

THE MOST VALUABLE ISLANDS
YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF

Photo: VisionAir



100 WILD ISLANDS

LEGACY CAMPAIGN

THE 100 WILD ISLANDS COASTAL LEGACY CAMPAIGN

Off Nova Scotia's Atlantic shores lies a hidden treasure—a remote and wild group of coastal islands and headlands encompassing over 7,000 acres of diverse and ecologically rich coastal habitats. Despite Nova Scotia's long history of settlement, this flotilla of over one hundred islands has for millennia largely been left to the ravages of wind, wave and fog, experiencing little disturbance from humans—leaving one of the continent's last great coastal island wildernesses.

Just over an hour from Halifax (between Clam Harbour Beach and Taylor Head Provincial Park), untouched white sand beaches and idyllic sheltered coves, dramatic, windswept headlands, and rugged rocky shorelines welcome the intrepid wilderness paddler or sailor. The islands support an interconnected mosaic of every coastal habitat found in Nova Scotia, and their boreal rainforests, wetlands, bogs and barrens have gone largely undisturbed by humans for more than 10,000 years, providing refuge for a rich diversity of wildlife. The archipelago stretches over 30 km along the coast, and is truly a globally significant coastal island wilderness.

A Bold Conservation Vision

The Nova Scotia Nature Trust, the province's leading land conservation charity, recognized that before us is an

exciting and unparalleled opportunity to preserve an irreplaceable part of Nova Scotia's treasured coastal legacy. And we are making it happen!

The Nature Trust is embarking on one of the largest coastal conservation campaigns in Nova Scotia's history, to fulfill the bold vision of protecting, forever, the entire 100 Wild Islands archipelago.

In partnership with landowners, the local community and the provincial government, the Nature Trust's efforts will protect over 100 islands, including many over 300 acres in size (some of the province's largest, and some so large they support freshwater lakes—a rarity in Nova Scotia!), over 250 km of shoreline, 430 acres of wetlands, some of eastern North America's only temperate rainforest, and a rich diversity of wildlife, including over 120 species of birds, from eagles and osprey to seabirds and song birds.

Success depends on protecting the entire island group, including both Crown and privately-owned islands. While Nova Scotians have twice before recognized the significant nature of this archipelago, proposing the islands both as a National Park and later a provincial park, a key ingredient was missing: a solution for effectively protecting the islands in private ownership and positively engaging the local communities. With the Nature Trust's bold conservation vision and unique community-based private land conservation approach, the stars have finally aligned.



A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME
OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A
TANGIBLE AND LASTING IMPACT

THE URGENCY OF ACTION

Few images evoke Nova Scotia more than the idyllic harbours and dramatic headlands of our coastline. Our identity, quality of life and even our economy have long been inexorably linked with the coast. **Yet less than five percent of our coast is protected.** Over 85% is privately owned and facing unprecedented pressures, with implications for conservation, and for public access and enjoyment. The need to protect our coast has never been greater.



LARGELY UNDISTURBED
SINCE THE LAST ICE AGE

Photo: Scott Leslie

With opportunities to protect large, undisturbed and ecologically rich coastal archipelagos becoming increasingly rare across the planet, the 100 Wild Islands Legacy Campaign offers one of the last and best hopes. But the time to act is now, or this irreplaceable opportunity is lost, forever.

Exceptional Benefits

Protection of the islands' ecosystems and diversity of habitats and species provides exceptional environmental benefits. Preserving the ancient, dynamic forest and coastal ecosystems and processes, which have experienced little human disturbance for centuries, provides globally important "benchmark" systems, offering exciting opportunities for scientific research and education. The campaign will also preserve unparalleled wilderness recreation opportunities—from sea kayaking and sailing to wildlife watching and snorkeling—ensuring future generations of Nova Scotians and visitors alike can experience the magic of Nova Scotia's unique coastal legacy at its finest. This campaign takes land conservation to a world-class level, creating one of North America's most important coastal island wilderness protected areas. It can also leverage exciting spin-off opportunities ranging from ecotourism, economic and rural development, marine protected areas, a marine park system, and other coastal conservation efforts.





MOMENTUM IS BUILDING

Great strides are already being made in protecting the 100 Wild Islands. Several outstanding conservation sites have already been protected—including the stunning cliffs of Ship Rock, the majestic coves and sand beaches of Shelter Cove and the spectacular 530 acre Borgles Island. Other island owners are keen to add their lands to this coastal legacy too, so more success lies just ahead.

The Province has been captivated by our bold conservation vision, and has committed to protect the 4000 acres of Crown-owned islands in the archipelago. Using our community-based land trust approach, we will protect, forever, the remaining ecologically important privately-owned islands, through a combination of conservation agreements, land

donations and purchase. We will also work together with the islands' owners, the local community and conservation partners to ensure effective long-term stewardship and management of this vast new coastal wilderness.

