



2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Since 1996, Long Point Basin Land Trust (LPBLT) has been steadfast in its mission to conserve and protect wild spaces. With the unwavering support of our donors, funders and sponsors, we have added two new protected properties to our growing portfolio of nature reserves, bringing the total to 15. These important lands span over 486 hectares (1201 acres) in one of Canada's most unique and biodiverse regions—an area that remains critically under protected.

We are excited to report that the 2023-24 year was another year of growth and success for

LPBLT. Thanks to our dedicated donors, grantors, volunteers, and partners, we remain financially strong and ready to embrace new challenges. We deeply appreciate your ongoing contributions, which are the foundation of everything we do.

As Canada moves toward its goal of protecting 30% of the nation's lands and waters by 2030, LPBLT is aligning its efforts with this national vision. This year, we launched an ambitious conservation campaign aimed at significantly expanding and enhancing protected lands in the Long Point Basin. These

efforts are critical in addressing the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss. Achieving these goals will require continued collaboration and partnership. The commitment to conservation—both nationwide and within our own community—has been truly inspiring. We look forward to building on this momentum as we continue working together in 2024 and beyond.

Thank you for standing with us in our mission to protect and restore the natural world.

Peter Carson, President



Land Acknowledgment

We recognize that the rich biodiversity and habitats we strive to protect and preserve lie within the traditional territories and treaty lands of the Mich Saagigg (Mi-Chee Saw-Geeg) - the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Anishinabe (Anishin-ah-bey), and Haudenosaunee (Ho-dee-no-SHOW-nee) - the Six Nations of the Grand River. We are committed to the ongoing process of understanding our shared responsibility in the protection and ecological restoration of these lands.

OUR IMPACT



83.7 Hectares

newly protected in 2023-2024

486 Total Hectares

protected (1201 acres)

