





With Your Help, We Are Reimagining Conservation

Our approach is guided by five principles, to create a world where people and nature thrive



Landscape Scale

From forest to sea, we work at an unprecedented scale — conserving Canada's vast natural places across borders for people and nature.



Economy and Environment

We deliver lasting conservation outcomes through strategies that collaborate with industry and support thriving local economies.



Indigenous Stewardship

We put Indigenous rights at the heart of conservation, creating new pathways for reconciliation and investing inleadership.



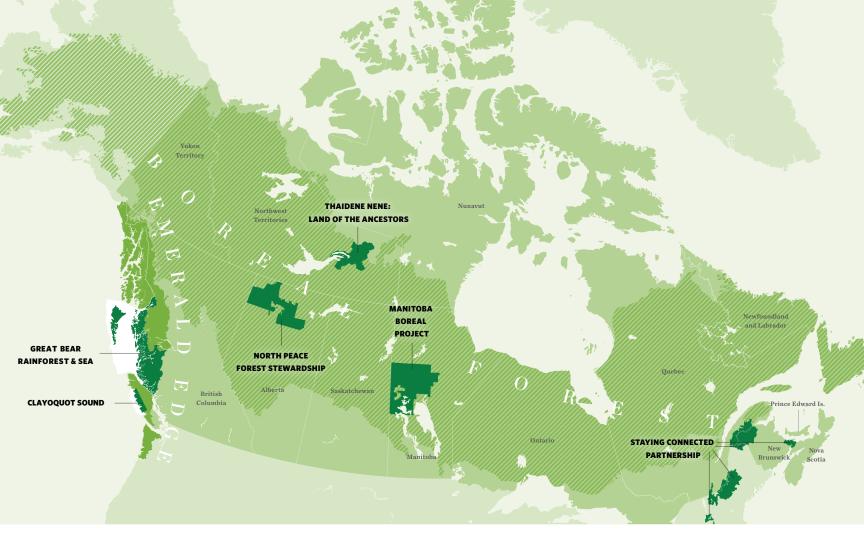
Collaboration

We work with partners in government, local communities, private industry, and the environmental sector to amplify our collective impact.



Global Advantage

As an affiliate of the world's largest conservation organization, we bring unprecedented resources, innovation, and investment to Canada.



Our Impact Across Canada

We partner with local communities, industry, and governments for a world where people and nature thrive

We Focus on Large-Scale Projects with Global Impact

Our work is focused on four large-scale priority regions for the greatest impact: the Emerald Edge, Canada's Boreal Forest, the Northwest Territories, and the Northern Appalachian-Acadian region.

We Are an Affiliate of the World's Largest Conservation Organization

We draw upon the global expertise of The Nature Conservancy, which works in 72 counteries to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.

This Is Reimagining Conservation

Hadley Archer Executive Director, TNC Canada This is an exciting time to be in conservation in Canada. We have an opportunity to show global leadership in addressing climate change, by conserving nature at a pace and scale that matters, advancing Indigenous rights, and supporting the transition to a green economic future. We have an opportunity to help address our world's most pressing threats.

To seize these opportunities, we need an integrated model of conservation that benefits nature and people. We need to conserve Canada's great places, transform business practices and governing policies, and inspire leadership. We need lasting solutions that respect the underlying natural systems we all depend on, and define pathways for sustainable resource use that support nature, our economy, and cultural and social values.

Building on a decade of on-the-ground work, The Nature Conservancy established TNC Canada in 2014 as an affiliate within this context. Adding to strong momentum in Canada, we are working to advance conservation that supports Indigenous stewardship and economic prosperity, and through those means, deliver transformative benefits for nature.



This year's Impact Report outlines our work toward five critical priorities fundamental to a world where nature and people thrive: protect land and water, tackle climate change, provide food and water sustainably, connect nature and people, and build healthy communities.

