



CALL OF THE LOON

Adirondack Council Newsletter | Autumn 2022



Council Leaders Traveling the Globe

Adirondack Council staff members have been traveling the world in 2022 to bring the organization's messages of wilderness protection, clean water and climate action to receptive and diverse audiences of conservation advocates and activists.

In November, Forever Adirondacks Campaign Director Aaron Mair traveled to Sharm El Sheik, Egypt to participate in COP27, the most recent world climate Conference of Parties meeting to discuss and urge progress on curbing global climate change. He urged world leaders to preserve wilderness as a means of reducing atmospheric carbon most efficiently -- especially because it brings so many additional benefits such as clean water and healthy wildlife -- while creating rewarding new jobs. Mair was representing both the Adirondack Council and the Sierra Club Foundation of Canada.

At the same time, Adirondack Council Director of Government Relations Kevin Chlad and Deputy Executive

Director Raul "Rocci" Aguirre traveled to Puerto Rico for the annual Somos ("All of Us" in Spanish) gathering of government and community leaders from New York and the Caribbean. They thanked Governor Hochul, Attorney General Letitia James, pictured above, and members of the Legislature for successes in 2022. These include funding for the Timbuctoo Summer Climate and Careers Institute and starting a Survey of Climate Change and Adirondack Lake Ecosystems.

In September, Aguirre was a featured panelist at the Land Trust Alliance's annual conference in New Orleans. He was part of the opening plenary session discussing diversity, equity and inclusion in the land conservation movement. More than 1,500 attendees from around North America participated in the three-day retreat. Aguirre also serves as a regional commissioner for New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (Saratoga-Capital District).

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**ADIRONDACK
COUNCIL** PRESERVING WATER,
AIR AND WILDLANDS

Working Together for the Adirondacks



William C. Janeway
Executive Director
@WillieJaneway

Dear Friends of the Adirondacks,

As winter slowly settles on the Adirondacks and we take time to gather with friends and family this holiday season, I wanted to take a moment to celebrate your team: the staff, interns and consultants of the Adirondack Council. They work across the broad expanse of the Park, in Albany, across the state and throughout the country. They engage with key decision makers in the backwoods, in fancy board rooms, the local diner, at national conferences...wherever critical decisions are made.

They are your staff and they make a difference. With your support, they advance the preservation of the ecological integrity and wild character of the 6-million-acre Adirondack Park. They educate decision makers, monitor government actions, secure essential funding, and advance critical

policies to protect clean water, clean air, and wilderness while supporting Park communities.

It is my privilege to work alongside the staff and with the Council Board to support this great team in defending wilderness, fostering more diverse vibrant communities, and ensuring future generations benefit from a protected and well-managed Adirondack Park that is open to all. With your support, we are elevating the importance of the Adirondacks on a national and international scale, while finding new ways to engage disadvantaged communities across New York to ensure that the Park remains forever wild, for everyone.

Please consider a contribution to the Adirondack Council to honor this team. Help by responding to an action alert request and following us on social media. And please join me in saying thank you to this great group of extraordinary individuals working on behalf of you and the future of the Adirondacks.

Sincerely,

William C. Janeway
Executive Director

Directors

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Vice-Chair, Liza Cowan
Treasurer, Curtis R. Welling
Secretary, Ethan Winter

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Philip R. Forlenza
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John Reschovsky
Brian Ruder
Kate Russell
Daniel J. Ryterband
Douglas Schultz
Noah Shaw
Laurel Skarbinski
Douglas Stewart

Staff

William C. Janeway
Executive Director

Rocci Aguirre
Executive Deputy Director

Jackie Bowen
Director of Conservation

Elaine Burke
Director of Operations

Kevin Chlad
Director of Government Relations

John Davis
Rewilding Advocate

J. A. Tyler Frakes
Membership Director

Lisa M. Genier
Program Analyst

Nicholle L. Gotham
Assistant Director of Development

Jessica H. Grant
Conservation Associate

Jess Kelley
Donor Database Manager

Dillon Klepetar
Adirondack Farm Advocate

Justin Levine
Communications Associate

Aaron Mair
Forever Adirondacks Campaign Director

David J. Miller
Clean Water Program Coordinator

Blake Neumann
Clean Water Advocate

Deborah J. Pastore
Development Director

Aimee Privitera
Legislative Advocacy Assistant

Karyssa Pryce
Executive and Operations Assistant

John F. Sheehan
Director of Communications

Clarence Petty Intern

Nicholas King
Forever Adirondacks Campaign Intern



Adirondack Council staff, October 2022 (not pictured: Lisa Genier, Dillon Klepetar, & Aimee Privitera)

