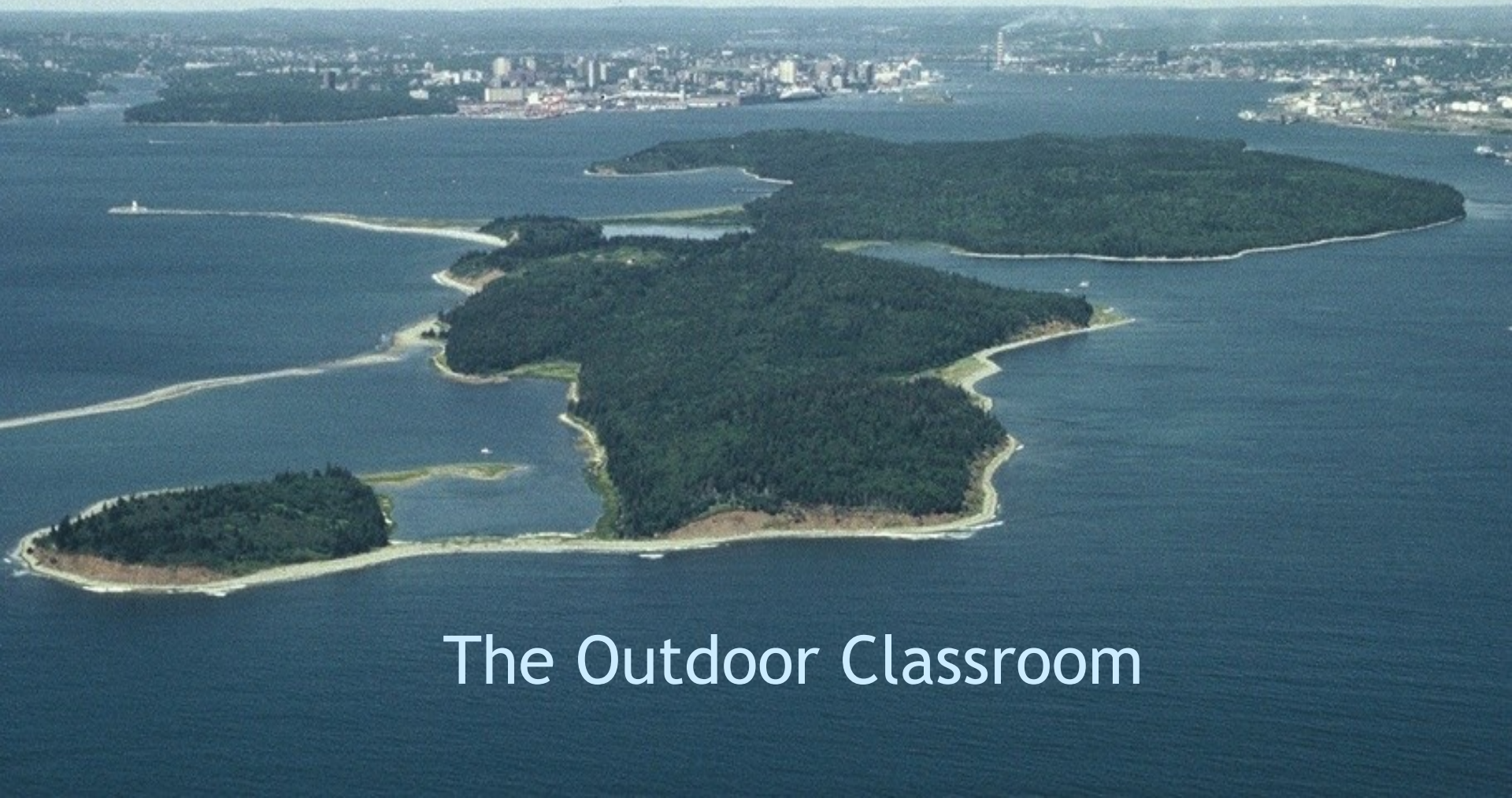
