



Nickel District Conservation Authority
401 – 199 rue Larch Street
Sudbury, ON P3E 5P9
705-674-5249
ConservationSudbury.ca

For Immediate Release

September 22, 2017

Lake Laurentian Conservation Area's newest patrons announced at Patron's Picnic

SUDBURY – Please join us at **11 AM this Sunday September 24** as two new patrons of the Lake Laurentian Conservation Area are announced at the **Nature Chalet, 2309 South Bay Road, Sudbury.**

What is a *Patron of the Lake Laurentian Conservation Area*? An individual who supports the Conservation Area through academics, passion and enthusiasm for nature and the outdoors, is highly involved in the conservation area and is well known in the community.

- **Sheilah Arena** virtually lives in the Conservation Area for nine months out of the year, either as a trail user or a passionate volunteer. She has been instrumental to the revitalization of the BioSki Cross-Country Ski and Snowshoe Club, is the co-founder of the Friends of Lake Laurentian, is an active director of the Nickel District Conservation Foundation and has been a central volunteer for the Lake Laurentian Signage Plan.
- **Chris Blomme** is a biologist at Laurentian University and is a passionate nature enthusiast who has graciously donated his time to many popular birding events at the Lake Laurentian Conservation Area. As a member of the Sudbury Ornithological Society, Chris has also been a committed fundraiser who has helped acquire new equipment at the Nature Chalet and improve the educational experiences for children visiting.

Sheilah Arena and Chris Blomme join a long list of honourable patrons including Franco Mariotti, Dieter and Marlies Schoenefeld, Bill Lautenbach, Bob and Nancy Rogers, Herve and Ursula Sauve, Tessa Bonhomme, Mike Grandmaison, Major Meagan McGrath, Alan Nursall, T.L. (Spike) Hennessy, Dr. Roberta Bondar, Devon Kershaw and Dr. David Pearson.

Sunday's family-friendly event starts at 11am with the announcement of our new patrons and will be followed by a choice of guided hikes. Attendees are welcome to enjoy pack their own litterless picnic lunch and enjoy it after the announcement or a hike.

- 30 -

For More Information contact:

Melanie Venne
705-674-5249 x200
Melanie.Venne@ConservationSudbury.ca