Project Consultants

The Parkside Group
SKD Knickerbocker
(Government Relations)

Sean Donahue, Esq.
Donahue & Goldberg, LLP
(Federal/Clean Air)

Phil Gitlen, Esq.
Robert Rosborough, Esq.
Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LLP
(Legal/Article XIV)

Scott B. Goldie, Esq.
Conboy, McKay, Bachman, and Kendall LLP
(Legal/ATVs)

Matthew Melewski, Esq.,
The Boutique Firm
(Legal/Rail Corridors)

J. Michael Naughton, Esq.
Young/Sommer LLC
(General Legal)



A Climate Survey of Adirondack Waters

Did you know that freshwater lakes sequester and store greenhouse gases? A consortium of non-profit partners and top academic institutions have come together to design a \$6 million, 3-year, 21st century water quality survey that has great potential to guide climate policymaking for decades to come. The Survey of Climate Change and Adirondack Lake Ecosystems (SCALE) will conduct a comprehensive survey of an estimated 400 waterbodies to study how lakes process and store greenhouse gases such as carbon and methane. The survey will also examine how climate change is impacting the health of our Adirondack waters.

With a down payment of \$500,000 from Governor Hochul and the Legislature in last year's state budget, the Adirondack Lakes Survey Corp. (a program of the Ausable River Association) will work with partners at Cornell University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Syracuse University and others, to pilot the initial test run of the larger survey. The State has not yet approved

funding for the full \$6 million cost of the project, but the Adirondack Council and partners will advocate for the State to fund the rest of the project this year. Follow the Adirondack Council's "take action" webpage this winter and spring to advocate for this very important research!



BPHA Legislative Caucus Returns

The New York State Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian (BPHA) Legislative Caucus returned to the Adirondacks for a second time for their fall policy planning retreat, experiencing Adirondack wilderness, waters, and critically important science facilities. The Adirondack Council hosted a reception honoring their leadership in securing funding for a Timbuctoo Climate Careers Institute, SCALE, and wilderness protection strategies.

The Environmental Protection Agency Region 2 Administrator Lisa Garcia also joined the Adirondack Council and the BPHA Caucus for a tour of the air monitoring station on Whiteface Mountain and water testing facilities at the Adirondack Lakes Survey Corp.



STAFF IN & ABOUT THE PARK

1. Bond Act Passes by Wide Margin

After election day, the Adirondack Council's Aaron Mair, Justin Levine, and John Sheehan, picture right, thanked New Yorkers for voting overwhelmingly to approve the Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Bond Act. The measure won approval by more than a two-to-one margin statewide, which was better than all statewide candidates for office. The bond will bring \$4.2 billion in new investments to clean water, clean air, green jobs, wilderness protection, and open space. In addition, it will give New York the resources to work with public and private partners to conserve the 36,000-acre Whitney Estate in Long Lake, which is for sale. The Bond Act also enjoyed strong support across the Park's 103 communities. In all, voters in 8 of 12 Adirondack counties approved the bond measure, according to the NYS Board of Elections. It was approved by double-digit margins in six of those counties.



2. Tragedy and Opportunity for NY Wolf

Late last year, an 85-pound male canid, mistaken as a large coyote, was shot by a hunter in central New York. The hunter agreed to share tissue samples from the carcass, and the results showed that the large canid was almost entirely wolf, genetically as well as physiologically.

Initially, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) disputed the genetic findings and denied the presence of a wolf in New York, but after considerable pressure from an emerging network of wildlife advocacy groups and three DNA tests, the DEC conceded. The DEC has since issued a caution to hunters to be careful not to mistake a wolf for a coyote and shoot it and to report any large canids shot or trapped. Rewilding Advocate John Davis will continue to work with the Northeast Wolf Task Force to ensure that wolves are kept on both state and federal endangered species lists. The Adirondack Council will also work with the Adirondack to Algonquin Collaborative to keep that continentally important wildlife corridor intact.



