



ECELAW Annual Report 2012

January 1 to December 31, 2012

ece*law*  
east coast environmental law

## Note from the Chair

After six wonderful years, it is with mixed emotions that I reflect on my time with ECELAW as my term as board member and chair comes to an end. To those of us who have been involved since long before the official start in 2007, ECELAW seems more like a child we have been gradually nurturing to adulthood than an abstract organization. Thanks to our many funders, partners and supporters, we have accomplished what seemed impossible – to establish a permanent non-governmental environmental law organization in Atlantic Canada.

As I depart from my position as chair and the board, I would like to pay tribute to some of the key individuals and organizations that have made ECELAW what it is today. In doing so, I recognize that I will inevitably fail to recognize the many important contributions made by so many others.

**To the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia:** your support in getting us started and allowing us to grow has been nothing short of incredible during a time that we know has been very difficult for you. The many law students, community groups, individuals and environmental organizations around the provinces that have benefitted from the services we have been able to provide as a result of your generosity join the board and staff in extending our collective gratitude for your unwavering support.

**To the three Executive Directors** who have served the organization so well in the past: to Hugh Benevides, for being the first, for jumping into the unknown, and in particular for his work in establishing our profile with like-minded organizations across Canada. To Deborah Carver, for bringing stability to the organization, its programs, and for building strong relationships with our partners, not only in Nova Scotia, but also in NB and PEI. To Lesley Griffiths, for taking on the task of Executive Director at a difficult time for the organization and for shepherding it forward against many odds, for starting new initiatives, such as the Occasional Paper Series during this difficult time, and for more broadly improving the way we communicate with those we serve.

**To our current staff, Tricia Barry and Lisa Mitchell:** you both have served the organization for a long time in a variety of roles, and both are committed to its core objectives of providing high quality environmental law services to those who need it, to improving environmental laws and their implementation in Atlantic Canada, and to enhancing educational opportunities for those studying environmental law.

**To my fellow board members:** there are many who will continue to serve and others who, along with me, have completed their maximum two, three-year terms. Mark Butler, Rob Miedema, Peter Mushkat, and Derek Schnare, thank you so much for six years of dedicated service to ECELAW. You have been with us from the start of the organization, and have seen it evolve from a volunteer organization to one with permanent staff, a number of wonderful programs, and a strong presence among the environmental and law communities in Nova Scotia and beyond. To Jessie Irving and Tricia Barry, who served as vice chairs during my six years as chairs and made my job so much easier by always be willing, ready and able to step up when needed. Those who are staying on, and those who have recently joined the board are now preparing to take the helm and continue to move the organization forward to achieve even greater things in the days ahead.

I cannot help but to briefly reflect on the state of environmental law in Nova Scotia. At a time when federal environmental laws are being gutted, it is encouraging to live in a province that is still moving forward in our collective effort toward sustainability. Much work remains, but we live in a province that implemented the first mandatory GHG regulations, that has among the most ambitious renewable energy targets in North America, and that has passed legislation in the form of the Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act.

I leave my position as board member with the knowledge that the organization is in excellent hands. Thank you all for a wonderful six years, and I look forward to watching the organization continue to grow and to working with you in different capacities in the days ahead. I won't be far away.

**Meinhard Doelle**  
Chair, ECELAW

## Executive Director's Message

It is with great excitement that I write my first note for ECELAW's Annual Report as Executive Director. I have so enjoyed the last six years as a member of the board and am proud of what ECELAW has accomplished. I now look forward to taking on the tough job of moving ECELAW towards reaching some of our long-term goals, such as hiring staff, hosting summer and articling students, securing office space, developing a litigation fund and generally expanding our services.

This is a transition time for ECELAW in board composition, leadership and direction. In 2013, the Board will be faced with some interesting decisions requiring a strategic approach. It is also a challenging time for the environmental movement and E-NGOs in Canada - our work is needed more than ever but funding and support is harder to find. I plan to meet the challenge and find a way for ECELAW to grow but understand this will take a lot of joint effort on all our parts over the coming years. I am, like you, very dedicated to seeing ECELAW succeed and I look forward to working with the Board and our supporters towards our goal of providing outstanding public interest environmental law services in Atlantic Canada.

