



# COMPASS

THE QUARTERLY E-NEWSLETTER

THE QUEBEC-LABRADOR FOUNDATION/ATLANTIC CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Beth Alling, QLF President Beechey Island, Nunavut  
QLF ARCHIVES

The challenges of accelerated climate change were clearly evident during a recent expedition to the High Arctic. This past August, QLF joined Adventure Canada as a partner organization on the High Arctic Expedition to Nunavut, Canada, and to the west coast of Greenland, above the Arctic Circle. We boarded our vessel in Resolute Bay, journeyed east to Beechey, Devon, and Baffin Island in Lancaster Sound, Nunavut, crossing the Davis Strait to Greenland. We explored the edge of the Ilulissat Icefjord, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, north of the Arctic Circle. The QLF delegation consisted of Governing Board Members, (Canada and the U.S.) staff, and Alumni. Expedition Team Member and Senior Consultant, Dr. Kathleen Blanchard,

spoke on her pioneering work in Marine Bird Conservation. Consultant Mégane Déziel, the Expedition's Scientist in Residence, studied the impact of climate change in Pond Inlet, Baffin Island, Nunavut.

Exploring the High Arctic was both awe-inspiring and unsettling. To witness the impact of climate change affirms my conviction that we have a responsibility to address the most critical environmental issues of this century, and that our work in biodiversity conservation is relevant in our changing climate. Over decades, QLF has empowered leaders to address environmental challenges in their community through biodiversity conservation and the stewardship of natural resources and cultural heritage. I am excited to see how QLF's niche in community-based conservation is taking on new relevance in a world of accelerated environmental change. With our passionate staff and Alumni, QLF will continue to lead Biodiversity Conservation programs in our home region – across Eastern Canada and New England – and rural communities worldwide to meet today's most pressing environmental issues.

Here, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to QLF's outstanding Network of over 5,000 Alumni, many of whom have dedicated their work to the tireless pursuit of biodiversity conservation. In this Newsletter, I hope you enjoy reading about QLF's most current work and join with us as we look ahead. There is much work to be done, we are poised to do so and the moment is now.

With best wishes to you,

Beth Alling  
President  
November 2019



High Arctic Expedition to Nunavut, Canada, and the west coast of Greenland with Adventure Canada, August 2019  
PHOTOGRAPH BY ELIZABETH ALLING.