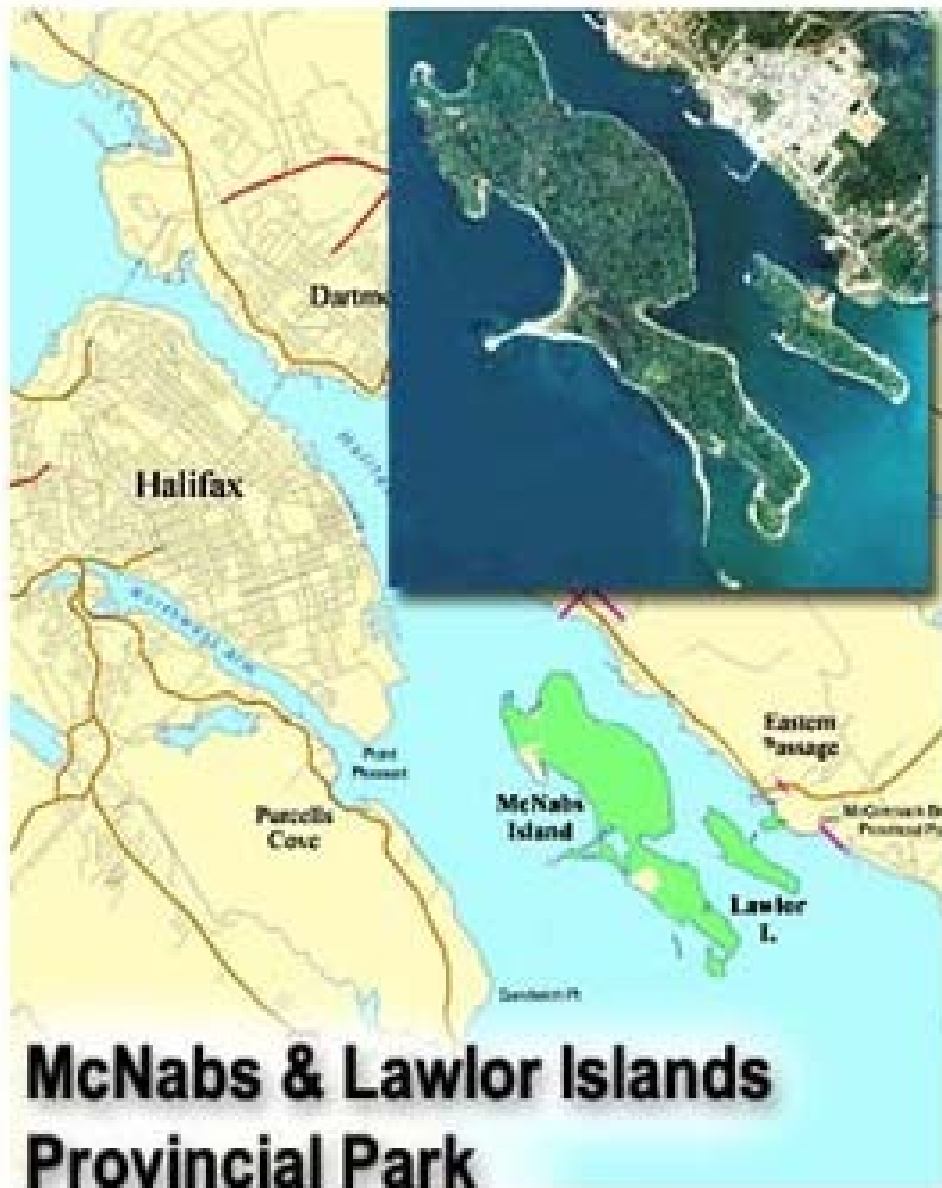


