



Atlantic Fall Reclamation Symposium - Converse Salt Marsh Field Tour - Sackville, NB - Oct 16, 2025

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### CLRA MISSION

Our mission is to connect government, industry, and academic partners to improve land and waterway reclamation practices and promote environmental excellence from coast to coast.

## President's Message

Our Fall Reclamation Symposium took place in Sackville on October 16th, and we're pleased to share that it was a great success. Thank you to everyone whose hard work, energy, and expertise made the event possible.

This year also marked the launch of our Lunch & Learn Series, which ran from June through November. We were fortunate to host a variety of engaging speakers who brought fresh perspectives and valuable insights. Planning is already in motion for the 2026 program, and we're excited to continue growing this initiative.

The CLRA/ACRSD celebrates excellence in land reclamation and remediation through its national awards and scholarships. Know someone making a significant impact? Nominate them for the IN-TECH Reclamation Award, Dr. Edward M. Watkin Award, Dr. Jack Winch Early Career Award, or Linda Jones Memorial Award by December 15, 2025.

Planning for ARC2026 is underway, and we are excited to bring this bi-annual event back to New Brunswick.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the Atlantic Chapter board members who have recently stepped down from their roles. Liam Murphy, Norah Pierdant, and Jacob Smith, thank you for your dedication, your hard work, and the meaningful contributions you've made during your time on the board. We wish each of you the very best in all your future endeavours.

As we look ahead, we encourage you to be part of our mission—one grounded in collaboration, shared learning, and a deep commitment to land reclamation and restoration.

Chris Thomson  
President  
CLRA Atlantic Chapter

## Fall Reclamation Symposium – Sackville, NB

The CLRA Atlantic Fall Symposium was held on October 16th 2025, at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick. In the morning, four presenters covered a variety of topics focused on the Chignecto Isthmus, the narrow stretch of land which connects New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Attendees learned about the history of the area, the role of archaeology within wetland restoration, the shorebirds that call the Isthmus home, and what wetland restoration looks like in the Tantramar. Just before lunch, the audience was presented with a case study on the Converse Marsh, one of the field tour sites that they would be visiting later in the day. Special thanks to our presenters: Jonathan Fowler (Saint Mary's University), Heather Polovyk (Birds Canada), Jeff Ollerhead (Mount Allison University), and Kayla Williams (CB Wetlands and Environmental Specialists), who engaged our audience and were able to pass on their knowledge.

In addition, there were two field tours held in the Chignecto Isthmus in the afternoon. The first was at the Converse Salt Marsh, a restoring 15.4 ha tidal wetland. The dyke in front of the former tidal wetland was experiencing substantial erosion and the decision was made to realign the dyke infrastructure and restore tidal wetland habitat. Portions of the eroding dyke were removed in December 2018 and are now vegetated and progressing towards a stable salt marsh environment. Attendees were guided through the site by Tony Bowron of CB Wetlands and Environmental Specialists who spoke of the pre-restoration condition of the site, the trials and tribulations of construction, and was able to provide a demonstration of one of the sampling methodologies for sediment accretion with the team working on site that day.



Attendees at the Presentations, Mount Allison University - Oct 16, 2025



Managed Dyke Realignment and Tidal Wetland Restoration Poster



Converse Salt Marsh - Oct 16, 2025



Converse Salt Marsh Field Tour - Oct 16, 2025



Fort Beausejour Field Tour - Oct 16, 2025



NBCC Students attending Field Tour - Oct 16, 2025

## Fall Reclamation Symposium – Sackville, NB

From Converse, attendees then met with Adam Campbell and Nic McLellan of Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) at Fort Beausejour. This site provided a unique vantage point to learn about several of the DUC projects going on in and around the Chignecto Isthmus. Adam and Nic spoke about older DUC projects, such as waterfowl impoundments, and their most recent projects, such as improvements to fish passage through fish ladders on their properties and collecting fish data. Attendees were able to ask questions and inquire about future projects and better understand the goals of DUC into the future.



Mike Fawcett (l) and Randy Nason (r) representing sponsor WhiteCap



Bill Dashwood (l) and Chris Thomson (r) representing sponsor Maritime Hydroseed

We want to thank our participants, who came from numerous backgrounds with the common goal of learning more about the importance of the Chignecto Isthmus. In addition to local Chapter members, we want to acknowledge the students from New Brunswick Community College (NBCC) as well as participants who travelled from Ontario and Alberta. We also want to thank our generous sponsors who contributed to the success of our fall symposium - WhiteCap, Maritime Hydroseed, Ecometrix, Envirem Organics and GeoMorphix (lanyards).



A Member of the Conventus Group

## Call for National Award Nominations

The Canadian Land Reclamation Association (CLRA/ACRSD) celebrates the people driving progress in land reclamation and remediation. Through our awards and scholarships, we recognize dedication, innovation, and volunteerism; encourage emerging talent; and strengthen a community committed to environmental stewardship. Explore our programs to learn how we honour those making a positive impact across Canada.