3. Community Clean-ups for Clean Water on Raquette Lake

Since fall 2021, our watershed planning pilot with the Raquette Lake Preservation Foundation (RLPF) has focused on building community engagement as a key component of the planning process. In May 2022, our Clean Water Advocate Blake Neumann joined members of RLPF in a region-wide trash clean-up called "Community Pride Day." Later that summer, staff from the Adirondack Council organized another trash clean-up at roadside pull-offs along Route 28 near Raquette Lake through the Maintain the Chain program. In 2023, the Council and RLPF plan to expand RLPF's outreach to a wider audience in the watershed, highlighting the critical work they are doing to promote clean water in Raquette Lake.





4. Rising Challenges for Farming

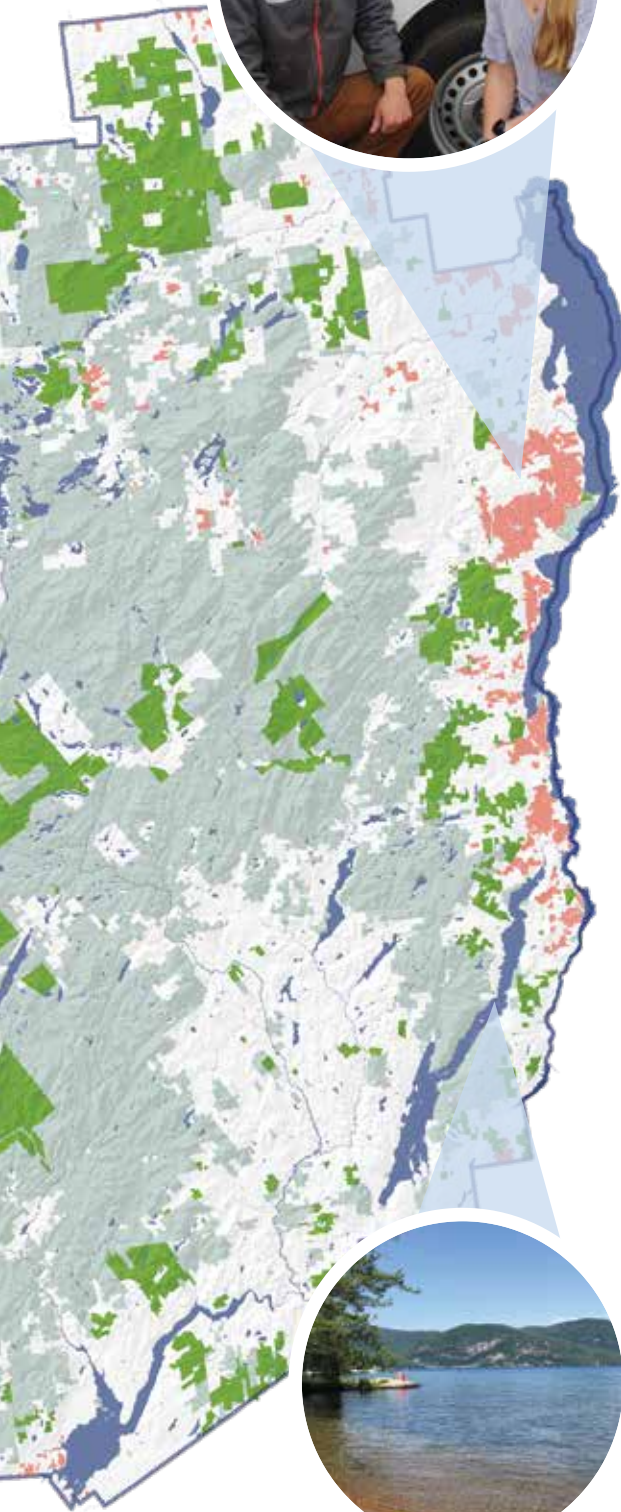
Small and diversified farming operations in the Adirondacks are facing unprecedented threats that have only been catalyzed by the pandemic. Costs for labor, supplies and agricultural inputs continue to rise steadily while industrial food-suppliers continue to have the upper hand in most rural communities. These threats have the potential to upend sustainability practices and the region's food security in unprecedented ways. The Adirondack Council's Essex Farm Institute (EFI) program is committed to helping farmers confront these challenges directly by helping them navigate technical and financial resources that support a vibrant working landscape. Adirondack Farm Advocate Dillon Klepetar continues to engage the NYS Department of Agriculture, USDA, and other agencies to ensure that the model of farming in harmony with nature is supported and celebrated.

