

**NATIVE ORCHID CONSERVATION INC.
2015 ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Board of Directors 2015		
Role	Name	Comments
President	Peggy Bainard Acheson	
Vice-president	Dave Toop	
Treasurer	Peter Klassen Denny Smith	Resigned Aug. 10/2015 Temporary treasurer for remainder of year until new Treasurer took over in January/2016
Secretary	Rose Kuzina	
Membership Chair	Heather Miltenburg	
Member-at Large	Mike James	
Member-at-Large	Donna Krawetz	Took over Treasurer role in January 2016
Member-at-Large	John Perry	Joined board December 9. Filling one year vacancy to 2017
Member-at-Large	John Dyck	Offered in December 2015 to join board again. Joined board January 13/2016. Filling one year vacancy to 2017
Debwendon Board Representatives	Peggy Bainard Acheson Mike James Doris Ames Richard Reeves	

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Date	Notes
January 7	NOCI board meeting (UFCW): 45 members renewed. Budget for 2 nd edition of book presented; Mike James agreed to take on Nomination Chair role; AGM planning; Diane Sawatsky suggested as speaker; Rose to make MOS display using frames.
January 12:	Book meeting: Doris, Richard, Peggy (Dave sick). Agreed to use an adjudicator to select photos for 2 nd edition, reviewed draft advanced sales brochure, reviewed A Brief History of Orchids and Conservation and Biodiversity sections.
January 30	Deadline for submissions for February newsletter: AGM notice and poster, Plant of the Month (Prickly Rose - Doris Ames), President's Report, candidate biographies.
February 3	NOCI board meeting (UFCW): 62 members. Casey sent Heather a draft of the iOS lite app for review; FB: 105 members; Diane Sawatsky agreed to speak at the AGM; advanced book sale price will be \$20.
February 9	Book meeting: Doris, Richard, Dave, Peggy: Reviewed revised Orchid Biology and Protection of Species and Ecosystems.
February 18	Debwendon board meeting: Trail update: washrooms to be complete by end of March; design committee to review Phase 2 on Feb. 23; RFP for wigwam to be put out; roof interlacing will be done by Brokenhead FN; Ryan will design highway sign; discuss trail name.
February 23	Interpretation Steering Committee met at MB CWS offices to review HTFC design. Trail name recommended by Steering Comm.: Brokenhead Wetland Interpretive Trail.
March 4	NOCI board meeting (UFCW): 78 members, 1 group. Heather to note in the database that Doris Ames has a life-time membership. Final AGM planning, MOS show, field trips. Rose presented 6 proposed trips plus the extra weekday event of the Brokenhead Trail opening. It was agreed to open up book pictures for the membership to submit.
March 6	NOCI AGM (MB Bowls Centre): Business meeting: Ratification of 2014 AGM minutes (Rose); President's Report (Peggy); Treasurer's Report - Denny indicated that there were some errors in the financial reporting such that ratification of the financial reports would be deferred to Members' Night in October. He mentioned that a membership fee increase may be in order due to dropping revenue. Membership Report (Heather) reported that NOCI had 125 members and 5 groups in 2014. She mentioned the new Facebook page (launched Apr. 19/14) and the air miles promotion (launched Apr. 29/14). Election: Mike James lead the elections. Four of the five vacancies were filled by the candidates put forward: Peggy Bainard Acheson, Peter Klassen, Denny Smith, and Donna Krawetz and were approved by the membership. There were no nominations from the floor. Guest speaker: Diane Sawatsky was sick, so Dave Toop gave a presentation on the Wagner Bog Natural Area close to Edmonton, AB.
March 6	NOCI board meeting to elect officers: President: Peggy, Vice-president: Dave, Secretary: Rose, Treasurer: Peter, Membership chair: Heather. Three members-at-large: Mike James, Donna Krawetz, Denny Smith. Other: Debwendon board: Mike, Peggy; Field Trip

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	Coordinator: Rose.
March 16	Book meeting: Doris, Richard, Dave, Peggy. Reviewed first five chapters, added some terms to Glossary.
