

# Environmental Sustainability Committee 2024 Year in Review



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UNIVERSITIES  
LAURENTIAN

*Celebrating achievements in sustainability  
and community engagement*

## 2024 Highlights



Student Community Garden



Laurentian Greenspace



Bird Strike Elimination



With support from a TD Grant, we established a Student Community Garden at the Vale Living with Lakes Centre, offering students their own plots and sharing surplus harvest with the food bank and campus community. We also began filming a short video series, exploring the importance of sacred plants through the teachings of the medicine wheel with Chevaun Toulouse, Sagamok.



Using prize money from the Voyageurs Innovation Challenge, our team collaborated with advisors to draft a long-term protection plan for the Laurentian Greenspace and enhance trail safety with wayfinder signs and maps.



With support from the A.P.E. Fund through the Jane Goodall Institute, we launched a campaign to reduce bird strikes on campus. This included a window art mural by student Sam Benard-Barry and the installation of dot strips to make windows more bird-friendly.

Established  
**16 plots** in the  
new student  
community garden  
at the Vale Living  
with Lakes Centre.

Worked with a  
global network of  
**over 730**  
**institutions** in  
the Nature Positive  
University Alliance

**Over 300**  
**participants**  
joined community  
greenspace events

**8 kms** of  
greenspace trails  
maintained

Retrofitted  
**27 windows**  
with dot strips and  
art to reduce bird  
collision rates



# Engaging with community for a sustainable future



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## Community Engagement Events



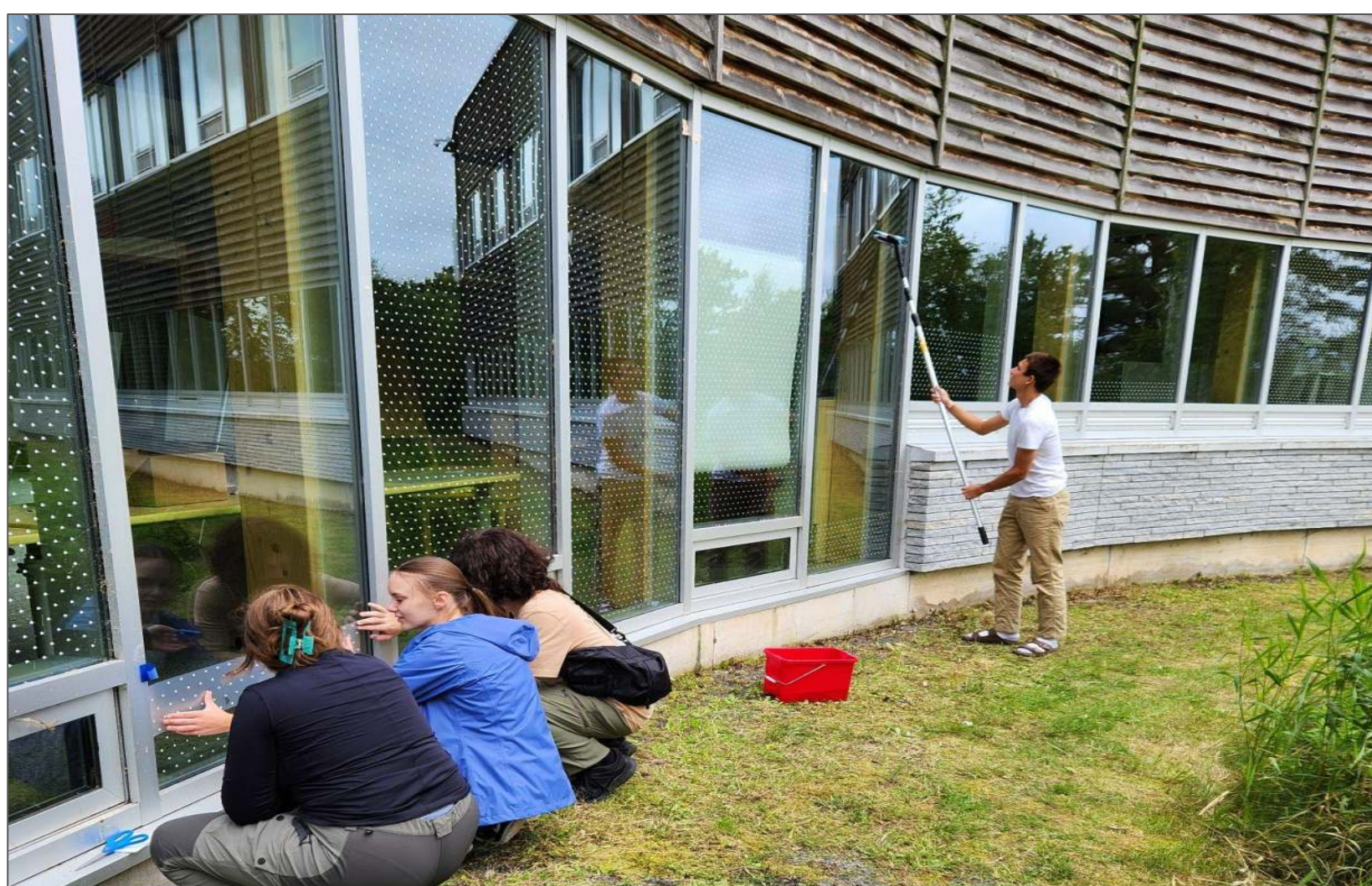
Hosted a Bioblitz event at Lockerby Composite School



