

News from The Friends

Spring 2022



Spring is here! The days are getting longer and our stores have been receiving new stock and replenishing favourites. You can find unique products from local artisans, Fundy National Park gear, and assorted goods for families at **Outpost Alma** (beside the Post Office on Main Street) and **Outpost East** (in the Visitor Center in Fundy National Park); open on weekends until **May 20th**, where we'll extend our start hours.

If you can't make it down to Alma, you can check out our online store [here](#) and be sure to [follow us on Facebook!](#)

Become a Friends of Fundy Member or RENEW Your Membership

Become a member of a growing organization that supports the environmental, social and economic goals of the Fundy region.

As the official 'Friends' of Fundy National Park, we strive to enhance visitor experiences that contribute to the region's conservation and community economic development goals. Here's a bit of what we do!

- Host one of New Brunswick's largest nature book selections to support learning and connecting with nature at all ages.
- Work closely with our partners to support annual events in Fundy National Park such as the Rising Tide Trails & Tunes Festival, Fundy All Nations Pow-Wow, Parks Day / Take a Hike, and Fundy Circuit ULTRA. As well as local community events—Alma Celebration Days, Alma Fleet Launch Festival, and Winterscape Alma.
- Promote the Fundy Geo-caching Program and Fundy Challenge Awards for hiking 100 km in National Parks!
- Work along side partners to support environmental projects within the region such as The Fundy Pollinator Trail and the Alma Knotweed Project.

Memberships includes:

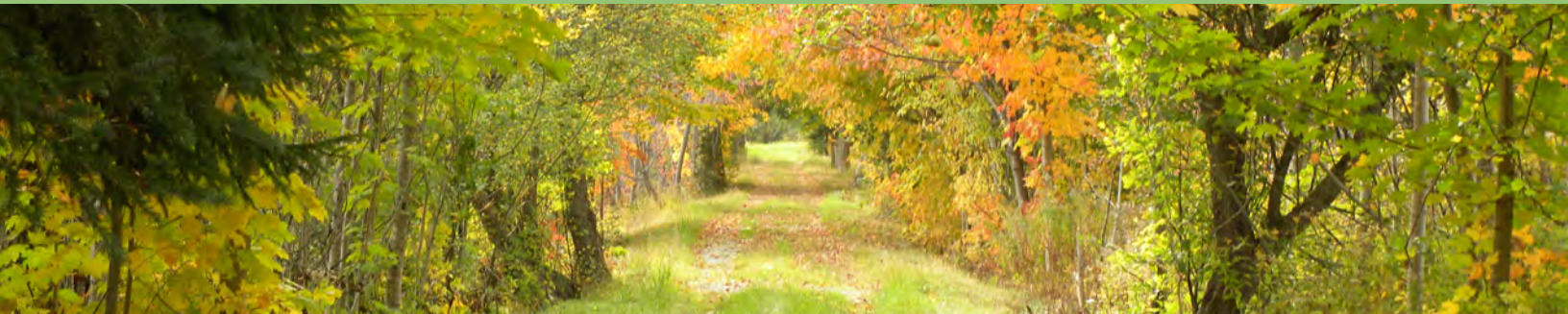
- 10% discount on all purchases at all of our Outpost Gift Shops and Online.
- Quarterly Newsletter.
- Invitation to the annual Friends of Fundy fall hike and BBQ.
- A locally designed cotton tote bag featuring some of the Friends of Fundy partnerships.
- Opportunities to support Fundy National Park and volunteer with Friends of Fundy events.

Memberships can be purchased at our gift shops, through our website or by contacting office@friendsoffundy.ca!

Individual \$25
Family \$40
Sponsor Membership \$50
Corporate Membership \$150

For more information, check our website
friendsoffundy.ca

Shepody Trail Development and Grand Reopening



Love Your Trails, Love Your Community!

The Shepody Trail spans almost 12 km from Riverside-Albert to Daniel's Flats in Shepody, travelling along an old rail bed and dykes and has recently been redesignated as a greenway portion of the Trans Canada Trail. Plan360 is currently developing the trail as part of a much larger trail project: The Shore-Line Trail, which will run 170 km along the Bay of Fundy and connect the major tourist hubs of Shediac and Alma as well as many points in between.

Over the past several months the Chipoudy Communities Revitalization Committee (CCRC) and Friends of Fundy have partnered with Plan360 to host conversations with community members and experts in the field to create a local trail strategy for the Shepody Trail, focusing on trailhead signage, community engagement, trail maintenance, and events.