Tricia Barry  
Executive Director, ECELAW

## Lawyer's Message

I have been working with ECELAW on a retainer basis for the past 12 months. Over the course of the year, the past executive director (Lesley Griffiths) and I met on a weekly basis to discuss a broad range of topics relevant to our roles. The relationship between the Executive Director and the lawyer plays a critical role in strategic planning and building of ECELAW. We frequently discussed our approach to the inquiry service, the most appropriate projects to undertake, the best way to build relationships with organizations, funding opportunities and how to combine our roles to be as effective as possible in building a positive reputation for ECELAW. I believe that our joint efforts have met with great success in Nova Scotia.

We have struggled over the year to engage with organizations outside of Nova Scotia. In part, that challenge is a result of our current core funding model and physical location. However, I also believe that it is easy to become overwhelmed by the logistics of being active in other provinces. Over the next year, I would like to work toward building a strong relationship with one or two well-connected and active organizations outside of Nova Scotia.

As a past ECELAW Board Member and a long-time supporter of the ENGO community, I recognize that the challenges for environmental non-government organizations are many but the need and opportunities are great. I look forward to working closely with our new Executive Director and the ECELAW Board as the organization continues to grow, expanding the nature of our services and those to whom we provide support.

Lisa Mitchell  
Lawyer, ECELAW

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## Governance

### Vision & Mission

ECELAW envisions a future where innovative and effective environmental laws and the just application of those laws provide Atlantic Canadians with a clean, healthy environment, which will make a positive contribution to the quality of life of its present and future inhabitants and visitors.

ECELAW will promote the development and just application of innovative and effective environmental laws in Atlantic Canada through:

- Awareness and understanding – increasing public awareness of and access to environmental laws.
- Education – aiding in the education of future environmental law professionals.
- Collaboration – working with the public, community groups and government to strengthen environmental laws in Atlantic Canada.

### Board of Directors

The directors on ECELAW's Board bring knowledge and experience from a variety of perspectives – academic, environmental non-governmental organizations, student, legal practitioner, government and financial. In 2012, ECELAW welcomed four new board members. Georgia Lloyd-Smith replaced Zeynep Husrevoglu as one of the two student representatives, and Sandra Farwell, Moira McConnell and Andrew Taillon also joined the board. Members of ECELAW's Board of Directors met six times in 2012, and also served on the Governance, Communications, Fundraising and Strategic Planning, Program, Board Nomination, and Executive Committees. Members of ECELAW's Board of Directors met eight times in 2011, and also served on the Governance, Communications, Fundraising and Strategic Planning, Programming and University Liaison Committees.

**Tricia Barry**, B.Sc., LL.B., LL.B., is a lawyer who spends her spare time outdoors or indoors thinking about how she can help preserve the outdoors. She holds an undergraduate degree in Environmental Studies and Biology from the University of Victoria. Before starting law school, she worked at the Land Conservancy in Penticton, British Columbia and completed the Yamnuska Mountaineering Skills and Outdoor Leadership Semester in Canmore, Alberta. She graduated with a Bachelor of Laws, specializing in environmental law from Dalhousie University in 2005. While a law student, she co-chaired the Environmental Law Students' Society. Tricia is a board member of Ecojustice and was on maternity leave for 2012 but takes on the role of ED of ECELAW February 1, 2013.

**Mark Butler**, B.A., M.A., has an undergraduate and graduate degree in Environmental Studies and is currently the policy Director of the Ecology Action Center. Mark began working with EAC as a volunteer and became the Marine Coordinator in 1996, and the Managing Director in 2001. During the period in which Mark has worked with EAC, the organization has grown in size from 2 to 25 staff members and has become the largest environmental organization in Atlantic Canada. He currently sits on the provincial Roundtable for Environment and Sustainable Prosperity. Previously, Mark worked as a marine educator, a fisheries consultant both in Canada and overseas, and as a deckhand on commercial fishing boats. His passions include bird watching, mushroom collecting, ship watching, spending time with his son, and eating fresh fish, caught right.

