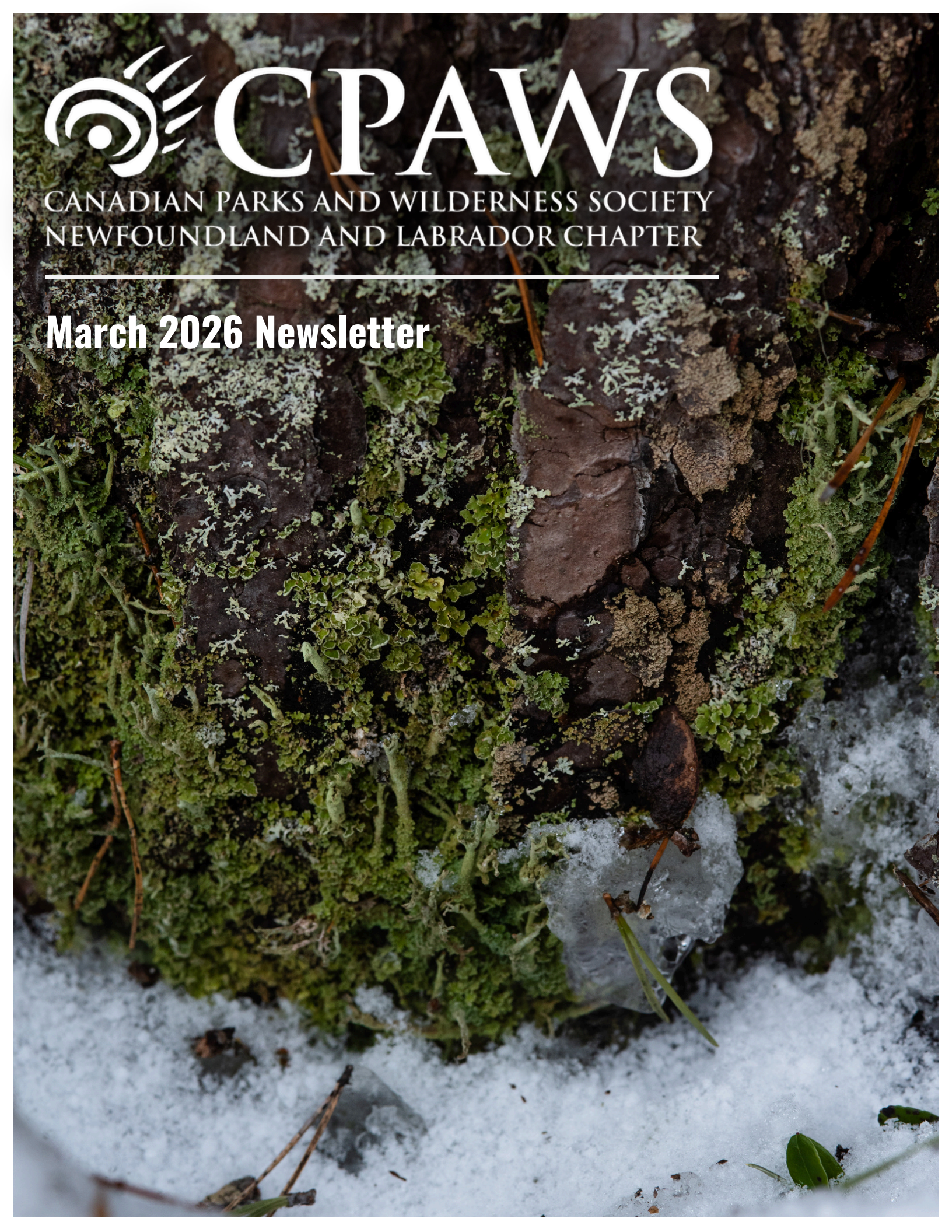
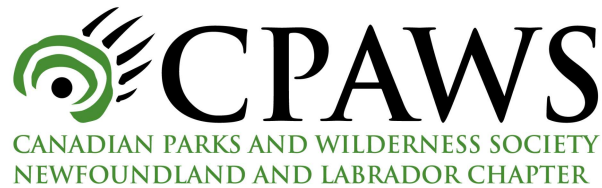




CANADIAN PARKS AND WILDERNESS SOCIETY
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR CHAPTER

March 2026 Newsletter





It may still feel wintery here in Newfoundland and Labrador, but spring is just around the corner! Whether you're enjoying the tail end of skiing season or counting down the days until the spring wildflowers are out, we hope you're able to get out and enjoy all that nature has to offer this time of year. Here's an update on what we've been busy with this past month!