McNabs Island



The Outdoor Classroom



Located
at
mouth of
Halifax
Harbour

Friends of McNabs Island



McNabs and Lawlor Islands Provincial Park

- **includes all of Lawlor Island and most of McNabs Island**
- **Fort McNab National Historic Site of Canada operated by Parks Canada**



McNabs Island

larger and more
diverse

5 km long & 1.5 km
wide

400 ha (1000 acres)

Lawlor Island 55 ha

Not open to the public



McNabs Island



- historical & natural features
- recreational & educational opportunities



Friends of McNabs Island



How to get to McNabs Island

- accessible by commercial or private boat from Halifax, Dartmouth, Eastern Passage & Purcell's Cove
 - 25 minutes from downtown Halifax to Garrison Pier
 - 10 minutes from Eastern Passage to Wreck Cove



McNabs Island History

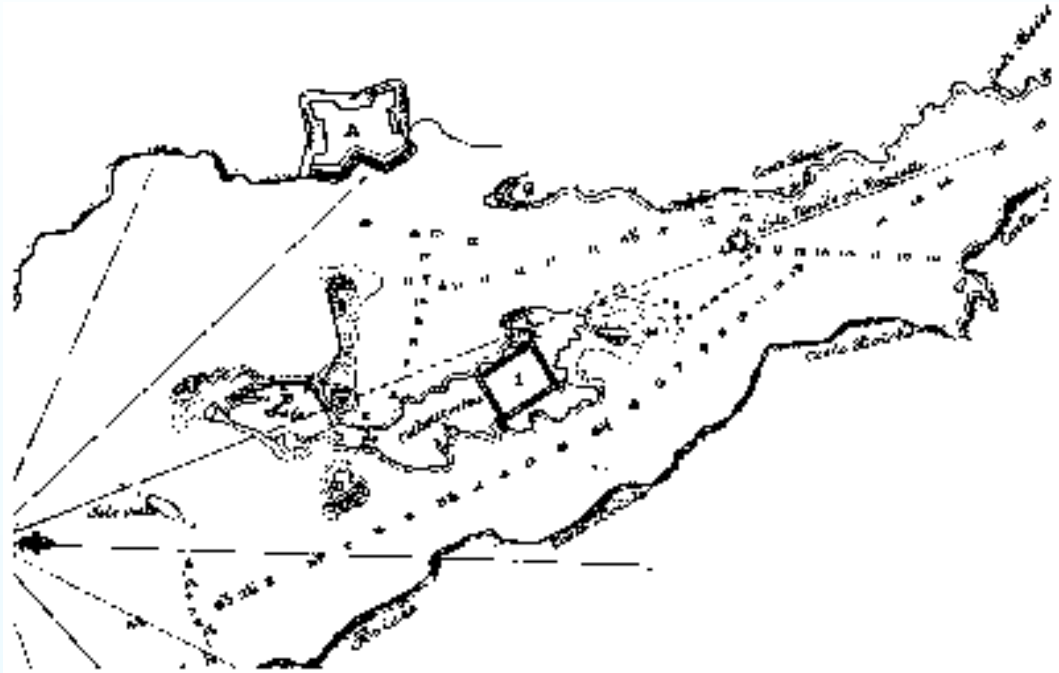
- **Pre-European contact**
 - 5000 year-old shell midden (refuse heap) is evidence of Mi'kmaq use of McNabs Island.



French Settlement

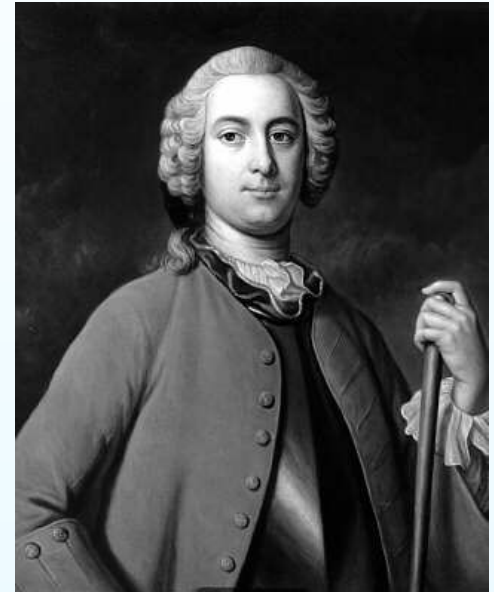
French fishing centre in 1690s

- plan to build a fortress similar to Louisbourg on McNabs
- In 1713, French lost mainland Nova Scotia to British, and Fortress Louisbourg built on Cape Breton Island



