

MESSAGE FROM
BOARD MEMBER
SUE BEAUDRY

Another season is fast upon us. In this strange new world, we are all wishing for normality. Visiting the great outdoors is a place to find it. The Allan Brooks Nature Centre is gearing up for its opening on April 17th. We are a charitable organization that is dependent on financial support from many sources. We were grateful for the generosity and continued support of many donors and businesses who were there for us last year when every plan we had made was thrown out the window! It is even more important this year that we remain flexible and open to new ways of doing things. Our programs and summer camps have continued on with the safe changes mandated by Public Health and so too have our fundraising strategies.

This year there are many plans underway to make Allan Brooks Nature Centre an even better place to visit. We need your help. Come for a visit, participate in a program or event, make a donation, take out a membership, or sponsor our activities. In a short time, you will be able bid on our Dinner Under the Stars auction (which netted \$20,000 last year for the Centre!). If everyone helps out, we can take Allan Brooks Nature Centre to a new level. We can make it an even better place to see the grasslands, learn about our environment, and teach a new generation the importance of preserving what we have.

Yellow Bellied Marmots are herbivores and eat a wide variety of plants, flowers and seeds. Interestingly they will choose young and tender plants over any other kind, and hold food in their forepaws while eating.

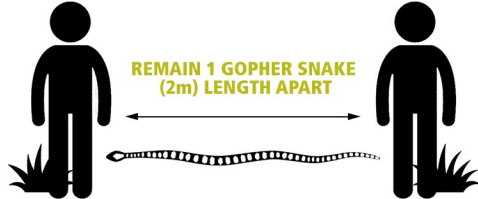


OPENING DAY

On opening day, Saturday, April 17th, we will keep things simple and focus on what we do best - celebrating nature! Join us for a Guided Walking Tour at 11am and 1pm at \$5 per person (youth and members are free!). Come see what's new at ABNC including our new sensory bins and water table in the playground, an abundance of brand new trail signs, new items in our Gift Shop, and a new taxidermy Golden Eagle. Kids can take away a FREE nature-based art activity kit and the first 50 guests to the Centre this season will receive a complimentary tree sprout courtesy of [PRT – Coldstream](#). Bring a picnic lunch and don't forget your camera - the marmots are here!

UPDATED PANDEMIC PLAN

Allan Brooks Nature Centre offers a safe haven from stress associated with the pandemic, and a place for families to connect with nature. In preparation for our opening, please review the [ABNC Covid Plan](#) before your first visit of the season. Our new hours of operation are 9am – 3:30pm to allow for more end-of-day cleaning. Don't forget to stay 1 gopher snake length apart, and wear your mask!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars and sign up for a workshop today!

- [Opening Day](#) | April 17
- [Earth Day](#) | April 22 at the Village Green Shopping Centre
- [Worm Composting Workshop](#) | April 24
- [Little Sprouts Local Plant Knowledge for Kids Workshop](#) | May 8
- [Annual Plant Sale](#) | May 15-16
- [Nature Nibbles How to Recognise and Use Wild Plants for Food Workshop](#) | May 29



IN THE COMMUNITY



Gift Card For Good

We would like to extend our gratitude to the [Village Green Shopping Centre](#) in Vernon for donating \$2 to ABNC for every "Gift Card for Good" purchased in the month of April! Celebrate Earth Month with a treat for you or as a gift for someone special and give back to nature.

Nature's Fare Receipts

Bring your [Nature's Fare Market](#) receipts to the Centre starting April 17th, and the ABNC will receive 3% of your total receipts back in cash! What a great community project for non-profits, and thank you for stashing your receipts like a squirrel all winter.



GIFT SHOP

We are excited to feature a variety of new items in the Gift Shop this season including a line of products by Blue Hills Lavender of Salmon Arm. Be sure to come and see what's new in store, from kids toys to locally made natural products – our Gift Shop will have something for everyone this season.

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

We have brought back our [Corporate Membership](#) this season – perfect for local, small businesses who share similar community values and enjoy the many benefits too! Choose between a \$250 Owl or \$500 Hawk membership level and have your business contribute to the education, enjoyment, and conservation of the grasslands.

NATIONAL
VOLUNTEER WEEK

April 18-24 is National Volunteer Appreciation Week! This is a chance to celebrate, recognize and thank volunteers. The theme this year is **The Value of One, The Power of Many**. This theme reflects the awe-inspiring acts of kindness by millions of individuals as well as the magic that happens when we work together towards a common purpose. If you're out at the Centre and see a volunteer, please stop and take a moment to thank them for all their hard work!

For more information on volunteering with ABNC visit <https://abnc.ca/at-the-centre/volunteer-jobs/>