

September 12, 2024



PETERBOROUGH FIELD NATURALISTS

We are excited to present our 5-year Strategic Plan to the Peterborough Field Naturalists' (PFN) membership.

As we near our 85th anniversary, we celebrate our long history as a member-based and volunteer-driven organization. To recognize this significant occasion, the Board of Directors embarked on a strategic planning process to reflect on our past success and to plan for PFN's future in a rapidly changing world.

As part of this process, we took the time to listen to those who are most invested in our work. We gathered stories, experiences, and ideas, and were inspired by what was shared. We heard about our many strengths and the importance of continuing to provide our core activities. We heard about the importance of recognizing climate change, its impact on our members and future generations, and our important role of inspiring people to care about the natural environment. We heard that it is important to continue to build a welcoming community of knowledgeable, curious, passionate, and engaged learners, united by an appreciation for and wonder of nature. We now have a deeper understanding of what members value and the unique role that PFN plays in the local environmental community.

As part of the strategic planning process, we have established three strategic priority areas. We have also refined our mission and identified new vision and values statements to guide our work. What is important to note, is that with this plan we are not making great changes to what we do. This plan will instead provide clarity on where we should focus our resources and volunteer efforts.

As a club, we will **continue** to offer a broad range of activities to members including:

- monthly meetings,
- guided trips primarily to local natural areas,
- learning events,
- PFN website, social media, and
- our newsletter, *The Orchid*.

We will also continue to introduce children and youth to nature, continue to sponsor student research, citizen science, and continue to work closely with aligned community organizations on education, outreach, stewardship, and advocacy.

As we look to the future, we recognize and are grateful to the many past and current members who have shared their time, skills, and energy to cultivate a community inspired by nature. We are excited for what lies ahead and will strive to continue to build a diverse membership who are inspired to learn about, appreciate, and conserve nature in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Paradisis". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Sue Paradisis, on behalf of

The Board of Directors of the Peterborough Field Naturalists