Coming Soon: Hiring for Summer Positions!



Are you or is someone you know looking for an unforgettable summer job? We'll be hiring for multiple positions this summer to support our conservation and outreach initiatives. All details will be posted on our social media accounts and our website soon, so stay tuned for more information on when and how to apply!

National Economic Benefits Study

Have you heard? CPAWS is releasing a new report this spring. Titled ***Widely Enjoyed but Inadequately Valued: Understanding the Economic, Environmental, and Health Benefits of Canada's Protected and Conserved Areas***, this study reveals that Canada's protected areas contribute billions of dollars to our economy. Investing in nature means investing in our communities and our shared future.

[Read more here!](#)



Stand Up for the South Coast: Letter-Writing Campaign

We're so incredibly grateful for the tidal wave of support for reinstating the NMCA feasibility study along the South Coast. **Over 1100 letters have been sent in to the provincial government so far!**

It's not over yet, and there's still time to make your voice heard! Please consider joining our letter-writing campaign if you haven't already. Check out the letter page for more information.

[Send a letter!](#)

Freshwater Program Updates

We have some exciting updates to share about our Freshwater program!

Water Testing Workshops

Last Wednesday, we held an online water testing workshop and had 40 people in attendance! We also held an in-person water testing workshop for grade 8 students at Clarendville Middle School earlier this month. Participants learned about

how simple water tests can tell us a lot about ecosystem health. We're planning more in-person water testing events for the summer, so stay tuned!

Freshwater Exploration Backpacks

Did you know you can borrow a freshwater exploration backpack from your local library? These backpacks are filled with tools and activities to help you explore the freshwater ecosystems around you. They're a great way for families, students, and curious explorers to learn more about local rivers, ponds, and lakes while spending time outdoors. You can currently find backpacks at:

- Clarendville Library
- A.C. Hunter Library (St. John's)
- Michael Donovan Library (Mount Pearl)
- Marjorie Mews Library (St. John's)

A backpack is also planned for the Gander Public Library, but delivery has been delayed due to recent weather.

Would you like to see one at your local library? Let us know!

Freshwater Photo Stations

We installed a photo station in Clarendville next to Elizabeth Swan Park along the Rotary Trail. Visit the trail, take a photo, upload it using the QR code on the nearby sign, and help track freshwater changes over time! We'll be installing photo stations in Gander and Conception Bay South soon, so keep an eye out for more community science opportunities near you!

Learn more about these photo stations and check out the photos that have already been captured [here!](#)



The Clarenville photo station

Species Spotlight: Tamarack

Have you seen a Tamarack (*Larix laricina*) before? Maybe you recognize it by one of its many other names: do Hackmatack or Eastern Larch sound familiar? On Newfoundland, it's also sometimes called a Juniper tree, even though it's not actually related to any juniper species!

Tamarack are coniferous trees, like spruce and fir, meaning they have needles instead of leaves. But tamarack are unique from our other native conifers because they're deciduous! They lose their needles every fall and re-grow fresh ones in the spring. You can easily spot them in the fall when their normally blue-green needles turn a rich golden colour.

Tamaracks can often be found in swamps, fens, bogs, and along roadsides. They can also tolerate extremely cold temperatures, making them an important tree in Newfoundland and Labrador's sometimes harsh growing conditions. Fun fact:

in parts of the province, these trees almost all lean to the east because of the strong prevailing westerly winds!



Golden tamarack trees in the fall

As always, feel free to reach out with any questions that you may have. For information on how to [volunteer](#) or make a [donation](#), visit our website at cpawsnl.org! Also, if you're interested in keeping up to date on what's new and exciting at CPAWS-NL follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#) for regular updates.



Tanya Edwards
Executive Director
CPAWS NL



Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - Newfoundland and Labrador Chapter
360 Topsail Rd, Suite 303
St. John's, NL, A1E 2B6

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