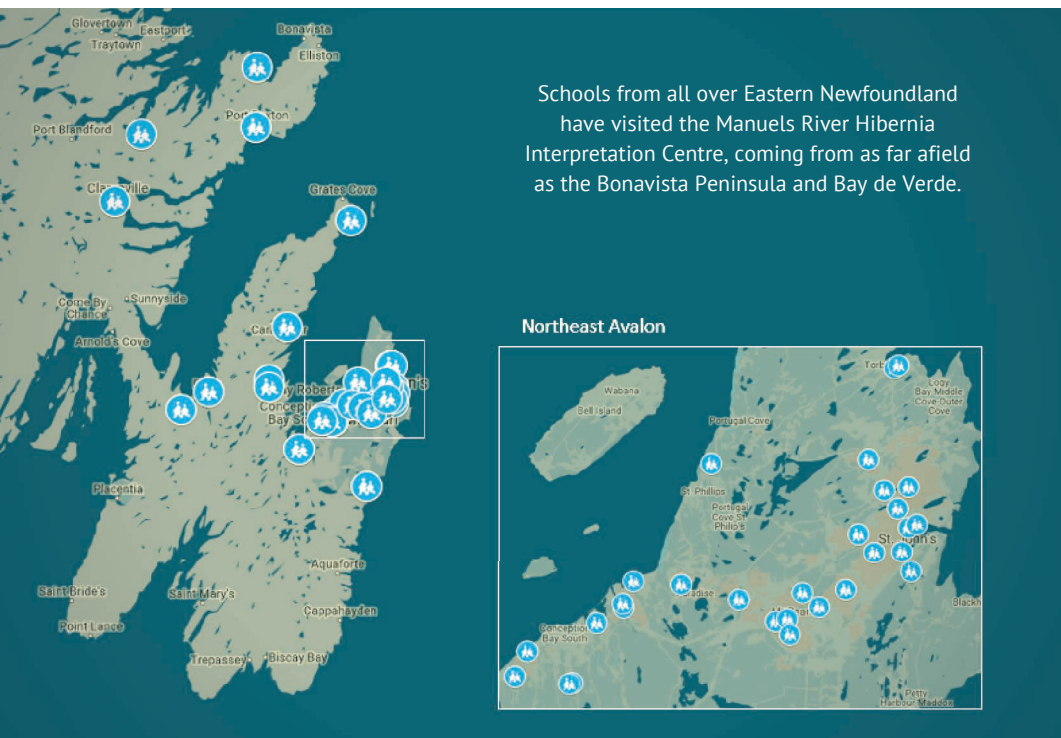
# Curriculum-Linked School Programming

Our interactive, curriculum-linked school programs include guided hikes and hands-on science experiments which focus on the geology, biology, and environment of the Manuels River valley.

Our school programs have been generously supported by the Hibernia Management and Development Company Ltd. since 2013.

Curriculum-linked educational programs available at Manuels River include the following:

- Kindergarten: Life Science
- Grade 1: Plants
- Grade 2: Fossils
- Grade 3: Soils
- Grade 4: Habitats
- Grade 4: Rocks, Minerals and Erosion
- Grade 5: History
- Grade 6: Fossils and Evolution
- Grade 7: Earth's Crust
- Grade 7: Ecosystems
- Grade 8: Water Systems on Earth's Surface
- Grade 9: Space
- Grade 11-12: Evolution Through Earth History
- Grade 11-12: Earth's Geological History



Schools from all over Eastern Newfoundland have visited the Manuels River Hibernia Interpretation Centre, coming from as far afield as the Bonaville Peninsula and Bay de Verde.

“The MRHIC support and collaboration is vital to improving my teaching practice and many of my colleagues from Holy Spirit, and other schools, have similar relationships with MRHIC staff. Building relationships and improving teaching practice promotes information and idea flow between MRHIC and teachers. The result is better teaching, improved learning for students and better programs for the Day Camps and the general public who visit the Centre.







# Nalcor Energy Summer Science Camp

Our Summer Science Camp, funded by Nalcor Energy, was a great success again in 2016, with plenty of repeat campers and positive feedback. At our Annual Gala, many attendees donated camp fees for families in need. This enabled us to offer camp free of charge, to families who might not otherwise have been able to afford this wonderful experience for their children.

Campers enjoyed themes such as “Wicked Weather” and “Super Science” as they explored the river, trails, exhibits, and participated in classroom activities. It’s wonderful to see the spark of Science and wonder being lit for all these young people.



