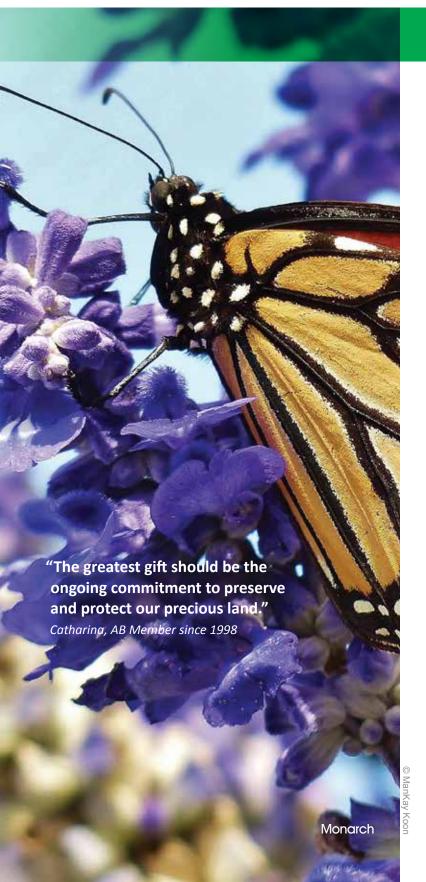


# VOICES FOR NATURE



# Annual Report 2019-20



What an incredible year for nature conservation in Canada! Thank you for telling decision makers to Make Room for Nature by defending Canada's glorious forests, wetlands, grasslands, tundra,

oceans, and lakes. Together, we're saving the species that depend on these spaces.

With you by our side, we're ensuring that our government keeps its commitment to the biggest nature protection initiative in Canadian history: protecting 25% of land and oceans by 2025 and 30% by 2030.

Because of your wonderful support, we will protect our land, rivers and oceans, save species, and empower the next generation of environmental leaders.

As we look to the start of 2021, our exciting plans focus on speaking up for wildlife, restoring nature, promoting nature as part of the Canadian identity, and growing Nature Canada's community of nature lovers.

You, and all our amazing Nature Canada members are integral to these ambitious goals. Thank you for raising your voice for nature. Every donation given, petition signed, telephone call or visit has pushed for positive change.

Thank you for your continued support as together we work tirelessly to protect the nature we love.

Yours for nature.

Graham Saul
Executive Director



Nature is worth it! Canadians are calling for more Protected Areas coast to coast to coast. Canadians overwhelmingly want greater protection for natural areas and the stunning abundance of life they support. And this is more urgent than ever.

Species loss globally is accelerating at an alarming rate. In Canada, more than 600 species are now at risk, including the iconic Southern Resident Orca, Woodland Caribou and Swift Fox. Thank you for raising your voice to protect this critical habitat and the endangered species that call it home.

This year, tens of thousands of Canadians raised their voice for nature protection. We won't stop building this movement to demand federal investments in protected areas and Indigenous-led conservation and stewardship initiatives.

You are ensuring that our government keeps its commitment to the biggest nature protection initiative in Canadian history: protecting 25% of land and oceans by 2025, and 30% by 2030. Here are recent key victories for nature we can celebrate together:

Species loss globally is accelerating at an alarming rate. In Canada, more than 600 species are now at risk,

Great News for Grasslands! The Prairie Grasslands in Southern Saskatchewan and Southern Alberta contains some of the most endangered landscapes on Earth. Over the past decade, thousands signed Nature Canada's petitions to protect this Canadian jewel which has critical habitat for at least 13 federally listed species at risk. Now, three pastures (Govenlock, Nashlyn, and Battle Creek) will finally be transferred for formal protection! This land exchange will allow the federal and provincial governments to work with the ranching community to conserve and protect prairie grasslands in those pastures. These heritage ranch lands provide habitat for species at risk like Greater Sage Grouse, Mountain Plover, and the Pronghorn Antelope. Thank you for raising your voice!

Super news for the South Shore! The Ontario government announced their intention to designate two key areas in Prince Edward County as Ontario Conservation Reserves. This move creates hope for the future of over 30 at-risk species in the area, including the Blanding's Turtle, Monarch Butterfly, Eastern



"I discover nature every day. The trees delight me - the changing sky, the marvelous birds, the incredible variety of plants. There is so much beauty, variety and change. All we have to do is look and listen." Phyllis, ON Member since 2004



Whip-poor-will, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, and Short-eared Owl. It is home to a globally-recognized Important Bird Area (IBA), filled with migratory birds who stop over on the shoreline and 298 bird species alone have been recorded at Prince Edward Point over the years. While we celebrate this critical step forward, we will make sure that the provincial government follows through with a strong management plan for the South Shore that will protect this incredible nature for generations to come.

While we celebrate the good work on these critical areas, there are other pressing campaigns including the Pacific DeepSea Oasis, Roberts Bank and Fraser Delta in British Columbia and achieving long overdue protected areas in Newfoundland. Defending wildlife and protecting wilderness is a top priority for Nature Canada's members like you.

Thanks to you, this has been an incredible year for protecting marine and terrestrial places in Canada!