**Meinhard Doelle**, B.Sc., LL.B., LL.M, JSD, (Chair) is a Professor at the Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University, where he specializes in environmental law. He is the Director of the Marine & Environmental Law Institute and the Associate Dean, Research. He has attended the UN climate change negotiations since 2000, first as a nongovernmental member of the Canadian delegation and more recently as a registered observer. From January to May 2008, Meinhard was a visiting scholar at the Environmental Law Center of the International Union for Conservation of Nature in Bonn, Germany. In 2010-11 he served on the federal provincial environmental assessment panel for the Lower Churchill hydroelectric project in Labrador. He has written on a variety of environmental law topics, including climate change, energy, invasive species, environmental assessments and public participation in environmental decision-

making. Recent books are entitled "Environmental Law: Cases and Materials", "The Federal Environmental Assessment Process, a Guide and Critique", "From Hot Air to Action: Climate Change, Compliance and the Future of International Environmental Law" and "Promoting Compliance in an Evolving Climate Regime".

**Sandra Farwell** B.Sc., B.A., MPA is Director of Sustainable and Renewable Energy with the Nova Scotia Department of Energy. She completed a Bachelor of Science in Biology, Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Masters of Public Administration from Dalhousie University. Much of her work with the Department has been in the area of public policy development and stakeholder engagement related to implementing the Province's Cleaner Energy Plan. Sandra serves as the provincial government member on the Board of FORCE -Fundy Ocean Research Centre for Energy- Canada's leading research centre for in-stream tidal energy. Prior to joining government, Sandra worked for a fisheries industry association for several years where she focused on policy and regulatory affairs.

**David Hopper**, BDEP, BA, MES is a land-use planner and geographer who has worked in provincial government (BC and NS) for over 30 years. In 2004, he moved to the Nova Scotia Department of Environment where he is the private land conservation coordinator for the Protected Areas Branch. David is part of the team directly engaged in protecting 12% of the province for conservation by 2015 as required by the Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act. He has a long interest in land and waterway reclamation and is a national board member for the Canadian Land Reclamation Association (CLRA) and the cofounder and past chair of CLRA's Atlantic Chapter and the Atlantic Reclamation Conference (ARC). David's interests in the arts include being cofounder and past chair of the Linda Joy Media Arts Society, a 25 year old non-profit organization which presents awards to aspiring filmmakers in Atlantic Canada.

**Jessie Irving**, B.Sc., LL.B, (Vice Chair) has been involved with East Coast Environmental Law since 2007, first as a student member, then as a Board Member. Jessie grew up in Prince Edward Island, completed a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Biology at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick and her law degree at Dalhousie Law School with a Certificate of Specialization in Environmental Law. Jessie currently lives in Halifax where she practices law in the areas of real property and energy/natural resources as an associate with McInnes Cooper.

**Sylina Jones**, B. Sc. (Hon), B.A., JD Candidate, is in her final year of law school at Dalhousie's Schulich School of Law. She has a background in English, Psychology, and Performance and Communications Media. From St. John's, Newfoundland, Sylina enjoys yoga, knitting, food, and trying new do-it-yourself projects. She has a long time passion and respect for the environment, most recently seen through her involvement with the Environmental Law Students' Society and in receiving a specialization in Environmental Law. In particular, she is interested in social perceptions of environmental protection as incompatible with economic development. Sylina is thankful for having had the opportunity to act on the ECELAW board for two years.

**Dr. MOIRA L. McCONNELL** has been a member of the ECELA Board since October 2012. She is a Professor of Law at Dalhousie University and is the Associate Director of the Marine & Environmental Law Institute (MELAW). Dr. McConnell has also been a Co-director of Dalhousie University's Marine Affairs Program and is a former Executive Director of the Law Reform Commission of Nova Scotia. She is member of a number of organizations including the International Academy of Comparative Law, the IUCN - Commission on Environmental Law (CEL), the Society of International Economic Law, the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ - Canada, Canadian Council), Canadian Council on International Law, Canadian Maritime Law Association, Women in International Trade and Shipping (Canada) (WISTA) and Lawyers for Social Responsibility. She is an Co-editor of the international interdisciplinary Ocean Yearbook (1998 ff), an Associate Editor of the Yearbook of International Environmental Law (2006 ff), and is on the editorial boards of the WMU Journal of Maritime Affairs, the Global Journal of Comparative Law and the Journal of Arbitration and Mediation.. She has published widely in the fields of international law, law of the sea, international labour law, governance systems, corporate governance, administrative and constitutional law, environmental law, maritime law and policy, social justice and human rights.