One success that I am proud to highlight is our work with the Ahousaht First Nation in Clayoquot Sound. Four years ago, the Ahousaht invited us to support their land-use planning. Today, they have a blueprint for a sustainable future that's rooted in sacred cultural values and protective of a globally significant ecosystem.

The Ahousaht story and others in the pages that follow illustrate how we are leveraging our local-to-global expertise and resources to build sustainable business models, advance Indigenous leadership, support communities as they develop jobs and economic opportunities, and unite partners in driving positive change.

Thank you to everyone who has placed their trust and support in our team. I'd especially like to recognize John and Marcy McCall MacBain for their visionary support. Understanding that conservation is no longer just about acres protected, but about working with local people to build sustainable economies, they have set up a challenge grant encouraging others to join them.

We are excited to share the results of our work over the past year, and we look forward to working with you in the year ahead as we reimagine conservation.

Sincerely, Hadley

"We need to reimagine conservation as a catalyst for broader systemic change: an investment in human well-being and sustainable economic development."

Hadley Archer



Leadership that Drives Our Vision

Our Board of Directors

Arlin Hackman, Chair

Principal, BG&E Consulting Ltd. and former Vice President and Chief Conservation Officer, WWF-Canada

Florence Eastwood, Vice Chair

Board Member, Lake Winnipeg Foundation and former educator

Shari Austin

CEO, Century Initiative and former Vice President of Corporate Citizenship, RBC

Karen Berky

Pacific Northwest/Canada Division Director, The Nature Conservancy

Debbie Cervenka

Consultant; Board Member of The Nature Conservancy's North American Advisory Group and Wisconsin Chapter; Former Co-owner of Phillips Plastics Corporation, USA

John Honderich

Chair, Torstar

Jess Housty

Councillor, Heiltsuk Tribal Council and Director of Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Qqs Projects Society

Peter Kendall

Executive Director, Schad Foundation and President, Earth Rangers

Avrim Lazar

Policy and Communications Consultant and former CEO, Forest Products Association of Canada

Doug Neasloss

Elected Chief Councillor and Resource Stewardship Director, Kitasoo/Xai'xais First Nation

Protecting the Land and Water We All Depend On

You're helping share the wisdom of Indigenous Guardians

Indigenous Guardian Programs: The Eyes and Ears of their Territories

It's difficult to overstate the bounty that exists off the central coast of British Columbia: Salmon, herring, sea cucumbers, and many more species give sustenance to First Nation communities here. No one is more in tune with this habitat than the Coastal Guardians who patrol these lands and waters — men and women who act as the eyes and ears of their territories. They count species populations, report poachers, educate tourists, survey bears, and interview elders to protect the health of the ecosystem. TNC has supported this essential component of community-led stewardship for more than a decade.

Sharing Knowledge and Experience in the Networked Age

This year we collaborated with Indigenous partners and Guardian practitioners to create the Indigenous Guardians Toolkit: a free and open online platform for Indigenous communities to learn, share, and connect about their on-the-ground Indigenous stewardship work. Here, Guardians can ask questions, share best practices, and collaborate across Canada. This first-of-its kind resource helps communities launch new Guardian programs, and it helps existing programs grow — advancing Indigenous stewardship in a way that has never been possible before.

"It makes me feel proud to be a Guardian, to hear other people recognize the beauty of my home. People always leave with a better understanding of our work, our culture, and the importance of stewarding our lands and waters for future generations."

Chantal Pronteau, Kitasoo/Xai'xais Guardian

Thanks to you:

1,800+ online visits to the Indigenous Guardians Toolkit,

downloading more than 200 resources

6 community exchanges

were held to foster information sharing and collaboration among Indigenous groups

100+

Indigenous stewardship leaders and practitioners came together at the 2016 Indigenous Guardians Gathering, co-hosted by TNC Canada

With your support:

Indigenous Guardians Programs

will continue to be established across Canada

Continued Support

for Indigenous Guardians in the Pacific Coast, the Boreal Forest, and the Northwest Territories



Making an Impact

John Honderich

Chair, Torstar

It Comes Down to Leadership

I support TNC because I believe in Hadley and the team. I'm impressed with their values, ideals, and leadership, which are apparent in the way they work. It enables TNC to act as an agent to bring people together and formulate manageable plans.

