

## MESSAGE FROM BOARD MEMBER SARAH BOWERS



Over the past year, I have been able to be a part of so many great things happening at the Centre. I am happy to report that the first Dinner Under the Stars was held June 21, presented by [GumTree Catering](#). It was a magnificent evening filled with a four-course dinner and a strawberry cake for dessert, made with layered sponge cake, fresh local strawberries, fresh lemon curd with cream cheese icing! We had the lovely local musical talents of Tanya Lipscomb to keep the ambiance of the evening and to top it off a beautiful sunset.

I have been fortunate enough to be able to be in many sub committees including Buildings & Grounds. I try to do as much as I can for the centre to help keep it in tip top shape for everyone to come up and enjoy from young to old. Something that I am looking forward to is that our Grasslands Theatre is getting a complete makeover! We are striving to make it a functional space to be used for camps and activities as well as events such as concerts and weddings.

As the summer starts I would just like to say, stay cool, stay hydrated and always be kind to one another and remember Allan Brooks Nature Centre is always here for all your nature learning needs. We're just up the road come by and say hello!

Sincerely,  
Sarah Bowers



A tiny owl with a catlike face, oversized head, and bright yellow eyes, the **Northern Saw-whet Owl** is one of the most common owls in forests across northern North America. Saw-whets are highly nocturnal and seldom seen.

*(Courtesy The Cornell Lab - All About Birds)*

### Check it out!

The Allan Brooks Nature Centre recently received a taxidermy Saw-whet owl on loan, now on display in the Interpretive Centre.

## New Donation Boxes

The [Men's Shed](#) has outdone themselves again! 3 new animal themed donation boxes were recently built by members of the Men's Shed and installed onsite, and they are beautiful! There is a red-tailed hawk, owl, and marmot represented around the Centre. The Men's Shed is a volunteer group based in Vernon who have contributed to many projects at ABNC and we are so very grateful for their contributions.

For a complete story visit [Castanet Vernon](#).



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these exciting upcoming events!

- [Guided Trail Tours](#), every Thurs @ 1pm & Sat @ 11am
- [Nature Talks](#) | Saturdays @ 1pm
- [Family Fun Night](#) with *The Bug Guys* | June 7 **(SOLD OUT)**
- [Yoga in Nature](#) | July 13 & 27, Aug 10 & 24 @ 6pm
- [Pocket Orchestra in the Grasslands](#) | July 15 @ 7pm
- [Business After 5](#) | July 20, hosted by ABNC
- [Family Fun Night](#) with *The BC Wildlife Park* | Aug 11

## POCKET ORCHESTRA IN THE GRASSLANDS

Come to the Allan Brooks Nature Centre for our Evening Arts pop-up performance by the [Okanagan Symphony Orchestra Vintage Brass Trio](#), on Thursday July 15. Take in the beauty of the natural world while listening to the sounds of live music. Gates open at 6:30 pm, the performance will begin at 7:00 pm until approximately 8:00 pm. Guests will be seated on the Grasslands Theatre benches or bring your own lawn chair. Walk the Grasslands Trail and view the exhibits in the Interpretive Centre before the event.



This event is **FREE** but donations are appreciated. Pre-registration is required from our website [HERE](#) as space is limited to 75 guests.



## NATURE SHOP

Allan Brooks Nature Centre carries a wide variety of nature-based books through Lone Pine Publishing. Our inventory includes titles such as *Animals Tracks*, *Trees, Shrubs, & Flowers to Know*, and *(Kids World) Creepy Crawlies*, to name a few. The information and imagery is updated regularly and the books are highly durable. Come see what's in store for books in our [Nature Shop!](#)

## Effects of a Heat Wave on Animals

Just like humans, animals can overheat too. In the heatwave, they often seek out shade and water, and some animals display specific cooling behaviour. For example, birds may open up their wings to let air circulate and they also pant. Turkey vultures will actually defecate on their legs, which helps through evaporative cooling. However, there is a limit to what animals can stand, and extreme heat can cause heat stress. With climate change, we can expect hotter, drier summers. This change in temperature may lead to greater heat stress, and eventually greater mortality.



To help wildlife out, you can leave small, shallow tubs of water outdoors. Placing half-submerged rocks into the water can also allow various insects, such as bees, to access the water as well. If you notice an animal in distress, it is important to contact a local wildlife rehabilitation centre.

### Information

Found a sick, injured, orphaned or in distress wild animal? Visit our new [Resources webpage](#) with local organizations contact information, resources and links.



## Book a Birthday Party!

Give your child a fun-filled day outside that will make their birthday unforgettable! Birthday parties run for 2 hours, with 1 hour of guided exploration and 1 hour of "party" time. Our outdoor picnic gazebo will be reserved for your group and decorated for the party. We offer 5 unique Party Themes for you to choose from, including: reptiles, birds, insects, pond life and marmots!

Learn more about our Birthday Parties at: <https://abnc.ca/programs/birthday-parties/>.



## SEND A KID TO CAMP

We believe that everyone should have the opportunity to have meaningful nature experiences, no matter what their financial situation is. For this reason, we have our *Send a Kid to Camp* initiative, in which we pay for children to attend our nature summer camp, if the family is not financially able to. We currently have spaces available in this program for our [Nature Explorers](#) camp (ages 6-9) July 20 - 23 and August 3-6.

If you would like to learn more about this program or apply, please contact: [education@abnc.ca](mailto:education@abnc.ca) or call us at 250-260-4227

## THE RAPTORS ARE COMING!

Allan Brooks Nature Centre is pleased to report that we have made arrangements for [The Raptors](#) program to return to Vernon this summer! Mark your calendars, The Raptors will be here from Wednesday, August 25 to Sunday, August 29, offering group demonstrations and private encounters. Tickets will go on sale next week. Stay tuned for more info!