Camp was at 82%  
capacity this year!

“

My favourite thing was going outside and spending time with other kids. I learned all about dry ice and got to do lots of experiments with it, and smoke goes everywhere. It's important to learn about Science so that when we're older we can help save the world with our knowledge. Like pollution and stuff, we can help that with Science.

- Juliet Hudson (Age 11)

”

## Guides and Scouts

During 2016, we entertained multiple Scouts and Guides groups in evening programs and sleepovers.

During evening programs these groups worked on custom badges, such as “Up Close with Nature” or selected one of our previously developed themes, such as “Water”, “Camouflage”, or “Frozen”.

For our sleepovers, groups get to experience the excitement of camping with the convenience and comforts of running water, electricity, and our state-of-the-art movie theatre, which is a real treat in our Newfoundland winters! Participants hiked our trails, completed exhibit scavenger hunts, played games, made crafts, and conducted themed science experiments such as, “Birds”, “Wacky Science”, “Crystals”, “Rocks and Fossils” and “The Natural World”.



# Young Scientist

With continued financial support from United Way, we were able to continue our Young Scientist Program. We selected a new topic to explore each session, from Kinetic and Potential Energy, Endangered and Extinct Species, to Clouds, and Volcanoes.

We see these Young Scientists growing and learning as we plant the seeds of curiosity in our program. The children make connections between topics and recall previous sessions, constructing their knowledge as they go. The parents also enjoy asking questions and learning along with their little ones. This program is often where our Interpreters begin building a relationship with our members and visitors.



Over 600 participants  
joined us in 2016



# Birthday Parties

Over the past year, we have helped to celebrate over 75 birthdays with Treasure Hunts, Wacky Science Experiments, Rock Hounding, Nature Crafts, Geocaching, and Budding Botany. Our Mascot, Doxi, even got in on the action, when some parents opted to have her join in the fun. This year we also added the option to book a movie birthday party in our theatre.





# Exhibits & Theatre



## The Vale Theatre

Equipped with 52 seats, 7:1 sound system, and LED lighting, our movie theatre has been used for multiple purposes, and is available for private rentals. Theatre uses in 2016 include:

- Private & Public Lectures
- Press Conferences & Announcements
- Science Camps & School Groups
- Babies @ Manuels Program
- Dinner & A Movie Program
- Daily Movie Showings
- Movie Birthday Parties

## Stream Table Launch

In May 2016, we officially launched our stream table. The stream table aids in reinforcing one of our mandates of learning through fun. Funding for the table was provided by the Hibernia Management and Development Company Ltd. and the interpretive panel was donated by the Middleton family in memory of David Middleton, a former geologist and Manuels River enthusiast.



## Our Famous *paradoxides davidis* Trilobite Fossil Comes Home



The specimen had been in the possession of Dr. Riccardo Levi-Setti since it was first discovered in the 1980's and we are so lucky that it has been returned home. This particular fossil graces the cover of Dr. Levi-Setti's book "Trilobites". Complete trilobite fossils such as this one, are rare, making this large and highly detailed specimen very valuable.





# Visitor Services & Gift Store

Manuels River's Gift Store focuses on locally made and produced merchandise ranging from bath and beauty products to hand-woven crafts and beautiful, scenic paintings. Roughly 90% of the merchandise is made right here in Newfoundland and Labrador by many talented artists and artisans. We're always looking for new products for our visitors to enjoy.

The Gift Store is proud to offer a wide selection of education- and science-based toys for children. These items allow a child to practice science experiments at home, engage in imaginative play and enrich their minds with knowledge. The toys we carry are not typically found in most stores and are integrated with the mission and vision of Manuels River.



## New Suppliers added in 2016

Brewkies Dog Treats  
Donaway Pottery  
Bubble Pixie Soap Co.  
Knitted trilobite hats by Julie  
Legend Tours  
A Little Piece of the Rock  
Gunnar Lehrling  
Gem NL - Jason White  
Foggy Island Candles  
Nathaniel Noel  
NL Seasonings

“

Gift shop is lovely and not just for tourists. Lots to choose from local craftspeople. I have bought several items for myself and for gifts.

- Trip Advisor Review

”

Alicia is the friendly face at our Front Desk and brings in the most beautiful, locally crafted products for our gift store. Alicia is originally from St. John's but now lives in CBS and loves being able to walk to work on the trail.