120.53 Hectares

of savannas, oak woodlands, and early successional forests & meadows enhanced



38.5 Hectares

of forests, swamps, wetlands, and riparian areas enhanced

891 Hemlock Trees

surveyed for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

1,000+ Total Species

documented on our nature reserves

45+ Species at Risk

observations on nature reserves



40+

unique stewardship actions completed

7+ Kilograms

of native seeds collected

31 Species

of native seeds collected



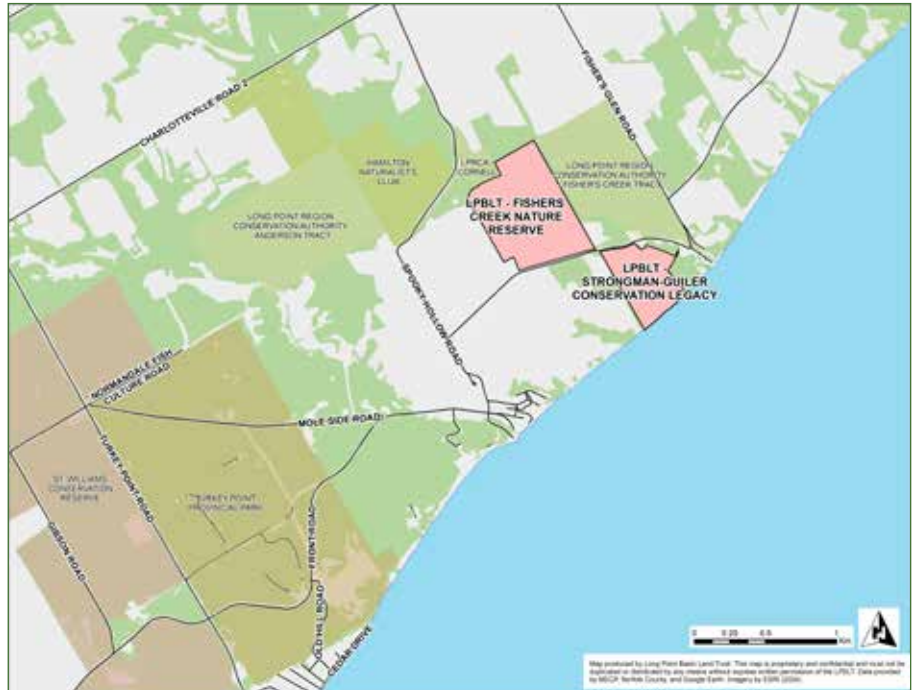
NEWLY PROTECTED

Fishers Creek Nature Reserve

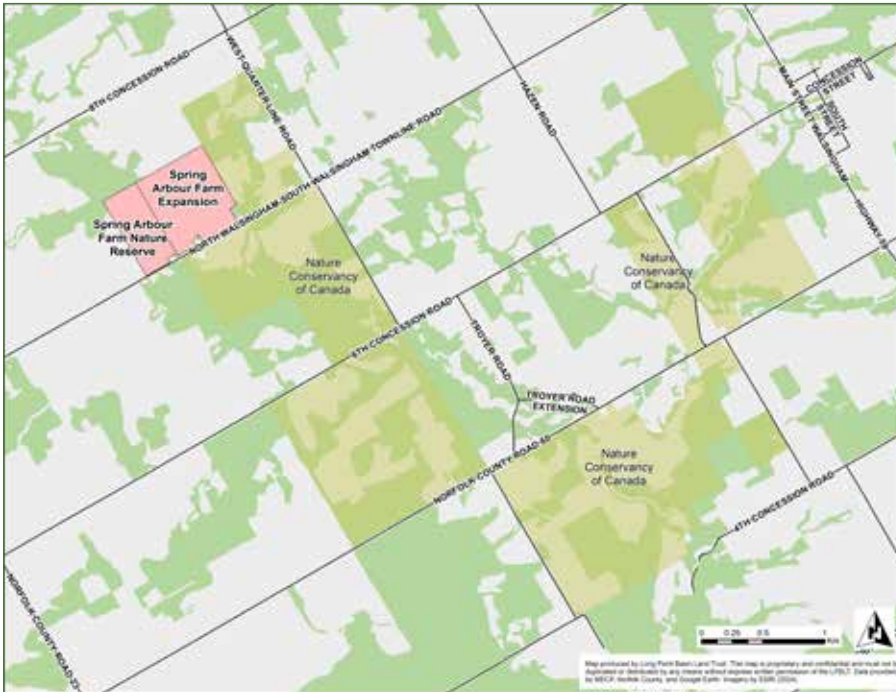
Fishers Creek Nature Reserve is one of Long Point Basin Land Trust's top 50 priority sites, and our third largest property, providing key ecological benefits by linking several protected areas into a continuous wilderness corridor.

Spanning 45.3 hectares (111.96 acres), this property features diverse habitats—wetlands, grasslands, forests, and a vital cold-water trout stream—that contribute to mitigating climate change through the sequestration and storage of carbon.

The property is crucial for ecoregion conservation within the Lake Erie Lowland Ecoregion and enhances habitat connectivity within the Long Point Walsingham Forest Priority Place. It is home to significant species such as the Louisiana Waterthrush, Black-throated Green Warbler, Pickerel Frog, Eastern Foxsnake, Grey Ratsnake, and Tricoloured Bat. Additionally, restoration efforts could capture and store at least 44 metric tonnes of carbon, contributing to climate resilience.



NEWLY PROTECTED



Spring Arbour Farm Expansion

In 2023 we significantly expanded the Spring Arbour Farm Reserve by acquiring an adjacent 38.45 hectares (95 acres) property, nearly tripling its size. Formerly a tobacco farm, the land has been restored to tallgrass prairie and black oak savanna habitats, supporting 31 species at risk and featuring Venison Creek, a cold-water trout stream.

This acquisition advances Long Point Basin Land Trust's strategy of creating larger, interconnected habitats by linking its existing reserve to neighboring conservation lands. Located in a key Carolinian Canada Core Natural Area, the site strengthens protected corridors and aligns with Canada's 30x30 conservation target.

Managed primarily for research, this expansion was made possible with federal funding through the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund.





STEWARDSHIP & RESTORATION

Stewardship and habitat management remain central to our mission, as we work tirelessly to enhance and preserve the ecological integrity of our Nature Reserves.

Through targeted restoration, monitoring, and species protection, we are fostering healthier and more resilient landscapes.