March 19-22	MOS Show: Rose made the NOCI educational display, which won 2 nd place in its category. Volunteers handed out Advanced book forms, brochures, field trip list, and sold pins, books, DVDs. 17 volunteers: Heather Miltenburg, Rose Kuzina, Peggy Bainard Acheson, Denny & Mary Smith, Katharine Bergbusch, Donna Krawetz, Carol Martin, Veronica Miltenburg, Carol Brant, Mike James, Dave Toop, Leon & Carol Clegg, Peter Klassen, Wilma Sotas, Florence McCoy.
March 28	Gardening Saturday: Peggy attended and made contact with Gardens Manitoba president re having a display next year. Gave out brochures and field trip lists at most booths.
March 30	Survey trip to Lewis Bog (Peggy, Denny & Mary Smith, 10 am-4 pm) to look for <i>P. lacera</i> habitat and find a potential route for a field trip in July.
March 31	Debwendon meeting with Winnipeg Foundation regarding annual funding, trail completion and opening. Ryan Wakshinski, Peggy Bainard Acheson and Jeff Provost
April 8	NOCI board meeting (UFCW): 84 members, 1 group. Transition of Treasurer from Denny to Peter. Mileage rate to be kept at \$0.30 per km. Denny provided succession document for Treasurer role. Peggy to follow up with Casey re orchid app deadline. Final field trip list presented, trip leaders assigned, field trip leader guideline reviewed.
April 13	Book meeting: Peggy to contact Dennis Fast re adjudicating pictures for book from picture call (to be made in May newsletter). Discussed what pictures needed. Reviewed Doris' comments on Orchid Habitat, Conservation & Biodiversity, and a Brief History. Reviewed 8 species accounts. Discussed who would write the Foreword (decided on Paul Catling). Discussed range maps, printer quotes.
April 14	Debwendon Steering Committee meeting: Reviewed HTFC's interpretive signage and emailed comments provided by those who could not be in attendance.
April 15	Friends of Bird's Hill Park AGM: Peggy and Richard attended.
April 21	Debwendon board meeting: Interpretation project: Phase II text is complete. Two quotes for Ojibway translation were reviewed. Jeff to obtain quotes for sign production. Ryan provided a wigwam diagram -- approved by the board. Repair and maintenance contract reviewed. Operating season will be May 1 - Oct 31. AGM planning: May 13/15. Mike to order two picnic tables from a Hutterite colony. Peggy to arrange plaque (W. Kildonan Hort. Society). Peggy to contact Recycle Everywhere for recycling bins; Kelly-Anne to research bear-proof garbage bins. Trail opening planning: tentative date set for June 26 th .
April 24	Deadline for submissions for May newsletter. Plant of the Month (Buffalo bur - Doris Ames), President's Report, upcoming events, field trip schedule, photo call for book

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	pictures.
May 6	NOCI board meeting (UFCW): 89 members, 3 groups. Peter purchased QuickBooks program (cost to be shared with Debwendon). Board voted for Peter to get a free "square" for 4 months on trial basis. Casey withdrew from iOS app development. Heather and Peggy to try and find someone else. All leaders confirmed for field trips. Advance book sales: 31 for \$620.00. Tentative date of BWIT opening is June 26, Members' Night date: October 23, Prairie Days - August 8.
May 7	Will Milne stepped down as webmaster and Heather M took it over.
May 9	NOCI Display: Wild Birds Unltd. 12-2 pm. Peggy and Heather
May 10	Mother's Day Plant Sale, CMU, 9 am-4:30 pm. Donna, Rose, Katharine Bergbusch, Peggy, Dave
May 11	Book meeting: Doris, Richard, Dave, Peggy. Book price suggested, wholesale and retail -- to be approved by NOCI board. 13 species accounts reviewed.
May 13	Debwendon AGM (at Boreal Woods Nature Centre): Adoption of Minutes from June 26, 2014 AGM and board meeting of April 21/15. Treasurer's Report: Peggy presented 2015 financial statements. Auditor's report not yet available; to be ratified at next board meeting. Carl gave progress report on trail. Jeff gave report on interpretation project. RFQ sent for highway sign, wigwam construction and trail maintenance contract. No new appointments to Debwendon board; existing directors will stay on. Mike received a quote from Whiteshell Hutterite Colony for two picnic tables. Board approved - Mike to order.