**Rob Miedema**, B.Sc.H., LL.B. (Secretary), received his LL.B. from Dalhousie University in 2005 with Certificates of Specialization in Environmental Law and Business Law. He was admitted to the Nova Scotia Bar in 2006 and now practices corporate and tax law as a partner at BOYNECLARKE LLP in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Since being called to the bar, he also spent five years as part-time faculty at Dalhousie University, having taught a graduate level course in the Faculty of Management's School for Resource and Environmental Studies for two previous years and spending three years with the Schulich School of Law. Rob has also completed 4 years of in-depth tax programming with the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. He is a member of the Canadian Tax Foundation and the Canadian Bar Association and he has been involved with ECELAW since its inception in 2007.

**Peter Mushkat**, B.A., LL.B., graduated from Dalhousie Law School in 1986, and has since been working in the areas of marine and environmental law as a consultant, researcher and teacher. He teaches environmental law, international environmental law and administrative law at Dalhousie in the undergraduate Environmental Science Program offered by the Faculty of Science. He also delivers an online introductory course in environmental law for Acadia University. He has been involved with the Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia as principal author and editor of A Guide to Environmental Law for Nova Scotians. In 2002, Peter joined the Society on a part-time basis to develop, administer and deliver a variety of law-related projects.

**Georgia Lloyd-Smith**, B. Sc. (Hon), B.A., JD Candidate, is in her second year of law school at Dalhousie's Schulich School of Law. She completed her undergrad studies in Biology and International Development. She has spent most of her years exploring natural landscapes around the world and has cultivated a keen interest in protecting the beauty that remains. She likes to spend her thinking time in places where cultures, values, fields and ideas converge. ECELAW is one of these spaces and she is happy to be able to experience the diversity on the ECELAW board.

**Reuben Penner**, B.A., B.A., M.A. (Treasurer) is an Accounts Payable Clerk at Stewart McKelvey. Sparked by his volunteer history and interest in social enterprise, Reuben is also currently working towards his CMA-MBA. Reuben grew up on a farm in Manitoba and later completed a B.A. in International Development Studies at the University of Winnipeg. He then moved to Halifax where he completed a B.A. Classics at the University of King's College, and then an M.A. in Classics from Dalhousie University.

**Derek Schnare**, B.Sc., LL.B., is an Associate at Hennigar, Wells, Lamey & Baker in Chester, Nova Scotia. He graduated from Dalhousie Law School in 2009 with a Certificate of Specialization in Environmental Law. Prior to entering law school, Derek completed a Bachelor of Science degree at Saint Mary's University (Honours and Co-op: Environmental Studies; Major: Geography) and worked as an Environmental Consultant, focusing on the management of contaminated sites. His volunteer experiences have included efforts in environmental law & policy reform and the promotion of green roof implementation, in addition to strategic planning, event planning and fundraising.

**Nathan Sutherland**, B.A., LL.B., is an associate in the Halifax office of Stewart McKelvey, practicing in the Litigation Group with a special interest in environmental, energy and natural resources law. Nathan is a graduate of Dalhousie Law School, where he was a member of the school's competitive environmental law moot team and involved in student organizations promoting social justice and the health of the environment. He has supervised Schulich School of Law pro-bono students on environmental and mental health law projects. Prior to his law career, Nathan graduated from McGill and worked briefly with a communications firm in Toronto.

