

Leave No Trace Canada
Board of Directors
Chairman's Report - 10 January 2014

“You cannot perceive beauty but with a serene mind”

Henry David Thoreau

“Often our minds are like a switch on a short-wave radio: when the switch is set to “a broadcast”, all we can hear is our own voice talking. We can't really *hear* until the switch is turned to “receive “.

Similarly, a busy, chattering mind is always in “sending mode”. The noise of our own mind prevents us from deeply experiencing and learning from the world around us.

When you are out in nature, be sure to take time to let your mind stop describing, analyzing, evaluating. Simply let it witness and appreciate what your senses bring to its attention.

Joseph Cornell - Listening to

Nature

The Leave No Trace Program is a wonderful well thought out program that when practiced, enhances the outdoor experience for everyone. You as an individual when applying the seven principles will have a more full filling experience, and of course others will benefit from your stewardship.

Places in nature, available for recreation, are finite. We need to take care of them, when we enjoy them, not only for our own benefit, or the benefit of our contemporaries, but for future generations.

This my last report for a LNTC AGM, as Chairman of the Board of Directors. It is also an acknowledgment of the good work done by several people, as well as a call for further support.

Ceci est mon dernier rapport pour une AGA STC, en tant que président du conseil d'administration. C'est également une reconnaissance de la qualité du travail accompli par plusieurs personnes, ainsi que d'un appel à un soutien supplémentaire.

While the LNT program is excellent, and there is considerable interest in it in Canada, and rightly so, LNTC has continued to struggle to secure stable funding to cover core expenses.

LNT Canada, needs about \$3,000 a month to cover Staff Salary and other basic operating expenses. Our monthly income is not raising that amount.

Increasing core funding, has been, since our last AGM in June 2012, a constant goal.

To that end, and also for the day to day running of LNTC, a great deal of gratitude is to be given to Bernadette Hanoul.

She has proven herself to be a great support for Leave No Trace in Canada, and an incredibly valuable employee.

Elle s'est avérée être une grande aide pour Sans Trace Canada, et une employée extrêmement précieuse.

Thank-you Bernadette. Merci beaucoup, beaucoup.

I also want to thank Board Member, Lyse Boyce, who like me, has served the maximum time allowed under our by-laws as a Board Member and is resigning effective the 11 January 2014 AGM.

To the remaining Board members, thank-you for your time and efforts in supporting Leave No Trace Canada. I wish you luck in what still appears to be a challenging financial future for LNT Canada.

Pour les autres membres du conseil, merci pour votre temps et efforts pour soutenir Sans Trace Canada. Je vous souhaite bonne chance dans ce qui semble être encore un avenir financier difficile pour Sans Trace Canada.

Some of LNT Canada's accomplishments since the last AGM are to be recognized.

Our Authorized Provider Model for the delivery of Master Educator Courses is up and running.

The important training aid, the Peak Pact have been translated and produced in French.

Last spring the membership of Mountain Equipment Coop - in their annual vote for their Board of Directors, overwhelming showed support for Leave No Trace Canada. Thank-you each and every one of you.

I also want to acknowledge the continued support of our parent organization, Leave No Trace, in the US. The considerable but excellent work they do is a great support to the program here in Canada.

As I see it, immediate, significant goals to help LNTC, include, increasing membership. Every single membership taken out helps. Increasing partnerships. Increased partnerships not only help stabilize funding but also help promulgate LNT practices. We want to set up an insurance scheme for Master Educators to run trainer Courses. We need to secure stable funding for basic expenses. Then we can continue to develop the Leave No Trace Program as it will best be used by those recreating in the Canadian outdoors.

In a busy world, in a busy society, please take time to enjoy at least some of what nature has to offer. Please do what you can to take care of our natural world and to help others do the same. Please continue to support Leave No Trace Canada, and encourage others to do the same.

10 January 2014

John Nisbet
Chairman Board of Directors - Leave No Trace Canada.