**Alicia Legge**  
Admissions & Gift Store Manager



# Trails



The extensive Manuels River trail system is an integral part of the Manuels River experience. The trails provide access to the many wonders of the river valley for educational and interpretative programming. They also provide for outdoor team building components for corporate rentals and are used daily by local residents for recreation and leisure.

A Master Plan to upgrade and expand the Manuels River trail system to address increased volume and related safety, accessibility and maintenance issues was completed in early 2016. Implementation of the plan developed by Tract Consulting calls for the phased construction of works valued at \$3.2 million, over a 5- to 10-year period.

Phase One of the implementation of the Master Plan began in late 2016 and will be completed in 2017.

## Trail sections to be worked on in Phase One include:

- Beaver Bridge to T'Railway
- Manuels Head to Martha's Place
- Martha's Place to Blue Jay Bridge
- Ivimey Place to Kingfisher Bridge
- Kingfisher Bridge to Interpretation Centre
- Trail Head Primary Gateway

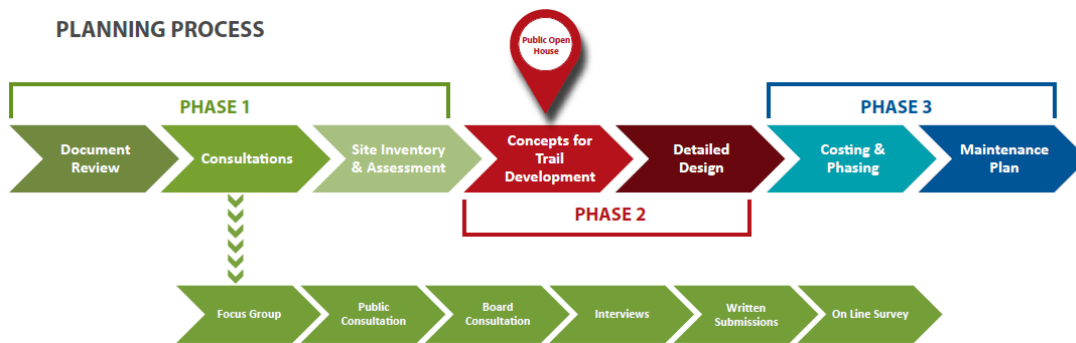


**Stuart Crosbie**  
Facilities & Trail Manager

Stuart has an extensive background in trail building and development and is our building and property MacGyver. He can often be found out on the trails putting his expertise to great use for the Society. Stu loves being on the trails, meeting our guests and enjoying nature.



# Trails



The Trail Master Plan supports the continuation of the Society's mandate focusing on conservation, education and recreation.

## Funding for implementation of Phase One of the Master Plan:

- Government of Canada (ACOA): \$398,044
- Government of NL (Dept. of BTCRD): \$180,930
- Town of Conception Bay South: \$72,372
- Manuels River Natural Heritage Society: \$72,371
- Total Project Cost: \$723,717

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR MASTER PLAN

MANAGE IMPACTS ON THE LAND RESOURCE  
RECOGNIZE & PROTECT CHARACTER OF THE LANDSCAPE

ENABLE USERS TO APPRECIATE THEIR SURROUNDINGS

PROVIDE A SAFE EXPERIENCE

PROVIDE ACCESS TO VALUED EXPERIENCES



# Events - Rentals



“  
We got married last Sunday at The Manuels River experience and it was PERFECT. This place is already so beautiful on it's own and it really doesn't need much decoration! Sarah Au is fantastic to deal with and made sure everything ran smooth! Also a huge shout out to the event staff Jessica and Justin who helped make sure our wedding went so great the day of! They worked so hard and we appreciated it so much!  
- Crystal Wilkie

”

- We hosted the MUN Family Medicine Community Preceptors' Meetings in October with 120 delegates.
- The Association of Early Childhood Educators of NL had their 3-day conference here from November 18-20 with 140 delegates each day.
- The Seventh Day Adventists Church hosted a 20-lecture series here throughout October and November.
- We also have standing rentals with several community organizations:
  - Sisters In Fitness holds yoga and fitness classes three times per week.
  - The Rotary Club of Avalon Northeast meets at the Centre every Wednesday.
  - Spruce Hills Community Church uses our facility as a second location for their Sunday service.





# Events - In House

## Paint & Pinot / Coffee & Canvas

In June we launched new In-House Events in partnership with Bobbi Pike Art. In 2016 we painted 6 different images at mostly sold out events.

