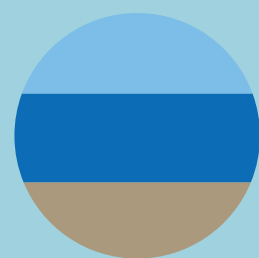
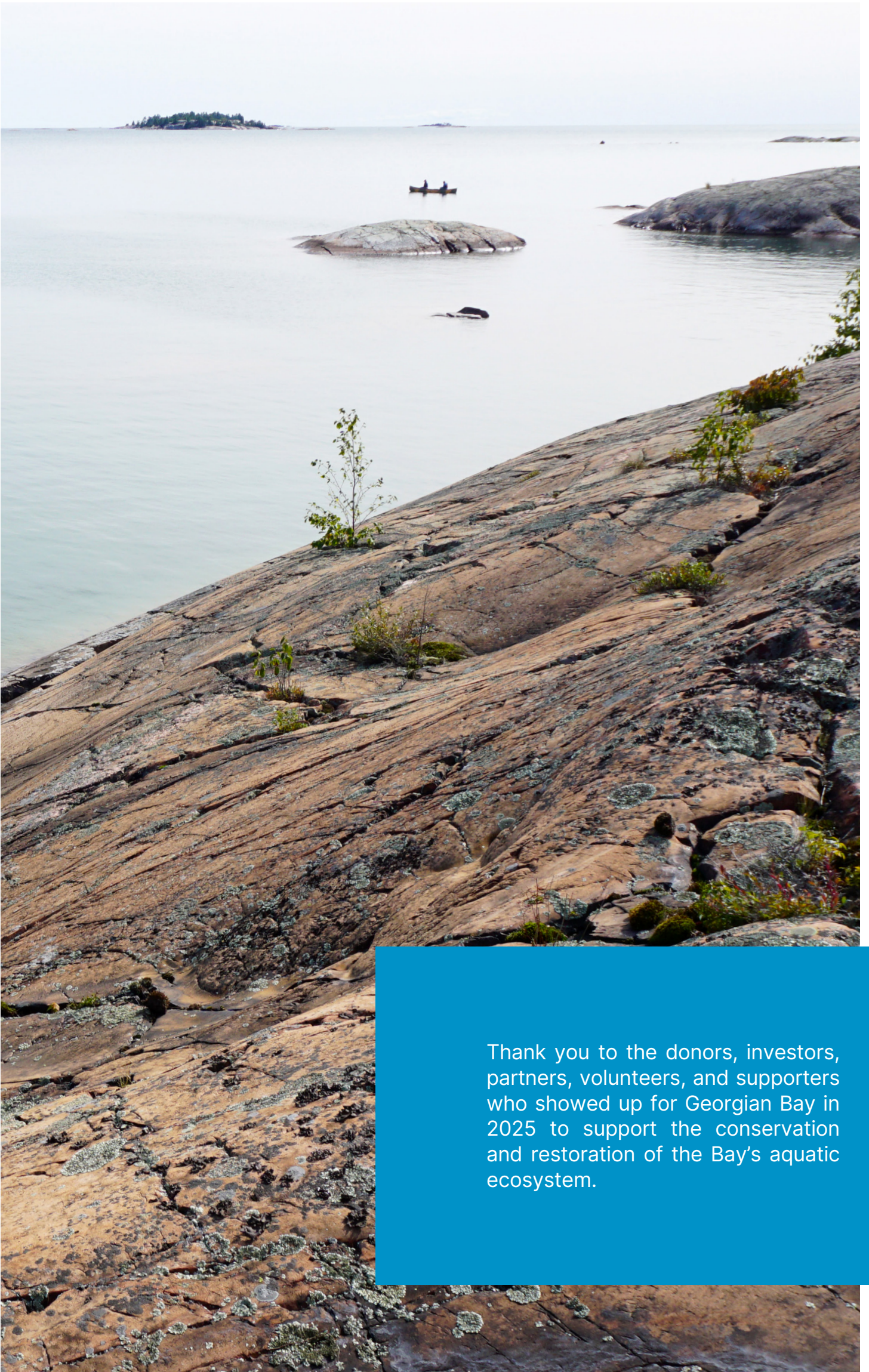


GEORGIAN BAY
FOREVER



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Thank you to the donors, investors, partners, volunteers, and supporters who showed up for Georgian Bay in 2025 to support the conservation and restoration of the Bay's aquatic ecosystem.