5. ProcellaCOR Application in Lake George Challenged

In April, the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) approved the use of the herbicide ProcellaCOR to treat two beds of invasive Eurasian watermilfoil in Lake George. Adirondack Council Conservation Director Jackie Bowen is leading the Council's opposition to APA approval citing inadequate levels of information on potential long-term environmental impacts on Adirondack waters and ecosystems. The APA approved the application by a 6-4 vote. The Council joined a legal challenge by the Lake George Association. The state Supreme Court in Warren County issued a preliminary injunction and continues to review the case.

6. Protecting Lake George from Septic Pollution

The Lake George Park Commission has proposed regulations for a historic septic system inspection program for close to 3000 septic systems within 500 feet of Lake George. Failing septic systems are polluting Adirondack waters and are linked to the emergence of harmful algae blooms. The Commission's program to protect the waters of Lake George, "the Queen of American Lakes" is seen as a model for watersheds throughout the Adirondack Park. Led by Clean Water Program Coordinator David Miller, the Adirondack Council, along with its members and partner organizations have been front and center supporting this program and its implementation in 2023. A formal Commission vote to adopt this program with its inspection rules is scheduled for this winter.



MAP KEY

- Public Forest Preserve
- Private Land
- State Conservation Easement
- Waterbodies
- Agricultural Lands



NY Climate Plan Taking Shape

This summer, conservation staff submitted detailed recommendations for improvements on the New York Climate Action Council's (CAC) draft Climate Scoping Plan for implementing the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA). The scoping plan outlines how the state will achieve the ambitious climate goals outlined in the act, including 70% renewable energy by 2030 and 100% zero emission electricity by 2040.

The CAC held 11 public hearings across the state and virtually to solicit public feedback on the plan; they received thousands of verbal and written public comments. Conservation Director Jackie Bowen attended the public hearing in Tupper Lake to provide comments on the value of protecting Adirondack forests for their carbon removal and storage capacities, as well as the need for green jobs across the region.

Following the public comment period, the CAC has been meeting to review, address and revise the scoping plan with the Climate Justice Working Group based on the public's feedback. The Adirondack Council celebrates the State's movement on and commitment to releasing

a climate action plan. However, concerns remain about the lack of innovative ideas surrounding natural carbon capture and storage within the plan. Healthy, intact and growing forests not only pull carbon from the air, but also store it, return it to the soil at the end of their lives' and provide habitat for wildlife (both terrestrial and aquatic species). With increasing pressures on our forests, soils and wetlands from invasive species, development of rural areas and agricultural lands, and so on, supporting our forests and natural landscapes on a spectrum of land parcel sizes is critical for both human and natural community health, resiliency, and adaptation.

The CLCPA requires that the final climate scoping plan be finished in December and delivered to the Governor and Legislature. By the end of 2023 those recommendations are supposed to be codified.



Jackie Bowen with New York's Lt. Governor Antonio Delgado

EPA Monitors Back On

Funding from the federal Inflation Reduction Act allowed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reopen air quality monitoring stations in Upstate New York that allow the EPA to track whether federal clean air rules are having their intended effect.

Last summer, the EPA announced it would stop collecting data at stations in Newcomb, near the High Peaks Wilderness Area in the Adirondack Park, as well as stations at the Akwesasne (St. Regis) Mohawk Reservation in Franklin County and Bennet Bridge in Oswego County. After the Act was signed by President Biden this fall, U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY) came to the Adirondacks to announce that the stations would reopen and a new era of climate protection efforts had begun. The Inflation Reduction Act is the nation's first law curbing the emissions of greenhouse gasses.



(L-R): Adirondack Mountain Club Executive Director Michael Barrett, Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer and Adirondack Council Executive Director William Janeway during a press event at the Adirondack Loj near Lake Placid

SUPPORTING THE COUNCIL



Tad and Nancy Jeffrey Year-End Matching Gift Challenge

The late Tad and Nancy Jeffrey had long ties to the Adirondacks and through their dedication to the region, they instilled a love of the Park in the next generation of their family. Tad and Nancy were steadfast supporters of the Adirondack Council for over 30 years. Through their legacy of giving back, they passed these lessons onto their children and grandchildren and hoped to inspire others to join them in supporting the important work of the Adirondack Council.



In honor of their parents and their love for the Adirondacks, the Jeffrey family invites you to join the generations of their family in giving back to the Adirondack Council to protect the Park for generations to come. **They have generously committed to a 1:1 match for every gift received by December 31st, and a 2:1 match for any increased or new member gift up to \$500,000.** Please use the enclosed envelope to make your gift or visit us online at: [donate.adirondackcouncil.org/yematch2022!](https://donate.adirondackcouncil.org/yematch2022)

The power of your gift doubled (or tripled!) by the generosity of the Jeffrey family will help to preserve the ecological integrity and wild character of the Adirondacks for current and future generations. Join us today as we work to provide a better future for the Adirondack Park.

