



## THE FIRST HALF-CENTURY

### A REVIEW OF QLF ACCOMPLISHMENTS ON THE EVE OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY

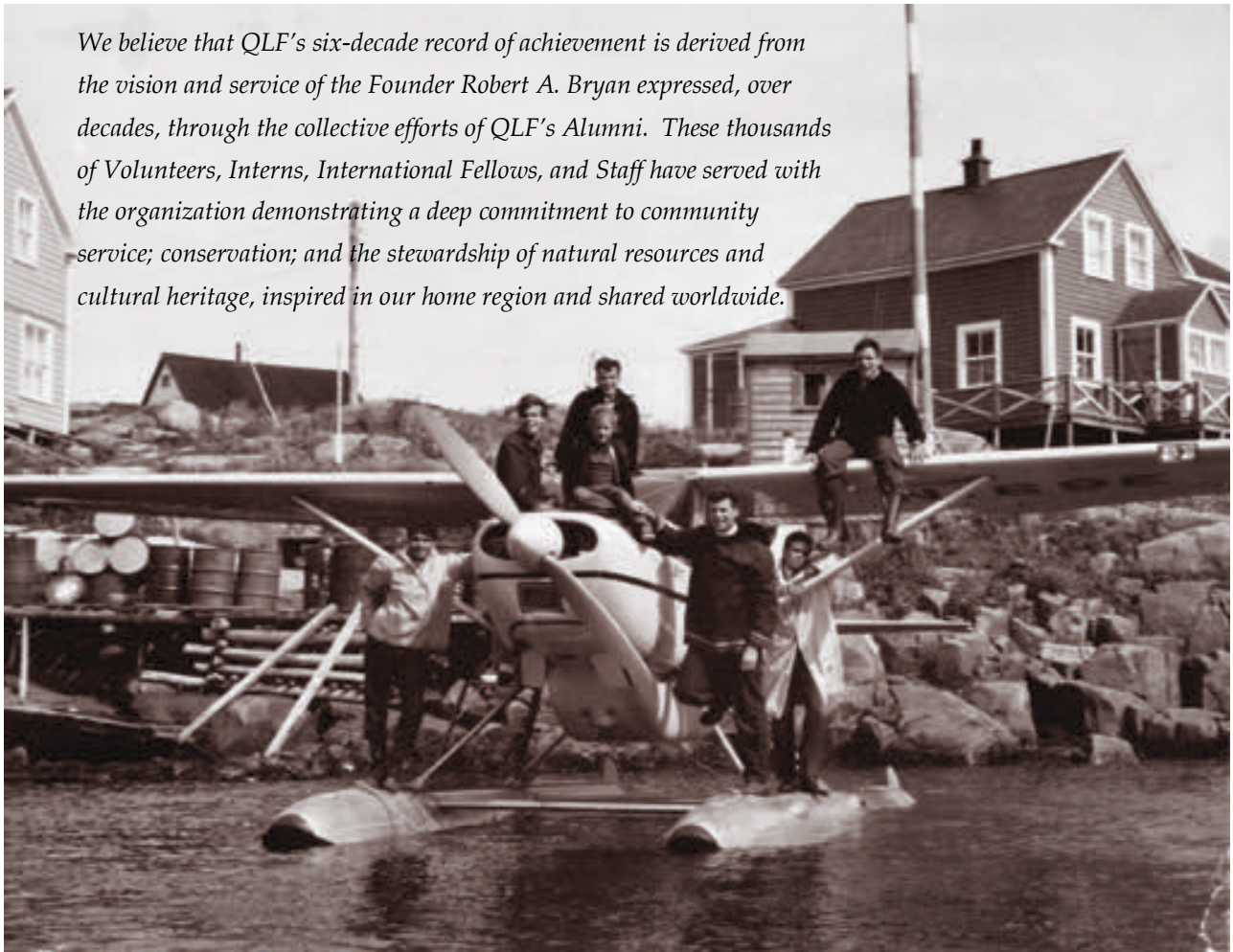
~ ~ ~

### QUEBEC-LABRADOR FOUNDATION ATLANTIC CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

~ ~ ~

OCTOBER 2018

*We believe that QLF's six-decade record of achievement is derived from the vision and service of the Founder Robert A. Bryan expressed, over decades, through the collective efforts of QLF's Alumni. These thousands of Volunteers, Interns, International Fellows, and Staff have served with the organization demonstrating a deep commitment to community service; conservation; and the stewardship of natural resources and cultural heritage, inspired in our home region and shared worldwide.*