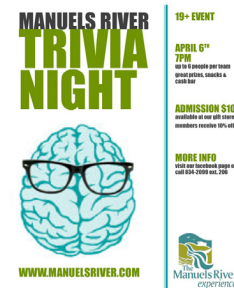


## Dinner & A Movie

Dinner & A Movie continued throughout 2016. Some of our featured films included The Labyrinth, Sisters, Dirty Dancing, Elf, The Shining, and Deadpool.

## Trivia Night

Trivia Night was launched in February 2016 and has since attracted a great group of regular attendees and trivia buffs.



## New Years Eve

Our Annual New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance was sold out again in 2016. We look forward to ringing in 2018 with another packed house.



**Sarah Au**  
Events Manager

Sarah applies her event planning talents to our weddings, conferences, parties, and more. Sarah helps our guests organize and plan details of their event. Her favourite part of her work here is seeing events come together from start to finish.



**Justin Smith**  
Events Lead

Justin leads the set-up and logistics of events and ensures everything is running smoothly for our guests. Justin enjoys the variety of events we host and interacting with all of our guests.



# Fundraisers

## 4th Annual Gala Fundraiser - April 9th

Our 2016 Annual Gala theme was a casual backyard barbeque. Attendees were able to enjoy a dressed down, casual evening with silent and live auctions, raffles, games, a family style BBQ inspired meal catered by Coffee Matters, and an evening dance with music by local favorite The Phantom 4. In 2016 our live auction offered the opportunity to sponsor a week of camp for a child in need. This raised enough money for 52 weeks of camp for children in the community! In addition, we raised just over \$35,000 to support our education programs.



## 26th Annual Watch Your Bobber Race & Family Fun Day – July 2nd



An afternoon of events for the whole family, our 'Bobber Day' brings out enormous community support. The day includes a kid's carnival, individual and corporate bobber races, concessions, and local entertainment. Our Corporate Bobber Race winner for 2016 was Pinnacle Networks. Last year's event raised just over \$14,000.





# Fundraisers

## Annual Giv'er on the River Charity Fun Run – October 23rd

Our Giv'er on the River fundraiser is a charity fun run to support the ongoing upkeep and improvement of the Manuels River trail system. This event is open to all ages and abilities and brings the entire community together to support the Society. The race offers a 2K and 5K option, and in 2016 we added a new 10K route! With the support of the runners, the community, volunteers, and sponsors, we raised just over \$6,000 at last year's event.



## Regatta Roulette - August 2nd

Our newest fundraiser, introduced in 2016, is Regatta Roulette. The event theme is based on the local tradition of taking a gamble and partying the night before the Royal St. John's Regatta. Due to the weather dependence of this holiday, it is a risky roll of the dice since you may have to report to work the next morning. Guests enjoyed carnival games, food, and a dance with music by Fahrenheit. A great time was had by all and the Regatta did go ahead as scheduled the next day so the party was worth the risk.



Jillian is our Executive Assistant extraordinaire. With her hands in just about every aspect of the organization, she can usually be found in the executive office, keeping things organized. Her favorite part of working at Manuels River is working with our great team.

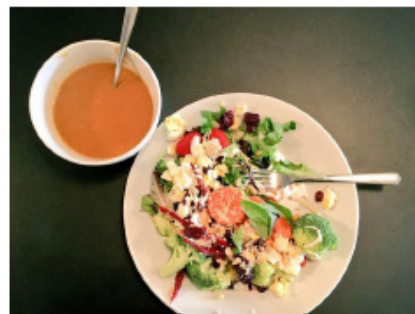


**Jillian Whittle**  
Executive Assistant

# Coffee Matters Cafe

2016 was a year of big changes for Coffee Matters. Despite a challenging year for local businesses, they strengthened their partnership with Manuels River through a wider range of offerings, improved customer service and a fresh & healthy approach to meals.

Coffee Matters launched a new Endless Soup & Salad Bar to rave reviews, offering a rare combination of fresh, healthy & affordable lunches desperately needed in Conception Bay South.



Coffee Matters also said goodbye to long-time Manager Jacqueline Penney and welcomed back Lexie Morey as the Manager. Lexie's been with the company at their downtown St. John's location for the last number of years and is pleased to take over the duties in CBS. Please join us in welcoming back Lexie and say 'Hello!' next time you're in.



