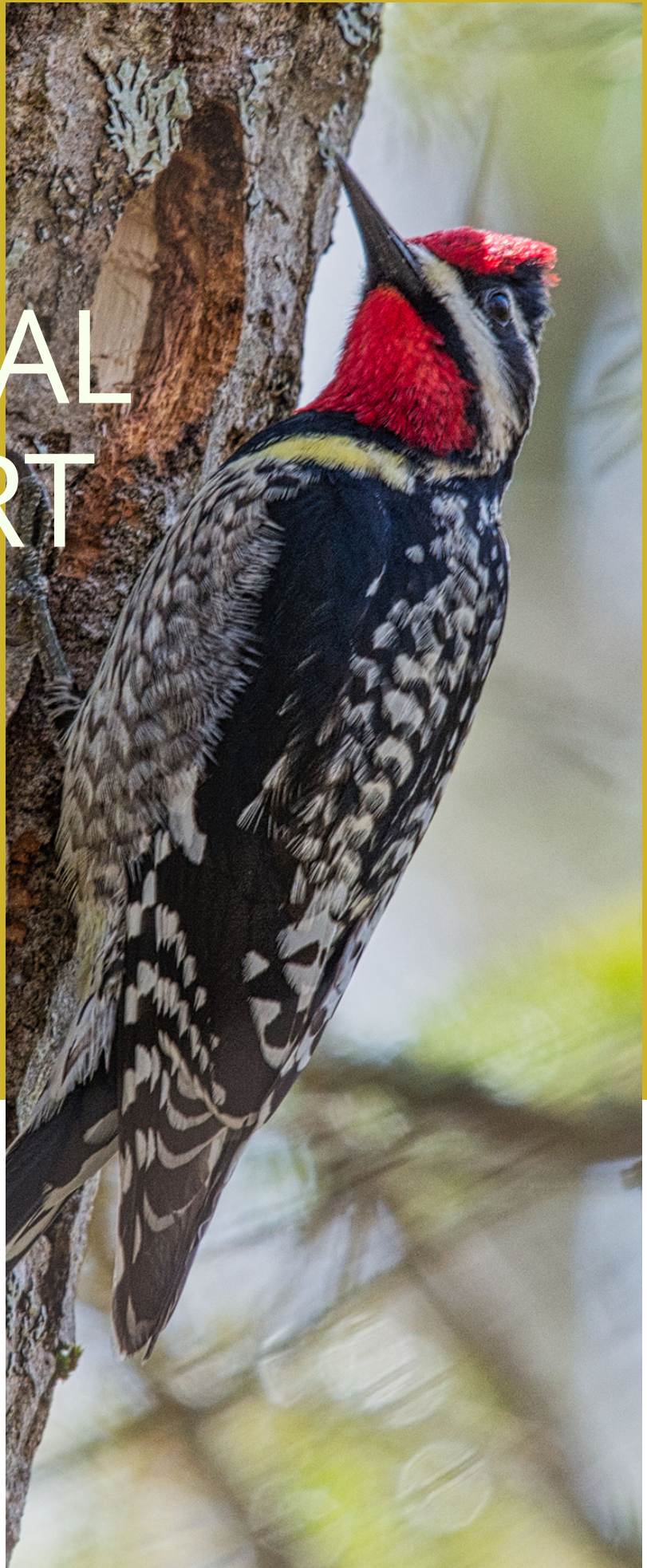


ANNUAL REPORT 2020



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This AGM marks one year since I've become President, and what a year it's been. Like most organizations, Covid has presented challenges and disappointments, starting with the cancelled 2020 spring banding season, followed by almost all our revenue generating programs. But as I've learned, this isn't an organization that falters when times are tough. Instead, PEPTBO saw an opportunity to rethink; undertaking a deep strategic review that looked at everything from mandate to systems, from how we raise money to what we do with it. We found new ways to reach our donors and supporters, deliver programs to children, advocate for birds and their habitat, and of course, track migration patterns. We produced our first yearly banding report, we strengthened our relationships with governments and our non-profit partners. We found new ways to raise money. In short, we got on with it.

This report provides highlights from what we accomplished this year, but what I want to say most of all, is 'thank you'. Thank you to the board, who doesn't just govern, but actually runs the place. Thank you to volunteers who help in so many ways and seem always to be on standby for whatever we need. To the staff, who are 'all in'. And to our funders, members and donors who gave to us despite increased demands on their resources. We'd also like to thank the folks at the Canadian Wildlife Service for being responsive in the numerous day-to-day things that make it all work.