Sharing a Photo Legacy

Gary Randorf was the first employee and executive director of the Adirondack Council. And while he visited every corner of the Adirondack Park for his conservation work, he also captured what he saw on film - from wild places to friendly faces. Through the support of numerous friends of Gary, the Council has digitized thousands of his photos and is in the process of making the Gary Randorf Photo Archive available to the public. The end goal is to have all of Gary's photos - which he willed to the Council upon his death in 2019 - online and in a searchable database. Stay tuned for more updates.



Clarence Petty Intern Nick King helping create a digital archive of Gary's work

Stay Connected & Get Engaged!

We are here to keep you informed and up-to-date on the latest Adirondack conservation issues. Email is the fastest, most cost-effective way to communicate with you. Sign-up today and receive important campaign updates, digital newsletters, action alerts, and our monthly *In and About the Park Blog* and *5 Things You Need to Know* emails.

If you have previously unsubscribed from our email list we would love to connect with you again!

Please subscribe or resubscribe to our emails at AdirondackCouncil.org or by text message:

Please text **CALLOFTHELOON** to 22828 to get started.

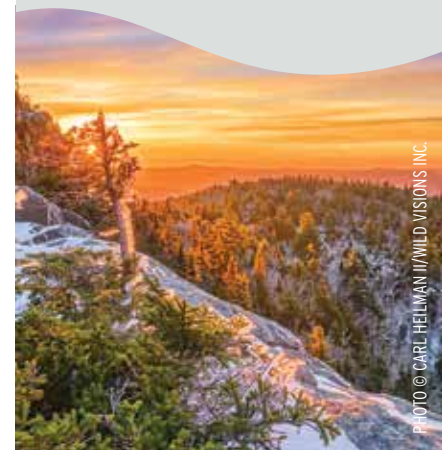


PHOTO © CARL HELLMAN / WILD VISIONS INC.

Educate, Inspire and Help Preserve the Adirondacks this Holiday Season!

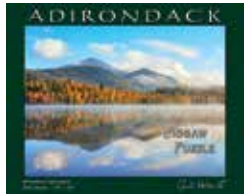
1 | ADIRONDACK PARK WALL MAP

Wall map bordered by watercolor illustrations of various Adirondack habitats. Measures 35" x 43"; ships rolled in rigid box/tube. **\$30.00** un laminated or **\$45.00** laminated



2 | LANDSCAPE JIGSAW PUZZLES

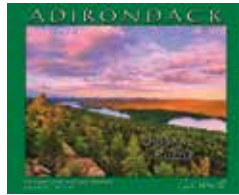
A fun challenge for friends or family. Featuring the landscape photography of Carl Heilman II. **\$25.00 each**



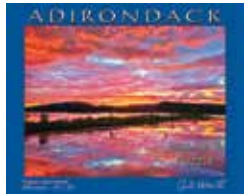
(A) Whiteface Mountain
550 pieces - 18" x 24"



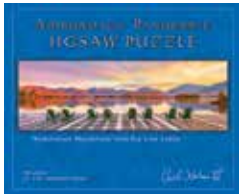
(B) Dawn from Cascade
750 pieces - 12" x 36"



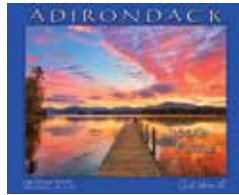
(C) Fulton Chain from Bald Mtn
550 pieces - 18" x 24"



(D) Tupper Lake Sunset
550 pieces - 18" x 24"



(E) Elk Lake
750 pieces - 12" x 36"



(F) Lake George Sunrise
550 pieces - 18" x 24"

3 | PLAYING CARDS

Adirondack Park or Lake George deck of playing cards - 54 different images of wildlife and landscapes. **\$9.00 each**



4 | NALGENE WATER BOTTLE

Bring a loon logo water bottle along for your next Park adventure. 16oz. narrow mouth, BPA-free and made in the USA.