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Georgian Bay Forever - Charitable Number 89531 1066 RR 0001, P.O. Box
75347, Leslie Street, Toronto, ON M4M 1B3



Our mandate is and always will be to keep the Georgian Bay waters and wetlands healthy.



Robert Turner
Board Chair



David Sweetnam
Executive Director

Message From The Chair and Executive Director of Georgian Bay Forever

Georgian Bay continues to be understood through many relationships—by the wildlife, residents, visitors, and by the First Nations whose stewardship and teachings have shaped these lands and waters since time immemorial. As we look ahead, Georgian Bay Forever (GBF) remains committed to bringing scientific research and traditional knowledge into closer alignment, thereby strengthening a shared responsibility to the water.

A decisive shift in Georgian Bay Forever’s trajectory marks 2026—a year in which the cumulative impact of our scientific work, community partnerships, and Indigenous-aligned stewardship has moved from promising to demonstrably transformative. The 2025 Impact Report made this unmistakably clear: our programs are no longer isolated initiatives but components of a coherent, basin-wide strategy that is measurably improving water quality, strengthening community resilience, and advancing shared responsibility for the long-term health of Georgian Bay. This Annual Report reflects that transition. It highlights not only what we achieved, but how GBF is now positioned to lead with greater clarity, stronger evidence, and deeper collaboration than ever before.

With the support of our donors, partners, and funders, we are making significant new investments in research capacity, program expansion, and field equipment—investments that will allow us to be more present on the water, more responsive to emerging threats, and more effective in safeguarding the Bay’s long-term resilience. These investments include additional assets for autonomous monitoring systems, strengthened wetland protection programs, and enhanced community science initiatives that together dramatically increase our ability to conduct year-round water-quality testing and ecological monitoring. The acquisition of a dedicated property is under review and would provide a stable base for field operations, anchoring our growth, enabling greater research collaboration, and enhancing community engagement.

As we continue to operationalize our 2026–2029 Strategic Plan, GBF is preparing for a new era of science-based leadership. We are building the foundations needed to deliver outcomes we deem necessary to ensure that Georgian Bay remains vibrant, healthy, and responsibly cared for, enabling its enjoyment for generations to come. Your generosity has made this all possible. Thank you for standing with us as we take our next bold steps forward.

Accomplishments in 2025

It's been a pivotal year for Georgian Bay Forever, with a revitalized outlook and a deeper focus on the long-term efficacy of our programming, we have recalibrated our efforts to align more with what we deem the biggest threats to the sustainability of Georgian Bay's ecosystem. These threats include pollution, habitat destruction and destabilization, deficiencies in emergency preparedness, and the spread of disinformation. In response to these urgent issues, Georgian Bay Forever continues to maintain and grow upon solutions-based research, action, and educational programming designed to achieve our goal to conserve and protect the Georgian Bay ecosystem—an invaluable source of freshwater for countless communities.

Shoreline Cleanups

Our Shoreline Cleanups remain one of the most visible and tangible ways our community can connect with the health of Georgian Bay. In 2025, we completed 80 Shoreline Cleanups around Georgian Bay, the most we've ever accomplished in a single season. With the help of 561 volunteers (another record number), nearly 457 kg of trash was diverted from our environment. We facilitated an additional six Shoreline Cleanups independently hosted by volunteers, and engaged with over 2,500 people during our public events and outings. The opportunity to connect and interact with community members during these events is an invaluable part of public education, and we are continuously moved by the positive response we receive from those wanting to learn more and take part in the stewardship of Georgian Bay.