Active, Involved, Engaged

Protecting lands is vital work, and TNC goes beyond that model to take conservation to a whole new level. Collaborating with Indigenous communities, governments, and industry — bringing it all together is truly groundbreaking.

Indigenous Guardians are Critical

The Toolkit is a great use of technology to connect and support Indigenous Guardians. When I visited the British Columbia coast, a leader with the Heiltsuk Nation told me of how computer projections and flyovers showed a complete absence of bears on one particular island. His team then went out and counted 63.

Tackling the World's Climate Challenge

You're helping safeguard Canada's Boreal Forest: a global carbon storehouse

Canada's Global Role

Stretching 1.3 billion acres from the Yukon to Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada's Boreal Forest is one of the largest intact forests on Earth. This vast, interconnected landscape provides habitat for billions of songbirds every spring, gives room for moose and herds of woodland caribou to roam, and stores 208 billion tonnes of CO_2 — the equivalent of 26 years of global emissions.

The Power of Natural Climate Solutions

Increasing the number and size of trees through reforestation, protected areas, and improved management can greatly bolster forests' capacity to store and reduce greenhouse gasses. Implemented worldwide, this increased capacity could potentially remove 7 billion tonnes of greenhouse gasses annually, as if 1.5 billion gasoline-burning cars were taken off the roads.

Supporting the Boreal's Original Stewards

No one recognizes the importance of the boreal better than those who have called it home for thousands of years. TNC supports the leadership of 13 First Nations in Manitoba and Alberta, working to strengthen their decision-making authority over 35 million acres within their territories.

This year, we held discussions to understand individual Nations' goals. We brought community representatives together at a sustainable forestry workshop, and offered training on natural resources planning.

Next year, we'll foster deeper relationships with the Nations and support them in realizing their goals. We will investigate sustainable economic development through improved forest management practices, including forest carbon markets. And we'll facilitate community-based planning by sharing best practices among Indigenous stewards.

"Whereas, the Chemawawin Cree Nation understands that the land is sacred and is more than just the surrounding environment and more than just the air we breathe, but that it includes all the elements around us — the water, the plants, the animals, the people and our ties to the land — that we are all connected physically, spiritually, and intellectually."

From the formal agreement between TNC Canada and Chemawawin Cree Nation

Thanks to you:

Expertise Provided

on carbon markets and conservation of at-risk wildlife, alongside industry partner Tolko, Inc. (part of the Alberta North Peace Forest Stewardship project with four First Nations and other NGO partners)

50 community members

attended the Nekote Forest
Management Workshop to learn from
successful models of Indigenous-led
forest management in Canada and
the U.S.

With your support:

First Nation Partners

will receive support as they build and expand their natural resources management institutions

We will support

Widespread Adoption

of improved forest management practices that respect Indigenous rights



Making an Impact

Jean Bennington Sweeney

 $Chief \, Sustainability \, Officer, \\ 3M$

Benefitting People and Nature

At 3M, we are focusing our Sustainability strategy on overcoming the global challenges that serve as barriers to improving every life. That's why 3Mgives supports TNC's work to transform how forest resources are managed in Canada's boreal — it's a project that links conservation with social and economic benefits.

Driven to Collaborate

Something that stands out about TNC is your drive to collaborate with industry and local communities to solve complex environmental challenges — it makes you more effective.

Demonstrating Lasting Success

As a science-based company, 3M values TNC's sciencebased approach. We have a longstanding relationship with TNC and value your commitment to sustainable, measurable, and proven results.

Food and Water for Generations to Come

You're helping sustain the natural abundance of the Great Bear Rainforest

Nourishing a Thriving Population

The First Nations of the Great Bear Rainforest have lived in harmony with the lands and waters of the region longer than the great pyramids have stood. But in recent decades, their voice and role in stewarding these lands has been degraded. Intensified pressure for resources risks depleting the food stocks they depend on.