*Cover photograph: QLF Founder, Robert. A. Bryan, with QLF Volunteers, Harrington Harbour, Québec, Canada, 1963*  
QLF ARCHIVES

*Inside cover photograph: Gros Morne National Park on the Great Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland is in the heart of QLF's home region and the field site of QLF's Conservation Internships.*

PHOTOGRAPH BY NICHOLAS GATES

© Quebec-Labrador Foundation 2018

## **QLF: THE ORGANIZATION**

*The Founding of the Organization* ~ In 1961, The Ven. Robert A. Bryan, bush pilot, Anglican Minister, and entrepreneur founded the Quebec-Labrador Foundation. The mission of the organization was to provide community service programs to rural communities on the Quebec North Shore on the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The Quebec-Labrador Foundation was granted status of a Registered Charity in Canada, and as a Non-profit Corporation in the U.S.

*The Governing Boards* ~ The Governing Boards consist of a Board of Directors in Canada and the U.S., Honorary Directors from Canada and the U.S., and a Council, which serves as an Advisory board, with Members from Canada and the U.S.

*Budget & Endowment* ~ Currently, programs in our home region – Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Maritimes – represent 75% of the organization's program budget. Region-to-Region Conservation Exchange Programs represent 25% of the program budget. The Annual Budget is \$1.7 million; the Endowment is valued at \$7 million.

*Operations* ~ Headquarters of the Quebec-Labrador Foundation Canada is in Montreal, Quebec. Headquarters for the Quebec-Labrador Foundation U.S. is in Ipswich, Massachusetts. QLF has a staff of thirty to include Consultants.

## **THE NETWORK OF ALUMNI**

Over more than five decades, QLF has built its Network of more than 5,000 Alumni who are former Interns (university students) and International Fellows representing 75 countries and six global regions. Of the Network of Alumni, 1,500 are prominent conservation leaders and NGO managers worldwide.

## **HISTORIC PROGRAMS**

The Mission remains as relevant today as it has for decades. The program Mission is *to promote global leadership development, to support the rural communities and environment of eastern Canada and New England, and to create models for stewardship of natural resources and cultural heritage that can be shared worldwide.*

## **REGIONAL PROGRAMS**

*Community Service Program* ~ In 1961, Bob Bryan flew the first QLF Volunteers to the Quebec North Shore. As a Bush Pilot, he traveled by floatplane to the remote and isolated coastal communities of the Quebec-Labrador Region where he offered his services as an Anglican Minister. For a half-century, Bob Bryan continued his lifelong commitment to the people and communities of the Quebec North Shore through Aviation and Ministry.

*The Scholarship Program* ~ In 1964, Bob Bryan established The Scholarship Program, which provided financial support and bursaries to promising high school and university students from the Quebec-North Shore, Newfoundland, Labrador, and the Maritimes. In 1964, the first scholarship was provided to QLF Alumnus, Philip Nadeau, of St. Paul's River, on Quebec's North Shore. Philip Nadeau is the current Chairman of the Board of Directors, Quebec-Labrador Foundation, Canada. Currently, 1,250 scholarships have been provided to 900 scholarship recipients.

*Environmental Education* ~ The first environmental education program was in Tabusintac, New Brunswick. For nearly four decades, QLF has directed environmental education programs with a focus on river conservation and stewardship.

