

MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR JIM POPOWICH



Welcome to 2021 – the start of a new and hopefully, much better year. Yes, COVID is still with us but with the vaccine arrivals we expect to be able to do much more this year. The good news is, we intend to open the Centre on Saturday, April 17th with our COVID plan in full effect.

2020 was a reasonable year for Allan Brooks Nature Centre. We connected with about 3400 children (second largest ever) in our many programs as well as many more visitors to our Centre - a great outcome.

The new Interpretive Centre HVAC system upgrade is now complete. Thank you to [Kal Rotary](#) for their great financial support, [Chapman's Mechanical](#) for their high-quality installation and [1&2 Electric](#) for their support work. We do appreciate your contributions! In addition to working on improvements to the Centre we continue with the development of e-Learning programs for schools. One thing that COVID has taught us is that we must be flexible in what we do. We expect the soft launch of the grade 4 e-Learning program to be available to teachers in the next week or so.

February is a good month to discuss memberships and what it means to our organization. Having a strong membership base is essential to our success. Members are important stakeholders who support our mission and values of "Bringing Nature to Life in the Okanagan". Membership fee revenue is important to our ability to keep our Centre up and running. It assists in developing new programs that are designed to meet our member's objectives. Our membership numbers also positively reflect in the opportunity to apply for funding support such as sponsorships and grants. So, if you are already an Allan Brooks Nature Centre Society member, thank you. If your membership has lapsed, I encourage you to renew as you are important to us. If you are not yet a member, please take the opportunity to look at our website and choose a membership option best suited to you. I think you will enjoy what we do!

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Centre this year. Staff will be sure to welcome you. Let's hope this can be soon.

Take care and be well!

Jim Popowich, Board Chair

Western conifer seed bugs are sometimes referred to as stink bugs. While they do emit a foul-smelling odor as a defense, they are not classified in the stink bug family Pentatomidae. They frequently enter homes during the cooler months in search of a warm place to overwinter.



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_conifer_seed_bug

MEMBERSHIPS

Support the Allan Brooks Nature Centre with a 2021 membership! Prices start at just \$30 and include a number of benefits:

- 10% off special events (workshops etc.)
- 10% discount in our Gift Shop
- A tax receipt for \$20.00
- Invitations to Member and Volunteer-only Special Events
- Voting rights at the AGM

Family Membership also includes:

- 15% off Nature Summer Camps
- 15% off Birthday Party bookings



▶ GET A MEMBERSHIP

EDUCATION NEWS

Nature in the Classroom

We are excited to launch our new [Nature in the Classroom e-Learning website](#) for Grade 4 students! The online material complements the in-class presentation for teachers. All the details will be available as of next week, including a trial run for the first month at no extra charge.

Summer Camps

Register for Summer Camps today! We have already sold out 3 weeks of camps so don't hesitate to book online [HERE](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars! We have tentatively scheduled Saturday, April 17th as our Opening Day of the 2021 season. We are also excited to announce that we are bringing back our Plant Sale on May 15th-16th! Stay tuned for full details and Covid-19 related updates for all of our activities.



SURVEY

Your feedback is important to us! We ask that members and the general public take 2 minutes to complete our short survey to help us better plan for the future.

We want your experience at ABNC to be memorable each and every time.

▶ TAKE THE SURVEY