Healthy Food Chains Start with Healthy Ecosystems...

The waters of Great Bear sustain 20 percent of the world's wild salmon, and they are an important source of sea urchin, herring, sea cucumber, and Dungeness crab. To help maintain this ecosystem, TNC is supporting the Marine Plan Partnership for the North Pacific Coast, or MaPP: a coalition of 17 First Nations and the British Columbia government, with a bold vision for managing the rich resources of the Great Bear Sea.

...And Are Maintained by Healthy Economies

The Partnership isn't just about protection. Growing sustainable, locally-led businesses — such as shellfish aquaculture — is a complimentary goal to help address local and broader demand for food. And the practice can help maintain or even restore water quality. Stronger economies mean a stronger voice for First Nations in stewarding the lands and waters we all depend on.

With your help, TNC is providing needed funding to support the Partnership. We're also working with Indigenous communities and the private sector to bring our impact-investing expertise to the region: innovative economic development that can yield social, environmental, and financial returns.

"Thanks to a truly collaborative approach and the leadership and vision of both First Nations and the Province of B.C., the Great Bear Sea is now one of only a few places in the world with a finalized marine use plan and the very first one agreed to by Indigenous people and a state."

Jenny Brown, Director of Conservation, TNC Canada

Thanks to you:

Investment Models

are being explored to help shift ownership of fishing licenses and quotas back to local communities

Ocean Planning

expertise gleaned worldwide allows us to deliver technical analysis, mapping expertise, and best practices

With your support:

241

new protection management zones

will be advanced though our support of Marine Plan Partnership goals

New Marine Protected Areas

will be developed and supported through computer modelling and the synthesis of scientific research, advancing sustainable management across more than 25 million acres of ocean



Making an Impact

Meaghan Calcari Campbell

Program Officer, Marine Conservation Initiative, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

Building Meaningful Partnerships

I value that TNC sees itself as an important partner. It's not about ego or the organization's logo, but instead about deep, meaningful partnerships, where each partner is clear on its values and goals, and how they can be complementary. I see this in the coastal B.C. First Nations and communities where TNC works — a true willingness to listen to what the communities want, assess how TNC's skillsets and capabilities can help get there, and then deliver.

Leveraging Impact

Building on its support for the Great Bear Rainforest, TNC has stepped up to help fundraise for Marine Plan Partnership implementation and turn the vision into reality. We have supported part of that fundraising engine and look forward to seeing TNC leverage the existing \$22 million in commitments from other funders to get to the full \$25 million.

Respecting Indigenous Knowledge

We value TNC's science-based approach that also recognizes traditional ecological or local knowledge as an input into decision-making.

People: The Key to Successful Conservation

You're inspiring the next generation of land stewards across Canada

SEAS: A Lasting Approach to Conservation

When we asked our Indigenous partners how we could best support them, their resounding answer was investing in youth.

So we helped develop an innovative program called SEAS: Supporting Emerging Aboriginal Stewards, which blends science with traditional knowledge in classrooms and brings youth out to explore their territories. With your support, they're growing into the future stewards of their lands and building a durable, lasting foundation for conservation for generations to come. Their leadership will safeguard ancient trees, winding coastlines, misty rivers, and vibrant wildlife across Canada.

Connecting Youth to the Natural World

The ancestors of today's youth intimately knew the lands and waterways, managing a bounty of resources to support their communities. But this changed with the effects of colonization; many young people have never seen a bear, caught a salmon, or stepped on the lands from which their families descended.

SEAS is helping to change that. Led by local communities, this program weaves powerful connections among youth and their territories. SEAS bridges lost connections to community elders and mentors, helping to revive tradition, culture, and language. And the results are impressive. Students are more confident, performing better at school, and feeling more hopeful about themselves and their future.

