



# News from The Friends Winter 2021

Hello Friends and cherished members - we hope 2021 has welcomed you all with open arms!

We are thrilled to launch our first formal Friends of Fundy newsletter. In this first edition, we will share some updates from 2020 and introduce the Friends of Fundy Crew and our dedicated Board of Directors. With each newsletter we will share a 'snapshot on nature' and do our best to keep you informed on events and happenings in Fundy National Park and the surrounding region. Let us know what you would like to see in future newsletters related to the Friends of Fundy - send us a message on Facebook @FundyFriends or email [community@friendsoffundy.ca](mailto:community@friendsoffundy.ca).

Although 2020 was not without its challenges, the Friends of Fundy are incredibly grateful for the support and the collaborative spirit of our members and partners. We experienced some delays and overcame some unexpected hurdles last year however we also have much to celebrate and much to motivate us for a great 2021!



## Thank you to our outgoing Chair and community champion Ken Kelly

In October of last year, The Friends of Fundy held our 37th Annual General Meeting on Zoom! We were thrilled to have Minister Scott Wallace and Deputy Minister Hurley provide greetings on behalf of the New Brunswick Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture, and share some words on the opportunities that exist in our region when we work together. We also welcomed our 2021-2022 volunteer Board of Directors - more on these committed community leaders on page 4! We would like to take this opportunity to recognize Ken Kelly, who stepped down from his role as Chair of the Friends of Fundy / Fundy Guild Inc. after five very active and successful years.

Since 1997, following an outstanding career in law enforcement and international affairs, Ken has been actively involved in the Alma community and promoting development in the Fundy region. In 2001, Ken formed the Fundy Beautification & Historical Society Inc. He, along with other community leaders, spearheaded the salvage and restoration of the childhood home of Captain Molly Kool and secured its current location at the entrance to Fundy National Park. Ken was a champion and key contributor to the Vision Alma process and in 2013, Ken was awarded the Tourism Industry Association of New Brunswick's (TIANB) 'Pioneer Award' for tourism promotion.

Whether as co-business owner and operator of Cliffside Suites, founding member of the UNESCO designated Fundy Biosphere Reserve or dedicated community volunteer, Ken's vision and unwavering belief in the potential of the Village of Alma and the region has never wavered. On behalf of the Friends of Fundy Board of Directors, the staff and our partners we thank you for your vision and leadership Ken - and look forward to more great things to come!

For more information, check our website  
[friendsoffundy.ca](http://friendsoffundy.ca)

# Outpost Alma

Like most businesses, Friends of Fundy had to pivot and reposition in response to the impacts of COVID -19 and to adhere to the Public Health guidelines as part of our role in keeping our employees, visitors and communities safe. The Friends of Fundy was very fortunate, thanks to a partnership with the Village of Alma, to relocate our gift shop, Outpost Alma, to the multi-purpose building on Main St. (we do hope to reopen Outpost East and Outpost West in Fundy National Park when it is safe to do so.) Our new location, in the heart of the Village of Alma, allows us to expand our offer of local items. We are thrilled to host a diverse inventory of locally sourced products and to be highlighting our region's artists and makers! 2020 also advanced our plans to open an online shop! The Friends of Fundy crew are continually updating what is available on the site so please take a moment to check it out. You can go to our website and click on the SHOP NOW button located at the top right of the webpage [www.FriendsofFundy.ca](http://www.FriendsofFundy.ca)

We look forward to growing our partnerships to continue to offer beautiful gift ideas for our local community to share with family and friends and for visitors wanting to bring home a memorable keepsake of their Fundy experience.

Let us know what local product you would like to see in Outpost Alma this year! Message us on Facebook @FundyFriends or send a note to [community@friendsoffundy.ca](mailto:community@friendsoffundy.ca) with your suggestions and ideas!



# Spotlight on Nature: Black-Capped Chickadee



It's getting colder outside and that means that we are starting to bundle up in our winter coats, wear some mittens and tighten our facemasks to keep ourselves warm. That's all well and good for human beings, but what about our winged friends out in nature? They can't exactly shop the latest trends in fashion as easily as we can. It's actually super interesting! See, everybody knows the birds that fly south for the winter (do you blame them?). Every fall we see that familiar V-formation in the air, honking their way towards warmer winds. But what about those birds that stick around with us all winter long? How do they stay warm? Let's look no further than our very own provincial bird: the Black-capped chickadee. Not only is it arguably the cutest bird in the province, but it is also a master at surviving the winter months.

Chickadees have been around long enough to know how cold it gets in the Maritimes, and they have learned exactly what to do to avoid those cold nights: shiver! Not exactly what you were expecting, huh? Chickadees will spend the majority of their lives foraging for food and then hiding it in little caches around the forest.

