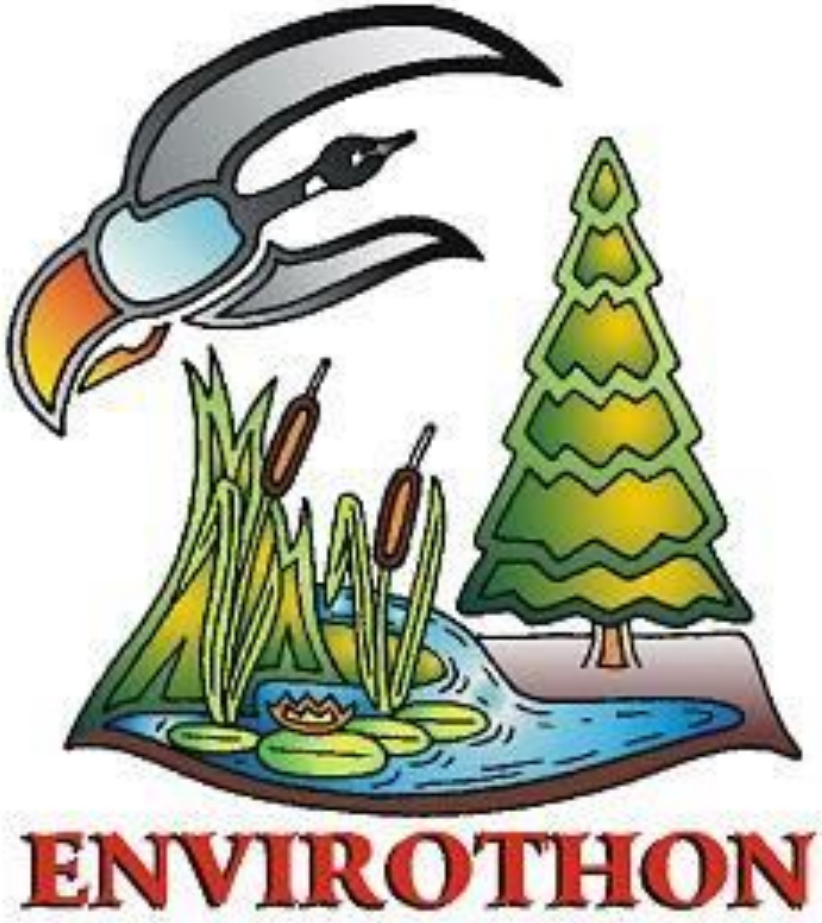
Nova Scotia Envirothon



Agenda

- What is Envirothon
- Benefits to students
- Envirothon budget
- Conclusion



Nova Scotia Envirothon

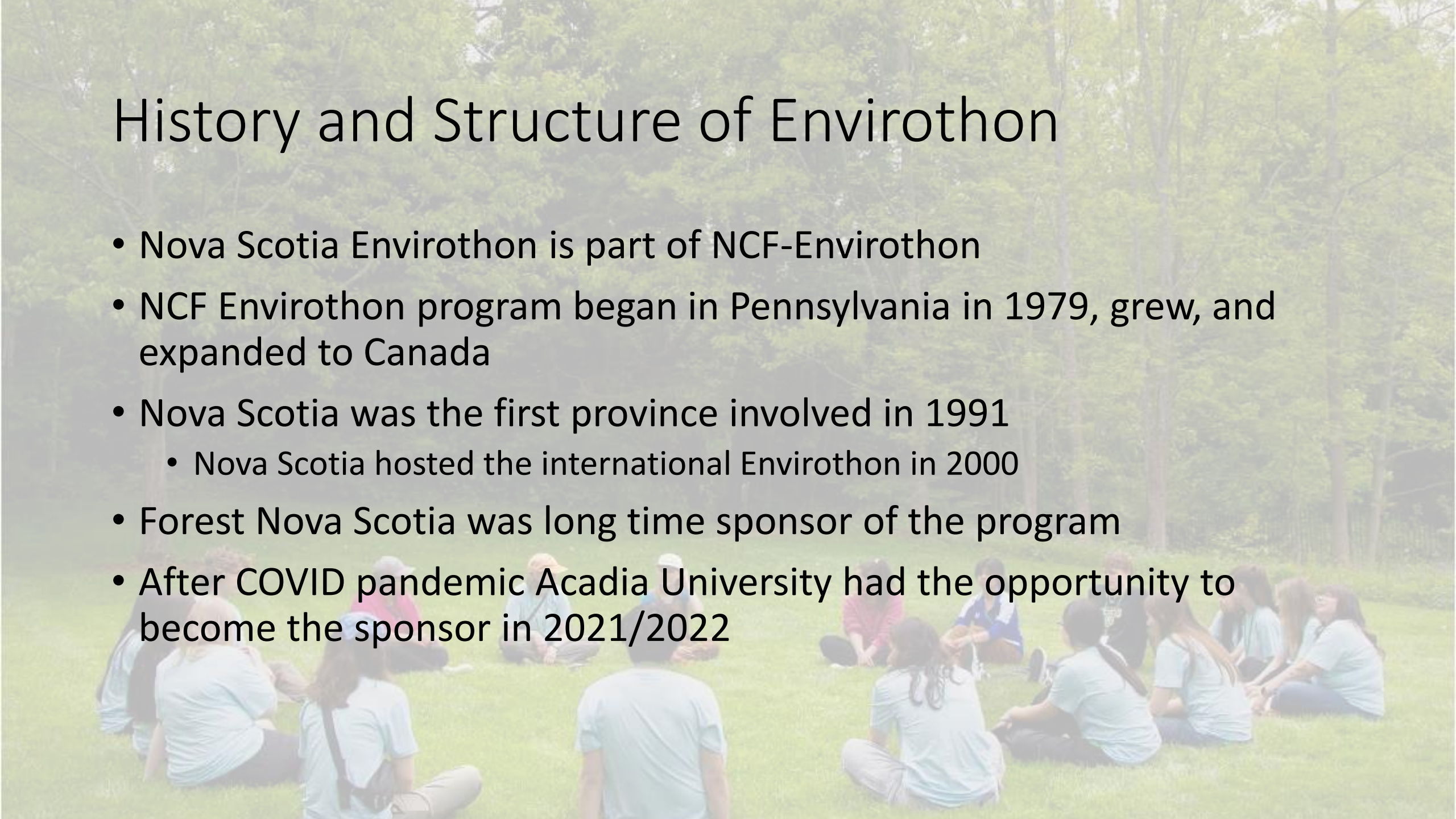


- A hands on environmental science program for students in grades 9-12
- Students compete in teams of 5-6 representing their school
- Tested on five subject areas: aquatics, forestry, wildlife, soils and a current topic
  - Tests are outdoors in the field, completed as a team
  - Team oral presentation on the current topic scenario
- Participants compete over a 2-day event in May (stay overnight)
- Winning team has the opportunity to attend NCF Envirothon (teams from all US states, Canadian Provinces, some of Asia)

ENVIROTHON

History and Structure of Envirothon

- Nova Scotia Envirothon is part of NCF-Envirothon
- NCF Envirothon program began in Pennsylvania in 1979, grew, and expanded to Canada
- Nova Scotia was the first province involved in 1991
  - Nova Scotia hosted the international Envirothon in 2000
- Forest Nova Scotia was long time sponsor of the program
- After COVID pandemic Acadia University had the opportunity to become the sponsor in 2021/2022



NCF Envirothon Competition

- The winning Nova Scotian team has opportunity to attend the international NCF Competition.
- The event is held annually over a week in July, the state or province hosting rotates