May 15-16	Native Prairie Plant Sale at Living Prairie Museum, Friday pm and all day Saturday. Peggy
May 23	Scouting Trip: Camp Morton Provincial Park: Rose, Heather, Donna.
May 25	Debwendon board meeting: Audit still not available for ratification - tabled to next board meeting. Trail update: Washrooms still need siding, door painting, inside finishing. Interpretive signage: HTFC provided strip sign lay-outs for review. New documents to be sent once revisions made. Highway sign and wigwam: two quotes received. Timeframe to get 13' X 6" round cedar poles was 6-8 weeks which will exceed the target opening date. Mike to look into some options for us to supply the poles and perhaps speed up delivery. Opening planning tabled until next meeting. HTFC provided draft trail brochure for review.
May 27	Book meeting: Doris, Richard, Dave, Peggy. Completed review of all genus and species accounts.
May 30	Field trip: Camp Morton Provincial Park: 20 participants. Trip leaders: Rose, Heather, Donna.

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June 1	Scouting trip: Argyle & Grosse Isle: Rose, Heather, Donna?
June 1	Orchid tour of Brokenhead Wetland for Hutterite children for Mike. Doris, Richard, Carl, Mike, Peggy - ~35 children plus chaperones.
June 3	NOCI board meeting (UFCW): 97 members, 3 groups. One GIC cashed in for book printing. Lite app is now on Apple. Book is on track for publishing in October. Advance book sales: 48 for \$985 in sales. Brokenhead opening postponed as projects not complete. NOCI to do field trip with NOCI members on June 27. Displays in May resulted in \$143 in sales plus \$150 donation from Wild Birds Unltd. Board approved Peggy's request that the donation be donated to the trail project (for picnic table and plaque). A board retreat and updating of Doris' logbook was discussed. No meeting in July.
June 6	Field trip: Argyle & Grosse Isle: 18 participants. Trip leaders: Rose, Heather, Donna.
June 8	Scouting trip: Bittersweet ski trails: Rose, Heather, Donna.
June 13	Field trip: Bittersweet Ski Trails: 6 participants. Trip leaders: Rose, Heather, Donna
June 17	Book meeting: Doris, Richard, Dave, Peggy. Reviewed Glossary, Bibliography, Blooming chart, Index, range map change (<i>P. psycodes</i>).
June 18	Survey trip: Lewis Bog, 8 am - 4 pm. Richard and Peggy
June 23	Book meeting: Richard and Peggy re InDesign.
June 24	Field trip: Brokenhead Wetland Trail: for Grey Hares, Nature Manitoba (group member): 27 participants. Trip leaders: Peggy and Richard R.
June 26	Survey trip: Lewis Bog, Spruce Siding Road, MB Forestry Association and Hadashville ski trail. Peggy and John Dyck.
June 27	Field trip: Brokenhead Wetland Trail: (NOCI): 19 participants. Trip leaders: Dave, John D, Mike, Peggy
June 28	Survey trip: Sandilands and Forestry Roads. Peggy
June 29	Scouting trip to TGPP: John N and Peggy
June 30	Meeting at Traffic Board re highway sign permit: Ryan W and Peggy
July 4	Field trip: Tall Grass Prairie Preserve: 7 participants. Trip leaders: John N and Peggy.
July 6	Field trip: Brokenhead Trail for East Beaches Garden Club (group member). 12 participants. Trip leaders: Peggy and Richard R.
July 6	Debwendon board meeting: Peggy moved to accept financial audit by Chris Law and to

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	use Chris Law to audit 2015 financial statements. Both carried. Washrooms are now complete. Interpretation project: Sloan getting list of supplies for production, brochure text sent to translator. Wigwam and highway sign - board agreed on single-sided sign as double-sided sign not allowed under Highway Traffic Act. The sign will be accompanied by two provincial walking trail signs on the highway. A single bear-proof garbage bin was ordered from Cypress Industries: (\$831.68). Picnic tables - board agreed to order four picnic tables from the Hutterites. Carl shared that Courchene from Sakeeng FN will build the cedar roof of the wigwam.