With the new signage getting ready to go in this spring, it was decided to have a **Grand Reopening** of the trail on **June 4th**, International Trails Day. This daylong event will include activities for volunteers and visitors, including trail clean up, hiking and biking activities, wagon rides (from Broadleaf), geocaching (organized by Bayview Chalets & Motel), a raffle basket of local goods, activities from Fundy National Park, food, and music!

The volunteer and community activities are still being developed, so keep a look-out for more information as things come together!

If you would like to volunteer for the grand reopening, have any questions or would like to be included in the mailing list, send a note to: community@friendsoffundy.ca



<https://www.friendsoffundy.ca/en/shepody-trail/>

Molly Kool Award 2021 Celebration



The Molly Kool Award recognizes women in Southeastern New Brunswick for outstanding contributions to the community at large in such areas as arts, culture, conservation, and environment. Last year, the recipient of the 2021 Molly Kool Award was **Michelle Harvey-Larsen**, but we weren't able to find an opportunity to celebrate her achievement. Now that things are opening up, we're aiming to gather together on the date that Molly Kool became the first licensed female Master Mariner - May 25th.

Mark your calendars!

Michelle has been the proud owner of the Studio on the Marsh for 30 years, making use of her Fine Arts degree to hold art shows and contribute to regional studio tours. As a driving force involved with several boards and groups she uses her expertise and passion to advocate for the people of Albert County and to preserve the land that nourishes them.



"Michelle Larsen has woven a colourful, rich fabric of Art and a concern for Wildlife and Environment in Albert County. Molly Kool would be proud of her."



This award is made possible thanks to the support and partnership of Resurgo Place and Armour Transport Systems.

Rising Tide Trails & Tunes Festival

The Rising Tides Trails & Tunes Festival is a nine-day celebration of art, culture, food, history, music, and the many hiking and biking trails that spring from the area surrounding Fundy National Park. Running from **August 6th to 14th**, festival events extend from Hillsborough to St. Martins and give both residents and visitors a chance to experience the very best the Rural Upper Bay of Fundy region has to offer.

Conversations are in the works with venues, hosts, artists, and food producers, so keep an eye on our facebook page for details!

<https://www.facebook.com/RisingTideFestival/>



Update from Fundy National Park

As we get ready to open the 2022 season on May 20, Fundy National Park is looking forward to welcoming visitors. Whether you are planning your trip as a regular visitor or for the first time, Fundy National park has something for everyone!

Campers can experience the great outdoors through one of our five distinct front-country campgrounds or, for the more adventurous, via one of our eight back-country campsites. Make overnight getaways even easier by booking one of our Ôasis, oTENTik or yurt units, or opt for an authentic rustic cabin.

Day visitors also have a variety of choices to enjoy the great outdoors from swimming in our heated salt-water pool (opening late June), to golfing on our signature 9-hole course, to exploring the muddy floor of the ocean, to fat biking, paddling, kayaking, fishing, or just lounging in one of our famous red chairs. Not to mention hiking on trails with soaring coastal views, stunning waterfalls or that take you deep into the Acadian forest.



One of the Ôasis accommodations available in Point Wolfe and Lakeview campgrounds

Fundy National Park is open year-round with varying seasonal offers. Campsites for travel up to March 31, 2023 are currently open for reservations.

To plan your visit or for more information, click [here](#) or visit <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/nb/fundy/visit>

Return of the Bat?

by Megan Blaxley



There's more to Fundy National Park than awesome trails, stunning vistas, and cozy campgrounds - it **also** hosts over 300 individual species of various mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish (let's leave the insects out of it for now).

In recent years bat observations in Fundy National Park have been scarce, in part due to white-nose syndrome that decimated populations of certain species of bat such as *Myotis*. Over the past year and a half, however, big brown bats have been observed and researchers at the Park were curious if any other species were present.

Researchers installed acoustic recorders around the Park and analyzed the unique ultrasonic signatures in the recordings and to their surprise they found evidence of all **seven** bat species known to New Brunswick, including two *Myotis* species **and** a species that hasn't been observed in the Park since 2013!

