



Since 1976, the Ecology Action Centre has been giving out awards at our Annual General Meeting to formally recognize some of the best, the worst and the most dedicated of the environmental movement in the past year.

In 2021, we're celebrating our 50th anniversary as an organization. As we reflect on a half-century of environmental action, we know that none of it would have been possible without the countless groups and individuals who have dedicated themselves to the vision of a sustainable, equitable future here in Mi'kma'ki and beyond. The Annual Awards are an opportunity for us to show our gratitude and appreciation to some of the people making important contributions to environmental progress in our communities.

Our staff, board of directors and volunteers submit their nominations, which are voted on by staff and board members. The top three from each of the four categories are announced at our AGM each year. Here are 2022's winners!

DANIELLE MOORE SUNSHINE AWARD

FIRST PLACE: Save Owl's Head group - For securing protection of 266 hectares of Crown land as Owls Head Provincial Park . Announced on June 14 by Minister of Natural Resources and Renewables, Tory Rushton, after many months of sustained public engagement and advocacy.

SECOND PLACE: Sandy Lake-Sackville River Regional Park Coalition - For tirelessly working to protect the Sandy Lake - Sackville River area. This past year, during which Sandy Lake was designated as a 'special planning area' by the Housing Task Force in HRM to be fast-tracked for housing development, the Coalition rose to the occasion and alerted more people than ever to the nature features worth preserving in this biodiversity-rich area. The Coalition was successful in their request for HRM to commission and listen to a third-party ecological study about the area.

THIRD PLACE: Last Hope Camp - for their creative, persistent, and successful resistance to protect the old-growth forest at Beals Brook from being clear-cut.

BUBBY MOOERS AWARD

FIRST PLACE: Joe Dennis - Joe has lived by and cared for the Washbrook (Sydney, NS) for 70+ years. As a long time member of the Baille Ard Trails Association and a Director with the Washbrook Greenway Coalition, Joe has continuously given back to the natural space that has provided him with so much over the years. He has spent decades of his life volunteering time/labour/insightful guidance to projects that get people outside and

connecting with nature, and learning how to protect it. Joe is a quiet, but influential leader, diligently working to build bridges, both literally and figuratively.

SECOND PLACE: Karen Robinson - For her tireless leadership of the Sandy Lake Conservation Society who has been advocating for the conservation of Sandy Lake, Jack Lake & Marsh Lake area in Bedford/Hammonds Plains as an expanded Regional Park in HRM and fighting against urban sprawl development which threatens the area.

TOOKER GOMBERG AWARD:

Out of the Cold, Halifax Mutual Aid, the P.A.D.S. Network, Adsum House, and other members of the affordable housing movement - for collectively and continuously shining a spotlight on Halifax's current housing crisis, effectively keeping the issue in the public discourse, and taking care of our unhoused neighbours. Safe, affordable housing is an increasingly important issue, especially in the context of the worsening climate crisis.

TARRED DUCK AWARD:

FIRST PLACE: Atlantic Gold - For their relentless lobbying for more large destructive and polluting open pit gold mines on the Eastern Shore and for expansion of their existing open pit gold mine at Moose River

SECOND PLACE: Cooke Aquaculture - for (a) sneakily building a new open-net pen overtop of a long-lapsed site in St. Mary's Bay, doing no new consultation with the public, and (b) hiding a major, weeks-long sea lice outbreak at both of their Annapolis Basin sites during the fall salmon migration season, and only telling the public when they were forced to admit to this incident in front of the Aquaculture Review Board in November.

THIRD PLACE: Peridae - for taking advantage of the war in Ukraine to once again push for their proposed LNG export terminal. If built, the project would cause a massive increase in NS' greenhouse gas emissions, making it impossible to meet our climate targets, and create more infrastructure to support fracked gas development.