British Settlement

- 1749 - Edward Cornwallis established Halifax
- granted most of McNabs Island to his nephews and called the island “Cornwallis Island”



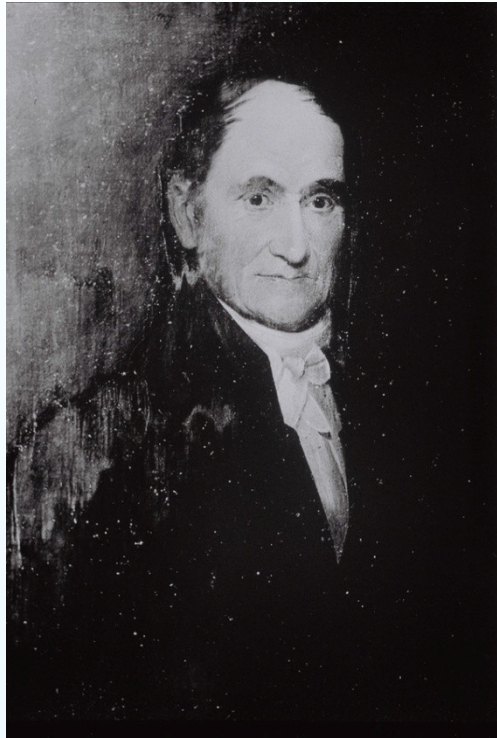
Cornwallis (McNabs) Island (1750)



Friends of McNabs Island



McNab Family



Peter McNab

- 1782 - Peter McNab paid Cornwallis family £1000 for McNabs Island



James McNab



McNab Family

- Island was cleared by tenant farmers
- McNabs presence on the island for over 150 years until 1930



W.W Lyttleton View of McNab Homestead

150 year old apple tree - McNab Homestead

Friends of McNabs Island



McNabs Island in 1860s



W.W Lyttleton View from Hugonin Hill

Friends of McNabs Island



McNab Family

McNab Family Cemetery



John & Jacquie McNab
from Saskatchewan visit
McNabs Island

Friends of McNabs Island



McNabs and the Military

- 1860s - British Admiralty bought land from the McNab Family to better defend Halifax
 - Ives Point Battery
 - Fort McNab
 - Hugonin Battery



Fort McNab 1880s



Fort Ives



Built 1864-74 at north end
of McNabs Island

Updated in 1890 and WWI



Friends of McNabs Island



Fort Ives

- Rifled Muzzle-Loading guns
 - Unique to British fortifications
 - Fired a warning shot in 1915 - landed on a house in Halifax



Fort McNab

- Fort McNab
National Historic
Site built 1889-92
- most powerful
fort to guard
Halifax



Fort McNab

- breech-loading guns
- only fort in Halifax to fire shots “in anger” at a boat that skipped inspection during WWI



McNabs Island

Strategic Importance

- During WWI and WWII, island under military control.
 - Controlled access to Halifax Harbour
 - Searchlights on McNabs Island patrolled the Harbour
 - Submarine nets laid between McNabs and mainland



Submarine net WWII



McNabs Island

Strategic Importance

WWII -

- Strawberry Battery



- Detention Barracks



Friends of McNabs Island



McNabs Island Lighthouses

- Sherbrooke Tower
 - Built 1820s
 - Martello tower
 - Abraham Gesner
 - Inventor of kerosene
 - Lighthouse test site for kerosene fuel in 1852



McNabs Island Lighthouses

Maugers Beach

- Lighthouse built 1941 on Sherbrooke Tower site



McNabs Island Lighthouses

- McNabs Island Lighthouse
 - Off Military Road
 - Built in 1903
 - Colin Cleveland lighthouse keeper 1932-1957
 - Torn down 1976



McNabs Island Residents

- Most of the northern end of the island remained in private hands
- McNab Family holdings sold off over the years