The challenges aren't over for any of us, but The County is on the right side of recovery, and with your continued support we are hopeful for the future,



Julie White, President



150 Black-capped Chickadees were the only species of chickadee banded in 2020, not surprising because the Boreal Chickadee has only been banded once at the observatory and that was back in 2010.

PROGRESS REPORT

GOAL ONE: CONTRIBUTE TO CONTINENT-WIDE EFFORTS TO PROTECT AVIAN SPECIES AT RISK AND COMMON BIRDS BY MONITORING THE STATUS AND TRENDS OF RESIDENT AND MIGRATORY BIRD POPULATIONS.

- Despite having an abbreviated banding season, we banded 4003 birds from 93 species during the fall 2020 season, and observed nearly 180,000 birds of 199 species. As well, we...
 - Produced our first comprehensive Yearly Banding Report providing all banding data and analysis as well as daily census observations.
 - Rebuilt our digital data entry system, ensuring comprehensive, timely and accurate reporting.
 - Developed new protocols for banding staff, increasing effectiveness and accountability as well as ensuring the safety of birds.
 - Developed and implemented Covid and other volunteer protocols, systems and training materials to ensure safe and skilled volunteer support for fall banding.

Ruby-crowned Kinglets are the first to show up during the fall and for the 3rd year in a row were banded in higher numbers than Golden-crowned Kinglets, 398 vs.365, but both numbers were well below the 2019 numbers of 694 and 441.



PROGRESS REPORT

GOAL TWO A): HELP BUILD THE NEXT GENERATION OF CONSERVATION LEADERS BY ENGAGING AND INSPIRING YOUNG PEOPLE TO EXPLORE NATURE AND UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANT ROLES BIRDS PLAY.

- Created an online Get Out! Kids' Club providing monthly activity and project ideas, video recorded project workshops, story readings, and links to online resources for 115 families.
- Set up a unique Facebook page that produced 76 live broadcasts three times a week through the fall banding season and weekly throughout the year with 7632 views.
- Joined seven local school classrooms virtually to provide curriculum-based education about birds reaching 566 children
- Produced and presented two programs for Exploring By the Seat of Your Pants platform reaching school classes throughout North America.
- Collaborated with the PEC libraries to produce Provincial Park Adventure Kit - Birding Expedition.
- Provided free mail out Winter Bird ID Kits for identifying local winter birds.
- Created an online Birding Breakfast Club where children cook and eat breakfast while watching a live feed that includes a conversation about birds.



The Northern Saw-whet Owl Banding Program has been carried out at PEPTBO since 1995. This year we banded 146 females, 27 males and 69 of unknown sex. The numbers seem to suggest that in 2019 the NSWO produced less than half the number of hatch-year birds than 2020.

PROGRESS REPORT

GOAL TWO B): TAP INTO THE PUBLIC'S ENTHUSIASM FOR BIRDS BY OFFERING RESOURCES AND EVENTS TO DISCOVER THE JOY OF BIRDS AND BIRDING AND A RECOGNITION OF THE PERILS FACING THEM.

- Produced a virtual Spring Birding Festival offering six webinars/events plus two online events with partners.
- Developed a section on the new website dedicated to birding and providing multiple resources to encourage and support birding.
- Produced a monthly newsletter that highlights a 'bird of the month'.
- Increased social media postings to encourage interest in birds and to share birding information such as research, news reports, and sightings.
- Moved the Passport to Nature publication online, providing up to date information on local events and birding.



Three hatch-year Merlins found their way into the raptor nets. Catching multiple individual Merlins in the fall is very rare, and all three banders running the observatory in September got to band a Merlin.

PROGRESS REPORT

GOAL THREE: PROTECT AND FURTHER THE INTERESTS OF RESIDENT AND MIGRATORY BIRDS BY BUILDING PUBLIC SUPPORT AND INFLUENCING PUBLIC POLICY.

- Served as caretaker for the Prince Edward County South Shore Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) to protect its capacity to provide habitat for successful nesting, wintering and migration of birds.
- Continued the IBA survey and waterfowl count, making note of any species at risk in the Annual Report.
- Participated in the Ontario Bird Breeding Atlas.
- Provided a deposition with the South Shore Joint Initiative to the municipality on protecting the wetlands in the Official Plan.
- Appealed to the Province to maintain strong conservation authorities.
- Supported the proposal for conservation reserve status for the Ostrander Point Crown Land Block and the Point Petre Provincial Wildlife Area.
- Provided a deposition to the PEC Council to protect the wetlands at Soup Harbour.
- Provided a statement to the municipality in opposition to the proposed Irth development.