Like all research, it'll take time to gather enough evidence to make claims with confidence - you can find more the full story at <http://blog.healthywildlife.ca/fundy-national-park-bat-monitoring/>

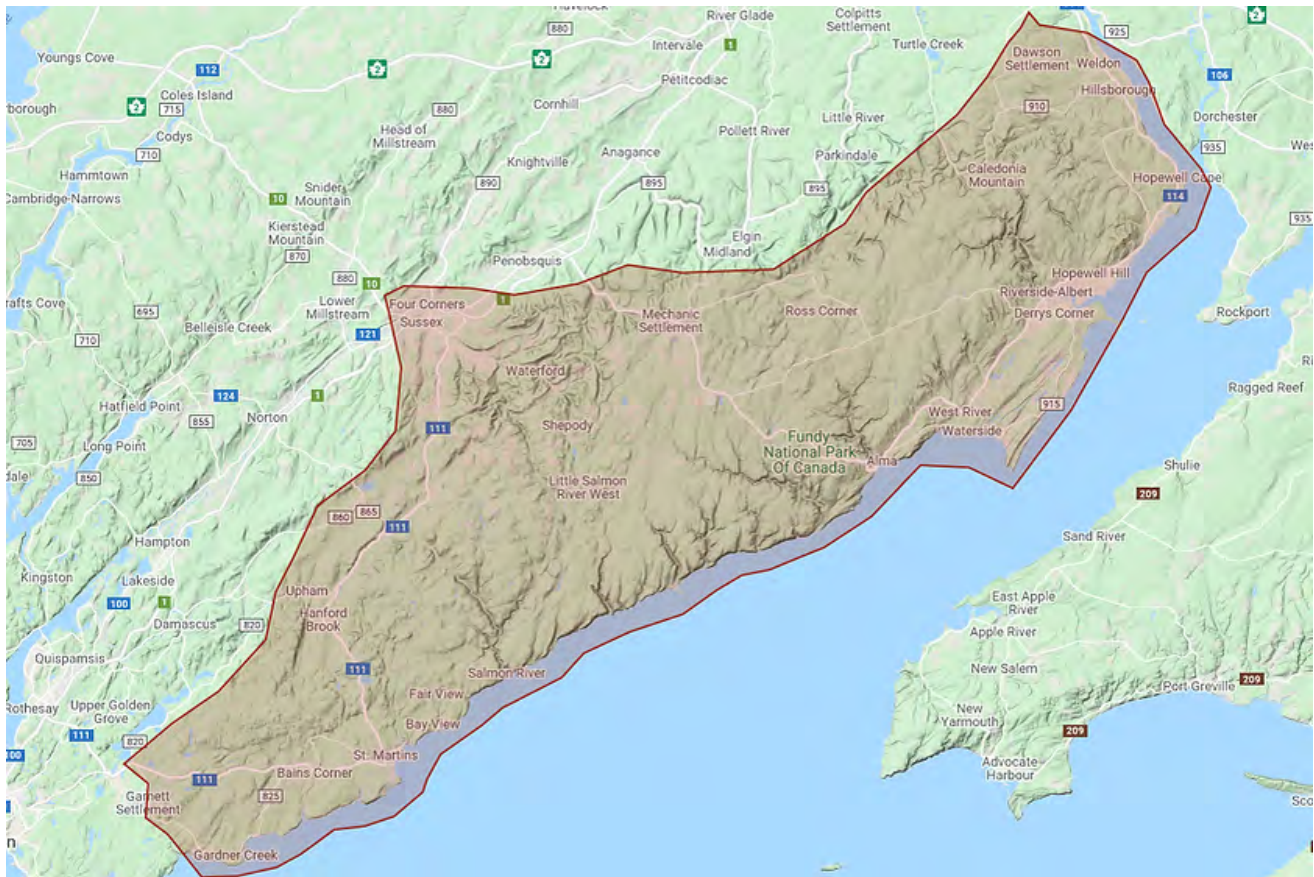
Regional Destination Development Project



The Rural Upper Bay Of Fundy Regional Destination Development Project is the first-ever community-led regional development process for the area that stretches from Hillsborough, Riverside-Albert, Alma through Sussex, St. Martins, and the adjacent rural areas.

The initiative brings together residents, business owners, non-profit managers, and local municipal officials to develop a plan that reflects the area's unique community assets and opportunities to build a sustainable tourism network.

The project is wrapping up its first phase, which focused on research, data collection, analysis, and conversations within with the working group. Phase 2 will see members of the working group meeting with communities and stakeholders to share their research, exchange information and perspectives, and take action on recommendations.



If you'd like more details or get involved, check out the project's website: <https://www.ruralfundyregiondevelopment.com/> and facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/RuralFundyRegionDevelopment/>

For more information, check our website friendsoffundy.ca