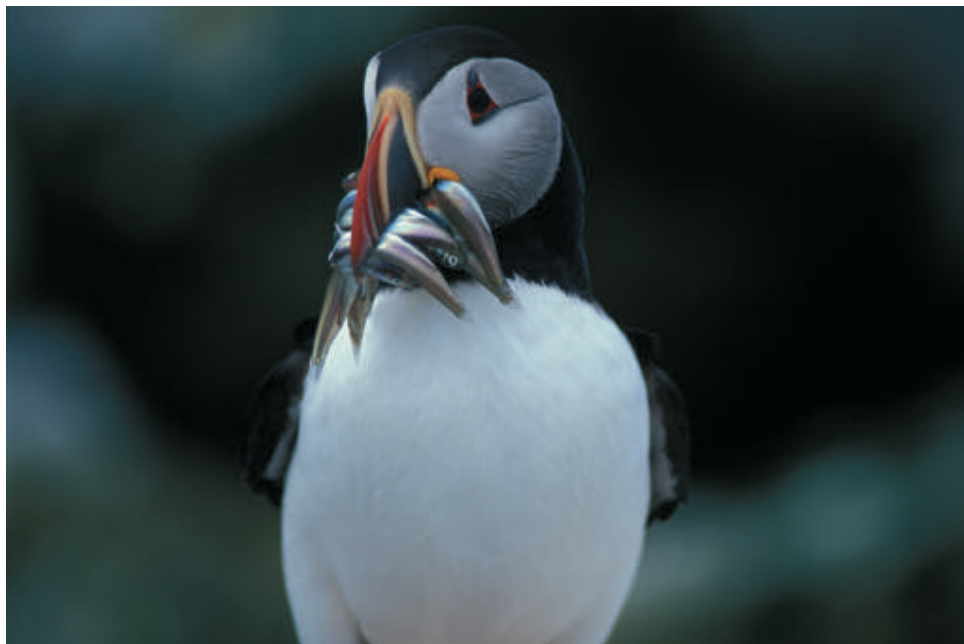
***The Conservation Internship Program*** ~ In 1976, QLF established The Conservation Internship Program for Volunteers (high school students); Interns; and Fellows (young professionals). Internships provide training and field experience in community-based conservation.



*Alongside Dr. Kathleen Blanchard (right), 2018 Conservation Interns conduct a survey of nesting Black-legged Kittiwakes off Conche, Newfoundland.*

PHOTOGRAPH BY ELIZABETH ALLING

***Marine Bird Conservation*** ~ The Marine Bird Conservation Program originated in 1978 to address the rapid decline of seabird populations along the North Shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence in Quebec and Labrador. The Program is exemplary in wildlife management combining elements of research, education, and habitat protection. *The program has earned an international reputation for its work in community-based conservation thus serving as a model for conservation programs worldwide.*



*Atlantic Puffin. Dr. Kathleen Blanchard directed QLF's Marine Bird Conservation Program for 20 years. More than 100 Interns and Volunteers began their careers in wildlife research and environmental education working with Dr. Blanchard.*

PHOTOGRAPH BY GREIG CRANNA



***The Sounds Conservancy Marine Research Program*** ~ In 1995, QLF accepted The Sounds Conservancy Program with its endowed funds. The mission of The Sounds Conservancy is marine research, advocacy, and environmental education along the six Sounds and coastal waters of southern New England.



*Great Gull Island is the largest nesting colony of Common and Roseate Terns in the Western Hemisphere. Common and Roseate Terns breed on Great Gull and migrate thousands of miles each fall to South America. The Great Gull Island Project of the American Museum of Natural History is the longest longitudinal study of Common and Roseate Terns in the Western Hemisphere. The Great Gull Island Project celebrates its 50th Anniversary in September 2018. PHOTOGRAPH BY GREIG CRANNA*



*Mist netting Common and Roseate Terns in Argentina with Helen Hays, Director, Great Gull Island Project. PHOTOGRAPH BY GREIG CRANNA*

## **REGION-TO-REGION CONSERVATION EXCHANGE PROGRAMS**

QLF recognized that regional programs could be an effective model as countries overseas looked for ways to address environmental issues over an international border. QLF's program model of cross-border, bioregional conservation is shared beyond our home region of eastern Canada. In 1981, QLF created Region-to-Region Conservation Exchange Programs to foster an exchange of experience and conservation innovation among organizations and individuals in other regions that face similar challenges and opportunities. While QLF continues to direct Exchange Programs, the organization maintains a commitment to North America and the organization's programmatic focus remains in eastern Canada.

International Alumni are Fellows (young professionals/leaders in conservation) who attend our exchange programs. They represent 75 countries (outside of Canada and the U.S.) in the following regions: Europe; Central and Southeast Europe; Latin America and the Caribbean; the Middle East, North Africa, and the Gulf States; and East and Southeast Asia. International Programs are supported by restricted funding from the U.S. Department of State, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Trust for Mutual Understanding, Oak Foundation, individual donors and family foundations. *QLF's General Fund, or revenue raised from the Annual Appeal, does not provide support for International Programs.*

***Europe*** ~ For more than thirty years, QLF staff have directed a land stewardship exchange program with non-profit conservation organizations across Europe.

