

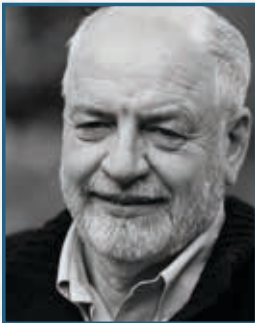
Leadership Awards

Leadership is not about being at the top. True leaders are driven by passion and purpose, causing a ripple effect through their word, actions, and relationships with others to motivate and inspire those around them to cause change for the better.

The Latornell Conservation Symposium honours individuals who have demonstrated outstanding contributions to the field of conservation. They were recognized for their innovation, leadership and dedication to the conservation field. Either through their personal activities and/or leadership, they have gone beyond the call of duty or responsibility to an employer, client, or their community.

These individuals have helped to celebrate and inspire innovation in the conservation field and have made a difference to their field of expertise.

Nominations are reviewed and evaluated by a special sub-committee of the Latornell Steering Committee.



HOSTED BY

Brian Denney

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

2018 Leadership Awards Recipient
Retired Chief Executive Officer,
Toronto and Region
Conservation Authority

Brian Denney was the CEO of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) from 2012 to 2017. Under his leadership, the TRCA developed and delivered a diverse range of programs from heritage conservation to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Brian was presented with a Latornell Leadership Award in 2018, recognizing his significant achievements to the field of conservation in Ontario.

MEET THE 2019 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Don Huff Toronto, ON

President, ECO Strategy
Nominated by: Forests Ontario



Don is an influential advocate for the environment – for over four decades his career has focused on advancing winning environmental campaigns. He has thrived at the leading edge of conservation and environmental campaigning in both political and advocacy settings. As Ontario Nature’s Conservation Director, he worked tirelessly to establish the Bruce National Park, 155 Provincial Parks, and Untaxing Nature.

He was on the Premier’s Temagami Working Group (near his home town) and led ENGO participation at the Timber Management Class EA Hearing. As a researcher at Queens Park, he wrote questions for Question Period. Don was the founding staffer of Environmental Defence.

Other contributions include drafting a tri-nation migratory songbird treaty, undertaking Parks Canada’s Marine Park Public Consultation Program and writing the Draft Policy.

Don has been a volunteer Board member of many organizations, including: the

Sierra Club, the Coalition on the Niagara Escarpment, Green Roofs for Health Cities and the Ontario Provincial Parks Board.

He has made pivotal contributions to many initiatives, including the 50 Million-Tree program, ending the spring bear hunt, several “polluter pays” interventions by Friends of the Earth-Canada at the Supreme Court of Canada and precedent setting First Nations and wild salmon lawsuits in BC.

He is a trusted advisor, providing strategic counsel and media advice to Ontario’s Chief Energy Conservation Officer, two Environmental Commissioners and countless politicians, business leaders and ENGOs. Additionally, he has helped to shape the energy efficiency agenda, through “brand development” of energy efficient housing and conservation programs. He has deployed award-winning marketing and outreach campaigns – such as the “Save-On Energy” coupon programs. Currently, he Chairs the Global Advisory Board for Elocity, an EV tech company.

A recent Clean50 Award recognized his work delivering 25,000 energy efficiency kits to on-reserve First Nations households and wood stove change-outs in Nishnawbe Aski Nation communities accessed by ice roads.

Don’s firm ECO Strategy continues to provide strategic counsel and successful campaigns. He is proud of ECO Strategy’s legacy of staff he has mentored, who continue to make contributions to conservation. He is grateful for clients who enabled him to do what he loves.

Bruce Mackenzie Grimsby, ON

Retired - Director, Conservation Areas Operating and Customer Services,
Hamilton Conservation Authority
Nominated by: Hamilton Conservation Authority



Bruce has led a dynamic life since graduating with a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree in Fish and Wildlife Biology from the University of Guelph in 1976. Bruce has always provided quiet leadership with a track record of getting things done. This was certainly true during his long career with the Hamilton Conservation Authority as well as through his numerous volunteer endeavors.

