Our vision is for a sustainable Canada where nature is the foundation of human well-being, prosperity and opportunity for future generations.

**Resilient Lands and Waters:** From forest to sea, we work at an unprecedented scale, irrespective of borders and designed to endure, for the future of people and nature.

**Indigenous-led Conservation:** We put Indigenous rights at the heart of conservation, creating new pathways for reconciliation and investing in Indigenous leadership and priorities.

**Climate Change:** We advance Natural Climate Solutions in Canada—science-based approaches to protecting, managing and restoring nature to mitigate climate change.

**Policy and Practice:** We bring together communities, industries and governments to set a new course that supports nature, bolsters economies, and respects culture and values.

**Amplifying Global Impact:** As a program we bring global innovation and investment to Canada and amplify Canadian leadership to tackle world challenges.
Our Impact
I’ve been thinking a lot about 2030—a year by which the world must halt and reverse our devastating impacts on nature and climate. With just seven years left, governments, Indigenous and corporate leaders, philanthropists and many others are taking action. As the momentum builds, The Nature Conservancy’s Canada Program is committed to acting at scale, leveraging Canadian leadership and our global resources, and ensuring that we do things in a way that is equitable and just.

To accelerate action, we must use every tool available to us. Our science shows that nature has a powerful role in scaling down Canada’s emissions, while supporting biodiversity and healthy, resilient communities. Building on the ground-breaking Natural Climate Solutions for Canada study that Nature United, our Canadian affiliate, led, this past year, Natural Climate Solutions were hardwired into Canada’s climate plan (p. 10) and the federal government is investing billions in nature to deliver on our 2030 goals. Alongside critical investments in Indigenous leadership, ecosystem protection and new practices in farming and forestry, these actions are building towards Canada’s net-zero future.

Beyond government, leaders across all sectors must be bold and decisive, and philanthropy has a vital role to play in catalyzing action. When I first met John McCall MacBain, Co-Founder and Chair of the McCall MacBain Foundation, in 2015, he was inspired by how we build partnerships and scale our solutions. As a part of a global organization impacting conservation in 76 countries and territories, we bring world-leading expertise and resources to Canada, and advance solutions that are scalable globally. This year, as the foundation makes their largest Canadian environment sector commitment, John told us, “Our investment in Nature United (the Canadian affiliate of The Nature Conservancy) will achieve large-scale results by bringing together science, community, corporate, and philanthropic leadership. I personally hope that our partnership with Nature United inspires other leaders to support their approach in Canada and their global reach.”

Action matters—but just as important as what we achieve is how we achieve results. Our solutions must work for nature and people. We have always committed to putting Indigenous rights and authority at the heart of conservation. Two years ago, we evaluated our progress across our organization, from conservation to communications to fundraising. The result, our Indigenous Right Relations Strategy and Action Plan (p. 22), shows us what we’re doing well and where we must continue to grow as an organization. This year, we also welcomed Amy Gow, in a newly created role, Director of People, Culture and Diversity, to lead this work and more (p. 22).

Through collaborative action and bold leadership, we can shift our trajectory towards a nature-positive world by 2030, for the benefit of nature and people. We can envision waking up in a new decade with a stabilizing climate, recovering biodiversity and hope for all life on Earth.

Hadley Archer
Executive Director
“Building new, Indigenous-led approaches takes time and partnerships based on trust. We have long-standing funders and partners, including The Nature Conservancy and Nature United (its Canadian affiliate) that understand this and have supported our vision.”

— Dallas Smith, President of Nanwakolas Council
Located along the north and central coasts of British Columbia, the Great Bear Sea is among the planet’s most biodiverse marine regions—home to wild salmon strongholds, ancient glass sponge reefs, and recovering sea otter and whale populations. It surrounds the Great Bear Rainforest, part of the largest intact coastal temperate rainforest on Earth.

Here, First Nations have worked to rekindle Indigenous laws, establish new resource departments, start new businesses, enact new protected areas and negotiate world-leading management plans across land and sea. Building on nearly two decades of collaboration, we have become a trusted partner in supporting this work.

Here are some of the achievements we celebrated together this past year:

**Ten-year anniversary of the Marine Plan Partnership**

The Marine Plan Partnership (MaPP)—an award-winning collaboration between 17 First Nations and the British Columbia government—is a leading model for governments working together on large-scale marine spatial planning. This summer, our Canadian affiliate hosted a celebration for MaPP’s 10-year anniversary to recognize the significance of this innovative partnership and its tangible, lasting results.