Invasive Phragmites

In 2025, GBF staff, volunteers, and partners mapped a total of 1,264 invasive *Phragmites* stands along southeastern Georgian Bay. Due to our more intensive management plan over the past six years, 54% of these patches are now in the control phase (cut but still monitored), allowing us to reallocate time and effort in new locations, which means adding new stands to our management plan. In 2025, we identified an additional 226 stands that will be assessed and incorporated into our management planning.

We achieved 33% eradication of invasive *Phragmites* in 2025 across the Township of The Archipelago, Carling Township, Township of Georgian Bay, Township of Severn (Matchedash Bay), and Tay Township shorelines. In addition, our summer students cut 262 sites (removing 11,835m² of invasive *Phragmites* from coastal wetlands), we educated 300 members of the community about invasive *Phragmites*, and recruited volunteers to dedicate 200 total hours of their time to protecting Georgian Bay's aquatic ecosystems.

The Critical Catch

The Critical Catch is a project aimed at removing discarded fishing line from the environment, educating the public about the hazards of abandoned fishing gear, and providing more resources for recycling and properly discarding used fishing line. We have installed a total of 31 large fishing-line disposal receptacles in local communities, and distributed 350 personal fishing-line disposal receptacles in 2025, for a total of 1,160 personal receptacles handed out since the project's inception in 2023. With the help of volunteers over the summer of 2025, we collected 62.5 km in length of discarded fishing line, a total nearly the amount of the previous two years combined. Every bit of discarded fishing line in the environment means more microplastics and chemicals in the ecosystem and in our drinking water. The success of diverting those pollutants is of benefit for us all.

We also continue to engage local youth in environmental, experiential education with our workshops, including The Microplastics Investigation Workshop and Discovering Watersheds, as well as the Fish in the Classroom project, where local Georgian Bay elementary school classrooms install aquariums and help to raise brook trout for release into the wild. As the popularity of these programs continues to grow, we are pleased to see the forward momentum and positive reception from the youth and communities of Georgian Bay.

REAL
PROGRESS,
REAL RESULTS



By The Numbers

IN 2025

11,835
SQUARE
METERS Total area of invasive *Phragmites* cut, the equivalent of 7.5 NHL rinks

Community Cuts	—	6	
Sites Cut by GBF	—	262	
Sites in the Control Stage	—	674	
New Sites Mapped	—	226	