Available in colors: pomegranate, spring green, smoke gray, and clementine. **\$15.00 each**

5 | 2023 FOREVER WILD CALENDAR

Bring the beauty of the Adirondacks into your home with a 12 month calendar featuring the award-winning landscape photography of Carl Heilman II. **\$15.00**



6 | LANDSCAPE NOTE CARDS

Share Adirondack landscapes with your friends and family. Pack of eight cards/envelopes with four different images, photos by Carl Heilman II. **\$8.00**

7 | LOON CAR MAGNET

5" round car magnet won't leave a mark. **\$5.00**



8 | DAK BAR - BEAVER

Whole food energy bars handcrafted in the Park - contains banana chips, milk chocolate and peanut butter. **\$3.50**



9 | CANVAS TOTE BAG

Shop your local farmer's market with our eco-conscious tote bag. Sturdy 10oz. cotton canvas; measures 19" w x 15.5" h x 5" gusset. **\$15.00**



10 | WASHED CHINO HAT W/LOON PATCH

Dark green, heavy-weight 100% cotton twill, unstructured with adjustable cloth strap & metal buckle, one size fits most. **\$25.00**

11 | TRUCKER HAT W/LOON PATCH

Spruce/birch/light navy, cotton-poly/nylon mesh, structured with adjustable plastic strap, one size fits most. **\$25.00**



Back Front

12 | LOON T-SHIRT - UNISEX CREWNECK

Tri-blend t-shirt, 50% polyester, 25% cotton and 25% rayon - slim fitting. Available in steel blue and grass green color and sizes S, M, L, XL. **\$23.00 each**

13 | DRAWING ADIRONDACK WILDLIFE

Beginning artists are given easy step-by-step instructions on how to draw wildlife of the Adirondacks - illustrations by Sheri Amsel. **\$8.00**



14 | ADIRONDACK ALPHABET

An illustrated, rhyming picture book of the mountain peaks, animals, plants, and historic places of the Adirondacks - color illustrations by Sheri Amsel. **\$12.00**

15 | NEW! - A NIGHT WALK

Explore the nocturnal world in several different habitats: wetlands, fields & forests - color illustrations by Sheri Amsel. **\$13.00**



16-17 | ADOPT A LOON/MOOSE

Help protect an Adirondack loon or moose, with a symbolic adoption. Includes plush toy, re-useable canvas tote bag and personalized adoption certificate. **\$35.00 each**



3 WAYS TO PLACE YOUR ORDER!




Proceeds benefit Adirondack Park conservation.

1) Shop online at: donate.AdirondackCouncil.org

2) Use the order form on the back and return in the enclosed envelope

3) Call our Elizabethtown office at 1.877.873.2240

info@adirondackcouncil.org
www.AdirondackCouncil.org
518.873.2240 | 518.432.1770

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\$500,000 MATCHING GIFT OPPORTUNITY ENCLOSED

See how your gift can help meet our year-end goal!

Meet the New Faces!

Nicholle Gotham

Nicholle joined the Adirondack Council in July as the Assistant Director of Development working with Director of Development Debbie Pastore in the Elizabethtown office. As a North Country native, she spent her childhood rambling in the Adirondacks and surrounding foothills. Following her undergraduate studies at St. Lawrence University, she served as an AmeriCorps VISTA with the Center for Nonprofits and Philanthropy at Texas A&M University. Nicholle has previous experience in higher education development and public media at various organizations, including North Country Public Radio. She brings a passion for philanthropy and service to her local community and her work with the Council. Outside of the office, you can find Nicholle running, rock climbing, and exploring everything Adirondack communities and the wild spaces of the Park have to offer.



Aimee Privitera

Aimee joined the Adirondack Council in September as the Legislative Advocacy Assistant working with Director of Government Relations Kevin Chlad in the Albany office. As a Capital region native, she spent much of her childhood camping and swimming in the Adirondack Mountains. Aimee attended SUNY Geneseo for her undergraduate work and earned a master's degree in Social and Public Policy from SUNY ESC. She held a series of campaign and coordinating positions before landing at the Council. As the Legislative Advocacy Assistant, she works with the Government Relations team to advance the Council's advocacy agenda. Her duties include managing legislative correspondence, researching environmental policy issues, and assisting in grassroots lobbying to encourage policymakers to act in the best interests of the Adirondack Park.



Karyssa Pryce

Karyssa joined the Adirondack Council in September as the Executive and Operations Assistant in the Elizabethtown office. Karyssa joined the Council team after several years working with a local attorney specializing in real estate law and probate. A native of the North Country, she has spent many hours venturing around the Park on her bike with friends. She is a lover of animals, enjoys sitting around a campfire, watching a good horror movie, and will always be found listening to music.