The 2020 fall season saw an increase in almost all thrush numbers from last year. This was most notable in Swainson's Thrush which hit a new all-time high for fall banding with 270 banded, more than double the long term yearly average of 128. The biggest surprise of the season, though, came from the Observatory's second-ever Bicknell's Thrush in September, the last one being banded back in the fall of 2004.

PROGRESS REPORT

GOAL FOUR: ENSURE WE HAVE THE SYSTEMS, PROCEDURES AND CULTURE TO SUPPORT PEPTBO'S MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

- **Fundraising:**
 - Explored numerous potential sources of funding and developed new fundraising initiatives and strategies and ended the year with no deficit.
 - Installed a new donor management system.
 - Strengthened the website fundraising capacity.
- **Communications:**
 - Redesigned and rebuilt the website to make it more useful to stakeholders and reflective of our values and core goals.
 - Developed a crisis management strategy.
 - Created templates for a regular newsletter to stakeholders.
 - Increased our social media presence.
 - Produced public reports including Yearly Banding Report, IBA Caretaker Report, Strategic Plan, and Annual Report.
 - Created a new document management system.
- **Governance:**
 - Undertook a review of our constitution and bylaws.
 - Completed a strategic review and instituted an annual planning process.
 - Established board systems and templates for agendas, minutes, board reports and tracking action items.
 - Revised the board committee structure and developed new terms of reference for committees and officer positions.
 - Developed new budget management procedures.



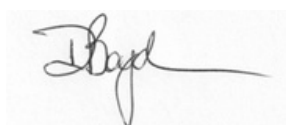
The stunning Black-throated Blue Warbler was the most numerous species banded this season with 150 banded during the fall season, a significant increase from the 2019 season of 96.

TREASURER'S REPORT

2020 was a major challenge for PEPTBO as 66% of our revenue stream comes from fundraising activities held around birding and bird banding during spring and fall migration seasons. The first barrier occurred in March when the Prince Edward Point National Wildlife Area - where the Observatory is located - was closed to the public and we subsequently cancelled spring migration banding. We were able to reopen in late summer with Covid protocols and restrictions in place, but two major fundraising dinners were cancelled. Our fall banding did proceed, but in isolation from the public.

We pulled in our collective belts and began to think creatively 'outside the box' to find ways to compensate for the loss of revenue. We went into the virtual 'cloud' with the birds, and our members and supporters rallied behind two online donations appeals. As a result, PEPTBO was able to break even for the fiscal year. However, 2021 continues to challenge us as we seek new fundraising strategies to ensure we are able to meet our strategic goals.

PEPTBO retained the Picton firm of Eric Reynolds Accounting Services to conduct a limited audit of PEPTBO's 2020 financial statements. Their Engagement Review letter and PEPTBO's financials follow.



Dale Boyd, Treasurer



Along with grebes (left) and ducks there were a few Mute Swans observed at the mouth of the marina and off the South Shore as well as flying over.

The waterbirds were observed predominately toward the end of the season as birds finished their breeding seasons and trickled into the sheltered area between PE Point and the offshore islands.

TREASURER'S REPORT

PRINCE EDWARD POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2020

(Unaudited)

ERIC REYNOLDS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

PRINCE EDWARD POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY
Index to the Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2020
(Unaudited)

Contents

	Page
Review Engagement Report	3
Balance Sheet	4
Statement of Earnings and Net Assets	5
Statement of Cash Flows	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7-8

ERIC REYNOLDS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Members of PRINCE EDWARD POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY

I have reviewed the statement of financial position of PRINCE EDWARD POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY as at December 31, 2020 and the statements of earnings and net assets and cash flows for the period then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Practitioner's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on my review. I conducted my review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require me to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, I do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Conclusion

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of PRINCE EDWARD POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY as at December 31, 2020, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Eric Reynolds Chartered Accountant


Eric Reynolds, CPA, CA

Picton, Ontario
May 18, 2021

PRINCE EDWARD POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY

Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2020

(Unaudited)

REPORT

	Operating Fund 2020 \$	Endowment Fund 2020 \$	Total 2020 \$	Note 7 Total 2019 \$
ASSETS				
Current				
Cash	26,804		26,804	35,878
Investments (note 3)	10,172		10,172	-
Due from government	3,666		3,666	2,933
Interfund balances - due (to) from	(540)	540	-	-
	40,102	540	40,642	38,811
Long term				
Endowment fund (note 4)		38,957	38,957	36,320
	40,102	39,497	79,599	75,131
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
Current liabilities				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,000		2,000	-
Net Assets				
Restricted - Net Assets		39,497	39,497	37,146
Unrestricted - Net Assets	38,102		38,102	37,985
	38,102	39,497	77,599	75,131
	40,102	39,497	79,599	75,131

