



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | Friends of Maltby Lake Watershed Society Welcomes New President, Gillian Harvey

June 3, 2025 – Victoria, BC — The Friends of Maltby Lake Watershed Society is proud to officially welcome **Gillian Harvey** as our new President.

Though Gillian stepped into the role last fall, we're pleased to now formally introduce her to our wider community. Gillian brings a unique blend of professional expertise, heartfelt connection to the land, and an inspiring commitment to conservation.

"This lake holds a special place in my heart—one shaped not just by its rare ecological value, but by the legacy of those who came before," says Gillian. "On behalf of my grandfather, Philip 'Pip' Despard Pemberton Holmes, his daughters, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, I offer heartfelt thanks to everyone who has worked to protect this land and its story. I carry forward a legacy of love and responsibility for this extraordinary place."

As the founder of NatPark Creative, an all-female branding and marketing agency supporting mission-driven organizations, Gillian brings nearly a decade of leadership experience and a deep understanding of how to foster engagement, build community, and amplify purpose-led initiatives. Her vision is grounded in collaboration, communication, and respect—for the lake, for its history, and for those connected to it.

"Gillian brings with her a calm strength, clear vision, and deep dedication to conservation," says long-time board member **Carmel Thomson**. "She's thoughtful, grounded, and leads by example—qualities that inspire confidence and encourage collaboration. Her love of nature and respect for Maltby Lake and the surrounding lands are evident in everything she does."

We also extend our deep gratitude to **Joan Hendrick**, who has served as President with wisdom and steadiness over the years. Joan continues to serve on the board in the role of Vice President and Past President.

The Friends of Maltby Lake Watershed Society remains dedicated to preserving the ecological integrity and cultural heritage of Maltby Lake. As a registered BC non-profit and Canadian charity, the Society continues to protect sensitive riparian and forest ecosystems, foster public education, and build community-based stewardship.

"We are stronger because of our members, supporters, and the wider community," says Carmel. "Thank you for your ongoing belief in our mission. Together, we are ensuring the future of this exceptional watershed."

To stay connected and learn more, visit www.maltbylake.com or follow us on Facebook at [Friends of Maltby Lake Watershed Society](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfMaltbyLakeWatershedSociety).

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