Peter McNab IV Cottage
1880s



McNabs Island Residents

Fredrick Perrin

Hugonin Perrin House 1890s



Friends of McNabs Island



McNabs Island Residents

Findlay Farm



Friends of McNabs Island



McNabs Island Residents

20th century residents



Friends of McNabs Island



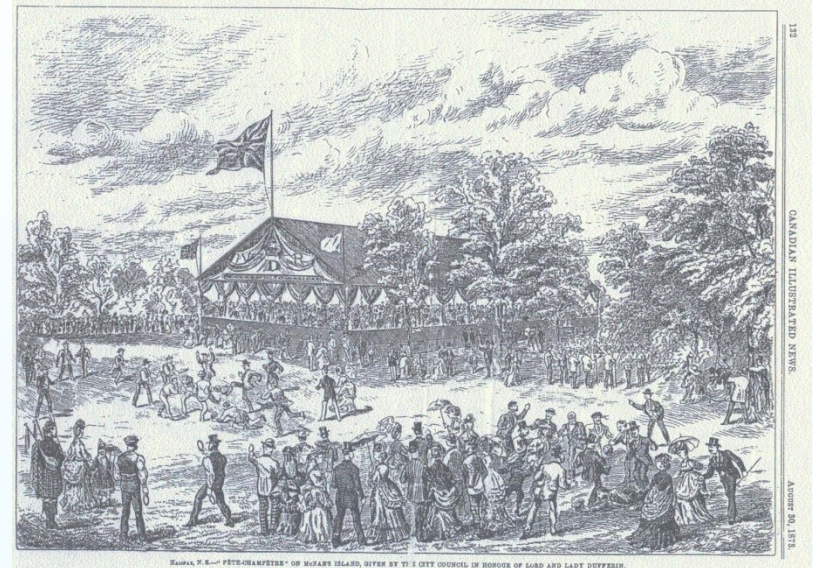
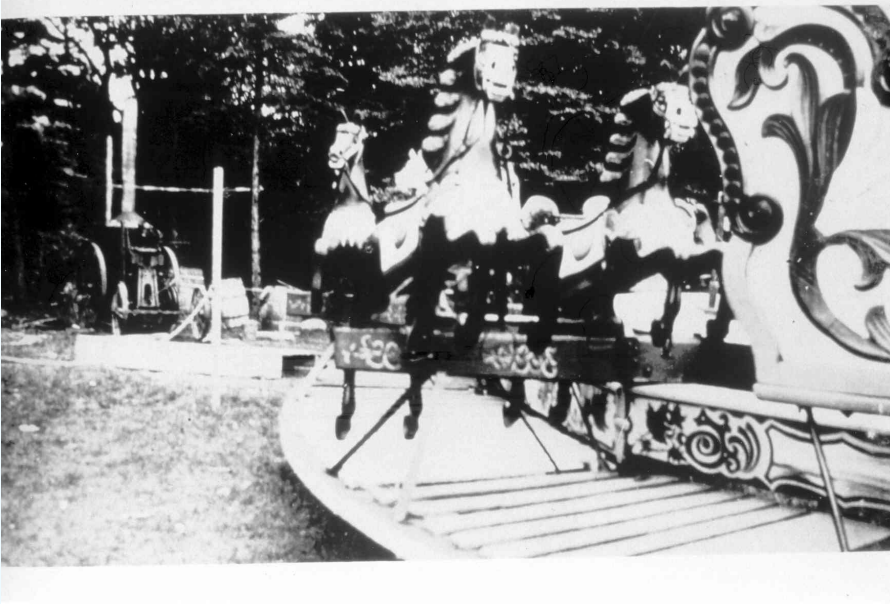
McNabs Island Recreation

- McNabs Island popular recreational destination
- During the 19th century, thousands attended picnics & socials on McNabs
- Two popular island fair grounds
- Recreation continues today



McNabs Island Recreation

Woolnough's Pleasure Grounds 1873



Steam Carrousel Findlay Picnic Grounds 1900s

Friends of McNabs Island



Bill Lynch

- 1920s Bill Lynch bought Findlay's Picnic Grounds
- Moved fair off island & created Bill Lynch Shows