**A new Fisheries Investment Initiative to benefit people and nature**

It all started with a “blue sky idea” from the Central Coast Commercial Fisheries Association (CCCFA)—an enterprise owned in equal parts by the Kitasoo/Xai’Xais, Heiltsuk, Nuxalk, and Wuikinuxv Nations: how could a new financing approach support local and community-rooted coastal fishers while also generating environmental benefits? We were eager to find out. Working with our Canadian affiliate Nature United and Catch Together (a fisheries-focused impact investing platform), CCCFA closed a $2.3-million
deal to finance the purchase of approximately 835,000 pounds of mixed fishing quota and licenses. This new investment will help build community-driven fisheries that create new jobs and build local harvest capacity. It will also catalyze new funds for strengthening local fisheries operations and management that align with the Nations’ marine stewardship visions and ecosystem-based management plans. This investment also provides a foundation for learning and a ‘proof of concept’ for how debt-based financing can support commercial fisheries outcomes that benefit people and nature.

**Looking Ahead: Canada pledges large-scale financing for Indigenous-led conservation in the Great Bear Sea**

At the 2022 United Nations Biodiversity Conference in Montreal, the Government of Canada announced a commitment to join Indigenous Nations in developing a finance model to advance large-scale conservation, including an investment of $800 million. Four Indigenous-led Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) projects will receive federal support—including the Great Bear Sea Initiative. The Great Bear Sea PFP will expand the scope of conservation in the region to include vital marine ecosystems that have been stewarded by First Nations for millennia.

[Read our press release](#)
New Research on Fisheries and Climate Change

The changing climate is impacting fish populations and the ecosystems that sustain them, with profound consequences for fisheries and the communities that they support. To enhance the resilience of fisheries and communities to climate change, and the responsiveness of fisheries management, in-depth knowledge of both the ecological and social components of fisheries systems is needed. That’s why we led a research collaboration with multiple commercial and Indigenous fisheries organizations to engage commercial fish harvesters and explore their perceptions of vulnerability to climate change. In 2022, our Canadian affiliate published this research in a new report: *Fishing for Solutions: Harvester perceptions of climate change vulnerability in Canada’s Pacific.*

Sequoias of the Sea

Stretching along the North Pacific Coast, kelp species create towering aquatic forests and lush green canopies. In addition to providing habitat to countless marine life including sea otters and juvenile salmon, kelp produces food, improves marine nutrients and provides a foundation for livelihoods and cultural connections in coastal communities. When First Nations noticed that the abundance of kelp in their traditional territories was declining, new questions surfaced around how best to conserve and manage these foundational species. The Marine Plan Partnership (MaPP) is utilizing community-based local and Indigenous knowledge to develop large-scale and standardized regional kelp monitoring across the Great Bear Sea—which is supporting a deeper understanding of kelp forest dynamics and helping to inform current and future management recommendations for protected areas, kelp harvest and other marine uses.
Natural Climate Solutions

"With its abundance of natural capital, Canada is well-positioned to change its practices for the future while influencing the rest of the world."

— Tyson Atleo, Natural Climate Solutions Program Director
Forests are a key pathway to delivering significant, long-term mitigation potential by 2050. © Roberto Bueno/TNC Photo Contest 2021

Natural Climate Solutions are actions to protect, better manage and restore nature. Combined with cutting fossil-fuel use, boosting energy efficiency and accelerating clean energy, Natural Climate Solutions offer powerful and cost-effective ways to tackle the climate crisis.

Canada is uniquely placed to lead the way in advancing Natural Climate Solutions, thanks to its abundance of nature, as well as our federal climate targets and investments. Natural Climate Solutions have the potential by 2030 to reduce Canada’s emissions equal to 11% of our current annual emissions.

But these solutions deliver benefits beyond reducing emissions: They protect and restore habitat for biodiversity. They can help make communities healthier and safer by contributing to soil health, cleaner water, air and food production. They can protect communities against wildfires, droughts and flooding. And they can create new jobs, stimulate local industry and contribute to economic recovery. The environmental, social and economic benefits are all huge—and they are measurable. And that’s why unlocking the full potential of Natural Climate Solutions in Canada now could inspire other countries to do the same.

