

Hike NS Annual Report 2019-20

Here are some of the highlights on progress in the four areas of the Hike NS Strategic Plan, covering activities between April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020.

Advocacy

- Had representation on the provincial Trails Strategy Coordinating Group.
- Made recommendations to the Province on trail signage standards.
- Provided input on provincial consultations regarding the Sustainable Prosperity Act, Biodiversity Act, Forestry Practices and Physical Activity Framework.
- Sent a letter urging the Province to protect Owl's Head Provincial Park Reserve.



Hikers enjoy fall's beauty in the Kentville Gorge, hosted by the Town of Kentville in October 2019 (photo credit: George Anderson).

Promotion

- Held the Fall 2019 Guided Hike Series and Winter 2020 Guided Hike Series across NS including 97 events for 1,895 participants organized by 60 partners.
- The new Hiker Challenge, launched in September 2019, involves five challenges and badges to earn. There were 200 badges earned by families, youth groups or individuals since the launch.
- In May 2019 a representative from IAT-NS attended the International Appalachian Trail Annual General Meeting of the North American Chapters in Maine.
- The Lunenburg County Hikers organized a Choco-Walk fundraiser for Hike NS in February 2020.
- Hike NS partnered with Goose Lane Editions on a talk by author Michael Haynes in Halifax in July, highlighting his new book *The Best of the Great Trail Volume 2*



Snowshoers take in the sights in Chéticamp, from the Skyline Trail to Blueberry Mountain, hosted by Les Hikers in February 2020 (photo credit: Daniel Aucoin).



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Capacity Building

- Offered 9 Outdoor Council of Canada courses to 71 participants including various Field Leader courses and Navigation courses
- Offered 8 Re-Connecting with Nature workshops to 131 participants

Leadership

- Held the Hiking Summit in Chester May 24-26, 2019 with 175 people attending
- Presented Garnet McLaughlin, trail builder and past President of Hike NS, with the Summit Award recognizing his leadership in the growth and development of hiking in Nova Scotia
- Membership levels saw a slight increase
- Hike NS is thankful for its continued partnerships with: the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage; The Trail Shop; MEC; the Outdoor Council of Canada; Leave No Trace Canada; the International Appalachian Trail and many others.



Participants take part in a Field Leader - Hiking course with Winter module in Halifax in February 2020 (photo credit: Heather Leslie).



Garnet McLaughlin accepts the Summit Award with his family at the Hiking Summit in May 2019 (photo credit: Janet Barlow).



Hike NS recognizes the support of the Province of Nova Scotia. We are pleased to work in partnership with the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage to develop and promote our cultural resources for all Nova Scotians.



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CANADA



OUTDOOR COUNCIL OF CANADA
CONSEIL CANADIEN DE PLEIN AIR