This year, we made significant strides in restoring over 120 hectares of habitat. Among our key initiatives was clear-cutting and harvesting two pine

plantations. These areas were then carefully seeded with native grasses and herbaceous species to encourage the regeneration of a more natural and productive prairie ecosystem.

Invasive species management also remained a top priority. Across nine properties, we focused efforts on controlling the spread of harmful species that threaten native habitats. Additionally, we bolstered wildlife conservation by installing two bat nursery houses to support local bat populations and conducting regular snake board monitoring to assess species presence.

Our ongoing survey work contributed vital data for conservation planning. We surveyed nearly 900 hemlock trees for the presence of the hemlock woolly adelgid and continued monitoring forest birds, with a special focus on the Eastern Whip-poor-will and Red-headed Woodpecker, both species at risk in our region.

Through these collective efforts, we remain committed to the stewardship of our lands, ensuring they continue to support diverse species and vibrant ecosystems.



Canadian wild rye
(*Elymus canadensis*)



Little brown bat
(*Myotis lucifugus*)



Eastern hemlock
(*Tsuga canadensis*)

EXPLORE THE OUTDOORS

In 2023, our Explore the Outdoors program continued to connect the community with the natural world, fostering appreciation for local ecosystems and biodiversity through engaging, hands-on experiences.

Some highlights included our “Creatures of the Night: Moth Exploration” series, where participants delved into the fascinating world of nocturnal insects, guided by experts who helped identify and discuss

various moth species. Our “Know Your Trees” workshop provided attendees with essential skills to recognize and differentiate native tree species through bark, leaves, and other key characteristics.

Participants also enjoyed our creative offerings, such as “Field Sketching 101” and “Intro to Nature Photography,” where nature enthusiasts learned artistic and technical skills while immersed in beautiful outdoor settings. Additionally, events

like “Leap into Spring! Ontario’s Native Frogs” and “Star Party Astronomy” gave guests a chance to discover local wildlife and marvel at the wonders of the night sky.

These events enriched our community’s connection to nature and deepened their understanding of the unique environments we are working to protect.

ETO 2023 sponsors:



Ontario
Trillium
Foundation



Fondation
Trillium
de l'Ontario



Explore the
Outdoors 
2023

11
Free environmental
education events

200+
Attendees at events





FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The following information is extracted from Long Point Basin Land Trust's April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024 financial statements audited by Millard, Rouse & Rosebrugh LLP Chartered Accountants. To view the full audited statements, please visit our website at www.longpointlandtrust.ca.

Assets

Current

Cash	\$1,121,944
Investments	\$2,366,968
Accounts receivable	\$674,120

Property \$7,564,916

Total Assets **\$11,727,948**

Liabilities

Current

Accounts payable	\$208,939
Deferred revenue	\$34,946

Total Liabilities **\$243,885**

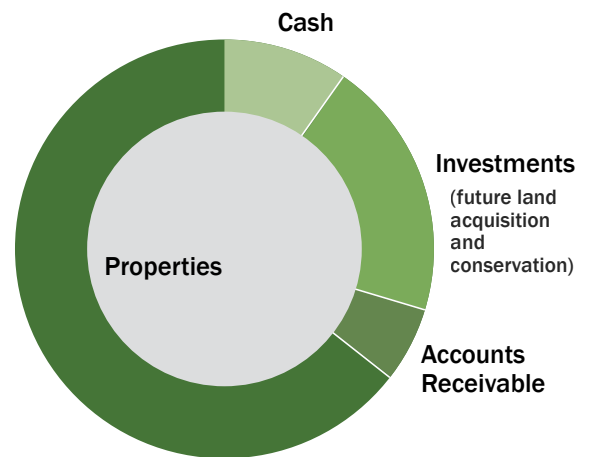
Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$1,358,262
Restricted	\$10,125,801