July 8	Book meeting: Doris, Richard, Dave, Peggy: Reviewed Dave's changes for Orchid Habitat, Protection of Species & Ecosystems, A Brief History, Genus Platanthera. Discussed putting in a page on origins of NOCI, mission statement and history of the Brokenhead Trail. Peggy to work on inputting approved changes to InDesign.
July 10	Scouting trip: Lewis Bog: Dave and Peggy
July 11	Field trip: Lewis Bog: 13 participants. Trip leaders: Dave and Peggy
July 28	Display: TGPP Weston Family Interpretive Site: Heather
August 8	Display and Presentation: Prairie Day: Dave and Peggy
August 12	NOCI board meeting (Denny's): No membership report. Peter Klassen resigned as Treasurer on August 10; Denny to take over as temporary Treasurer. Book is delayed (Peggy was away for 3 weeks); Brokenhead waiting for cedar poles. Peggy to contact someone re updating websites. Open House planning: Heather to contact Bruce Ford as main speaker; Rose to do a report on trip to Bemidji. Denny reported on retreat venues. Decided on one day meeting to review NOCI documents and present and future plans for the organization.
August 27	Book meeting: Doris, Richard, Dave, Peggy. Peggy to input text in InDesign, work on quick reference changes with photos and send to Dave, Peggy to work on Introduction, apply for ISBN code and LAC category. Dave to help with inputting pictures to InDesign.
August 29	Field Trip: TGPP: 14 participants. Trip leaders: Rose and Peggy
September 7	Book meeting: Doris, Richard, Dave, Peggy. Peggy completed input of text to InDesign, Dave to do pics. Not a lot of pictures received from members from 1 st picture call. Picture choices received from Dennis. Some gaps in pictures including cover picture. Peggy to get revised printer quotes.
September 8	Debwendon board meeting: Trail update: Ryan reported that grab bars are installed in washrooms; vents at back still to come. Trail has levelled out. Interpretation project: Jeff reported that the RFQ for signage will be in 2 parts: fabrication and installation. Jeff

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	moved to use Jade Sign Works for sign production. Jeff/Richard moved/seconded to revise location of highway sign to first island and leave one-sided. Board approved. Opening: no decision -- late October not promising. NOCI is looking into getting a grant from either Hydro or Assiniboine Credit Union to update both websites. Board was in agreement.
September 9	NOCI board meeting (UFCW): 114 members, 4 groups (Nature Manitoba, W. Kildonan HS, MOS, East Beaches GC), 2 board vacancies - Peggy to put notice in next newsletter, Denny filed CRA return, Denny will have auditor's report ready for ratification at Members' Night. Casey on board to complete iOS app for Apple devices again. Book update - leaving out <i>P. hyperborea</i> , expecting to be delayed again due to Richard and Dave being away October/November. Trail update - cedar poles received and contractor to submit revised proposal. Websites: Board agreed to apply for \$2K grant from Assiniboine Credit Union and MB Hydro. Board retreat agenda accepted. Donna to book venue at Oak Hammock Marsh. Steering committee set up to prepare a gift policy with focus on land bequests. Denny to lead with Donna and Peggy. Open House planning: Bruce Ford has not confirmed; alternatives suggested: Laura Reeves, Doris Ames.
September 20	Deadline for submissions for October newsletter. Plant of the Month (Western Silvery Aster) - Doris Ames), President's Report, Open House notice.
October 3	NOCI board retreat: Oak Hammock Marsh: Review of mission statement, objectives, by-laws, executive officer and other roles, projects (ongoing and future ideas), brainstorming for other ideas and opportunities e.g. field trip leader training. Marsh walk. Attended by: Peggy, Denny, Dave, Heather, Donna, Mike.