920

Hours of volunteer time donated - worth \$29,440



3,124

People educated through public and community events



Shoreline Cleanups Hosted by GBF



80

Litter Removed From Shores



456.84 kg

Total Area of Shoreline Cleaned



3.168 km²
Nearly the Size of Central Park

TRAINED
607

Volunteers and Citizen Scientists

HIRED
8

Summer Students

DELIVERED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

THROUGH 63 IN-SCHOOL WORKSHOPS



Blog

430 Unique Visitors
975 Views



WEBSITE

11,047 Site Sessions
8,392 Visitors
19,068 Page Views



The Critical Catch

Fishing Line Recycling Receptacles

31 Large Receptacles Installed

350 Personal Receptacles Distributed

Approximately **62.5 km** of discarded fishing line collected for recycling

CONNECTIONS ONLINE

Social Media Followers

Up to Dec 31 2025



3,379 Total Facebook Followers



3,790 Total Instagram Followers

Outreach

From Jan 1 - Dec 31 2025



E-Blasts
21 Written, 65,535+ sent



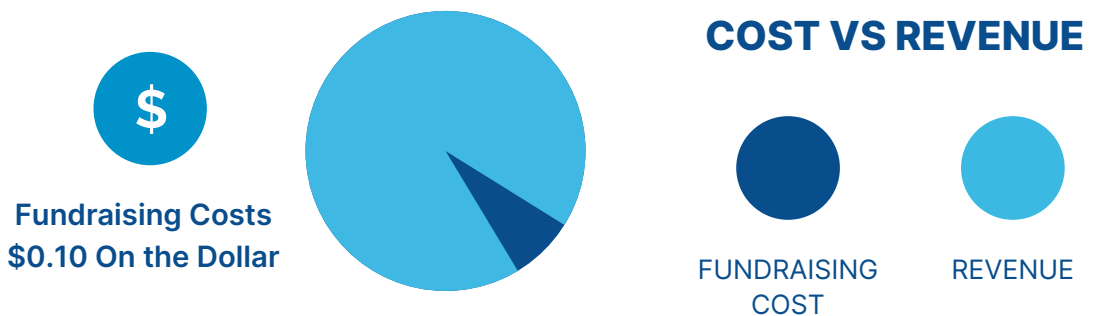
Newsletters
3 Published, 11,000+ sent

Where Your Money Goes

REVENUE SOURCE	AMOUNT	%
Government Grant Support	\$146,107	11
Grants	\$528,500	38
Miscellaneous Income, Interest, Wage Subsidies and Events Income	\$12,172	1
Individuals	\$617,359	46
Foundations and Corporations	\$51,500	4
TOTAL	\$1,355,638	100%

EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT	%
Water Levels	\$58,946	2
Communication and Education	\$280,095	23
Ecosystems/Wetlands	\$243,403	20
Water Quality Program	\$297,471	24
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$879,915	
Administration	\$208,000	17
Fundraising	\$129,505	11
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$337,505	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,217,420	100%
(Deficiency) Excess of Revenue over Expenditures	\$138,218	

FINANCIAL POSITION	AMOUNT
Current Assets	\$877,613
Equipment	\$282,191
Total Assets	\$1,159,804
Liabilities	\$194,922
Net Assets	\$959,882



Financial Statements

Visit our [WEBSITE](#) for a complete and up-to-date record of our financial statements.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Georgian Bay Forever's Fundraising Strategy

By Amber Gordon

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity and commitment of our donors and partners, 2025 has been our most successful year to date. Together, you helped us achieve a record-breaking \$1,355,638 in donations, grants, and earned revenue. This milestone is a powerful reflection of your shared dedication to protecting water quality and preserving the wetlands of Georgian Bay, and highlights the continued importance of this work.

Our success is grounded in the strength of our community. We are grateful for the dedication of our staff and volunteer team of “friend-raisers,” who work diligently to keep you informed, engaged, and connected to our mission. Their efforts help foster the meaningful relationships that sustain our organization—but it is your ongoing support and trust that make this impact possible.

Amid increasing environmental pressures and shifting political landscapes, we have seen growing interest in and urgency around our work. In response, we have continued to take a strategic and integrated approach to fundraising—bringing together individuals, corporations, foundations, and municipalities to support innovative programs that deliver lasting conservation outcomes while aligning with your philanthropic goals.

Your investment is driving tangible results. Continued growth in support from individuals and family foundations has enabled us to expand children's education initiatives, increase shoreline cleanups, and strengthen our organizational capacity to meet rising demand.

In 2025, individuals contributed 46% of total support, followed by family foundations, grants, and corporate support at 42%, government funding at 11%, and 1% from other sources, including interest, wage subsidies, and events. Every contribution plays a vital role in advancing this work.

Together, your support is ensuring that Georgian Bay remains healthy, protected, and thriving for generations to come.



HOW FUNDRAISING DOLLARS ARE INVESTED

Our dedicated staff and incredible volunteers work collaboratively to ensure that every donor dollar is managed with care, accountability, and purpose. We are deeply committed to the responsible, efficient, and effective use of the funds entrusted to us, and to maintaining the highest standards of transparency and stewardship. Earning and sustaining your confidence is central to everything we do.

This commitment is reflected in our continued designation as one of Canada's Top 100 Charities by Charity Intelligence Canada (based on independent analysis), as well as our recognition by CAF America. These distinctions affirm our strong governance, financial accountability, and measurable impact—so you can trust that your support is making a meaningful difference.

Collaboration remains key to advancing our mission. We continue to work closely with like-minded organizations, municipalities, and government agencies to achieve shared goals for water protection and long-term environmental sustainability.