Over his 39 year career with the Authority, Bruce rose steadily through the ranks. The majority of his time was spent as Manager of Fifty Point Conservation Area and as Director of Customer Services. Bruce oversaw the operation and growth of Fifty Point Marina, the development of Fifty Point campground and the enhancement and restoration of Fifty Point’s natural features in an area of Hamilton that was becoming increasingly urbanized.

Bruce has always been dedicated to conserving the natural heritage features of the lands in the Hamilton area while promoting the public’s understanding

and enjoyment of these natural features.

Bruce walks the talk - what stands out is his dedication to conservation and the environment outside his role with the Conservation Authority. This is evident through his community work both in Hamilton and Grimsby. In the past Bruce has been part of the Niagara Peninsula Hawk Watch, Friends of the Grimsby Wetland Project, and Save the Woodlot Campaign. He is still very active with the Hamilton Naturalists’ Club, where he is the Bird Study Group Director, and is also the Co-ordinator and Founder of the Peach Tree Christmas Bird Count.

Bruce is a Commissioner of the Niagara Escarpment Commission, and a volunteer with the Owl Foundation in Vineland. He has written articles for various conservation-focused publications including The Wood Duck (monthly journal of the Hamilton Naturalists’ Club) and Niagara Escarpment Views. Speaking to naturalist clubs and community groups are still hobbies. Bruce’s successes in his career and community work have led to numerous awards.

Bruce lives in Grimsby with his wife Laurie.

Leadership Awards

John Parish (Posthumous Award) Erin, ON

Principal, Matrix Solutions Inc./PARISH Geomorphic

Nominated by: Southern Ontario Stream Monitoring and Research Team



John was a pioneer in the field of fluvial geomorphology and a champion for natural river restoration – studying rivers and river processes, and how they influence the lands around them.

John was involved in conservation issues right from his first post graduate job. Starting his career at Ortech Inc., John worked for over 25 years doing surveys and assessments of hundreds of watercourses

ranging from large rivers to small streams across Canada and the United States, spearheading numerous channel rehabilitation projects focused on using natural channel design principles. In 1997 he proudly founded PARISH Geomorphic Ltd. and merged his company with Matrix Solutions Inc. in 2015. Over his career, John was instrumental in the development of policies and implementation guidelines for the inclusion of fluvial geomorphology in watershed management in Ontario. John explored how the newly emerging science of fluvial geomorphology could be incorporated into watershed management approaches. He helped develop the Natural Channel Design Manual (NCDM) and its monitoring and assessment methods. He also worked as part of a team in developing a stream classification system for use in the

characterization of watershed drainage systems. That the Ontario Stream Assessment Protocol methods are rooted in geomorphic principles is due to John's ability to communicate effectively. This fundamental change in thinking ensured that stream ecology and management must be an integrated science and John was at the forefront of this thinking.

John started promoting these new approaches to river management across North America. This expertise earned him the nickname "The River Doctor". John Parish was most enthusiastic when he was standing in a stream teaching and sharing his knowledge about fluvial geomorphology and natural stream processes. He was a passionate teacher and mentor throughout his career, eventually forming REACH Training.

John's legacy can be easily traced through the actions of current professionals he influenced over the course of his career, as well as the many river projects he completed within a stone's roll from anywhere you go in the GTA. As a testament to his impact on the industry over the years, a significant number of John's former staff have gone on to important roles in consulting, conservation and other environmental professions.

John promoted innovative thinking in the design of natural channels leaving behind ardent proponents and natural channel design enthusiasts who continue this legacy.

Outside of his professional life, John was devoted to his family, and was often found coaching his children's soccer, hockey or baseball teams.

Mike Puddister Guelph, ON

Retired – Deputy CAO and Director, Watershed Transformation, Credit Valley Conservation

Nominated by: Credit Valley Conservation



Over the course of his very distinguished 40 year career working with conservation authorities, Mike Puddister spent almost 34 years with Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) before his retirement this year (2019). During his time with CVC, he had a transformational impact on the Credit River watershed, the residents who live there, and his staff and colleagues.