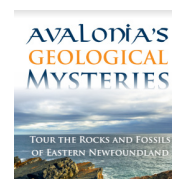
As the preferred caterer to over 75% of the weddings held onsite last year, Coffee Matters looks forward to an even stronger 2017 with a renewed focus on serving fresh, top-quality food with a flair for local flavours & ingredients.





# Partnerships

Manuels River partnered with many organizations throughout 2016, both formally and informally, to offer diverse and engaging experiences to our members and visitors.



Eastern Newfoundland Geological Network



TD Friends of the Environment Foundation



Newfoundland & Labrador



# Where To Find Us?

## Trade Shows & Expos

- NL Craft Council Provincial Wholesale Craft Show
- NL Kids Expo
- North Pole Christmas Fair
- PEGNL Bridge Building Competition
- St. John's Board of Trade Expo
- The Ultimate Bridal Show



## Media Supporters



# Manuels River in the Community

## United Way Stuff-A-Sock Campaign



United Way has teamed up with charities and workplaces across the province to coordinate its annual Stuff-a-Sock Campaign which provides a stocking of basic hygiene items and a few treats to those most vulnerable adults in our province. In 2016, Manuels River joined the team of volunteer stocking delivery elves. Our staff visited Eason's and Canning's Personal Care Homes to deliver stockings to each of the residents. It was very rewarding to see the gratitude and joy of the residents as they opened their stockings.

## CBS Kiwanis Club Christmas Parade

2016 was Manuels River's first year entering the CBS Kiwanis Club Christmas Parade. Our staff volunteered their time to create a working volcano float adorned with trilobites and Christmas décor. Community member, Bobby Rose, volunteered his truck and time to steer our float through the parade route. His children, Lucas, Nickolas, and Owen, joined staff aboard the float, spreading Christmas cheer & candy canes. We were all excited to learn that we won the Most Spirited Float Award from the Kiwanis Club. We look forward to creating another amazing float for 2017!



## Memorial University's Make Midterm Matter



Make Midterm Matter takes place each semester at Memorial University. Students spend one day of midterm break volunteering, learning, and engaging at designated community organizations. Students came to Manuels River for a day in June to help construct butterfly huts. Butterflies are very sensitive to changes in climate and the environment. The huts provide a shelter in which they can live and reproduce successfully, even if the local environment/climate has been altered by human activity.

## CBS Food Bank

Throughout the year, Manuels River held several drives to collect non-perishable items for our local food bank. For several weeks we sold tickets on a handmade floral centerpiece, donated by our Sales Associate, Wanda Blackwood. Through this initiative, we were able to add a \$150 cash donation to go along with the food items for the CBS Food Bank.

## Single Parents Association

Instead of having a gift exchange at our annual staff Christmas social, we decided to pay it forward. Staff purchased children's toys, which we donated to the Single Parents Association.





# Staff

## Operations & Administration

Michael Mooney - Executive Director  
Jillian Whittle – Executive Assistant  
Eleanor Power – Lead Science Interpreter  
Rod Taylor – Lead Science Interpreter  
Sydney Greene – Science Interpreter/Weekend Lead  
Sarah Au – Events Manager  
Justin Smith – Events Lead  
John Berniquez – Accountant & Financial Advisor  
Stuart Crosbie – Facilities & Trails Coordinator  
Dylan Petten - Cleaner  
Alicia Legge – Gift Store & Admissions Manager  
Wanda Blackwood – Sales Associate

## Interpretation

Kyle Barbour  
Sydney Boychuk  
Anna Broaders  
Lauren Butler  
Laura Cadigan  
Rosalind Ford  
Emily Gorner  
Sarah Manning  
Nathaniel Noel  
Ryan Peach  
Laura Pittman  
Myfanwy Price  
Rachel Smith  
Emily Wells

## Events

Nicholas Bickford  
Jacqueline Butler  
Meghan Kennedy  
Emily Lockyer  
Chris MacEachren  
Christina Peddle  
Jessica Rideout  
Samantha Rideout  
Daniel Rees  
Sarah Simmons  
Mackenzie Thomas

## The following people also worked with us in 2016:

Shannon Harding	Emily Otto
Diane Pelley	Noah Sheppard
Laura King	Sarah Penney
Lindsay Mills	



Doxi is our Manuels River mascot. She is a *paradoxides davidis* trilobite. Doxi can be found attending most of our fundraisers, making appearances at birthday parties and trade shows, or just hanging out in the exhibits. Doxi loves meeting everyone, and especially posing for pictures with our guests.