Guided by your support and partnership, our fundraising and outreach efforts remain focused on the following priorities:

- Strengthening meaningful relationships with donors and funders by understanding your passion for water protection and reinforcing our shared commitment to keeping Georgian Bay healthy and thriving
- Addressing the growing need for organizational capacity and equipment investments—particularly considering reduced government funding—to expand our impact across the region
- Promoting sustainable, long-term giving opportunities, including legacy gifts, monthly contributions, and multi-year pledges, to ensure enduring support for our work
- Advancing our *Phragmites* control program and mobilizing community and municipal support to combat invasive species throughout Georgian Bay
- Expanding engagement with our U.S. donor community and increasing awareness of cross-border giving opportunities
- Strengthening our science-based programming by securing funding to operate and maintain critical technologies, including our Autonomous Underwater Vehicle, Remotely Operated Vehicle, and multi-spectral drone
- Developing our education programs to drive behavioural change and increase awareness among residents and visitors about the threats facing our waters, wetlands, and habitats
- Communicating clear, measurable outcomes so that you—our supporters and partners—can see the direct impact of your generosity

Your continued investment enables us to advance these priorities with confidence and purpose. Together, we are safeguarding Georgian Bay's waters and ecosystems for a sustainable future.

We are deeply grateful to all our donors—including our valued friends and neighbours in the United States—whose continued belief, commitment, and generosity make our work possible. In 2025, as in every year, your support played a vital role in advancing our efforts to protect, conserve, and preserve the water and wetlands of Georgian Bay.







Georgian Bay Forever Circle

Honoring our loyal supporters for their cumulative donations of \$15,000 or more as of March 31, 2026



PROTECTOR | \$250,000+

Doug and Ruth Grant	Hodgson Family Foundation	Bill & Carol Prior & Family
Great Lakes Basin Conservancy, Inc.	The Geoff Hyland Family	RBC Foundation
	The Estate of Nancy Powis	

DEFENDER | \$100,000-\$249,999

The Bradstreet Family Foundation	Jackman Foundation	The Anthony and Amie Munk Foundation
Bruce Power	The Langar Foundation	Robin and Robert Ogilvie
The Carrick Family	The Steve Mason Family	The Schad Foundation
The CSL Group Inc.	The Judy and Wilmot Matthews Foundation	The Watt Family
Michael and Jacque Green	Michael McCain & Family	Weston Family Foundation
Green Shovels	The McDonald Family	
Husky Injection Molding Systems Ltd.	The McLean Foundation	
	Hugh and Sylvia McLelland	

GUARDIAN | \$50,000-\$99,999

Jennifer Ivey Bannock	Roger Jones and Joanne Muther-Jones	William and Meredith Saunderson
J.P. Bickell Foundation	Peter and Margie Kelk	Donald Schmitt and Cheryl Atkinson
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James and Erica Curtis	Ruth Mandel - WHO GIVES Fund	Philip and Eli Taylor
Echo Foundation	Marye McCaig	Brian and Sabine Thomson
Michael and Honor de Pencier	James Meekison and Carolyn Keystone	Rob and Val Thompson
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Barry and Laurie Green	Jeffrey Orr and Suzanne Legge	R. Howard Webster Foundation
Peter Hatcher and Family	Francie and John Pepper	The Michael Young Family Foundation
Renata Humphries		

HERO | \$25,000-\$49,999

Belsize Foundation	Donald Guloien and Irene Boychuk	Sue McNamara
Thomas and Darcy Branch	Robert Hay and Family	Catherine & Maxwell Meighen Foundation
Derek and Nancy Bowen	John Honderich	Patagonia Environmental Grants Fund of Tides Foundation
Tony and Janet Burt	Ernest Howard	John and Penny Pepperell
Brian and Janey Chapman	The Hughes Family	Pat and Lloyd Posno
The Dalglish Family	Iron City Fishing Club	Takla Foundation
Jason Drysdale and Laila Daumants	Charles H. Ivey Foundation	Ron and Shelia Till
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Richard and Dawn Drayton	Donald and Lorraine Lawson	The Ruby Family
John and Sybil Eakin	LeVan Family Foundation	Larry Smith
The Catherine and Fredrik Eaton Charitable Foundation	Lloyd's Register Canada Ltd.	Michael and Sonja Stewart
The Charles and Rita Field-Marsham Foundation	Robert and Patricia Lord	Mary Thomson and Jan Ruby
Great Lakes Plastic Cleanup	Lush Cosmetics	Wayne/Coleman Family Fund
	Paul and Martha McLean	
	Biff and Sue Matthews	