"There is definitely a strong sense of community when it comes to SEAS, and feeling that they're connected to culture and a sense of belonging to the community in terms of their mental health."

Brittany Hughes, Principal, Acwsalcta School, Bella Coola

Thanks to you:

450+ students per year connect with lands and culture in

connect with lands and culture in four communities

95% of youth

experience a transformative impact on their behavior and attitudes

70% more youth

now visit culturally important places within their traditional territories

Positive Impacts

on cultural resurgence, leadership, and overall wellbeing are reported by communities

With your support:

18 new communities and schools

across Canada will participate in SEAS over the next 10 years

We'll work toward a goal of

1,575 participating students by 2027



Making an Impact

Carolynn Beaty

The Sitka Foundation

Bridging Connections

As an educator, I know that students learn best when they're in a safe space and having fun. I see this same approach in SEAS, which brings students out into the field to build connections between community, culture, and natural spaces.

Creating Long-Term Solutions

Building relationships and deriving long-term outcomes takes time. By supporting SEAS with a multi-year grant, we hope to provide a solid foundation for the program to grow and develop as a sustainable model that deeply engages youth and communities.

Supporting Local Efforts with Global Resources

On top of your global network, TNC is clearly committed to staying connected to partners on the ground. This combo helps you dial into local issues while bringing a variety of perspectives to solving challenges and creating solutions.

Building Healthy Communities

You're helping bring people together across the Emerald Edge

Realizing a Shared Vision

The Emerald Edge is an ecosystem of over 100 million acres. It transcends borders across northwest Washington, coastal British Columbia, southeast Alaska, and more than 50 Indigenous territories; including the Ahousaht First Nation of Clayoquot Sound on Vancouver Island.

Twenty-four years ago, thousands stood in solidarity with the Ahousaht and their neighbouring Nations to protest unsustainable forestry. Last January, a much smaller group gathered. This time a feeling of hope hung in the air. A ceremony marked the official unveiling of the Ahousaht Land Use Plan, which will conserve more than 80 percent of the old-growth forests in the Nation's 400,000-acre territory. But this plan is more than a map of trees that can't be cut down; it's a community's vision for the future of its people.

A Holistic Approach

When developing their own conservation vision, the Ahousaht knew that to be successful, their plan must be paired with economic opportunities that support local families — sustainable forestry, stewardship

operations, run-of-river hydropower projects, tourism. That is why TNC not only provided technical support to the Ahousaht as the conservation plan was developed, we have also committed to raising a stewardship endowment fund to support its implementation. This plan marks the first phase in a long-term process toward sustainability. It's the cornerstone of a foundation that will support not just the nature of Clayoquot Sound, but the people who depend on it.

Inspiring Collaborative Conservation Models Around the World

The Ahousaht and neighbouring Hesquiaht and Tla-o-qui-aht Nations, with the support of TNC, are working to ensure the ecologic, economic, and social health of their lands and people.

TNC has championed this community-led, holistic approach in other parts of the Emerald Edge: More than a decade ago, we were invited by local partners to join conservation efforts in the nearby Great Bear Rainforest. More than 19 million acres of the largest intact coastal rainforest remaining on Earth are now conserved, and the \$120 million Coast Opportunity Funds were established to foster sustainable economic growth and First Nation leadership across the region.

"My elders have always taught me that we're all in the same canoe; if we pull our paddles together, there's nothing we can't accomplish."

Jess Housty, Councillor, Heiltsuk Tribal Council and Director of Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Qqs Projects Society

Thanks to you:

Collaboration

is prioritized by our Community, Economy, and Place Initiative (CEPI) to better engage the people most impacted

\$4.3 million

was awarded to 11 First Nations-led businesses and 17 stewardship programs this year by Coast Funds, funding built off of contributions raised by TNC

150,000 acres

of new protected areas were designated in Clayoquot Sound

With your support:

We'll work toward a goal of protecting

 $1.5+_{\sf million\ acres}$

and sustainably managing more than 30 million acres by 2030

 $25+_{ ext{local}, ext{ sustainable businesses}}$

will be created or strengthened through our entrepreneurship programs: Path to Prosperity in Alaska, and Coast Works in Washington



Making an Impact

John Taylor

The Creekbed Foundation

Inspiring Landscapes

Our support of Clayoquot Sound was inspired by its uniquely beautiful and rare ecosystem, which will continue to thrive thanks to TNC's work there. I would recommend to anyone who wants a taste of paradise to check out Clayoquot Sound.

