



Adventure in every step

# Hike Nova Scotia Annual Report 2015-2016

*These are just some of the highlights of progress on Hike NS's strategic directions from April 2015 to March 2016.*

## Advocacy

- Actively engaged in consultations on the draft Nova Scotia Trails Strategy
- Consulted with the NS Department of Natural Resources on the Sunday Hunting Ban and came out strongly against lifting the ban
- Wrote a letter to the Premier on the importance of strong legislation to reduce impacts in our wilderness protected areas
- Attended an Outdoor Leadership consultation organized by the Province
- Gained a seat on the implementation team for the Shared Strategy for Advancing Recreation in Nova Scotia



Participants are engaged in an Outdoor Council of Canada Field Leader – Hiking course in Baddeck in June 2015. Photo credit: Vince Forrestall.

## Promotion

- Offered the Fall Guided Hike series of 35 hikes with an estimated 1000 participants
- Offered the Winter Guided Snowshoe Hike series of 34 hikes with over 860 participants
- Partnered with Leave No Trace Canada in offering a series of 6 Leave No Trace summer workshops to over 150 people
- Offered a suite of Outdoor Council of Canada courses to over 70 people across the province including:
  - 6 Field Leader – Hiking courses
  - 1 Field Leader – Winter module
  - 1 Field Leader – Hiking instructor course
- Offered 7 Re-Connecting with Nature workshops to over 130 people across the province



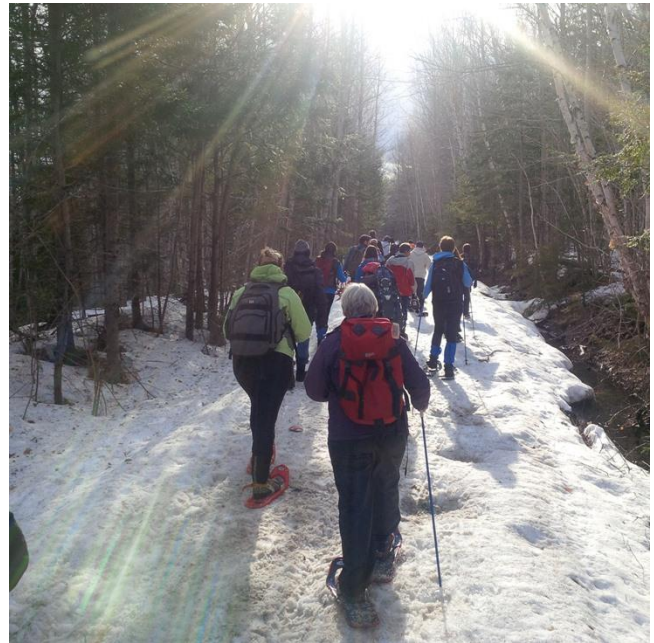
Folks play around while snowshoeing at the Carver's Woodlot hike in January in Lunenburg County during the Winter Guided Snowshoe Hike Series. Photo credit: Municipality of the District of Lunenburg.

## Leadership

- Provided various letters of support to groups in support of trails and outdoor initiatives
- New trails signs went up along the International Appalachian Trail (IAT) in NS
- Met with Hike Canada about expanding the National Hiking Trail in NS
- Met with the NS Department of Natural Resources to discuss its support of the IAT and the National Hiking Trail

## Strong Organizational Presence

- Continued to expand Hike NS's membership
- Saw almost 100 people attend the Hiking Summit in Scotsburn in April 2015
- Awarded Jim Vance with the Summit Award at the Hiking Summit
- Collected feedback in a Hike NS in Five Years member survey
- Expanded our member benefits program
- Partnered with 40 groups on the fall and winter hike series
- Continued partnerships with the NS Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, the Outdoor Council of Canada, Leave No Trace Canada and others



Who would have guessed we'd need snowshoes in April 2015 for the Hiking Summit? Photo credit: Vince Forrestall.



With Goose Lane Editions, Hike NS co-hosted a public talk by Michael Haynes in June 2015 attended by about 250 people. Photo credit: Brian Mrkonjic.

**Hike NS thanks the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage for its support.**