

Protected Areas Association of Newfoundland and Labrador

Friends of the Wilderness since 1989

Protected Areas Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (PAA) is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization dedicated to biodiversity, conservation and sustainable resource use in Newfoundland and Labrador. PAA works towards this goal by promoting the establishment of a network of terrestrial protected areas that represents each of the unique natural regions of our province. PAA actively participates in resource planning in order to advance best-practice conservation management across the entire landscape – both inside and outside protected areas. In addition, PAA supports the establishment of a network of marine protected areas.



PAA was formed in 1989 by a group of volunteers, and has since grown to include hundreds of supporters all across Newfoundland and Labrador. It is the province's only local, full-time, non-governmental wilderness conservation group. It is guided by an Executive Director, a Board of Directors, and an expert advisory committee. The day-to-day activities are carried out by several full-time and part-time employees and numerous dedicated volunteers.

The conservation goals of PAA are pursued mainly through public education, including presentations in schools, communities, and public forums; and through a wide range of media and partnerships. In addition, in consultations and cooperative planning, PAA has been able to work effectively with government departments, industry and citizens' organizations in consultations and cooperative planning. PAA partners with many organizations including: Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS); Nature Canada; World Wildlife Fund of Canada; Sierra Club of Canada; and the Natural History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador. PAA has also played an active role in various coalitions including the Main River Coalition.

The determination and patience of PAA has led us to achieve many milestones throughout the years. Our campaigns have helped expand the size of Torngat Mountains National Park and Little Grand Lake Ecological Reserve, kept ten of our provincial parks from being privatized, and saved Windmill Bight Provincial Park from being turned into a golf course.

In addition to these success stories, PAA continues its efforts in several projects throughout the province. Our key current work is to promote a national park for the Labrador Mealy Mountains, an ecological reserve for the Ripple Pond Avalon "fog forest", and wilderness reserves for the Lac Joseph-Atikonak in western Labrador and for the Northern Peninsula's east-coast old-growth forests. The protection of these areas would be yet another major step towards the preservation of our provinces unique natural habitats.

The goal of Protected Areas Association is to create a network of parks and reserves that protects each of the unique natural habitats of our province, through conserving biodiversity and unique features representing the 35 natural regions of Newfoundland and Labrador. Having these special habitats protected from development will give us permanent spaces for wilderness tourism and research, and places for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians to enjoy now, and for generations to come.

To become a member and support the ongoing efforts of Protected Areas Association, photocopy and send us the membership form on the next page. You will receive our newsletters and other important updates with your membership.

Thank you for your support.