*Bill Lynch (1903-1972): Midway king, benefactor, McNabs Islander
photo courtesy of Bill Mont*



McNabs Island

Recreation today

- Hiking
- Beachcombing
- Bird watching
- Geocaching



Friends of McNabs Island



McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island



McNabs Island

Outdoor Classroom

Outdoor education for
all ages



Discovery Centre Camps



Friends of McNabs Guided Tours

Friends of McNabs Island



Historical Resources



Lynch House

-built on foundation of Peter McNab IV cottage



Fort McNab National Historic Site

Friends of McNabs Island



Historical Resources

Davis-Conrad House

Built by AJ Davis 1917

Home of Gladys Conrad
last permanent
resident of
McNabs Island



Historical Resources

Innes-Findlay-Farrent homestead



Abandoned cabin near
Lynch House

Friends of McNabs Island



Nature Study on McNabs

- 8 different terrestrial wildlife habitats
- Diverse Flora & Fauna



Beach Roses



Birds on McNabs Island

- 206 species of birds
 - Largest concentration of nesting osprey in North America prior to Hurricane Juan



McNabs Island

Visual resources

Year-round island
experience



Friends of McNabs Island



McNabs Island

Views from the island



Tall Ships

Friends of McNabs Island



Hurricane Juan

September 29, 2003

McNabs Island in
hurricane's path
sheltered inner
Halifax Harbour



McNabs Island

Hurricane Juan
damage



Friends of McNabs Island



Hurricane Juan

- Extensive damage
- 40% of trees blown down
- Erosion along shoreline
- Breach of Lighthouse Road
- McNabs Pond now a tidal marsh



