## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

It is with excitement and trepidation that we step into the role of editors of Blue Jay: excitement at the prospect of learning so much and working with the people who submit articles for publication; trepidation because it will be a challenge to meet the high standard set by previous editors.

We encourage all readers of Blue Jay to consider writing articles. Blue Jay is its authors: the naturalists of Saskatchewan and elsewhere who observe nature, marvel at it, and want to share what they have seen; conservationists who identify issues and want to propose solutions and engage society in dialogue.

So write, and send it in! We welcome personal observations and well-developed science, comprehensive discussions and short notes. Our job will be to help authors find expression in the pages of Blue Jay. We will type hand-written manuscripts when necessary and try to free authors from the mechanics of publication. We will continue to obtain peer review for scientific articles.

We owe a big vote of thanks to Stuart Houston for the current issue. Stuart, with help from Joe Schmutz, graciously agreed to act as "guest editor" to facilitate transition of editorship from Roy John to ourselves. Thank you Stuart! Our job will begin with the December 1999 issue.

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