- Nova Scotia Envirothon pays the registration fee for the winning team, it is ~$2500 USD





Envirothon 2025 by the numbers

- 10 teams competed from High Schools across Nova Scotia (Valley, HRM, Cobequid, South Shore)
- 68 students attended
- 9 teachers attended
- 32 volunteers

Sample schedule

Envirothon Schedule 2024

Thursday May 9th – Friday, May 10th

Thursday, May 9th

Time	Activity	Location
9:30am-10:30am	Check in and registration (rolling arrivals, no need to arrive at 9:30am)	K.C. Irving Centre Lobby/Chipman House
10:30am	Opening Ceremony	Garden Room, K.C. Irving Centre or walled garden, Harriet Irving Gardens
11:00am- 12:00pm	Field Test One	Woodland Trails
12:00pm-12:10pm	Transition	
12:10pm-12:50pm	Lunch	Garden Room, K.C. Irving Centre
12:50pm-1:00pm	Transition	
1:00pm-2:00pm	Field Test Two *Optional teacher field station tour*	Woodland Trails
2:00pm-2:10pm	Transition	
2:10pm-3:10pm	Field Test Three	Woodland Trails
3:10pm-3:25pm	Snack Break, then Transition	Woodland Trails (at stations before transition)
3:25pm-4:25pm	Field Test Four	Woodland Trails
4:30pm-6:00pm	Dinner and Down Time	Wheelock Dining Hall
6:00pm-7:30pm	Guest Presentation: Net Zero Atlantic, followed by Q&A and time to work on oral presentations	K.C. Irving Centre Auditorium
7:30pm-8:30pm	Team Building Activities	Harriet Irving Botanical Gardens
8:30pm-10:00pm	Bonfire and Social Time	Harriet Irving Botanical Gardens
10:30pm	Lights out	Chipman Residence