At CVC Mike has worked in or overseen numerous departments, divisions and functions. He oversaw many public engagement and education activities including development of programs such as Countryside Stewardship, Greening Corporate Grounds, Your Green Yard, CVC's multicultural Outreach Program and the Health and Wellness Outreach Program.

Following development of new planning policy in 1995, Mike established the first natural heritage program to support implementation of new municipal responsibilities within the Credit River watershed. In late 1990s, through

collaboration with Ministry of Natural Resources and other partners, Mike coordinated CVC's role in field testing and writing of the Ecological Land Classification for Southern Ontario.

In 2007, through a partnership with CVC and University of Guelph, Mike played a major role in establishing the first municipally-based watershed management agency in Mexico. This agency was based on Ontario's Conservation Authorities and specifically Credit Valley Conservation. He also initiated and oversaw pioneering research in ecological goods and services at CVC, which has been at the forefront of this work in Canada.

Mike was instrumental in the initiation and organization of EcoHealth Ontario (EHO). His passion for environment and health is unparalleled and his extensive contributions have been instrumental in the continued success of EHO. Mike was among the first to consistently promote an "ecohealth" approach and healthy watersheds for healthy people.

Mike felt strongly in inspiring the next generation and has spearheaded multiple major initiatives to educate young people in the conservation field. A couple of highlights include overseeing creation of the Conservation Youth Corps program involving over 2,500 students who have contributed over 65,000 volunteer hours, supporting hundreds of stewardship projects; and re-establishment and expansion of CVC's Education Program reaching over 375,000 participants.

PREVIOUS AWARD WINNERS

2018

Nels Conroy, Shelley MacPherson, Brian Denney, Terry Murphy

2017

Brian Kelly, Geoffrey Peach (posthumous), Mark Heaton, Dr. Steven J Cooke

2016

Thomas McClenaghan, Richard (Dick) Hunter, Clarke Birchard, Gord MacPherson, Peter Gray

2015

Muriel Andreae, Ian Buchanan, Tom Prout, Bob Rogers

2014

Judi Brouse, Debbe Crandall, Lorrie Minshall

2013

Mike Garrett, Peter Middleton, Russ Powell, Bill Dickinson, Jean-Marc Filion

2012

Peter Orphanos, John Sibbald, Jack Imhof, Scott Gillingwater

2011

Jim Anderson, Liette Vasseur, Paul Aird, Tom Taylor

2010

Stew Hilts, Vicki Barron, Don Ross, Gil Henderson

2009

Ian Parrish, Ian Macnab, Allan Ralph, Ernie Crossland, Craig Mather

2008

Dr. John Gunn, Lorne Smith, Harold Parker, Jim Myslik, Bob Whittam

2007

Bruce Duncan, Deborah Beatty, Lou Wise, Michael Hough, Ted Mosquin

2006

Sally Beaton, Robert Bowles, Ron Reid, George Stormont

2005

Don Lobb, Dr. Gray Merriam, Dr. David Pearson, Dr. Anthony Smith, Ben Vanderbrug

2004

Malcom Kirk, Patrick J. McManus, Dr. Duncan Sinclair, David Cressman, Maria and Paul Heissler

2003

Ron Scott, Jack Macpherson, Arthur Herbert Richardson, Greta McGillivray, William McLean

2002

Hal Hooke, Terry Sprague, Jim Bruce, Terk Bayly, Rheal Proulx, Tom Millar, Peter Harvie

2001

Ken Mayall, Murray Miller, Douglas Hoffman, Elwood Moore, George R. Richardson, Gordon Oldfield

2000

Jim Bauer, Janet Fletcher, Harry Barrett, Trevor Dickinson, Ray Lowes, Bob Bugar

1999

John Murray, Charles Alexander, Len Johnson, Dr. Dave Ankney, Christine Nornabell, Russell Piper, Mac Coutts, Ken Higgs