



# The Auspice

Pelee Island Bird Observatory

**Donate Today**



## **Birding Backpacks Coming to Windsor Public Library This Spring!**

PIBO is thrilled to announce that the birding backpacks donated to the Windsor Public Library will be available for circulation just in time for spring migration! Thanks to a generous grant from the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation and sponsorship from Vortex Canada, PIBO has expanded its partnership with the library, donating 20 new multilingual birding backpacks.

Available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, and Punjabi, these kits will help families and individuals explore the joys of bird-watching in their neighbourhoods and across Essex County—home to some of the world's best birding spots! Stay tuned for more details on how to borrow a backpack and start your birding adventure.



**TD Friends of the  
Environment Foundation**







### **PIBO Prioritizes Safety Amid Avian Influenza Concerns**

As highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) continues to spread across North America, PIBO is closely monitoring the latest guidelines from the Bird Banding Office at the Canadian Wildlife Service. Following these recommendations remains a top priority as we work to protect our staff and minimize the risk of transmission among bird populations. PIBO is committed to safeguarding both people and wildlife and will continue to take necessary precautions to address this serious outbreak.



### **PIBO & Friends of BirdLife International Host Memorable Fundraiser in NYC**

This past December, PIBO and Friends of BirdLife International came together for a special evening of fundraising and celebration at the prestigious Lotos Club in New York City. The event introduced PIBO to a new audience of potential

supporters and featured an engaging fireside chat with renowned author Margaret Atwood, who read from her latest book, *Paper Boat*. Guests also enjoyed a festive, bird-themed holiday sing-along and an exciting silent auction.

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported our mission to protect birds and their habitats!



# THE PELEE ISLAND BIRD OBSERVATORY



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

## SPRING & FALL MIGRATION MONITORING ASSISTANTS

Are you a keen birder, have some fieldwork experience and can spend a few weeks on Pelee Island?

We need help with our spring & fall banding operations and can provide valuable experience and free housing!



Contact us today to learn more about this exciting volunteer opportunity.

Photos by Gill Holmes and Hannah Mittelstaedt

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In addition to migration monitoring volunteers, PIBO is also hiring a number of student jobs- avian assistant for the spring season, an Education Coordinator and a Videographer. All these student positions can be found on the [GoodWorks Canada](#) job board.

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PIBO welcomes Caillie Monrad to the team as our spring Assistant Bander for 2025.

# Call to Action for All Canadians!



**DEMAND TRANSPARENCY TO PROTECT WILDLIFE, COMPANION ANIMALS, HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM PESTICIDE POISONING. SIGN E-5320 TODAY.** →

## Protecting Urban Birds: Take Action Against Pesticide Poisoning

As a key partner in the Bird Friendly Windsor initiative—certified by Nature Canada in 2022—PIBO remains committed to reducing threats to urban birds. One major concern is pesticide poisoning, particularly the accumulation of rodenticides in hawks and owls that ingest poisoned rodents.

A new federal petition calls for a review of Canada's pesticide regulatory process and an independent assessment of its impact on wildlife. Pesticide poisoning poses a serious risk to birds and other animals—please consider signing and sharing the petition **before March 23**.

Visit the petition [here](#).

Additionally, learn how [University of Western](#) students are helping to reduce rodenticide use by replacing traditional rodent traps with Eastern Screech Owl nesting boxes—an eco-friendly solution that protects both pets and wildlife.

**Support the work of the Pelee Island Bird Observatory, monitoring birds**

where two major migration flyways converge— a flight path for millions!

[Find out more.](#)



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Dark-eyed Junco, Black throated green warbler and Bonaparte's Gulls by Sumiko Onishi.

BirdLife International/PIBO event photos by BirdLife International

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