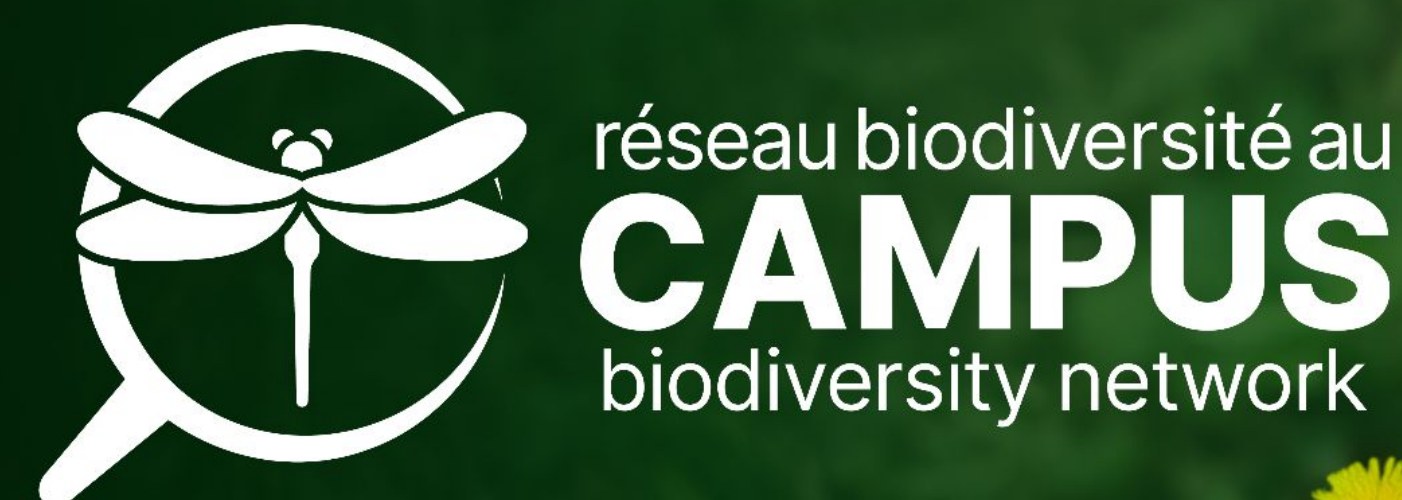
Presented at the Rainbow District School Boards Eco Summit to share on various topics about sustainability, the environment, best practices and climate change.



Collaborated with Rainbow Routes and Coalition for a Liveable Sudbury to provide several community hikes in the Laurentian Greenspace



Invited Youth Rangers to assist with dot strip application for bird safe windows



Joined the global Campus Biodiversity Network on iNaturalist to promote community-science observation and protection of biodiversity on campus.



Information booth at JCSC Water Event



Participated in JCSC Festival



Tallied litter to support JCSCs Catch Basin Litter Trap project

## Connecting People & Nature



Installed 3 benches in the Laurentian Greenspace, providing scenic views of Bennett Lake and an experimental research peatland.



Maintained 8km of greenspace trails including brush removal to improve visibility and installation of wayfinding markers and mapping to improve safety.



Provided a tour to the Minister of Colleges and Universities to share Nature Positive initiatives on campus.



Partnered with the Doran Planetarium on outreach events with local highschools



Shared Green Leaf of Hope pins with graduates, symbolizing their personal commitment to strengthening their connection with nature beyond university.



Planted 5 honorary degree trees as dedication to 2024 honorary degree recipients.



