



Summer 2015

# Sources of Knowledge Newsletter

Sharing Perspectives on the Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Bruce Peninsula

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## Looking Ahead to Forum 2016

Mark your calendars – SOK Forum - May 6<sup>th</sup> to May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Planning for the next year's Forum begins as we are clearing away the tables from the current Forum. So, while there are many decisions yet to be made and many details to be worked out, some broad directions have been established for Forum 2016.

The success of The Great Arc focus for 2015 has inspired the Board to build on this theme and to continue to explore our relationship with our friends on the Door Peninsula. In 2016, we will tackle the general theme of "the peoples of the Great Arc" and investigate such topics as early human occupation of the area following glaciation, use of the land, trade connections, and how human use of the Arc has had ecological consequences. In a sense, we will be exploring the ecological history of the area framed by the Bruce and Door Peninsulas.

Developing topics related to the peoples of the Great Arc will allow us to connect in concrete ways ideas about geology and geologic forces that we considered this past May.

The focus for Forum 2017 will be to look to the human and ecological future for the Great Arc.

Details about the 2016 Forum program will be posted on our website and Facebook page as they emerge.



On the Sunday morning of the 2015 Forum, Daryl Cowell narrated a geologic boat tour along the face of the Escarpment. Thanks to Bruce Anchor Tours for supplying the boat.

## Great Support from Door County

An indication of the cooperation we received from the folks on the Door Peninsula for the 2015 Forum can be seen in the great article published in the Door County *Peninsula Pulse* news magazine (see the article at <http://www.ppulse.com/Articles-The-Green-Page-c-2015-06-04121923.114136-Tale-of-Two-Peninsulas.html>) on June 5<sup>th</sup>. In the article Roger Kuhns notes, "Both peninsulas are at tipping points on how to best manage tourism, sustainable communities, culture, native heritage and business with the natural lands. It is clear that the SOK efforts and those of the Door County Land Trust and parks are critical drivers in environmental protection. Greater cooperation and planning is a result of this increased awareness."

## Great Arc Geopark Facebook Page

Daryl Cowell, a long-time friend of Sources of Knowledge and soon a member of the Board of Directors, is promoting the idea of a geopark based on the Great Arc idea. You can click to join his Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/geology?fref=ts>

## SOK Board of Directors

There have been some recent changes to the Board of Directors group. At the present time, SOK's Directors are:

Bill Caulfeild-Browne (chair)

John Greenhouse (vice chair)

Bill Graham (past chair)

Gordon Nelson (past chair)

Ray Rothenbury

Graham Draper

Deborah Diebel

Tom Boyle

Lenore Keeshig

Cavan Harpur



This fall, Bill Caulfeild-Browne will be stepping down as chair due to the demands of heading up Nature Conservancy Canada.

Nominees to the Board at our annual general meeting in October are Jacqui Wakefield, Daryl Cowell, Bob Patrick, Jace Weir and Brian McHattie.

## Many Thanks, Sylvia

With regret, the Board accepted the resignation of the organization's administrator over the past six years. Sylvia Elliott has made SOK run smoothly and has played a key role in ensuring that each Forum was a success.

## Welcome Our New Administrator

Jackie Lutz will assume the role of SOK administrator this fall. Jackie is from Lion's Head and has excellent experience and skills for this role. Welcome aboard, Jackie!

## SOK Bursary Awards, 2015

Recipients of the Sources of Knowledge Bursary for 2015 are: Megan Thomson, Elijah Marcella, Josie Mielhausen and Colin Hepburn.

Bursaries were awarded in 2014 to Josie Mielhausen, Colin Hepburn and Reed Rodgers. In 2013, the first year of our Bursary, awards were given to Josie and Rachel McLay.

Students who are residents of Northern Bruce Peninsula or are Saugeen Ojibway First Nations are eligible for the SOK Bursary. It was established to encourage graduating high school students to take college or university programs related to conservation and the environment.

## **A Note from Josie Mielhausen**

My name is Josie Mielhausen and I have had the honor of receiving the Sources of Knowledge Bursary for University Entrance and Continued Support for the past 3 years.

While growing up on the Bruce Peninsula, and attending Bruce Peninsula District School for my elementary and secondary education, I found my passion for the environment and the Bruce. In 2013, I made the decision to attend the University of Guelph to pursue further education and eventually a career in an environmental-related field. I am now going into my third year of Honours Environmental Geography, with a double minor in Biology and Geographic Information Systems and Analysis (GIS). My experience at the University of Guelph has been great, and I have had the ability to take part in many environmental and research-related opportunities. Some of these opportunities include being an Environmental Commissioner/Recycling Representative, volunteering with the Environmental Sustainability Office, and working part-time with the University of Guelph VP Office of Research. I hope to broaden my experiences with environmental-related endeavours within my final years at Guelph, and continue my studies to a Master's degree.

Not only am I able to spend my time at University strengthening my knowledge in the environmental field, but my work with Parks Canada at the Bruce Peninsula National Park and Fathom Five National Marine Park has also allowed me to do so. In 2014, I worked as a Terrestrial Ecologists' assistant, and focussed on restoration efforts, species management projects, and invasive species control. This

year, I have been given the opportunity to work alongside Aquatic Ecologist, Dr. Scott Parker, and broaden my knowledge and experiences with aquatic processes and ecosystems, aquatic species management and control, and water chemistry. This incredible work experience compliments my long-term goals with conservation and the environment, as I hope to return to the Bruce Peninsula after university, and use my knowledge to help preserve, maintain, and manage the environmental integrity and beauty of this unique area, and promote environmental stewardship.

I have been involved with many of the local community groups such as BPEG, Transition Community, BPBA, and the Sources of Knowledge Committee. Over the years, I have gained knowledge, encouragement, and support from many of their members, which has given me the motivation to give back to my community. The Sources of Knowledge bursaries for local students have allowed me to pursue a degree in what I am most passionate about, and take my education to the furthest level. For being such a small community, there is overwhelming support for local students, which allows us to pursue our passions, and return to the Bruce Peninsula as academic and community leaders.