**Andrew Taillon**, is a lawyer at the Nova Scotia Department of Justice. He completed a B.A. at Mount Allison University and an M.A. at the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom before working as a rural economic development consultant and freelance journalist in Newfoundland. He then attended Dalhousie Law School where he was the recipient of the J. Gerald Godsoe Scholarship. He was called to the bar in 2007. He currently volunteers on the board of the East Coast Environmental Law Association and as a leader for the 1st Clayton Park Cub Pack. Andrew enjoys reading, camping and playing music (all things he rarely has time for). He lives in Halifax with his wife, two sons and a miniature wiener dog.

## Operations and Administration

### Staff

Lesley Griffiths, B.A., M.L.S., B.D.E.P. was ECELAW's Executive Director during 2012, working on a half-time basis. Lesley has over 30 year's experience as a community and environmental planner with her own consulting firm. She has had extensive involvement in environmental assessment from many different perspectives including chairing three federal-provincial review panels, most recently the Lower Churchill Hydroelectric Project, and being process lead for the Fundy Tidal Energy Strategic Environmental Assessment

### Contract Lawyer

Lisa Mitchell, B.A., LL.B., M.E.S., provides legal services to ECELAW, responding to inquiries and working with partner organizations such as Ecojustice, Ecology Action centre and Sierra Atlantic on environmental law issues and projects. Lisa is the founder of LJM Environmental Law in Wolfville. Since 1995 her firm has provided legislative and policy advice and services to the federal and provincial governments, including drafting work on the revised federal Pest Control Products Act and the 1995 Nova Scotia Environment Act. She has also worked for many industry clients and public interest organizations.

### Students

Student involvement plays a vital role in developing ECELAW's overall capacity. ECELAW greatly appreciates the contributions made by the following law students:

- Georgia Lloyd-Smith, Board member and pro bono organizer
- Syliina Jones, Board member and ELSS liaison
- Mathieu Poirier, aquaculture research assistant and volunteer
- Jacquelyn Rutherford, Boyne Clarke summer student and ELSS co-chair
- Jamie Simpson, volunteer and ELSS co-chair

In addition, the following students worked on two ECELAW research initiatives – one addressing current government compliance with the Nova Scotia Endangered Species Act, and the other investigating enforcement of environmental legislation in all four Atlantic provinces:

Nicholas Ang*	Minh Nguyen*
Adam LaRoche*	Michael Potter
Mick Levine	Rebecca Sewell
John Maskine*	Kristen Vandenberg
Kelsey Nearing	Tristan Willis

(\* denotes students working through the Dalhousie Pro Bono program)

### Office and Meeting Space

ECELAW greatly appreciates the generosity of the Marine and Environmental Law Institute at the Schulich School of Law in providing us with office and meeting space, enabling ECELAW to work closely with both students and faculty at the law school and other faculties at Dalhousie University.

In addition, ECELAW greatly appreciates the College of Sustainability for providing a venue for board meetings.

## Activities

As described in its mission statement, ECELAW is engaged in activities related to

1. increasing public awareness of and access to environmental laws;
2. educating future environmental law professionals; and
3. collaborating with the public, community groups and government to strengthen environmental laws in Atlantic Canada.

### Public Awareness and Access to Environmental Laws

ECELAW provides workshops, publications, information and online resources and responds to inquiries with information and support. Our intent is to assist community and conservation organizations and the individuals who are involved with them so as to help them understand the legal and policy framework that governs protection of environmental resources and ensure environmental laws are effectively used, improved and strengthened.

During 2012, ECELAW prepared two publications with financial assistance from the Sage Foundation. The *Aquaculture Regulation in Nova Scotia: Review and Analysis* was prepared in cooperation with the Ecology Action Centre and prepared by Lisa Mitchell and student Mathieu Poirier. The *Citizen's Guide to the Protection of Wetlands in the Halifax Regional Municipality* was also prepared in partnership with the Ecology Action Centre and was completed by Lisa Mitchell. When finalized, these documents will be available on the ECELAW and EAC websites.