Hurricane Juan



Outhouse overturned

Friends of McNabs Island



Hurricane Juan

Lighthouse Road
breached



Hurricane Juan



Lynch House

- 150 year old Lindens planted by the McNabs uprooted



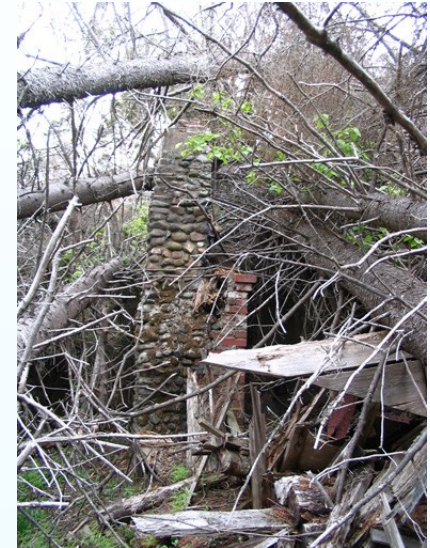
Hurricane Juan



Impossible to
walk in the
woods



Tiny Cottage near Lynch House



Hurricane Juan

Trails cleared in 2004
by heavy
equipment

Left extensive
damage to some
trails

Large ruts created
drainage problems



McNabs Island Erosion

Trails &
shoreline
eroding
rapidly since
Hurricane
Juan

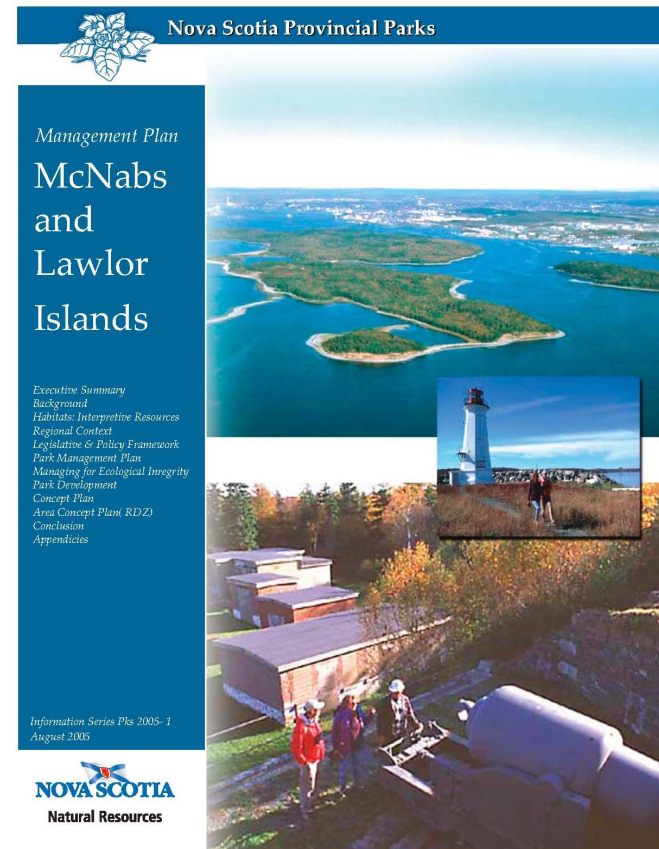


Friends of McNabs Island



McNabs and Lawlor Islands Provincial Park

- Designated provincial park November 2002
- Management Plan approved September 2005



Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island Society

- Established as a society in March 1990
- Dedicated to preserving McNabs, Lawlor and Devils Islands as parkland
- Registered charity with Canada Revenue Agency



Friends of McNabs Island

- Activities

- Beach cleanups
- Fall Foliage Tours
- Summer tours & picnics
- Presentations to schools & others
- *The Rucksack* newsletter
- *Discover McNabs Island* guidebook
- Trail rebuilding & maintenance
- Advocacy for the park
- www.mcnabsisland.ca
- Social media - Facebook & Twitter



Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island

Annual Beach Cleanups

- Garbage pollutes beaches and harms wildlife
- Friends organize beach cleanups in June each year



Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island

Over 11,000 bags of garbage
collected since 1991



Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island

McNabs Island Fall Foliage Tours



Nature tour of Maugers Beach

Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island

Fall Foliage history tour



Conrad house tour



Friends of McNabs Island

Hire summer students
each year to offer
guided tours - conduct
research



Suzanne & Rachael



Robert & Heather

Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island

Summer Picnics



20th anniversary 2010
trail opening

25th anniversary 2015!

The FRIENDS
of
McNABS ISLAND
Society



opening new trails
historical commemoration
guided nature & bird walks
"Hangman's Beach" tour
history tours
kids' games
scavenger hunts
musical entertainment
celebration cake

You're invited!

20th Anniversary Picnic
Sat. July 17, 2010 / 9:30-5:30
food available for purchase
tickets @ www.ticketatlantic.ca
adult \$13 / child \$8
www.mcnabsisland.ca



Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island



Fort Hugonin
-1914 & 2004-



Advocacy -
Fort Hugonin
preservation

- today

Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island

Trail rebuilding

- Raised \$500,000 in funding for trails

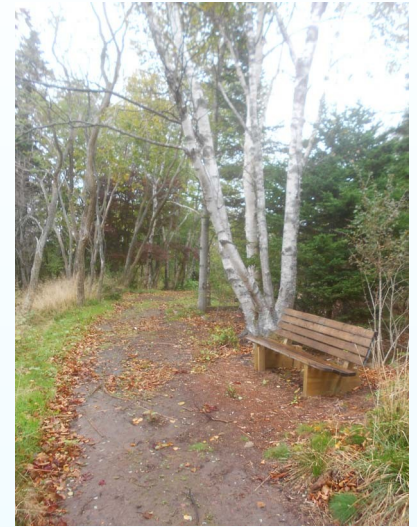


Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island

Victorian Gardens restoration



Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island

Installed park benches



Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island

Installed composting toilet
& visitor information kiosk near
Garrison Pier



Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island

Researching & telling
McNabs Island
stories



- Carolyn Mont
with Cyril Lunney
ATV

- Contact from McNab descendant lead to
this needlepoint reproduction of James
McNab house (Corner of Barrington &
South St)

Friends of McNabs Island



Friends of McNabs Island Society



www.mcnabsisland.ca