They could hide some in trees, under downed trees, even under the gutters of your shed! These little black-and-white birds have an uncanny memory, remembering where they are able to hide their thousands of caches for months! Can you even remember what you had for breakfast on Monday? Didn't think so. Chickadees need to eat as much as their little bodies can handle - and more! In fact, a single Black-capped chickadee will eat up to 60% of their body weight every single day.

They need all of this food to build up enough energy in order to puff those little feathers up and shiver all through the night. The shivering helps keep them warm on even the coldest of evenings. They shiver so much that they lose 10% of their body weight every night. All of this to wake up the next morning and start eating again! Not too different from us over the Holiday season. That's not the only strategy that the chickadee has in order to survive the winter. They also grow an extra layer of warmer feathers in order to keep themselves warm while they hunt for food. This is why when you see our New Brunswick mascot in the winter, they seem extra puffy compared to their summer counterpart! We could all take a lesson out of the Black-capped chickadee's book this holiday season. It has been a tough year for everybody, so why don't we just enjoy some quality time with our families, eat and drink, and above all, stay warm, stay safe, and of course, look out for those adorable little puffballs called chickadees!



**Michael Elliott has spent most of his life in and around Albert County. Now living in Sussex, NB, Michael is an avid birdwatcher, outdoorsman, golfer and nature enthusiast. He is a scout leader and hosts a web show called Nature with Rusty, where he shares his passion for nature with the youth. Michael is currently working on his Masters in Arts and is employed at Fundy National Park.**

## The Great Backyard Bird Count

**February 13th-16th, is the 24th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count** and this year The Friends of Fundy is excited to take part! We have partnered with Nature with Rusty to help us all get ready to COUNT SOME BIRDS! The Great Backyard Bird Count engages bird enthusiasts of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are. Anyone can participate, from beginners to experts. It's free, fun, and easy - and it helps the birds! The Great Backyard Bird Count is a joint program of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Audubon with Canadian partner Birds Canada.

Follow @FundyFriends on Facebook as Rusty shares how we can all take part and learn some cool bird facts! This year the Backyard Bird Count takes place on the Family Day and Valentine's Day weekend - perfect for your family bubble to get outside, explore and learn in your own backyard or park near you!



# Meet the Friends of Fundy/Fundy Guild Inc. 2020-2021 Board of Directors

**These dedicated individuals apply their expertise and passion for the region to govern the Friends of Fundy /Fundy Guild Inc . Their commitment and pride of place is second to none.**



**Chair  
Arthur Allan**



**Vice Chair  
Paul Burns**



**Treasurer  
William MacCallum**



**Secretary  
Susan Dean**



**Edmund Dawe**



**Melissa Wilbur**



**Kevin Bulmer**



**Jennifer Hawkins Forbes**



**Catherine Rhyno**



**David Christie**

# Meet the Friends of Fundy Crew

## **Micha Fardy, Executive Director**

Growing up in Newfoundland and New Brunswick, Micha has had the great fortune to infuse her professional and personal journey with passion and purpose. For almost two decades Micha has worked in the public, private and non-profit sectors with individuals, organizations and communities to help achieve their goals. Micha has focused her learning and practice in collaborative approaches to community change, sustainable tourism & community economic development in rural areas. Micha currently serves as a Director on the Albert County Chamber of Commerce, the Gros Morne Institute for Sustainable Tourism and as Past Chair of the UNESCO designated Fundy Biosphere Reserve. A new resident of the Village of Alma, Micha looks forward to more outdoor adventures and exploring our beautiful region with her son Dominic.



## **Emma Delaney, Festival & Events Coordinator**

A practicing Visual Artist, Emma has been working with the Friends of Fundy for over two seasons! Emma has a strong focus on arts and culture highlighting the area, organizing workshops, events and programming with regionally based artists. Most recently Emma's role has included collaborating with partners to create videos and digital content for Friends to share with you. She feels fortunate to work right on the Bay of Fundy and in her spare time you can find her doing her favourite things throughout the region: paddling, hiking, climbing and camping!

## **Kim Beers, Administrative Assistant**

An administrative professional for 15+ years, Kim strives to improve the organizations for which she volunteers and works with. Connecting with the community through promotions and partnerships with residents, government, private and non-profit entities is what Kim excels at. Being involved in her community is important to her as she continually seeks to improve the quality of life for individuals who are in need. Kim grew up in New Horton and currently lives in Hillsborough with her husband Jeff and two children Annabel and Reid. Kim and her family enjoy camping in the summer months and snowmobiling in the winter.



## **Michael Shaver - Outpost Gift Shop Manager**

When Michael and her husband honeymooned in Alma 10 years ago, they fell in love with the Fundy region. Three months later, they bought a house in Riverside-Albert where they currently live with their dogs. After spending most of her life in the suburbs of New York City, Michael will never take for granted waking up to the quiet beauty and fresh air that is now home.