### Occasional Papers Series

In 2012, ECELAW launched the East Coast Environmental Law Occasional Papers Series (OPS). The series is intended to address a key gap – the lack of published literature focused on environmental law issues specific to Atlantic Canada. The OPS will consider papers on any aspect of environmental law in the Atlantic Provinces. In particular, students are encouraged to submit research papers but the editors also hope to provide a venue for legal scholars and practicing lawyers to publish research articles or opinion pieces in order to build up a body of material focusing on the East Coast. The first two papers were authored by students at the Schulich School of Law: Provincial Coastal Management in Nova Scotia – A Legislative Review by Jamie-Lynn Kraft, and Fish Pathogen and Pest Treatment Regulations by Zeynep Husrevoglu. The third paper, Using Strategic Environmental Assessments to Guide Oil and Gas Exploration Decisions in the Beaufort Sea: Lessons Learned from Atlantic Canada, was a joint publication with the Canadian Institute of Resources Law co-authored by Meinhard Doelle, Nigel Bankes, and Louie Porta.

### Environmental Law Events

In October 2012, ECELAW sponsored a talk on “Green Real state” by Deborah Curran, Hakai Professor in Environmental Law and Sustainability at the University of Victoria Faculty of Law. In November 2012, ECELAW partnered with a number of groups to organize a speaking tour and book launch by David Boyd, eminent Canadian environmental lawyer and author of “The Right to a Healthy Environment: Revitalizing Canada's Constitution”.

### Environmental Law Inquiry Service

The environmental law inquiry service continued to serve a valuable role by providing an avenue for any person with an environmental law question to come to ECELAW for assistance. The inquiry service includes two components: (1) we provide summary legal information in response to inquiries from individuals, as well as community and environmental groups; and (2) we also have a fund that allows us to refer select inquiries to an environmental lawyer in private practice for an initial consultation. This year we did not operate the fund as we hired a public interest environmental lawyer, Lisa Mitchell, on retainer to respond to our inquiries.

In 2012, ECELAW worked with seventeen clients on inquiries and issues including wind development, alternative transportation, quarries, fracking, fur-farming, offshore oil and gas, aquaculture, mineral resources, lake protection and wetlands, and species at risk. ECELAW also collaborated with Ecojustice, a national environmental law organization that undertakes strategic litigation, on a number of these files, including aquaculture and fur-farming.

In some instances, an initial inquiry leads to more in-depth work undertaken by ECELAW's contract lawyer to partner with other organizations and pursue funding to address broader concerns. During 2012, ECELAW has actively pursued partnerships and undertaken work on wetland protection, aquaculture regulation, surface water and watershed protection, hydraulic fracturing, mining and mineral extraction, and offshore drilling. As an example, an inquiry on wetland destruction facilitated our engagement with EAC and the Sage Foundation on the development of a Citizen's Guide to Wetland Protection in HRM. The inquiry on species at risk facilitated the drafting of two letters to the Minister of Natural Resources on his failure to meet the requirements of the Endangered Species Act.

ECELAW remains appreciative of the support provided by a small group of environmental lawyers in private practice who accept referrals from ECELAW at a modest fee. We did not call on them regularly in 2012 but we look forward to building on these relationships for our inquiry service and general development of the environmental law profession in 2013.

### Educating and Mentoring Environmental Law Professionals

One student worked with ECELAW in the 2012-2013 school year through the Environmental Law Placement Program, available as a credit course at the Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University. Students can work either directly with ECELAW or with another organization on an environmental law project. Jamie Simpson worked on a project for the Nova Scotia Woodlot Owners and Operators Association producing a *Legal Guide for Woodlot Owners* in Nova Scotia, which is jointly supervised by ECELAW and Diane Rowe, Senior Solicitor, Nova Scotia Department of Justice, Legal Services

Lisa Mitchell provided mentoring and supervision for nine law students four in the Pro Bono Program (<http://probono.law.dal.ca/>) and five volunteers at the Schulich School of Law. These students worked together on two main projects. The first project, which most of the students worked with ECELAW was to design a report that looks at the number of environmental prosecutions that have taken place in Atlantic Canada. The first phase of this research, looking at reported case law, is complete and students are now completing freedom of information requests to obtain any information on unreported decisions. The second project supplements the work ECELAW has undertaken on species at risk. Two students are reviewing the *Endangered Species Act* and the list of species at risk to determine what requirements of the Act have not been met for each listed species. To date, the Environmental Law Students' Society (ELSS) and ECELAW have drafted and sent two letters to the Minister questioning government compliance with the *Endangered Species Act* as it relates to critical habitat and recovery plans.