See accompanying notes to the unaudited financial statements

Approved by:

Director: _____

Director: _____

ERIC REYNOLDS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

PRINCE EDWARD POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY

Statement of earnings and net assets for the year ended December 31, 2020
(Unaudited)

	Operating Fund 2020 \$	Endowment Fund 2020 \$	Total 2020 \$	Note 7 Total 2019 \$
Revenue				
Donations	45,605	540	46,145	38,499
Fundraising revenue	32,307		32,307	55,370
Grants	29,290		29,290	20,268
Management Contract revenue	9,333		9,333	9,000
Program income	3,920		3,920	3,530
Investment income	178	1,811	1,989	5,387
Other revenue	30		30	485
	<u>120,663</u>	<u>2,351</u>	<u>123,014</u>	<u>132,539</u>
Operating Expenses:				
Fundraising expense	17,459		17,459	25,782
Naturehood	21,258		21,258	26,046
Office and general	18,297		18,297	8,556
Professional fees	2,000		2,000	-
Station facilities expense	12,131		12,131	7,511
Wages and contract payments	39,250		39,250	45,768
Volunteer mileage	10,151		10,151	18,909
	<u>120,546</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120,546</u>	<u>132,572</u>
Net earnings (loss) for the year	117	2,351	2,468	(33)
Net Assets, beginning of the year	37,985	37,146	75,131	75,164
Interfund transfers	-	-	-	-
Net Assets, end of the year	<u>38,102</u>	<u>39,497</u>	<u>77,599</u>	<u>75,131</u>

See accompanying notes to the unaudited financial statements

ERIC REYNOLDS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

PRINCE EDWARD POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY
Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended December 31, 2020
(Unaudited)

	2020	Note 7 2019
	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income (loss)	2,468	(33)
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,000	-
Due from government	(734)	(2,932)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	3,734	(2,965)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	3,734	(2,965)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	72,198	75,163
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	75,932	72,198
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:		
Cash	26,804	35,878
Investments	10,172	-
Endowment fund	38,956	36,320
	75,932	72,198

PRINCE EDWARD POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY

Notes to Financial Statements
Year Ended December 31, 2020
(Unaudited)

1. NATURE AND PURPOSE

Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory is a registered charity with a mandate to monitor, report and promote analysis of bird migration along Prince Edward County South Shore and to act as official caretaker of the South Shore BIA.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Outlined below are those policies considered particularly significant for the Company.

a) USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements, in conformity with Canadian accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reported period. Differences in actual results from prior estimates are taken into account at the time the differences are determined. Significant financial statement items that require the use of estimates are accrued liabilities.

b) FUND ACCOUNTING

The financial statements include the activities of the corporation for which the Board of Directors are legally accountable. In order to properly reflect its activities, the corporation maintains its accounts in accordance with the principles of fund accounting in order that limitations and restrictions placed on the use of available resources are observed. Under fund accounting, resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds in accordance with activities or objectives specified. For financial reporting purposes, the corporation has combined funds with similar characteristics into two funding groups: Operating Fund and Endowment Fund

The Operating Fund accounts for the costs of the programs and other operations of the organization financed by grants and other general income.

The Endowment Fund maintains a reserve to ensure continued operations of the organization's programs and operating fund. Revenues consist of bequests and donations and any other income or transfers the Board of Directors approve. A portion of the fund (4% of the average opening balance over a last four years, \$1340 for 2020) is made available for Board of Directors approved activities.

c) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on deposits.

e) REVENUE RECOGNITION

Contributions for both Operating Fund and Endowment Fund are recognized as revenue when received or receivable.

Investment income is recognized as earned based on the change in market value of the investments.