Do you know someone in the environmental sector who deserves recognition for outstanding achievements or contributions to their field? Nominations for the CLRA National Awards—including the IN-TECH Reclamation Award, Dr. Edward M. Watkin Award, Dr. Jack Winch Early Career Award, and Linda Jones Memorial Award—are due by **December 15, 2025**.

See award details below. You can also follow this link for more information: <https://www.clra.ca/awards/>



**Dr. Edward M Watkin Award** - This award is given to someone who has a strong background in regulations, reclamation success, development of personnel (or students) or has a long history of participating in CLRA. It can be an individual, agency, institution or company.

**IN-TECH Award** - This award only goes to an individual. The nominee must have a strong background in teaching, research or regulatory development.

**Dr. Jack Winch Early Career Award** - This award goes to an individual who has up to 10-12 years of experience and has either developed a rich body of work in the reclamation field or had success in a particular project.

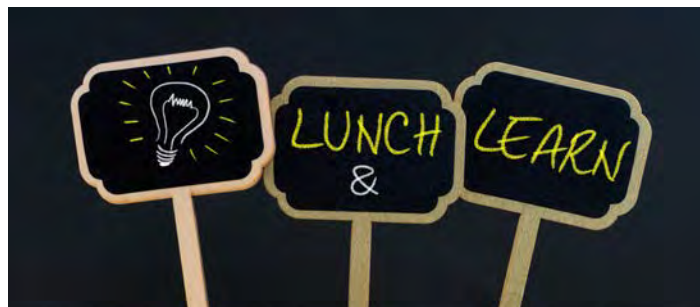
**Andrea McEachern Memorial Scholarship** - This award is for a student in environmental studies who has been a strong volunteer in the reclamation field.

**Linda Jones Memorial Award** - This award goes to a best student poster presenter and/or oral presenter at the National conference. This award is determined by a panel of three judges who make the recommendation at the conference.

## Help Us Make Our Lunch & Learns Even Better!

Thank you for joining our recent Lunch & Learn sessions. We'd love to hear your thoughts. Please take a moment to complete our short follow-up survey. Your feedback helps us understand what you enjoyed and how we can improve future sessions.

We would like to thank our six guest speakers who presented during our June to November sessions. They are Kirklyn Davidson with SCG, Darryl Nelson with Nelson Environmental, Abby Van Der Jagt with ALS Canada, Chris Thomson with Maritime Hydroseed, Karen Gilbert with Bureau Vertis, and Daniel Khan with Build Nova Scotia.



### Survey Link:

<https://form.jotform.com/253354126882056>

## The Fall & Winter edition of the Canadian Reclamation Magazine is now available!



Check out CLRA's 50th: Reflections and Celebrations issue.

What do you think of the new cover designed to reflect our Canadian identity?

### Next Issue

Planning is already underway for next year's Spring issue, featuring the theme: **Urban Reclamation**.

The submission deadline is February 1, 2026.

If you have an article to contribute, a project to showcase, or if you're interested in placing an advertisement, please contact the CLRA Magazine Committee Chair, Shannon King, at:

[shannon.king@clra.ca](mailto:shannon.king@clra.ca)



[https://flipbooks.delcommunications.com/CLRA\\_2025-2](https://flipbooks.delcommunications.com/CLRA_2025-2)

## ARC 2026 Planning Is Underway

Planning for ARC 2026 is well underway, and we're excited to share that this bi-annual regional event will be hosted in New Brunswick next fall.

This year's conference will feature:

- Technical presentations
- Student poster sessions
- Vendor booths and displays
- Field tours
- Workshops
- National Awards dinner
- CLRA National AGM

More details will be shared as planning progresses—stay tuned!



*Hopewell Rocks Provincial Park, NB*

### ***If you are any of the following...***



*Matthews Cove Wetland Restoration, Quispamsis, NB*

- A landowner engaged in a reclamation or remediation project
- A designer or project manager involved in reclamation or remediation work
- A contractor carrying out ground-related reclamation or remediation activities
- An academic or student looking to learn, teach, or expand your knowledge
- A regulator, government representative, or agency responsible for oversight and regulatory compliance
- A specialist whose expertise supports reclamation or remediation projects
- Or simply someone with an interest in reclamation or remediation...

### ***You should plan to attend ARC 2026!***



## Call for Board Members – CLRA Atlantic Chapter

The CLRA Atlantic Chapter is seeking enthusiastic and committed individuals to join our Board of Directors.

If you are passionate about land reclamation, restoration, or remediation — and want to help strengthen our regional community — this is a valuable opportunity to get involved.

Board members play an important role in:

- Shaping chapter priorities and programming
- Supporting conference and event planning
- Promoting knowledge-sharing
- Fostering professional development
- Helping grow and engage the Atlantic membership
- Advancing reclamation practices throughout the region

We welcome professionals from all sectors, including industry, government, academia, consulting, contracting, and students or early-career practitioners who want to contribute.