## **DEFENDING BIRDS AT RISK**

Canadian bird populations are in trouble. Nature Canada has been leading efforts to recover aerial insectivores, grassland birds and shorebirds.

Our campaign to support Swallows involves replacing housing, engaging naturalists to steward key roosts, and promoting bird-friendly practices in rural south Ontario. We are launching our Urban Bird Program that will support citizens and cities to become more bird-friendly and deal with threats such as window collisions, cats and habitat destruction.

Nature Canada worked alongside the Cree Nation of Wemindji, Moose Cree First Nation and the Lac Seul First Nation in Northern Ontario and Quebec to track shorebirds and identify key bird habitat in their homelands. The important work helps to protect key landscapes vital for sustaining culture, livelihoods and rich biodiversity critical to the whole planet.



"Habitat conservation and restoration are the most important actions you can take to save so many creatures and cultures." Irene, BC member since 2013

## **ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS UPDATE**

Nature Canada continues to be your voice on Parliament Hill, in meeting rooms and courtrooms across the country. We took on upholding the need for environmental assessments and protection for offshore oil & gas development in Newfoundland and proposed coal mining expansions in Alberta and British Columbia. Despite COVID 19, our members strongly believe we must stand up for strong environmental laws to protect our air, lands and species.



#### **ENGAGING WITH NEARBY NATURE**

Connecting kids with the wonders of nature is vital — for the kids and for nature! This past year, our partners engaged 16,036 individuals and hosted 281 school and community groups and 97 public events. Thank you to members and funders for their continued investment in this innovative programming. We are proud of the work our local partners achieved to reach communities that are marginalized and racialized, and to deliver innovative programming that met the language, culture, and socio-economic needs of their communities.

Given the COVID-19 pandemic, this past spring Nature Canada worked hard to quickly pivot our World Migratory Bird Day to virtual celebrations and activities. Almost two dozen nature organizations joined us in celebrating the day through virtual events — utilizing

Celesiating the day through

Nature Canada's outreach toolkit to engage Canadians to take action locally for birds.

## COLLABORATING TOGETHER

The Nature Based Climate Solutions Summit held in March 2020 was a momentous occasion. Over 450 participants from across all levels of government, Indigenous leaders & nations, conservation and climate nonprofits, foundations, funders, farmers, labour unions, and industry associations participated in this Summit — clearly demonstrating widespread support for bold government investment and action on nature-based solutions to climate change.

In the words of our Board Chair, Bob Peart: "Champions for nature spoke hopefully about how we can reduce our use of carbon and control pollution. They provided many examples of nature's remarkable resiliency against seemingly insurmountable odds when given a chance."

Now is the time for more action on both climate and biodiversity solutions as we look to a green and just recovery in Canada.



**Board of Directors** 

**Chairman:** Bob Peart, **Vice Chair:** Sheefra Brisbin, **Directors:** Réal Bisson, Will David, Sabine Dietz, Susan Eaton, Khalil Guliwala, Brenda Kenny, Dr. Riad Mansour, Logan McIntosh, Bill Ross, Charlie Sark, and Cliff Wallis



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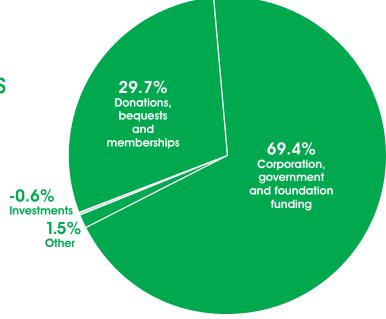
Telephone: 1-800-267-4088 | info@naturecanada.ca | naturecanada.ca



### 2019-2020 Financials

Together, we are Canada's voice for nature. Your membership is a gift of action protecting wildlife and wilderness, and preserving nature for our children and grandchildren. In addition to our strong grassroots membership, we are honoured to partner with corporations, foundations and other groups who care about nature in Canada. Nature Canada cherishes each and every gift we receive. Here's how we raise our funds:

Nature Canada revenue for year ending in March 31, 2020

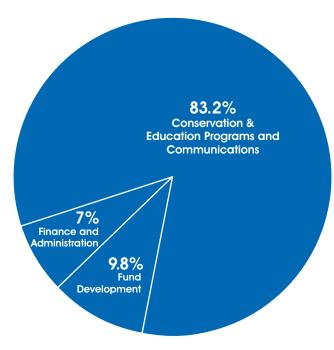


Donations, bequests and memberships	\$1,161,863
Corporation, government and foundation funding	\$2,712,344
Other	\$58,209
Investments	\$-25,537
	\$3,906,879

# 2019-2020 Expenses

Thank you for adding your voice and for helping us save wildlife and protect our majestic natural heritage. And thank you for entrusting us with your gift. We are accountable to you. We take care each and every day to ensure that we spend your gift in ways that achieve crucial and inspiring victories for wildlife and wild spaces in your province and across Canada. Here's how we spend our funds:

Auditors: Baker Tilly, Ottawa LLP Chartered Professional Accountants Conservation & Education Programs and Communications \$3,011,982
Fund Development \$356,774
Finance and Administration \$253,525
\$3,622,281



Financial statements are available online	a
naturecanada.ca/annualreport	