October 14	NOCI board meeting (UFCW): 116 members, 4 groups. Denny has balanced books. Book: second call for pictures in newsletter. New printing date is spring 2016. Heather moved to have a draw for a pin on FB once we reach 400 members. Websites: Donna prepared grant proposals and sent to ACU and MB Hydro. AGM date set for March 4, 2016. NOCI will work with CPAWS to sell their 2016 calendars - NOCI to get half of profits. Denny will act as Nomination Chair to find 2 prospective board members to fill vacancies. Denny moved that terms of office for executive roles be extended 15 days after the election (instead of right after the AGM).
October 20	Gardening Manitoba AGM and Workshop: Peggy attended.
October 23	NOCI Open House: 15 th annual. 36 members and guests. MC: Denny. President's update, ratification of Treasurer's report and hire of Chris Law for 2015 audit of financial records, Bruce Ford presented on "Reproductive Biology and Hybridization in a Rare and a Common Lady's-slipper Orchid" - accompanied by Anne Worley. Rose presented on trip to Bemidji area, "Cruisin' the Orchid Highway". Natural Fragments (Dawn Kitching), Prairie Shore Botanicals (Laura Reeves), and NOCI (Richard Reeves) had sale tables; Peggy made Welcome display in keeping with Open House theme. Heather was at Welcome and Membership table, Mike and Veronica M sold raffle tickets. Denny and Mary looked after refreshments.
November 9	Gift Acceptance Policy Committee meeting: Denny, Donna, Peggy. 1 st meeting to

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	consider a draft gift acceptance policy including land bequests and other gifts.
November 10	NOCI board meeting (UFCW): 119 members, 4 groups. CPAWS calendars - 4 orders at Open House; Heather to advertise on website, FB, e-list. AGM speaker - Peggy to confirm with Laura Reeves. Constitutional changes: board reviewed; Peggy to work with John re any questions and wording. Board vacancies: Denny developed succession document re roles available on the board. Denny created a short list of candidates to fill 2 vacancies and board agreed with them. Gift acceptance policy statement being worked on by committee.
November 20	Deadline for submissions for December newsletters. Plant of the Month (Slender Agalinis) - Doris Ames), President's Report, Open House Report (Peggy), Obit notice for Lawrence Smith.
December 9	NOCI board Meeting (UFCW): 119 members, 4 groups. John Perry appointed for one year term (March 2017) to fill one vacancy. John will help Heather with membership cards/receipts. Heather sent a few screen shots of the iOS app for review by the board; comments made. Websites: ACU approved \$2K grant for web design and migration. Peggy and Heather will meet with web designer, Petra Martel to discuss requirements. Website hosting: Board approved renewing the existing host (Host Excellence) for only one year at a cost of ~\$200 CAD. Constitutional changes: Waiting to hear comments back from John N. Board vacancies: Peggy indicated that John Dyck would be willing to come back on the board for a one year term and the board approved. NOCI brochure: Heather agreed to attempt a re-design. Field trips: discussion of potential trips, e.g. Foresters' Footsteps (Whiteshell PP), FR #19 Sandilands, Nimowin Trail Bird's Hill PP (and trail just south of park), Pembina Valley PP, Austin to Neepawa, Lauder Sandhills, Burwalde Woods. Field trip leader training: to encourage members to become leaders. Peggy to find out if we can get a room at UFCW in April. MB EcoNetwork Reel Green Film evening - NOCI to offer a field trip as an auction prize.
December 10	Debwendon board meeting: Trail update: discussion re need for drainage due to seepage across the parking lot and access road. No Interpretation/Construction update (Jeff absent). Sale of north property: Kelly-Anne stated that the Province is waiting for an appraisal. Website: NOCI received \$2K from ACU to re-design and overhaul both websites. The board will be shown the new website for comments once the web designer has made significant progress. Need a webmaster for the Debwendon site. Carl asked if some "orchid people" could do a walk with kids for the Go Wild program sponsored by CIER.
December 12	Legislature Open House: Dave and Peggy met with Conservation Minister Tom Nevakshonoff, (among others) and saw the Premier.
December 22	Legislature: Ecological Reserve Announcement with Cons. Min., CWS staff and ER Advisory Committee. Doris Ames, Richard Reeves, and Peggy Bainard Acheson attended.