PATRON | \$15,000-\$24,999

Algoma Central Corporation	Green Shovels Collaborative	Jennifer Rogers
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Murray and Susan Armitage Foundation	Stuart and Stefanie Hatcher	Rotary Club of Wasaga Beach
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Bin City	Val Koziol	Rick Stamberger
The Bowman Family	John and Phyllis Lill	Michael and Sonja Stewart
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Philip Deck and Kimberley Bozak	Bill and Betty Morris	Janet Walker
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Robin and Sted Garber	Gail and Tim Regan	Donald and Sandra Wilson
	David Roffey and Karen Walsh	Sandy Wood and Don Darroch

Georgian Bay Forever

Supporters 2025

GBF is grateful to all of you, our donors and sponsors who make all that we do to protect the waters of Georgian Bay possible. Ninety percent of your contributions go directly to one of our many research and educational projects involving water levels management, water quality, and protecting the ecosystems of Georgian Bay.

\$50,000+

The Bradstreet Family Foundation
Dragonfly Ventures
Environment and Climate Change Canada -
EcoAction

Douglas & Ruth Grant
Hodgson Family Foundation
Invasive Species Centre-Green Shovel
The Estate of Nancy Powis

\$25,000 – \$49,999

Belsize Foundation
Great Lakes Basin Conservancy, Inc.

The Geoff Hyland Family
Donald Schmitt & Cheryl Atkinson

\$5,000 – \$24,000

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Iron City Fishing Club
Jackman Foundation
Roger Jones & Joanne Muther-Jones
Peter & Margie Kelk
The Langar Foundation
Ruth Mandel - WHO GIVES Fund
Steven & Louise Mason

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Jeff & Carrie Watt

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Georgian Bay Spirit Co.
Stuart & Stefanie Hatcher
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Sam Kohn & Mary Ciolfi-Kohn

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Lorraine & Donald Lawson
Paul Lenneard
Bill & Betty Morris
The Morrison Foundation
Rotary Club of Wasaga Beach
Ronald & Shelia Till

\$1,000 – \$2,499

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Tom & Susan Main	Donald & Sandra Wilson