# Committees & Volunteers

## Special Events Committee

Andrea Gosse – Special Events & Bobber Chair  
Andrea Kean – Gala Co-Chair  
Shelley Moores – Giv'er on the River Chair  
Jolene O'Connell – Gala Co-Chair

Lori Anderson	Ashley King
Curtis Au	Ryan Lawlor
Paige Austin	Emily Lockyer
Nancy Bennett	Tara Moulton
Gail Butler	Phil O'Connell
Sandra Cable	Fallon Piercey
Janna Cleary	Kirsten Schibler
Allison Cornish-Collins	John Smith
Liz Davis	Jan Spracklin
Gord Farrell	Donald Sword
Bobbi Lee Gosse	Pat Sword
Beth Hanrahan	Julie White
Beth Johnstone	Elizabeth Young

## Trails Committee

Jan Spracklin - Chair  
Sandra Baggs  
Jeremy Hall  
Andy Hennebury  
Beth Johnstone  
Ryan Lawlor  
Krista Perry  
Chris Pyne  
Ron Smith  
Rick Spracklin

## Education

Jeremy Hall - Chair  
Lori Anderson  
Sharon Deemer  
Chris Pyne  
Patrick Wells

## Finance & Operations

Doug Russell – Chair  
Gail Butler  
Phil O'Connell  
Don Sword  
Dave Works

## Governance & Strategy

Don Sword - Chair  
Nancy Bennett  
Dawn Dalley  
Doug Russell

## Marketing & Communications

Nancy Bennett - Chair



## Volunteers

Mel Aiello	Chad Cluney	Linda Hynes	Emma Moores	Tracy Sheehan
Arfa Ali Khan	Jessica Cole	Marilyn Hogan	Aaron Morgan	Jillian Slade
Michelle Anthony	Caitlyn Coles	Ryan House	Anna Morgan	Hayley Smart
Daisy Archibald	Megan Coles	Rebecca Howie	Michael Mullan	Jennifer Smith
Laura Bachynsky	Jhessi Davis	Julian Johnson	Chris Mullett	Tracy Spracklin
Felicia Baldwin	Brenda Dawe	Matthew Joy	Flo Murphy	Erin Stacey
Emily Benson	Brandon Delaney	Adam Judge	Jennifer Murphy	Norine Taylor
Eric Biggs	Megan Dobbin	Alana Kean	Nicholas Noel	Kyle Terry
Haley Bishop	Shashank Douloth	Darryl Kean	Megan Parrott	David Trites
Glenda Boone	Sue Drodge	Brenda Keefe	Raegan Penney	Emily Trites
Alison Bowles	Jess Duff	Katrina Kelly	Ayla Perry	Grace Tucker
Matthew Boychuk	Bassma El Hawary	Sarah Kerner	Michelle Perry	Reed Tucker
Rob Boychuk	Nicole Evans	Erynn Kiffiak	Victoria Philpott	Nasim Vosoguakh
Dean Brenton	Samantha Evans	Carina Korchoski	Stephanie Pink	Lauren Whelan
Samantha Brushett	Rebecca Evoy	Jeremy Korchoski	Emily Porter	Roughan Whittleton
Erin Burt	Calista Greening	Kayla Laite	Velvet Porter	Laura Winnett
Christine Butler	Ian Henebury	Samantha Lake	Heather Powell	Carly Yetman
Joan Butler	Elizabeth Hicks	Lucas Lilly	Madeline Redfern	
Keisha Butler	Jen Hillier	Zawadi Mayeka	Daniel Rideout	
Michael Chaplin	Victoria Hiscock	Brandon Mercer	Jake Scott	
Tinache Chikomo	Juliet Hudson	Glenn Metcalfe	Jeanine Scott	
Gillian Clements	Kenna Hynes	Ian Metcalfe	Joy Searle	

# Appendix A - Audited Financial Statements



## **Note to Financial Statements**

The Manuels River Natural Heritage Society Inc. received approval in January 2016 from the Charities Directorate of the Canada Revenue Agency to change its fiscal year end from October 31 to December 31.

The attached financial statements for 2016 reflect the year end change with the 2015 year end comparisons for the two months ending December 31, 2015.

Further financial statement comparisons showing third year comparisons for year end October 31, 2015, two month year end comparisons for December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2016 year end are contained in the MRNHS Inc website:

<http://manuelsrivier.com/contact-us/board-documents/>