The campaign is also enthusiastically supported by local residents, who recognize that the idyllic coast that has

defined and sustained the community for generations is increasingly at risk. So too are treasured viewsapes and traditional access to the islands. We are delighted to see a growing network of landowners, local citizens, community groups, leading conservation scientists, sailors, anglers and generous supporters stepping forward to help turn our bold conservation vision into conservation history. Now you can too...

MAKING CONSERVATION HISTORY

To make this landmark achievement possible, we are undertaking a \$7 million capital campaign. The campaign has resonated deeply with Nova Scotians, and we have already made incredible strides towards our goal with the support of foundations, businesses and caring Nova Scotians.

Through a generous \$1.5 million lead gift and \$2 million matching gift pledge from Nova Scotian entrepreneur Paul Gauthier, **every new dollar donated will be matched one to one**, making our campaign goal reachable. Every dollar donated brings \$2 for island conservation. Combined with the donations of land and leveraged protection of the Crown islands, the campaign will protect well over \$15 million in land—and all for the cost of just one or two islands in many parts of the world!

You are invited to be a part of this great conservation legacy.

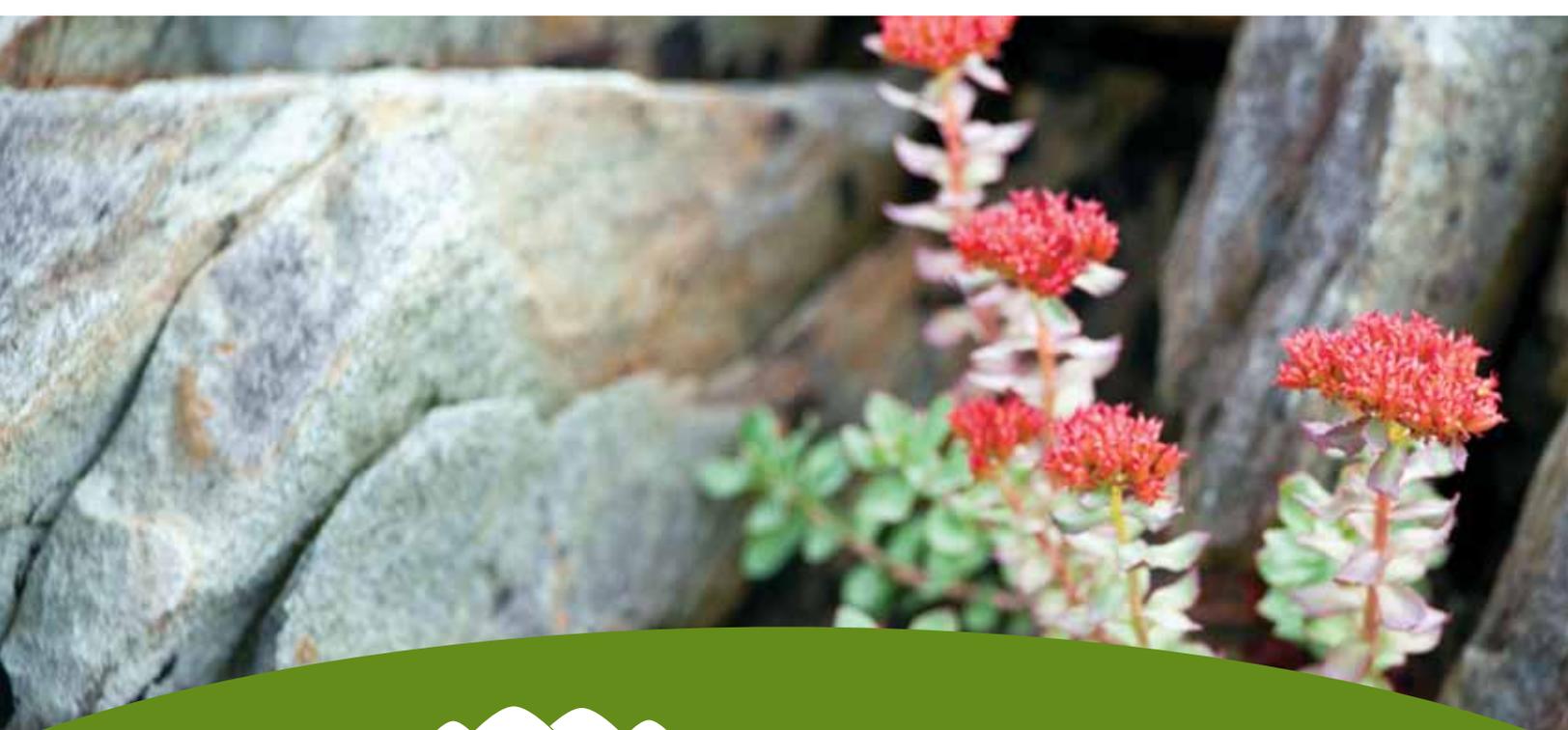
**For more information, please contact
the Nova Scotia Nature Trust:**

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Note: Tax benefits are available to both Canadian and U.S. donors. Multi-year pledges, bequests and gifts of securities are all welcome.



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Help protect the legacy
100wildislands.ca