Friday, May 10th

Time	Activity	Location
7:30am-8:30am	Breakfast	Wheelock Dining Hall
8:45am-10:45am	Oral Presentations & Succulent Planting	K.C. Irving Centre Auditorium, Classroom and Potting Shed
10:45am-11:30am	Top two teams present to whole group	K.C. Irving Centre Auditorium
11:30am-12:00pm	Lunch	K.C. Irving Centre Garden Room
12:00pm-1:30pm	Tour Station 1	Harriet Irving Botanical Gardens
1:30pm- 3:00pm	Tour Station 2	K.C. Irving Centre Auditorium
3:00pm- 3:30pm	Awards and Closing Ceremony	K.C. Irving Centre Auditorium or Harriet Irving Gardens, TBD
3:30pm- 4:00pm	Residence room clean up and Departure	*Note: students could pack up during down time in the oral presentations*

Subject areas: creating a solid foundation for future environmental study



Aquatics









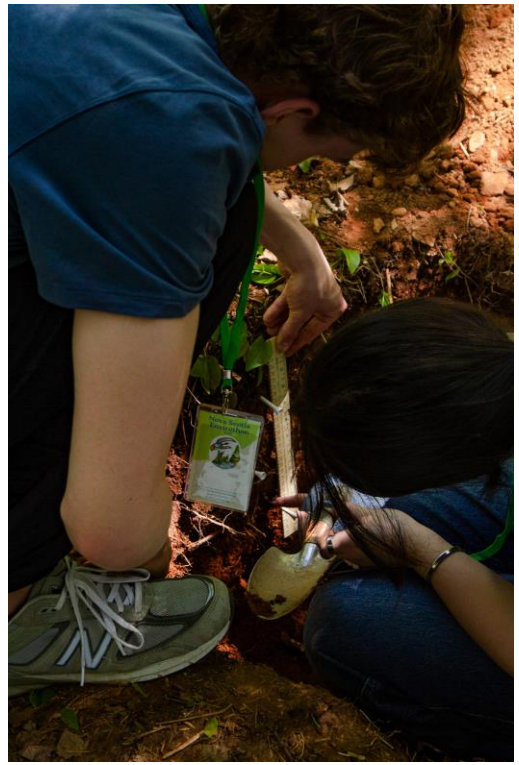
Forestry

Soils













Wildlife

Current Topic: Oral presentation

- Each team receives a case study prepared by local experts two weeks prior to the competition
- Each team prepares a 10 min slide presentation with a solution to the case study ahead of the competition
- Each team delivers their presentation to a panel of judges acting as environmental consultants
- The top two teams present again to our entire Envirothon group



Current Topic: Oral presentation

Topic for NCF Envirothon 2025: Roots and Resiliency: Fostering Forest Stewardship in a Canopy of Change

- Nova Scotia 2025 Case Study: Envirothon Scenario 2025: Protecting Eastern Hemlock on Private Lands in Nova Scotia

“You are hired as a team of Forest Professionals by a private landowner in Lunenburg County. The property is 130 acres in size and has been stewarded by the family for four generations. Eastern hemlock is the dominant species in 45 acres of the property. The hemlock stands have varying levels of hemlock woolly adelgid infestation (HWA). The crowns of the hemlock have begun to decline, indicating that action needs to be taken soon. The other portion of the woodlot has a few scattered hemlocks but overall is unaffected by the outbreak.”

The 2025 scenario was created by Shayla Nickerson from the Nova Scotia Working Woodlands Trust

Benefits of Envirothon

Learn new science skills



Network, build social skills



Gain presentation skills



Benefits of Envirothon

Experience University Campus



Resume enrichment



A chance to compete at the international Envirothon



Beyond the competition

- NS Envirothon hosts at least one annual training session with our volunteers
- Volunteers often go to schools on their own time
- Opportunity to build programming as NS Envirothon grows



2025 Budget

Expenses		Revenues	
NCF Annual Membership ($450 USD)	$615	Registration	$3000
NCF Competition Registration ($2300 USD)	$3178	Sponsorships	$3300
Accommodations	$3980	Irving Centre Support	$5000
Catering	$5133.26	*Facility in kind (Acadia)**	*$3390*
T-shirts (100)	$919.90	*Photography in kind*	*$400*
Miscellaneous supplies and snacks	$200		
Total Expense	**$14 026.16**	**Total Revenue**	**$11 300**
		2025 Deficit	**$2726.16**

77 residence beds
4 meals, between 70-85 ppl per meal.
10 teams.

*does not include valuation of Acadia staff time, or 30+ volunteers

Opportunities for support

- A donation to the program as a whole
- Sponsorship of a meal (example: supper on field test day)
- Sponsorship of costs associated with Valley team(s) at the event
- Sponsorship of t-shirts for competitors





Conclusion

- Unique educational enrichment opportunity
- Envirothon provides a balanced and practical view into the complexities of environmental issues
- Inspiring next generation of environmental leaders