Volunteered at the Sudbury Camino



Organized a bird walk for Laurentian students

## Partnerships & Funding



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Jane Goodall Institute

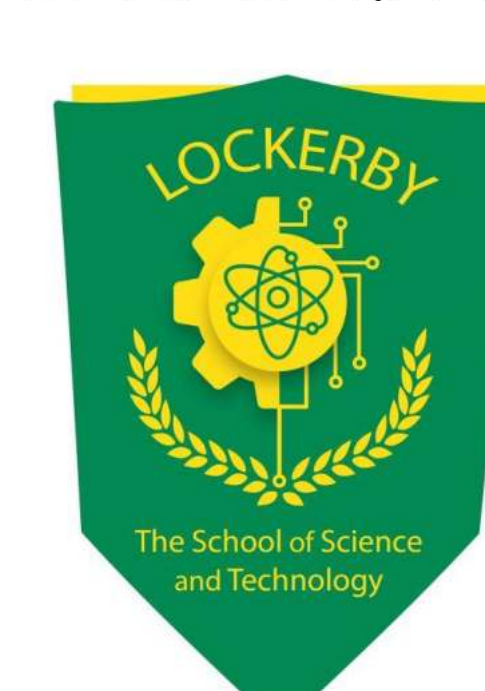


**TD Friends of the Environment Foundation**



**Université Laurentienne**  
Laurentian University

Bureau des affaires francophones  
Office of Francophone Affairs



**The Nickel Refillery**  
ZERO WASTE LIVING

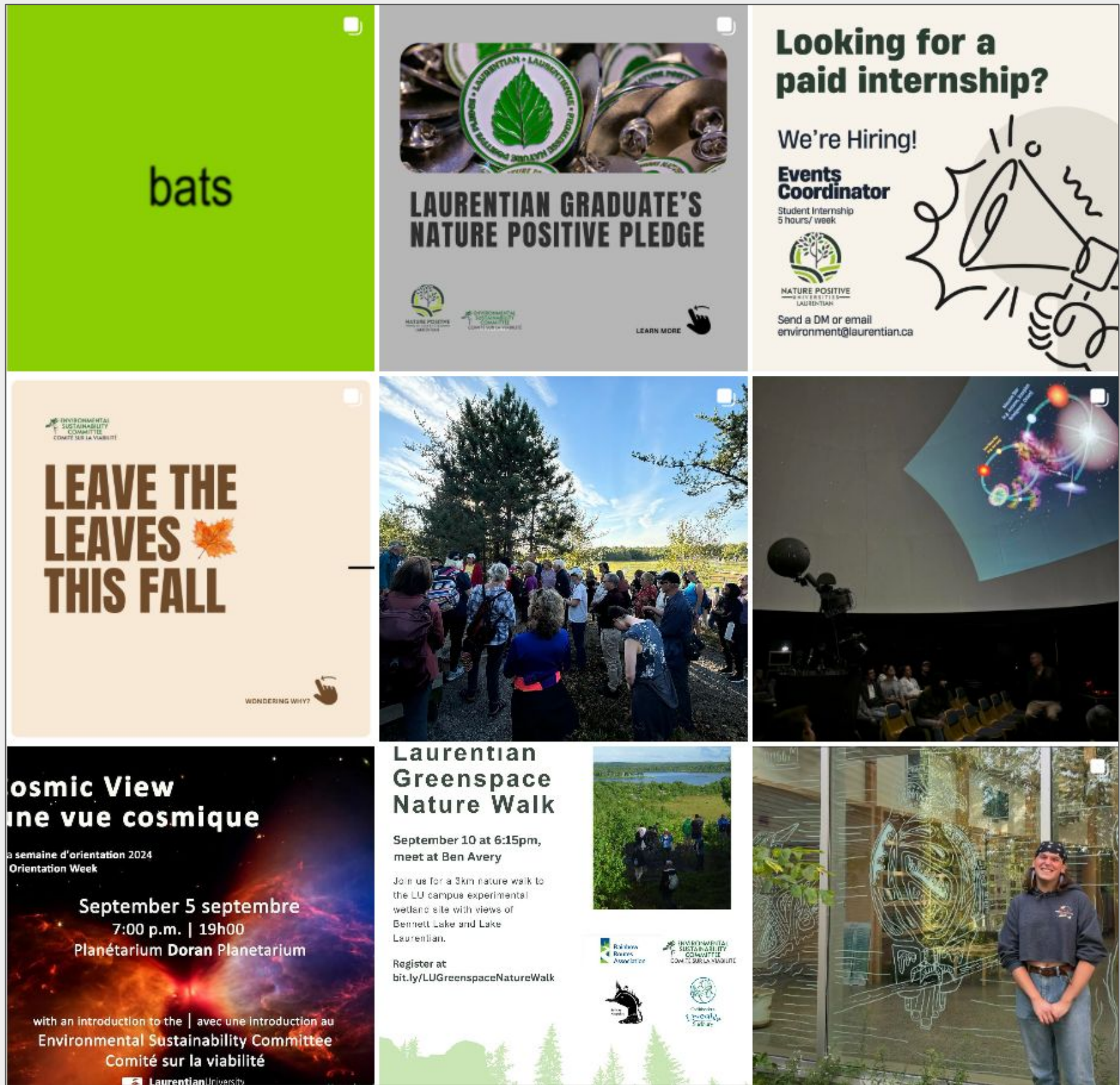
Show your student/staff card on Mondays for 10% Discount on Bulk items!



