



The Long Point World Biosphere Reserve is located on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Rick Levick

President

Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation (LPWBRF)

We acknowledge that the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve is located on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the

Credit. In the spirit of Reconciliation with Canada's indigenous peoples, the Board of Directors has approved a policy of acknowledging that the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve is located on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit in all of our activities and communications. This is consistent with Reconciliation efforts underway at Biosphere Reserves across Canada, many of which encompass indigenous reserves and communities. Although the Mississaugas of the Credit reserve is located some distance away near Hagersville, we see this as an important step in recognizing the indigenous peoples' centuries-long relationship with the lands and waters that we value as the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve.

One of our most important roles is fostering collaboration and cooperation among all of the many groups that recognize and value the special natural heritage of Norfolk County as exemplified by the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve. These not only include the usual conservation and environmental organizations and government agencies but also those individuals and organizations in the public and private sectors that recognize the importance of preserving what we now enjoy for future generations. These range from farmers involved in the ALUS program and woodlot owners to tourism operators, educators and local businesses.

For instance we are continuing to work with Norfolk County tourism and the Amazing Places business operators on promotional activities. We have recently reached out to all local groups involved in nature and outdoor education to identify opportunities for collaboration. We have also taken a lead role in coordinating the creation of a single, publicly-accessible database that will gather together a wide range of information and geospatial data from many organizations. This comprehensive database will support better policy development and decision-making on environmental and

conservation issues with the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve and throughout Norfolk County.

If you would like to support these or other activities described in this newsletter please consider becoming a member or sponsor and volunteering to serve on one of our Board committees or help out at an event.

Waiting impatiently for spring to arrive....

Rick



NEW YEAR...NEW MEMBER BENEFITS

Beginning in 2019 membership to the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve has new benefits!

Every new and renewing member will receive:

- An official charitable tax receipt for the entire annual membership fee of \$35 (or \$500 lifetime membership)

- A non-adhesive, static window cling for your car or home to proudly display your membership
- A tree will be planted for every new and renewed membership during 2019 (if you sign up for a lifetime membership, a plaque will be attached to the tree recognizing your contribution).

Your Membership Supports the Biosphere

The Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation is proud to have been an active part of the Long Point area community for more than 30 years. Members have an invested interest in the advancement of the Biosphere's goals and our projects to restore and protect the local ecosystems.

Your support assists your Biosphere in so many ways including:

- Annual Research and Conservation Conference
- Research Document Library
- Conservation Initiatives with the Biosphere
- Biodiversity Monitoring
- The Long Point Causeway Improvement Project
- Invasive Species Containment
- Forest Projects and Tree Planting
- Port Rowan Wetland Project
- Geospatial Research and Conservation Database

[Click here to apply today!](#)



**The Winner of the 2018 Long Point World
Biosphere Reserve Sustainable Tourism
Ambassador Award Winner is**

Long Point Island Hugger Tours



Graham Ferguson, Owner of Long Point Island Hugger Tours with David Theriault accept award at the 2019 Norfolk County Economic Development Symposium on February 7th.

The recipient is chosen based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated Social and Economical Leadership
- Demonstrated Environmental and/or Cultural Leadership
- Engaged the Community
- Achieved Sustainable Tourism Goals

The recipient pledges to support the following principles:

- Conserve the natural resources of the region
- Develop the economy in an environmentally friendly way
- Support and preserve cultural heritage
- Minimize impacts to the environment
- Contribute to a healthy community
- Raise awareness about the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve

We, at the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation, know that Long Point Island Huger Tours is a local business which exemplifies our goals. Graham Ferguson's 25.5 foot pontoon boat docked at Old Cut Livery at Port Rowan harbor welcomes tours of the bay and the 'Point' with 8-10 people comfortably enjoying 3-6 hours or a full day from May to October on the water.

The pontoon has an electric motor to glide quietly along the shore to less distract flora and fauna. Graham showcases the sites, sounds, and history of the area and the importance of protecting it. His partner is David Theriault, our Norfolk ambassador for the handicapped who assists with the website and bookings. Congratulations from the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation to you both, our 2018 Ambassador of Sustainable

Tourism.

[Click here to follow Graham on his Facebook page.](#)



2018 Research and Conservation Conference A Huge Success!

The Long Point World Biosphere Reserve's sixth annual Research and Conservation Conference in Simcoe kicked off the morning of November 9, 2018 with an indigenous smudging ceremony and song by Leon Fleury, a Metis elder residing in Paris.



Leon Fleury

The day-long conference at the Simcoe Recreation Centre featured nearly two dozen presentations of interest regarding wildlife and habitat issues within the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve. Norfolk mayor-elect Kristal Chopp spoke of the need to harmonize economic growth with environmental stewardship in one of her first major speeches since the Oct. 22 municipal election. She commented that at long last, even those that have been motivated purely by capitalism and greed – those that have threatened the vitality and future of our planet for years – are even themselves – finally, beginning to recognize that it is profitable to protect nature. She went on to say that on the flip side, while economic growth and the environment have historically been regarded as contradictory themes, that is no longer the case. We now live in an era where humanity is coming up with the most innovative solutions we have ever seen to some of the most challenging problems we have ever encountered. We must source and implement the very best of those solutions. Economic development and growth must be seen not as an end in and of itself, but rather as a means of achieving both social and environmental goals.