***Central and Southeast Europe*** ~ For twenty-five years, QLF has directed a Conservation Exchange Program for practitioners from Central and Southeast Europe. This exchange has been funded by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and is currently funded by the Trust for Mutual Understanding.

***Latin America and the Caribbean*** ~ For more than thirty years, QLF staff have directed Exchange Programs for conservation leaders from Latin America and the Gulf of Honduras. This program is funded by the Oak Foundation and, in previous years, the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and the U.S. Department of State.

***The Middle East, North Africa, and the Gulf States*** ~ For twenty-five years, QLF has directed Exchange Programs for conservation leaders from the Middle East, North Africa, and the Gulf States (as of 2012). The Program has a cadre of Alumni who are current leaders in conservation, academia, business, and government representing most countries in the Middle East, northern Africa, and the Gulf States. The Program is funded by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State, and private foundations. In the spring of 2019, QLF will hold its first Middle East Regional Congress on the Great Flyways along the Rift Valley / Red Sea Flyways in Jordan.

***East and Southeast Asia*** ~ For several years, QLF has directed an Exchange Program for Conservation Leaders from Southeast Asia, primarily Vietnam. In the fall of 2018, QLF will hold its first Conservation Exchange Program in New England for Conservation Leaders representing the Ministry of Environment of Mongolia.

## MILESTONE EVENTS

1959 ~ Bush Pilot, Bob Bryan, takes his first flight to the Coast.

1961 ~ The Ven. Robert A. Bryan is the Founder of the Quebec-Labrador Mission Foundation.

1963 ~ QLF-U.S. is incorporated in the United States.

1969 ~ QLF-Canada becomes a registered charity.

1978 ~ The Atlantic Center for the Environment is established.

1981 ~ QLF's first International Exchange Program ~

1988 ~ Lawrence B. Morris is elected as QLF's 2nd President.

1988 ~ The Strategic Operating Plan for the organization is written by QLF's Governing Boards with QLF Management. Following Strategic Plans were authored in 2007 and 2010.

2000 ~ QLF conducts an Endowment Campaign and raises \$3.7 million.

2006 ~ QLF directs The First QLF Alumni *Congress* in Budapest, Hungary, and the nearby Bükk National Forest. The *Congress* was attended by 200 Alumni representing five regions and 35 countries along with dignitaries from Central Europe. The *Congress* was a seminal event in QLF's history providing the first opportunity for Alumni from five regions to gather to report on accomplishments and establish multi-regional conservation partnerships.

2011 ~ QLF celebrates its 50th Anniversary.

2012 ~ Chairmen of QLF's Governing Boards (Canada and U.S.) are Alumni ~ Philip Nadeau is the Chairman of QLF Canada; and Jameson French is the Chairman of QLF U.S. Clare McMorris, QLF's first female Volunteer in Eastern Canada, is the first woman to Chair the QLF U.S. Board (October 2017).

2013-2014 ~ A Strategic Planning Committee is established and interviews QLF's Governing Boards (U.S. and Canada Board of Directors; Council; selected Alumni; and Senior Staff). The Committee prepares two documents, What We Asked and What We Heard, and a Set of Recommendations that address programs, operations, management and transition and which are shared with those interviewed in the Strategic Planning process.

2014 ~ QLF launches new programs and initiatives of The Global Leadership Network of Alumni and Partner Organizations representing 75 countries and six regions to address common conservation challenges and opportunities in rural communities worldwide.

2016 ~ QLF directs The Second QLF Alumni *Congress* in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain and convened 160 Alumni and partner organizations representing 40 countries. At the *Congress*, QLF set the Agenda for QLF's next decade.

2017 ~ Elizabeth Alling becomes QLF's 3rd President.

2018 ~ QLF launches QLF Global Program endorsed by the Board of Directors. The program consists of conservation assignments with NGOs worldwide to address shared conservation challenges in rural communities worldwide.



### QLF'S LEGACY

Leadership has been, is now, and will be in the years ahead, the hallmark of QLF. Based on more than 50 years of experience, QLF maintains an active leadership role in the local, regional, and global environmental movement in the 21st century.

*QLF occupies a unique niche as an international, non-governmental organization working in conservation, and stewardship of natural resources and cultural heritage, operating from a regional base defined as the Atlantic Region.*