

PGNC Executive Report to 2026 AGM

Overview of 2025

2025 was a year where we continued to increase our community presence. We had a small executive again this year making it very hard to meet regularly and reach the minimum number of people required to hold a meeting. We had most meetings in person at the Spruce City Wildlife fish hatchery, but we had a few online too, as was required to meet in certain months due to executive member travel, out-of-town field work, and other scheduling conflicts. Despite that, we did our best to run as many events as possible. Thank you to those who came out and those who were willing to organize them as well.

Field Trips and Presentations

We started our year with the Annual Swan & Eagle count in January. This year, we partnered with The Wildlife Society (TWS) at UNBC, so our event was bigger than ever. In February, we had a Board Game Night featuring the popular game Wingspan. In March, we participated in Seedy Saturday, a popular event by the PG Master Gardeners. Then later that month, we had our annual AGM featuring guest speaker Dr. Darwyn Coxson of UNBC, presenting on lichens.

To kick off the spring, we had our well-known field trip to Shelley to see Long-billed Curlews in April. Later in April, we had our annual spring cleanup day at our usual spot, the Hudson's Bay Wetland. In early May, we again partnered with the PG Public Library to bring a talk about reptiles and amphibians to the community. In May, we also launched our new website, pgnc.ca. The Club's BC Nature Director attended the BC Nature AGM in Merritt to ensure the PGNC had a voice at the table and that the north was represented in meetings and seminars. On the weekend of May 31 and June 1, we participated in two community events: Walk PG's Outdoor Festival at Cottonwood Park, where the club led birding walks through the park, and the Chinook Salmon Send-off, hosted by Spruce City Wildlife.

Later in June, we had a work party at Hudson's Bay Wetland to fix some vandalism to one of our viewing platforms. In July, for the first time, the PGNC participated in the PG Pride Picnic, and we partnered with the Northwest Invasive Plant Council to lead a nature walk. In late July, we had a very well-attended Alpine Flower Walk. In August, we partnered with the Native Bee Society of BC and UNBC to bring a mini-bee school to Prince George for the first time. Though capacity was limited, many of our members took part and as a result, the course was full. The first day was a lab day, and the second day was a field day. It was a great success!

In September, the club worked with the Northwest Invasive Plant Council to remove invasive plant species at Carrie Jane Gray Park, and we partnered with a member of the UNBC faculty for a morning bird watching session at the Shelley Lagoons. In October, we were educated by a visitor from the Wildlife Conservation Society of Canada about Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), and in the following days, along with representatives from BC Nature, many of us journeyed to Fraser Lake to count Trumpeter swans. In November, we had our annual members' only field trip to see the caribou at Kennedy Siding. A big thank you to Lauren and our member Doug for teaching us about their research with the caribou and caribou behaviours! Later in December, we had a nature photography showcase and social where many

member photos were shared along with some stories! We ended the year with the fantastic annual Prince George Christmas Bird Count (actually in January again this year).

Community Outreach and Future Plans

In 2025, we continued to ramp up our social media presence by posting photos by our members and local events that may have been of interest to our members. We focused on improving our website and upgrading the pamphlets and literature we offer to our community. We are happy to see that our new bird checklist for the area and the Bird Watching in PG brochure are very popular and we need to print more. We are working on a Herptile brochure and another brochure that will be aimed at newcomers to Prince George. Special thank you to Dave Leman for his work on those so far. We again secured a grant from the BC Naturalists' Foundation to assist us with those.

We have participated in a lot of community events over the past year and we hope more volunteers will help us participate in those again, and maybe even add a few more.

In 2026, our goal is to grow our membership and grow our volunteer base in the process. We plan to focus on diversifying our outreach as well. We also hope to continue to partner with other like-minded community organizations to accomplish common goals.

Members, Volunteers, and Supporters

As of December 2025, we had 88 memberships to BC Nature. BC Nature provides us with liability insurance and general support. Our Club members include individuals, families and students. All the activities and events could not have happened without the efforts of our many volunteers, the City of Prince George, BC Naturalists' Foundation, Spruce City Wildlife, WALK-PG, Northwest Invasive Plant Council, Native Bee Society of BC, and the Prince George Public Library, just to name a few. The Prince George Naturalists Club is grateful for all this assistance as it continues its work to promote enjoyment of the natural world.

Respectfully submitted,

Angelina Joiner, President

Cara Snell, Vice-President

Sandra Kinsey, Treasurer

Dave Leman, BC Nature Director

Sara Sparks, Director & sometimes Secretary

Dani Fisher-Hynd, Director