Norfolk County Mayor, Kristal Chopp

Picture courtesy of M. Sonnenberg, Postmedia Network

The Long Point World Biosphere Reserve's sixth annual Research and Conservation Conference featured nearly 20 presentations on subjects related to the preservation and promotion of the Long Point ecosystem. Topics ranged from the multi-species benefits of wetland preservation to a seminar on breeding American chestnut trees for blight resistance. Delegates and speakers represented a wide cross-section of academics and government officials from the provincial and federal levels. Also represented were Bird Studies Canada of Port Rowan and the Nature Conservancy of Canada, owner of large tracts of ecologically sensitive habitat in west Norfolk.



*Over 80 people attended the 2018 Long Point World Biosphere Reserve
Research and Conservation Conference.*



**The 2019 Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation
Research and Conservation Conference
will be held on Friday November 8, 2019.**

**GUEST SPEAKER AND
AWARD WINNER
took the Spotlight at the
Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation**

Annual General Meeting



Brian Craig (left), Alice Casselman (middle) and Michelle Kanter (right)

Brian Craig, Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation board member, received a well deserved Lifetime Achievement Award from Carolinian Canada at the Annual General meeting of the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation held on September 28, 2018.



Georgia Nix, Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation's Ontario Nature's 2018 Youth Summit sponsored delegate.

Georgia Nix brought the perspective of today's youth on environmental issues to the audience at the Annual General Meeting. Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation was proud to sponsor Georgia to attend Ontario Nature's 2018 Youth Summit for Biodiversity and Environmental Leadership from September 21st through 23rd. She is a grade 12 student at Delhi District High School and a member of her school's Green Extreme Team. Ontario Nature's Youth Summit for Biodiversity has been cultivating a new generation of environmental leaders since 2010. Each year, about 100 youth come together for this unique youth-led summit that allows participants to develop an understanding of environmental issues and gain the inspiration and tools to take action and leadership in their communities and beyond. The weekend-long event includes guest speakers, workshops and outdoor activities that appeal to a wide variety of environmental interests.



Peter Zuzek, Zuzek Inc.

Peter Zuzek brought the audience up to date on developments in Great Lakes Coastal Management at the Annual General Meeting. Pete is a Coastal Geoscientist with 25 years of experience working on consulting assignments across the coastal regions of the world. He is the founder and President of Zuzek Inc., a professional services company dedicated to increasing the health and resilience of the world's coastal communities and ecosystems. Pete has extensive experience managing complex multidisciplinary investigations on coastal erosion and flooding, risk assessments, coastal zone planning, shoreline management plan development, water quality investigations, habitat protection and restoration, living shorelines, and climate change adaptation. Pete is currently the President of the Coastal Zone Canada Association.

LONG POINT WORLD BIOSPHERE RESERVE

SPEARHEADS DATA MANAGEMENT AND GEOSPATIAL MAPPING PROJECT

Thanks to a grant from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation is spearheading a program that will facilitate the sharing and communication of data with partners and the wider community within Ontario's Priority Place, Long Point Walsingham Forest. This will enable more efficient assessments on the current status of ecosystems in the Priority Place and monitoring of long term data. It will also assist with communicating the collective conservation efforts in the area.

A workshop was held on January 16 that included input from 25 registrants that consisted of board members from the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation, local and provincial governments and more than a dozen local conservation organizations.

Activities will include completion of a geospatial mapping platform and an ESRI Story Map communicating the conservation story of the Priority Place through visually appealing maps, narrative text, images and multimedia content.

These activities are expected to result in conservation and protection of Canada's wildlife and habitat, as well as recover species at risk.



Black - Priority Place Boundary

Yellow - Biosphere Reserve Buffer Zone

Purple - Norfolk Forest Complex



THANK YOU

JOHN KINDURY

This iconic picture of Long Point was a gift to the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation from John Kindury, formerly of Studio One in Simcoe. We are forever grateful for this wonderful photograph which graces all of our printed and electronic materials.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Support the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve

Help conserve precious ecosystems.

Provide support for valuable research.

Support ecologically sustainable practices.

Facilitate community outreach and education.

BECOME A MEMBER

[Click here to apply today!](#)

MAKE A DONATION

[Click here to make your donation on line!](#)

Cheques are also accepted and can be made payable to Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation. Please mail to:

Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation
P.O. Box 338
Port Rowan, ON
N0E 1M0

Donations greater than \$25.00 CAD will receive a charitable tax receipt unless otherwise requested.

LEAVE A LEGACY

When you pledge to give a planned gift you're leaving a legacy that will continue to support the mission of the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve long after you are gone. There are many ways to leave your legacy gift including:

Bequests

Retirement Funds – RRSPs or RRIFs

Gifts of Stocks or Securities

Donor Advised Funds

Gifts of Life Insurance

Stock Options

Gift of Property

Contact your legal and/or financial advisor to make the decision that is right for your estate.

**LONG POINT WORLD
BIOSPHERE RESERVE**

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The Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation is dedicated to conserving biodiversity, promoting sustainable communities, and partnering in research, monitoring, outreach and education.

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