If you're interested in volunteering or would like to learn more about Board responsibilities, please contact: Chris Thomson at: [chris.thomson@clra.ca](mailto:chris.thomson@clra.ca)



*CLRA Atlantic Board Members (L to R): Lauren MacDonald, Chris Thomson, Carman Stevens, Frank Potter, Keely Croft, and Kayla Williams, in Sackville, NB - Oct 16, 2025.*

### Atlantic Chapter Board of Directors

President	Chris Thomson – Maritime Hydroseed – Saint John, NB
Vice President	Jim Barnet – Envirem Organics, Inc. – Fredericton, NB
Past President	Frank Potter – Retired – Sydney, NS
Treasurer	Carman Stevens – Ecometrix – Dartmouth, NS
Secretary	Kayla Williams – CBWES Inc – Terence Bay, NS



### Directors

Abby van der Jagt – ALS Environmental Laboratory Services – Dartmouth, NS  
 Bob Pett – NS Public Works (Retired) – Halifax, NS  
 Jonathan Richard – Milestone Environmental – Cape Breton, NS  
 Keely Croft – Municipal Group of Companies – Bible Hill, NS  
 Kirklyn Davidson – SCG – Halifax, NS  
 Lauren MacDonald – Student, St. Mary's University, Halifax, NS  
 Tony Bowron – CBWES Inc – Terence Bay, NS

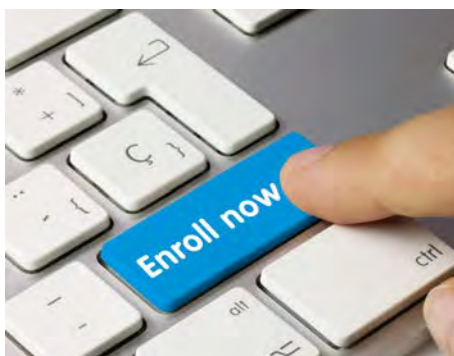
## Membership

We'd love to have you with us in 2026!

If you're renewing your CLRA/ACRSD membership — or joining for the first time — please note that membership fees are now due, and all current members should have received their invoice recently.

If you're interested in becoming a member, you can find full details and application information at the following link:

<https://www.clra.ca/become-a-member/>



**Student Membership**  
Available to full-time students: 1-year FREE

**Retired Membership**  
Available to retired persons: 1-time fee of \$75.00



*Atlantic Fall Reclamation Symposium - Chignecto Isthmus Field Tour, Sackville, NB - Oct 16, 2025*

### Becoming a CLRA/ACRSD member has its benefits!

- Annual Membership Directory – Access contact information for more than 1,100 individual and corporate members involved in land reclamation across Canada.
- Canadian Reclamation Magazine – Receive two issues per year featuring industry news, project spotlights, supplier updates, and global reclamation insights.
- Networking Opportunities – Connect with professionals at national and chapter events, and engage with other land reclamation associations.
- Regulatory Updates – Stay informed on new regulatory initiatives presented at chapter workshops.
- Community Impact – Support charitable activities, educational awards, and scholarships that advance land reclamation across Canada.

#### Corporate Membership:

- 1-Year (1-5 registrations per event), \$400.00
- 3-Year (1-5 registrations per event), \$1100.00
- 1-Year (unlimited registrations per event), \$550.00
- 3-Year (unlimited registrations per event), \$1500.00

#### Individual Membership:

- 1-Year \$100.00
- 3-Year \$250.00

<https://www.clra.ca/become-a-member/>

## PUBLISHER'S MESSAGE

As we continue our commitment to delivering two issues each year (Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter), the purpose of this newsletter is to provide a forum that:

- Keeps members informed about upcoming events
- Shares updates on current conference planning
- Highlights our members and their activities
- Showcases ongoing reclamation projects across the region
- Promotes scholarships and reminds readers about membership opportunities
- Provides contact information for the Atlantic Chapter Executive and Board of Directors

The newsletter is also a place to share anything members feel is noteworthy or of interest. Perhaps you've captured a unique plant species thriving on a recently reclaimed site—or have an inspiring story, update, or photo from the field.

If it's something you'd like others to enjoy, we welcome it!

If you have material to contribute for the next issue, please send it to: [keely.croft@clra.ca](mailto:keely.croft@clra.ca)



*CBWES staff measuring the relative elevation change of wetland sediments using Rod Surface Elevation Tables (RSETs) at the Converse Salt Marsh, Sackville, NB - Oct 16th*

## Have a Project to Share?

Beginning with our Spring & Summer 2026 Newsletter, each issue will feature 1-2 reclamation, restoration or remediation projects submitted by Atlantic Chapter members. We hope that these project stories whet the appetite of the membership and become the focal point of future newsletters.

If you have a project that you think would be interesting to Chapter members, please submit it to: [keely.croft@clra.ca](mailto:keely.croft@clra.ca)

