

Robert (Bob) Ronald Campbell (1943–2011): Biologist, Conservationist, Pastor

CLAUDE B. RENAUD

Research and Collections Division, Canadian Museum of Nature, P.O. Box 3443, Station D, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 6P4 Canada; email: crenaud@mus-nature.ca

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Bob Campbell was born in London, Ontario, on 5 January 1943 and died of cancer in Ottawa, Ontario, on 23 December 2011. His birth parents were Lee and Joseph Schrock and his adoptive parents were Jenny and Archibald Campbell. Bob contacted Social Services in the late 1980s to locate his birth parents, but it was only in 1999 that he finally met his natural mother and his four younger brothers, John, Robert, Peter, and Allan. He is survived by his wife Rosemary (nee Ford), two children (Rhonda and Robert Jr.) from a previous marriage, and five grandchildren, Samantha, Amanda, Nicholas, Dylan, and Katsia. He was predeceased by his first wife, Sandra (nee Roberts).

Bob received a B.A. in Zoology from the University of Western Ontario in 1967, a Secondary School Teaching Certificate from Althouse College in 1968, a M.Sc. in Agriculture from the University of Guelph in 1972, and a Ph.D. in Environmental Physiology from the same institution in 1980. His master's thesis was "Inheritance of Several Traits with Flight in Crosses of Wild Mallards and Domestic Ducks," and his doctoral dissertation was "Ecophysiological Studies of Lesser Snow Geese of La Perouse Bay, Manitoba." After a long career as a biologist, he went back to university and obtained a B.T. (Bachelor of Theology) in 2007 and a M.P.T. (Master of Pastoral Theology) in 2009, both from St. Paul University, Ottawa.

The word that best sums up Bob's life is service. His service was rendered in four main areas: military, professional, conservation, and community.

Early on, Bob wished to serve his country. Between 1956 and 1961, he was an Army Cadet with Forest District High School Cadet Corps. He joined the military reserve in 1968 and retired in 2001 with the rank of Major. During this period, he served as Deputy Commanding Officer of the 11th and 30th field regiments, Royal Canadian Artillery, for three years was Senior Staff Officer, Human Resources, for the Ottawa Militia District, and for three years Senior Staff Officer, Operations and Administration, for the Hamilton Militia District. He was awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration in 1980 for long service with good conduct.

As a professional biologist, Bob worked in the private sector and for the Ontario and Canadian governments. From 1969 to 1972, he was a Wildlife Biologist with the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests and



FIGURE 1. Bob Campbell celebrating mass during the Van-kleek Hill Parish picnic held at the farm of parish-ioners Linda and Terry Skelly, June 2010. Photo: Rosemary Ford-Campbell.

from 1972 to 1974 a Laboratory Supervisor with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. He gained an enormous amount of natural history knowledge during the time he was a Wildlife Biologist, conducting inventories of plants and fishes in no less than 25 lakes, ponds, rivers, and creeks in the Lake Huron watershed, as well as banding waterfowl and making population estimates of White-tailed Deer and American Beaver. In 1974, he founded a company called BEC Consultants, which stood for Biological Ecological Consulting. From 1974 to 1980, his company con-

ducted field investigations and sample collections in support of endocrinology and xenobiological studies of fishes in the Great Lakes. After receiving his Ph.D., he joined the federal civil service, working first for the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (1980–1991) and later for the Canadian Wildlife Service at Environment Canada (1991–2001). In his first few years at Fisheries and Oceans, he worked closely with the late Roméo LeBlanc (1927–2009), who was Minister of Fisheries and Oceans from 1974 to 1982 and later became Governor General (1995–1999). Bob deeply respected LeBlanc as a man and a most competent minister of the Crown. At Fisheries and Oceans, Bob held three positions. He began as a Project Supervisor (1980–1982) in charge of developing and managing fish health studies in the Great Lakes. In 1982, he was Program Supervisor in charge of developing and implementing biological oceanographic studies in Arctic waters. From 1982 to 1991, he was Senior Policy Program Advisor, Northern and Inland Fisheries, with administrative responsibility for all national and international science programs related to northern and inland fisheries, particularly in the area of environmental issues, and those pertaining to endangered species. In 1991, Bob left Fisheries and Oceans and joined Environment Canada, where he stayed until 2001. During the ten years Bob worked at Environment Canada, he was the CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) Administrator. In 2001, Bob left Environment Canada and returned as Chief Officer of BEC, the consulting company he had founded 27 years earlier.

Bob published 37 scientific articles (see Bibliography, below). Remarkably, these dealt with fishes and birds as well as marine mammals. According to Google Scholar (accessed 1 January 2012), nine of these papers have been cited between 10 and 29 times in the scientific literature, a testimony to their significance and relevance (see citation annotations following the respective articles under Bibliography).

Bob also served the scientific community as an Associate Editor of the Canadian Field-Naturalist for over 20 years (1990–2011). Between 1984 and 2001, he was primary editor for the status reports on fishes and marine mammals approved by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) (he was at that time Chair of the Fish and Marine Mammals Subcommittee and Co-Chair of the Freshwater Fishes Subcommittee. Status reports were published on rare and endangered species in these groups in 15 issues of this journal: 110 fishes (including 7 updated reports), 58 marine mammals (including 6 updated reports), and one mollusc (the Northern Abalone) (issues 98(1), 99(3), 101(2), 102(1), 102(2), 103(2), 104(1), 105(2), 106(1), 107(4), 110(3), 111(2), 112(1), 115(1), 115(4)). Bob was able to obtain support to cover full page charges from Fisheries and Oceans and later from Environment Canada to publish in these

issues. Chairs in other taxonomic groups lacked equivalent access to funding, but some individual authors supported publication of their own status reports. Subsequently, all COSEWIC status reports were made available on the internet by Environment Canada, and further journal publication was discontinued.

Bob's service to conservation is best exemplified by his 27-year tenure with COSEWIC. From 1982 to 1999, he was Chair of the Fish and Marine Mammals Subcommittee and then from 1999 to 2009 he was Co-Chair of the Freshwater Fishes Subcommittee. I served as the other Co-Chair during the period 1999–2007 and I can confirm that Bob carried out the lion's share of a formidable workload. On the international scene, Bob was Secretary of the International Walrus Technical and Scientific Committee (1991–1995) and a member of the Sturgeon Specialist Group, Species Survival Commission, International Union for Conservation of Nature.

Bob was a deeply religious man. His service to the community began as a Rector's Warden (1990–1992), Lay Reader, and Lay Assistant (2000–2001) at St. Thomas Anglican Church in Woodlawn, Ontario, and then Lay Reader and Lay Assistant (2001–2009) with the Anglican Parish of Hawkesbury, Ontario. In September 2009, he was named Lay Leader-in-Charge with the Anglican Parish of Vankleek Hill, Ontario. After his diaconate ordination on 5 October 2009, he was named Deacon-in-Charge and after his ordination to the priesthood on 26 April 2010 he became the Pastor of that parish (Figure 1). He also served as Senior Chaplain for the sea cadets on HMCS *Quadra*, British Columbia, during the summer of 2003 and at the National Army Cadet Training Centre, Connaught, Ontario, during the summers of 2004, 2007, 2008, and 2011. Bob officiated at the funeral service for his birth mother in May 2011, only seven months before he passed away.

Bob left a legacy of caring for nature and people. His dedication to conservation will be sorely missed.

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