Building on our landmark science, our Canadian affiliate Nature United has led initiatives and
developed partnerships with Indigenous communities, governments, corporations, philanthropic leaders and other NGOs. Over the last year, our efforts have influenced new policies and market solutions to increase the adoption of Natural Climate Solutions. Our work focuses on interconnected strategic areas to drive change: agriculture, forestry, and carbon and financing.

**Canada's Emissions Reduction Plan integrates Natural Climate Solutions**

The first-ever Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP), released in March 2022, recognized the powerful role of Natural Climate Solutions in reducing emissions while supporting healthy, resilient and prosperous communities.

The ERP will mobilize contributions from all sectors to reduce emissions, and it will guide actions and accountabilities across governments from now until 2030—through this decisive decade for climate action.

Backed by our collaborative science, and bolstered by examples of our work with partners, our Canadian affiliate, Nature United, advocated for Natural Climate Solutions to be integrated in the federal ERP. These solutions are vital to achieving Canada’s 2030 climate targets, particularly because they are ready to deploy now.

**STAFF SPOTLIGHT**

“Joining Nature United in the run-up to Canada’s first-ever Emissions Reduction Plan gave me the chance to leverage our work and reputation to push for Natural Climate Solutions to be integrated into Canada’s path to net zero.”

Meet our new Associate Director of Government Relations, Shaughn McArthur

Shaughn McArthur © Nature United
Spotlight on agriculture: Farmers have a vital role in reaching Canada’s 2030 climate goals

Farmers and agriculture-dependent communities are among those already hit hardest by climate change. Natural Climate Solutions focused on agriculture, such as cover cropping, nutrient management and avoided grassland conversion, can deliver a triple benefit when deployed properly, supporting agricultural production, mitigating climate change and enhancing nature and biodiversity.

This year, we explored steps to support the transition to a resilient, competitive and climate-smart Canadian agricultural sector. To make the shift, Canadian agri-food producers need financial incentives and support, linked to data-driven programs showing the opportunities, challenges and potential return on investment associated with new practices. At the same time, farmers need reliable metrics to evaluate the environmental and economic impacts of adopting different practices on their farms or ranches.

To tackle this challenge, we are doing what we do best—bringing together science and partners to develop lasting solutions for people and nature. With expertise from across The Nature Conservancy, we are activating science-based recommendations to accelerate action on regenerative agriculture. Because implementing agricultural Natural Climate Solutions is an emerging opportunity across the Canadian Prairies, we are exploring projects focused on regenerative food systems and creating space for experimentation and collaboration within the sector.

Agriculture is among our priority areas for accelerating the adoption of Natural Climate Solutions and unlocking Canada’s potential.

Read more from Tyson Atleo, our Natural Climate Solutions Program Lead

Tyson Atleo © Nature United; Harvesting kale on a family farm © Alex Snyder/TNC
Flyways in a Changing Climate

In the late spring and summer, skies, lakes and rivers echo with birdsong across the Northwest Territories. The vast tundra and waterways of the North are a summer home to more than 70 highly vulnerable species of birds including the Bufflehead, whooping crane and the snowy owl. In response to rising temperatures and changing weather patterns, birds are shifting their migration ranges or staying north year-round, which can affect their ability to find food and reproduce. In order to help prevent further disturbances to bird migrations, it is essential to reduce carbon emissions and advance Natural Climate Solutions that protect, restore and better manage landscapes across Canada.
Indigenous-Led Conservation
What is the key to a healthy territory? Flowing rivers. Abundant moose. Vast open landscapes for migrating caribou. Traditional food for families. Robust fish stocks. Connections between youth and Elders. These are just a few of the values identified by participants from Indigenous communities in British Columbia, Manitoba and the Northwest Territories (NWT) at natural resources planning workshops we supported over the last year.

First developed with Indigenous Peoples in Australia, Healthy Country Planning centers Indigenous knowledge and people within planning processes. It has been used worldwide for developing and implementing land-use plans, wildlife management plans and protected area plans. Healthy Country Planning connects community values, Indigenous knowledge and western science. The process creates pathways to improve the health of lands, waters and the people who care for them.