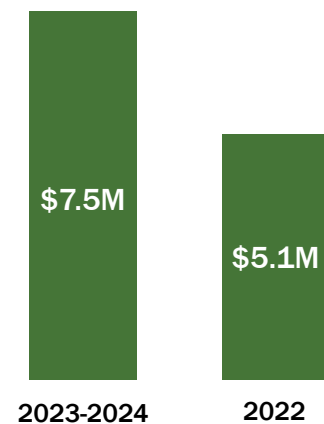
Total Net Assets **\$11,484,063**

Total Liabilities and Net Assets **\$11,727,948**

2023-2024 Assets



Properties

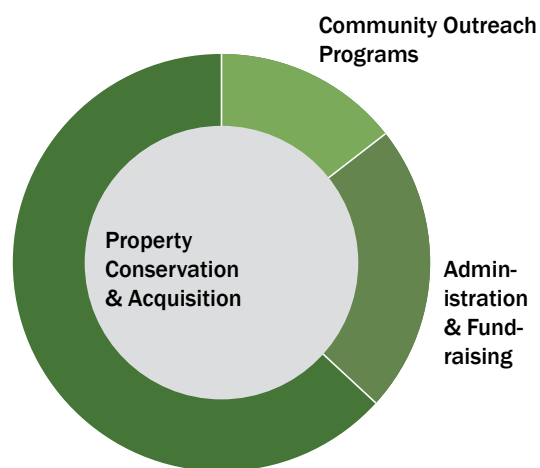


FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Revenue

Conservation Grants	\$2,165,190
Donations and Bequests	\$984,013
Donations of Property	\$540,557
Investment and Other Income	\$199,819
Total Revenue	\$3,889,579

How the dollars were spent in 2023-2024



Expenses

Property Conservation & Acquisition	\$520,593
Community Outreach Programs	\$117,474
Administration and Fundraising	\$183,803
Total Expenses	\$821,870
Excess of Revenue Over Expenses	\$3,067,709





OUR SUPPORTERS

We are grateful for the many donors, community partners and sponsors who supported our mission this year. Every contribution helps to conserve and protect the rich biodiversity and habitats of the Long Point Basin Region.

1000158606 Ontario Limited
Bruce and Aki Tanaka Family Fund
Community Foundations of Canada
Echo Foundation
Estate of Arthur N. Langford
Estate of Fred Jonckheere
Government of Canada
Government of Ontario
Hodgson Family Foundation
Long Point Region Conservation Authority
Nature Conservancy of Canada
Norfolk Community Foundation
Norfolk County
Norfolk Field Naturalists

Ontario Land Trust Alliance
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Otter Valley Naturalists
Pano Cap Canada Limited
St. Williams Conservation Reserve Community Council
TD Friends of the Environment Fund
Thames Talbot Land Trust
The Bradstreet Family Foundation
The Lions Club of Waterford
The Maple Cross Fund
The Westaway Charitable Foundation
Urban Forest Associates
WRMS Vocational Fund

And for the hundreds of individual donors and volunteers who support our mission every day. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to nature and conservation.



Photo by: Len Grincevicius

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thank you to our dedicated and engaged Board of Directors (2023-2024) for continuing to guide the strategic vision and work of Long Point Basin Land Trust.

Peter Carson, President

Mary Gartshore, Director

Joe Stephenson, Director

Jason Bernardon, Treasurer

Janice Gilbert, Director

Kerrie Wilcox, Director

Stephen Kilbridge, Secretary

Len Grincevicius, Director

David Agro, Director
(resigned Oct. 12, 2023)

Audrey Heagy, Director



- 1) Jackson-Gunn Old Growth Forest
- 2) Arthur Langford Nature Reserve
- 3) Delhi Wetland Nature Reserve
- 4) Shirley & George Pond Nature Reserve
- 5) Strongman-Guiler Conservation Legacy

- 6) Marshall Malcolm Wetland Reserve
- 7) Al (Pic) & Pat Robinson Nature Reserve
- 8) Spring Harbour Farm Nature Reserve
- 9) Stead Family Scientific Reserve
- 10) Trout Creek Nature Reserve

- 11) Hammond Hemlock Slough Reserve
- 12) Harlow Dune Nature Reserve
- 13) Stackhouse Forest Sanctuary
- 14) Fishers Creek Nature Reserve
- 15) Hawk Cliff Woods Expansion



Our Mission

To protect the rich biodiversity and habitats of the Long Point Basin area

Our Vision

A future where the habitats and biodiversity of the Long Point Basin area are protected forever.

Contact Us

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