### Projects, Research and Collaboration

This year ECELAW continues to liaise and collaborate with public, community groups and government, and to work on developing research and project initiatives. In particular, the contract lawyer and our Executive Director made great strides in building on the work started by Deborah Carver, our former ED, in creating and maintaining relationships between ECELAW and other organizations. Our strategy in this regard is to ensure ECELAW is recognized as a primary source of legal information and support. Over the past year we have developed strong relationships with the Ecology Action Centre, Sierra Club Atlantic, and Ecojustice.

We have had occasion to interact with several other local organizations over the past year, but given time and resource constraints it has been difficult to establish strong relationships. Continuing to build on these relationships by partnering on projects and fundraising opportunities and taking strategic steps to work with other groups will be an important priority for ECELAW in 2013.

We were able to collaborate more with Ecojustice in 2012 based on generous funding from them which helped us work with local clients to try and build environmental law litigation opportunities. In particular, we collaborated with Ecojustice on aquaculture, fur farming, fracking and offshore oil and gas issues surrounding the Old Harry site.

ECELAW was very pleased to partner with the Sage Environmental program for the first time in 2012. Sage's funding supported two initiatives: (i) engagement with organizations working on open-pen salmon farming issues and preparation of a report on the current regulatory system and its shortcomings, and (ii) a citizen's guide to environmental law pertaining to wetland conservation.

ECELAW is very grateful to the members of the legal community of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island who have collaborated with us this year. They have supported us by generously providing funding to our programs, acting as presenters at our workshops, accepting referrals of inquiries, agreeing to include their names on the ECELAW online directory and attending our events. ECELAW hopes to share more resources and information with the provincial bars in future.

## Funders

Thank you to our funders and supporters for their generosity to ECELAW.

### MAJOR:

Law Foundation of Nova Scotia  
Marine & Environmental Law Institute, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University

### PROJECTS:

Sage Environmental Program

### CONTRIBUTORS:

BOYNECLARKE  
Stewart McKelvey  
McInnes Cooper  
Ecojustice

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

### REVENUES

Government grants		\$ 2,000
Workshop fees		\$ 1,935
Interest	\$ 4	\$ 4
Investment Income	\$ 691	\$ 912
Law Foundation of Nova Scotia	\$ 51,798	\$ 63,750
Contributions from Foundations	\$ 10,959	\$ 7,000
Other Contributions	\$ 6,393	\$ 2,554
	<u>\$ 69,845</u>	<u>\$ 78,154</u>

### EXPENSES

Administration	\$ (7,309)	\$ (14,930)
Professional Development	\$ (535)	\$ (3,303)
Public education and awareness	\$ (16,064)	\$ (42,282)
Legal Education	\$ (2,139)	\$ (5,757)
Legal Services, Inquiries and Referrals	\$ (27,992)	\$ (14,148)
Research Projects	\$ -	\$ -
Fundraising	\$ (581)	\$ -
	<u>\$ (54,619)</u>	<u>\$ (80,421)</u>

### EXCESS OF EXPENSES OVER REVENUES

\$ 15,227      \$ (2,267)

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

### ASSETS

Cash	\$ 41,328	\$ 22,697
Reserve Fund: Cash	\$ 3,695	\$ 3,056
Term deposits	\$ 53,582	\$ 52,912
Donations receivable	\$ 18,624	\$ 7,000
Computer ( \$839 less 100% depreciation)	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$ 117,229</u>	<u>\$ 85,647</u>

### LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,460	\$ 3,705
Deferred contributions	\$ 18,494	\$ 3,705

### NET ASSETS

<b>Restricted net assets</b>	-	-
Internally restricted net assets	\$ 57,277	\$ 55,968
Unrestricted net assets	\$ 39,998	\$ 25,974
	<u>\$ 97,275</u>	<u>\$ 81,942</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITY AND NET ASSETS</b>	<u>\$ 117,229</u>	<u>\$ 85,647</u>

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