# Advancing education & biodiversity monitoring



## Sharing Educational Content



Ongoing social media engagement.



Designed and distributed educational posters to highlight campus biodiversity, raising awareness about the species that call this area home.

Collaborated with LU courses, presenting ESC projects, mentoring students on grant proposals, and exchanging ideas for environmental advocacy campaigns.



Presentations at various events to share insights on environmental stewardship and the importance of connecting to the land.



Presented Laurentian University's biodiversity initiatives to a global audience of student ambassadors.



Hosted a lecture series featuring experts on local species, providing valuable insights into the region's biodiversity.

## Biodiversity Monitoring Projects



Total Laurentian University observations to date: 4,091  
Total number of species observed: 1,010  
Total number of observers: 332

Join our campus biodiversity network! [bit.ly/3QqHDns](https://bit.ly/3QqHDns)



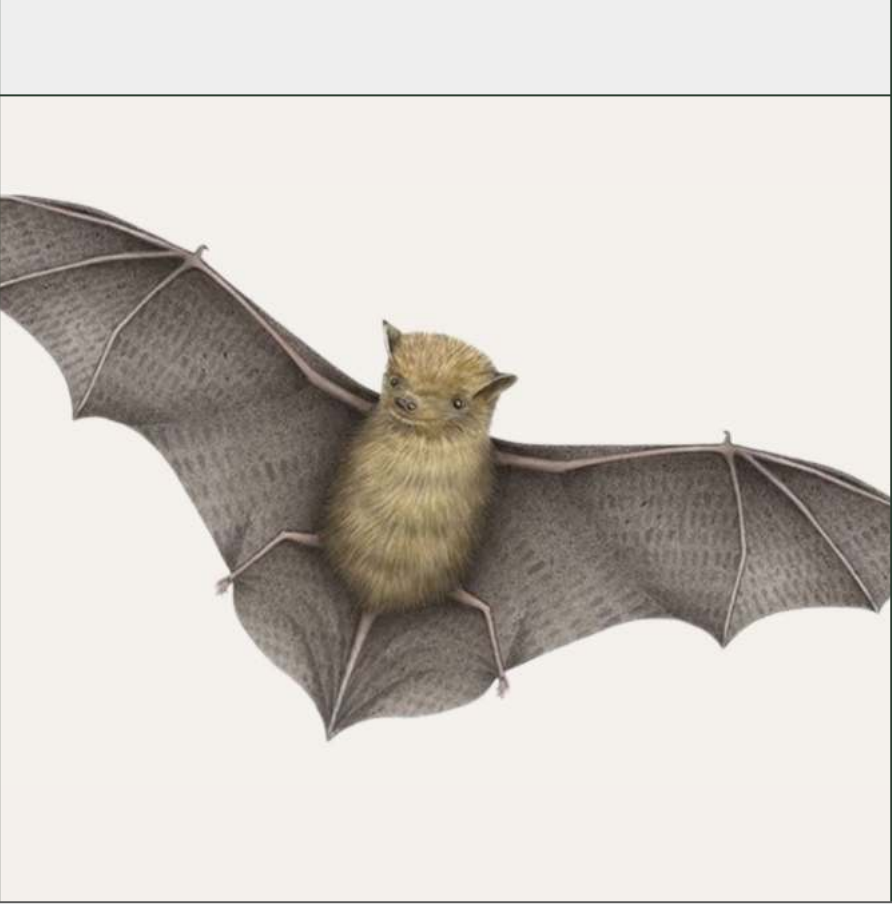
Scan me

### BIRDS



Over 19,000 observations and **75 species identified**. Supported by the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks

### BATS



Over 600 observations and **6 species identified**. Supported by the Toronto Zoo and Junction Creek Stewardship Committee

### FROGS



Over 10,000 observations and **4 species identified**. Supported by the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks.