Multiplying Impact

When we learned of the opportunity to leverage our gift through the Long International Matching Fund, we were very impressed. My feeling is that if the Creek Bed Foundation can be a catalyst to unleash additional matching funds, that is a wonderful thing.

Healthy Economies, Healthy Environments

You are showing that it's possible to have a viable economy within a relatively pristine area. It's a unique equation that I'm proud to be a part of.

Leave a Lasting Impact

You can have a stake in reimagining conservation



Making an Impact

Arlin Hackman and Judith Wright

Arlin Hackman and Judith Wright left a gift in their wills so they can do even more to protect nature for future generations. You can, too. By making a simple gift in your will, you can help protect our natural resources for years to come.

Why did you include TNC in your will?

ARLIN: Conservation has always been a key focus for our charitable giving. And when I joined TNC Canada's Board, I felt the need to contribute in every way I was capable of and to give others the opportunity to join me. For me, a legacy gift was a natural extension of my commitment to TNC Canada's approach, which I believe is profoundly important

JUDITH: I like the start-up nature of TNC Canada and its capacity to do things differently than traditional conservation, not least of all building strong alliances with First Nations. And secondly, the ability to tap into global resources, because environment crosses boundaries.

How do you want your gift to make a difference?

JUDITH: We did have a conversation about whether to tie our gift to a specific conservation priority. And in the end, we decided not to, because we want to maximize TNC's ability to use our money effectively.

ARLIN: Like any good investor, we thought about the talent we were giving our money to. We were so impressed by the team...and we trusted that TNC Canada would put it to the best possible use.

How do you feel about your decision today?

JUDITH: The attentiveness to our decision has been fantastic. We've not had that experience with other environmental groups. You've made us feel so good.

ARLIN: It was also fun to do — we like being able to participate early in TNC Canada's history and to feel like we have a stake in building the organization in Canada.

Thank You for Investing in Conservation

A very special thanks to all who supported us in reimagining conservation over the past year — we wouldn't be where we are today without you. Your support helps ensure that people and nature continue to thrive across Canada's incredible landscapes. The following donors have made gifts, pledges, or pledge payments of \$2,500 or more to support our work in fiscal year 2017 (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017):

\$1,000,000+ \$250,000 - \$100,000 - \$50,000 -

Anonymous Foundation¹ Anonymous Foundation¹ McCall MacBain Foundation

\$250,000 - \$999,999

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation^{1,2} Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust Challenge¹

\$100,000 -\$249,999

Anonymous¹
The Benevity Community
Impact Fund¹
The BHP Billiton Foundation¹
The Creekbed Foundation^{1,2}
Jennifer Speers^{1,2}

\$50,000 **-** \$99,999

The Bok Family Foundation^{1,2} Echo Foundation RBC Foundation Estate of M. J. Rutherford¹

\$25,000 -\$49,999

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP³ Mitsubishi Corporation The Salamander Foundation²

\$10,000 -\$24,999

Robert Cronin and Gayle Cronin² John Honderich Patricia Koval² Tides Canada Torys LLP³