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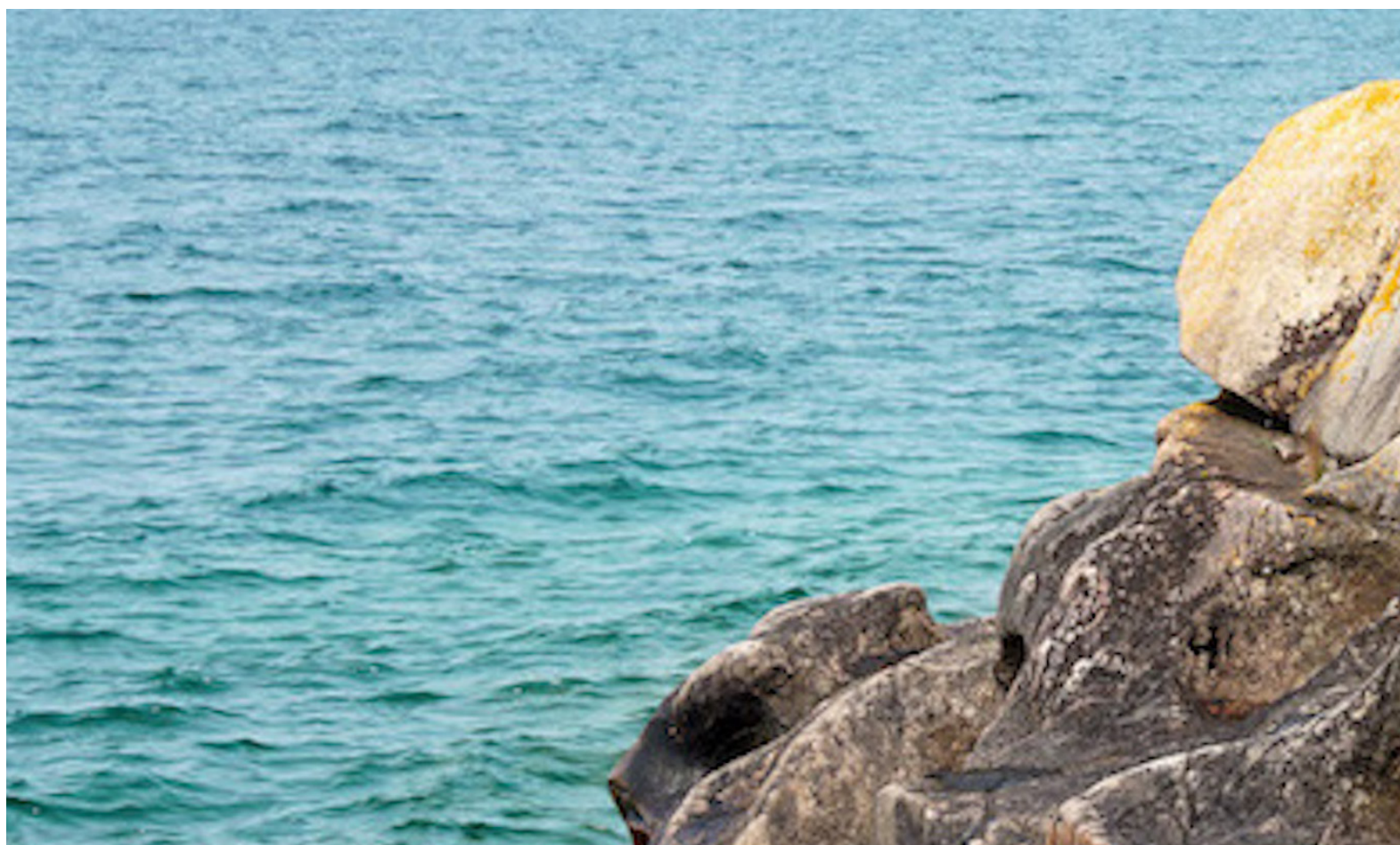
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Dr. George Trusler
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Susan Waugh
Daragh Weafer
Robert Weekes
Scott Weir & Ron Reaman
Roy Wernath
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Janet White
Terry & Mary Jane Whitehead
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David & Lynn Woodward
Elinor Woodward
John & Judy Woodward
Claudette Young
Charles & Cathy Zumkehr
Daniel & Briana Zur

We try to ensure accuracy in our list because we care about recognizing your donation. If we have inadvertently made an omission, we are truly sorry. Please help us correct the error by contacting Amber Gordon by email at amber.gordon@gbf.org or (905) 880-4945 x 3.









Legacies are Forever

A gift in memory is given to honour someone's life and legacy.
An in-honour gift is given to celebrate in someone's name.

2025 In Memory

Jonathan Barker

Elizabeth Bell

John Birnbaum

Fred Conron

Frank Doerner

Bill & Gladys Dymond

Aldo Elia

Thomas Hughes Sr.

Don Johnny

Rick Jones

John Andrew McKee

Patti Garber Muir

Robert Nancarrow

Alvin Rosenberg

Eugene Siciunas

Dennis Smith

Ralph Spurrell

Ron Subdan

Geordie Trusler

2025 In Honour

Jake Barnes

Olivia Berkovits & Ryan Smith

Janice Blathwayt

Tanner and Tristan Bunn

Jenny Carver

John Cumming

Dana DeGeer & Jim Leavens

Fiona Dightam

Dawn and Rich Drayton

Rory Ferrier

Ava Grace French

Douglas Andrew Johnson

Paul Mackle

GEORGIAN BAY
FOREVER