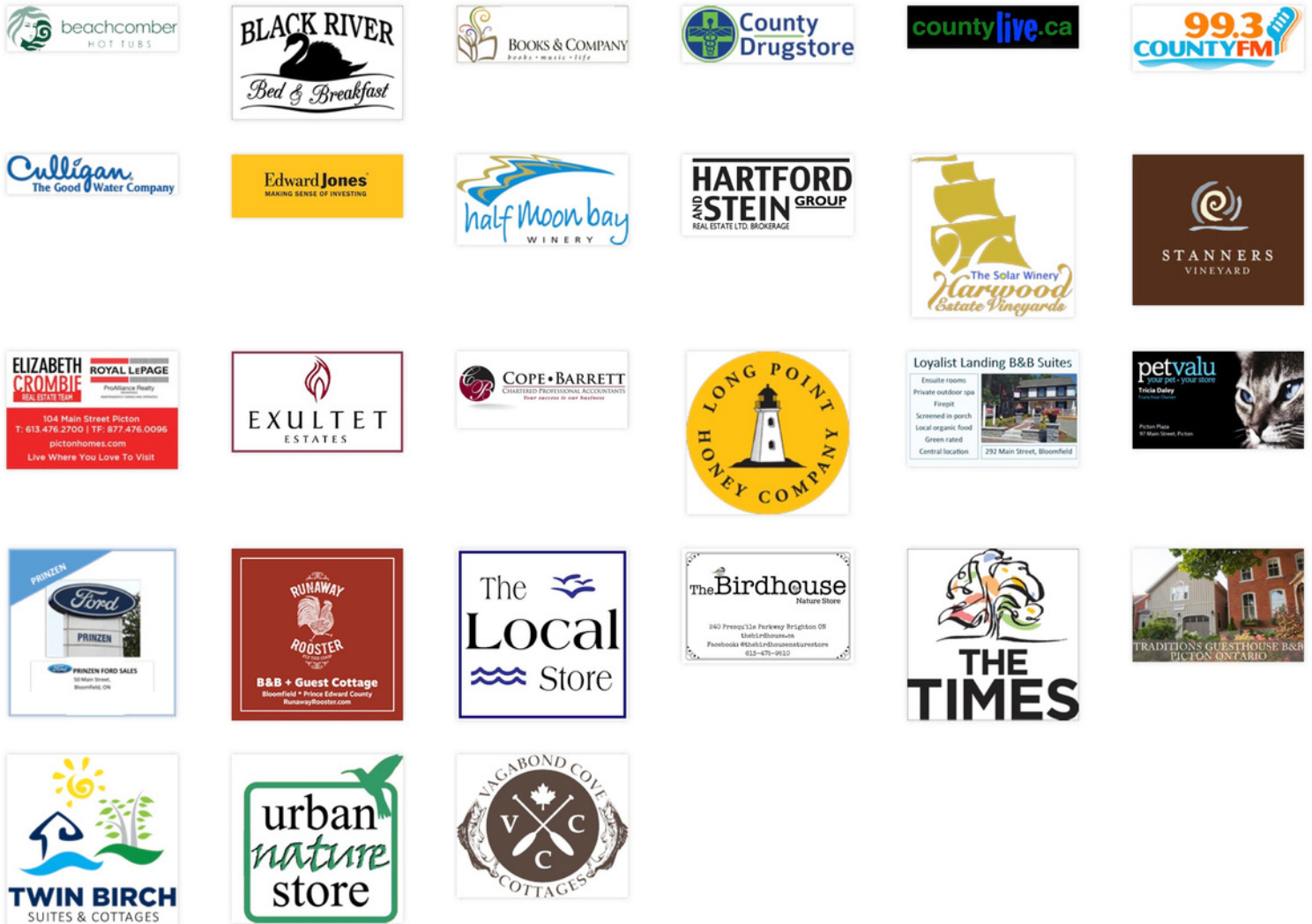
3. Operating Fund investments

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
\$10,000 GIC bought Janaury 16, 2020, matures March 17, 2021 and bears interest at 1.95%. The balance includes accrued interest of \$172.	10,172	-

ERIC REYNOLDS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

SPONSORS AND FUNDERS

PEPtBO Corporate Sponsors



PEPtBO Program Funders



Environment and
Climate Change Canada
Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada



naturehood
communature
A NATURE CANADA INITIATIVE
UNE INITIATIVE DE NATURE CANADA
PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY
LE COMITÉ DU PRINCE ÉDOUARD





2020/21 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: Julie White
Vice President: John Hirsch
Past President: Cheryl Anderson
Treasurer: Dale Boyd
Secretary: Lisa Martell

Directors:
Nick Bartok
Kathy Felkar
Ketha Gillespie
Brian Joyce
JoAnne Sulzenko
Helene Tremblay (part-year)
Lindsey Van De Keere (part-year)

PHOTO CREDITS:

Cover: Pileated Woodpecker, Ian Dickinson
p.1: Black-capped Chickadee, Ian Dickinson
p.2: Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Paul Jones
p.3: Northern Saw-whet Owl, Megan Buers
p.4: Young Merlin, Megan Buers
p.5: Swainson's Thrush, Ian Dickinson
p.6: Black-throated Blue Warbler, Megan Buers
p.7: Pied-billed Grebe, Paul Jones
This page: Bonaparte's Gull, Paul Jones

All photo captions from the 2020 [Yearly Banding Report](#)