## Join the Team!

[environment@laurentian.ca](mailto:environment@laurentian.ca)

### 2024 Leadership Team:



Avery Morin  
Student Co-chair,  
Environmental  
Sustainability Committee



Anastacia Chartrand  
Nature Positive  
Coordinator



Adam Lepage  
CFEU Research Project  
Coordinator



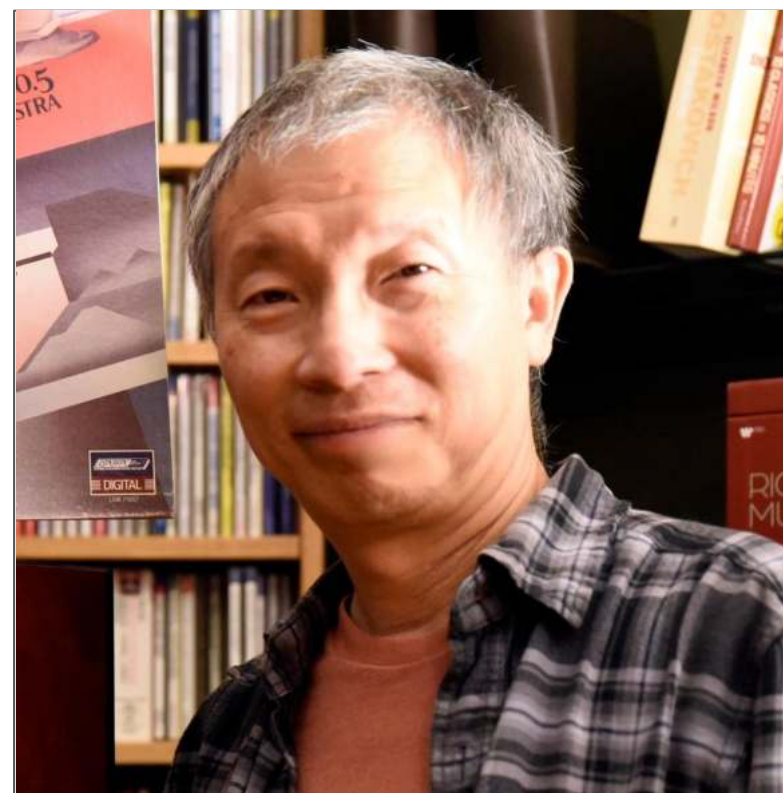
Emma Meadows  
CFEU Conservation and  
Biodiversity Restoration  
of Aquatic Systems



Taylor Nicholls  
Indigenous Liaison, MSc  
Biology

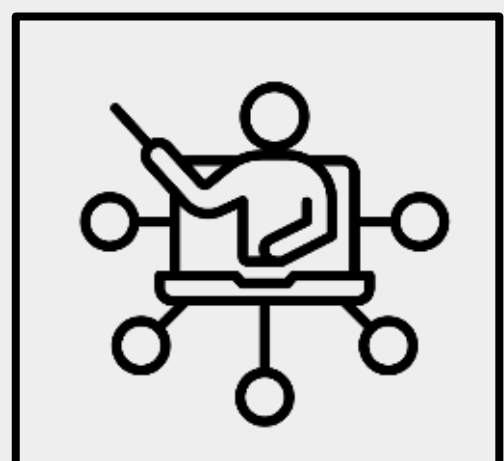


Dr. John Gunn  
Professor Emeritus,  
Vale Living with Lakes  
Centre



Dr. Hoi Cheu  
Faculty Co-chair  
Environmental  
Sustainability Committee

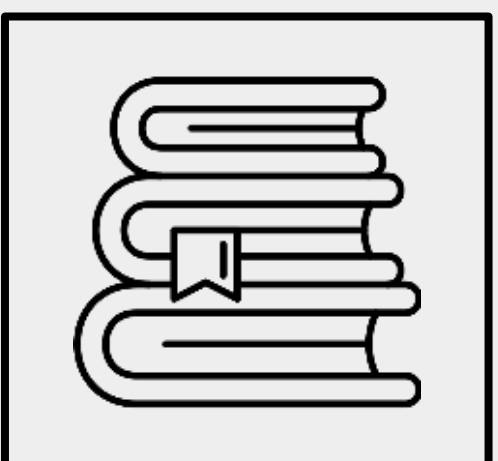
## Future Vision



Microcredential  
Development with  
NOSM: Environmental  
& Human Health



Meet criteria and apply  
for a WWF Living  
Campus Designation



Work with Laurentian  
Library to develop a  
Nature Positive Corner



Improve Digital  
Presence to share  
Nature Positive Impacts  
globally



Support campus  
pollinators in  
collaboration with  
Lockerby Composite  
School



Advance institutional  
sustainability through  
continued engagement  
with facility services



Identify invasive  
phragmites stands to  
guide management  
actions, in partnership  
with JCSC