\$5,000 - \$9,999

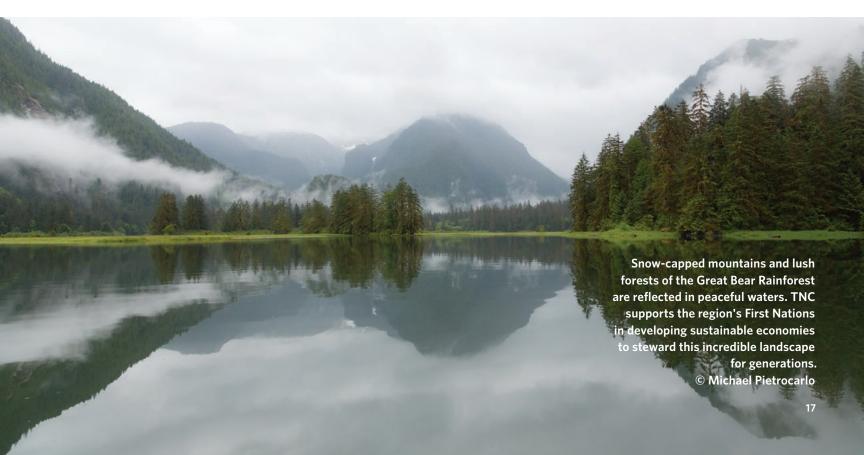
Hadley Archer and
Fiona Stevenson²
Ann Cannarella¹
DLA Piper³
Amy and Ian Gazard¹
Arlin Hackman and Judith
Wright
Alan Koval and Patricia Koval
Linda Leckman¹
Mr. and Mrs. S. Mehta

\$2,500 – **\$4,999**

Florence Eastwood and Robert Eastwood Jon McCormack³

¹Gifts made to The Nature Conservancy in US dollars to support work in Canada ²Pledge Payment ³In-kind Gifts

Fiscal year audited statements are available at: <u>tnccanada.ca/annualreports</u>



Maximize Your Impact

With your contribution, the McCall MacBain Foundation will match 50% more



Making an Impact

John and Marcy McCall MacBain

The McCall MacBain Foundation has committed \$2 million toward our goal of conserving 100 million acres in Canada by reimagining conservation.

In his own words, John McCall MacBain describes what he hopes to accomplish, and challenges fellow donors with a funding match opportunity.

Canada Offers a Timely Opportunity

My wife Marcy and I have long targeted

our donations to climate change, in particular global advocacy, and that is still very important to us. However, to confront urgent environmental challenges, we need more than advocacy. We need action.

By supporting TNC, we are getting both — advocacy and action. This organization played a leadership role over the last decade in the Great Bear Rainforest, not only conserving 19 million acres but also working with local people to build sustainable economies. TNC is unique in its approach by thinking about environmental protection and economic development together.

Core Funding Is a Powerful Gift

People love to fund specific projects, and I'm no exception. Our family is deeply connected to the Pacific coast, and we have committed half of our support to TNC's incredible work in Clayoquot Sound and the surrounding region. The rest of our donation is dedicated to core funding in support of TNC's highest priorities.

Help us meet the McCall MacBain challenge to raise \$5 million by 2020

Our foundation is rigorous in evaluating funding opportunities. We have looked around Canada and the world, and we see TNC as a worthy investment. Now we want others to join us. Contact TNC to learn how.

"Conservation is no longer just about acres protected; it must also involve working with local people to build sustainable economies – that's what TNC has been doing successfully in Canada for 10 years."

John McCall MacBain





TNC Canada is the Canadian-charity affiliate of The Nature Conservancy, the world's largest conservation organization.

We are reimagining conservation in Canada, helping to address the world's greatest challenges with an approach driven by healthy communities and sustainable economic development.

We are working to benefit people and nature across 100 million acres of Canada's lands and waters by 2020, through projects that ensure economic, environmental, and social wellbeing.

TNCCANADA.CA

Front cover: Doug Neasloss, Chief Councilor of the Kitasoo/Xai'xais Nation in Klemtu, British Columbia, patrols the shores for threats to the ecosystem. Indigenous Guardians are the "eyes and ears" of their territories, supported by TNC in communities across Canada. Photo courtesy of Ruth Fremson/The New York Times

The Nature Conservancy:

3,700

Staf

1,350

Active Volunteers

65

Years

600

Scientists

72

Countries

