

BETHLEHEM LAND TRUST

Conservation of Natural Resources

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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BETHLEHEM LAND TRUST NAMES NEW BOARD MEMBER

BETHLEHEM: The Bethlehem Land Trust is proud to announce that resident Ian McLeran has joined the board of directors. Ian is a product manager at Thule Group, the Swedish company's US headquarters in Seymour, where he has worked in new product development for nine years and is currently international product manager for cargo.

Passionate about cycling, hiking, running, and camping, Ian has broad outdoor experience both in the eastern and the western US. He has hiked the CT section of the Appalachian Trail and the Presidential Range in New Hampshire, and canoed the James River in Virginia. His outdoor experiences in the West include hiking Little Cottonwood Canyon in Utah and summiting several 10–11,000-foot peaks in that area.

At the Bethlehem Land Trust his particular interests will be applied to monitoring the Trust's properties and special projects such as trail development where needed. "We are delighted that Ian is bringing his dedication to nature and his outdoor skills to the board," noted Land Trust president Mary Hawvermale.

"It's pretty easy to develop land, but once it's built on, pretty hard to un-develop it. The undeveloped lands of Bethlehem are the areas that give it the rural beauty that I, even in the short time I've lived here, can see is what people really treasure about this town. I'm excited to be able to

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contribute to the Bethlehem Land Trust's efforts to conserve these lands for the benefit and enjoyment of our children and generations beyond," commented Ian.

Ian has a degree in geology from Dickinson College and a master in education from the University of Bridgeport. He lives in Bethlehem with his two young sons and wife Susan, owner of the Bethlehem True Value. He also volunteers with Cub Scout Troop 459 in Bethlehem.

The Bethlehem Land Trust, established in 1980, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the permanent conservation and stewardship of local farmland, fields, forests, and wetlands and to educating the public on the importance of conservation. For more information please go to www.bethlehemlandtrustct.org.

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