Healthy Country Planning is one of the Indigenous-led models that we actively support across Canada. In the NWT, Healthy Country Planning is one of the tools that Indigenous governmental organizations are adapting to develop their own planning processes. This year, we supported the creation of a conservation management planning toolkit for Sahtú communities. This guidance document, led by the Sahtú Renewable Resources Board, Úghńe Gots’ę Nákedı, will be offered to northern communities using Healthy Country Planning to develop caribou management plans.

Healthy lands and waters hinge on strong governance systems established through collaborative planning processes. For over a decade, our organization has worked in partnership to support Indigenous-led conservation, which is defined and implemented by Indigenous communities, grounded in Indigenous values and perspectives, and often focuses on the interconnected issues of supporting vibrant communities, strong cultures, viable economies and healthy ecosystems.
Together, Indigenous partners and the Canada Program advance meaningful and lasting results that reinforce cultural and conservation values. This year, we actively supported and partnered with Indigenous communities and organizations in many different ways, most often on projects and priorities defined and led by communities. Learn more about our work with Indigenous partners across Canada this year.

We supported Emerging Leaders programming in seven communities—from British Columbia to the Northwest Territories. Led by communities, these programs provide on-the-land learning opportunities for Indigenous youth.

Canoe trip, Kinosao, Manitoba © Robert Rideout

Our Indigenous Guardians Technical Support Team (TST) visited the Łutsël K’é Dene First Nation where they worked with the Ni Hat Ni Dene Guardians to help build a resource manual to support seasonal monitoring of Thaidene Nëné. Pictured is Jimmy Morgan, TST Facilitator, and Alex Post, the Indigenous Guardians Support Lead. © Nature United
The Nature Conservancy reduced their role in Coast Funds, an Indigenous-led conservation finance organization, to transfer power to the 27 First Nations and regional alliances leading the stewardship efforts in the Great Bear Rainforest. © Ruth Fremson, The New York Times

We partnered with Łutsël K’e Dene First Nation to develop communications about how the $30-million Thaidene Nëné Fund is setting a new precedent for decolonized conservation funding to support Indigenous governance. © Nature United

The Indigenous Guardians Technical Support Team hosted webinars on key topics such as Guardians and Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas. More than 30 Nations from across Canada have joined these discussions. © Nature United

To celebrate work in northwestern Manitoba, we collaborated with seven First Nations and the Manitoba Métis Federation to create a community highlights booklet to showcase stewardship initiatives taking place across the region. © Robert Rideout
We continued funding a critical Science Coordinator position that serves all three governance partners in the Great Bear Sea initiative (federal, provincial and First Nations). This ongoing capacity is critical to advancing the implementation of an Indigenous-led network of new Marine Protected Areas across the Great Bear Sea. © Jon McCormack

The Manitoba team brought conservation planning, technical and capacity support to Indigenous Nations working to steward their territories, across a 22-million-acre forestry tenure in northern Manitoba. © Nature United

The report, "Supporting Indigenous Youth," shared the numerous positive impacts that on-the-land and on-the-water programs have for Indigenous youth and their communities. © Jason Houston
**Speaking for the Moose**

Moose are a cultural keystone species in Canada’s boreal forest. As active foragers, moose help maintain a balanced and diverse forest ecosystem by eating certain trees and shrubs. They are also a species of exceptional significance to many Indigenous communities, by providing food and preserving cultural traditions. That is why when moose populations started to suffer as a result of compounding pressures, including climate change and habitat loss, it was the Indigenous communities in northern Manitoba who started implementing moose monitoring initiatives.
Equitable Action

"Working in right relations is a continuous process or journey, rather than a definitive destination. This journey requires a strong and active commitment to learning, reflecting and sharing new insights."

— The Canada Program’s Indigenous Right Relations Strategy and Action Plan
Thanks to your support, we have continued to adapt, innovate and grow our team to advance our vision of a sustainable Canada—where nature is the foundation of human well-being, prosperity and opportunity for future generations. As we tackle complex projects, issues and relationships, we know that integrating diverse perspectives makes our work better. As a learning organization, we have advanced several initiatives this last year, including hiring our first Director of People, Culture and Diversity; incorporating actions from our Indigenous Right Relations Strategy into team workplans; sharing our Donor Learning Commitment; and becoming a member of The Circle on Philanthropy.

We invite you to explore our Donor Learning Commitment, a living document that aims to spark conversation on the intersections between philanthropy and our approach to Indigenous-led conservation.
From Evaluation to Action: Indigenous Rights Relations Report

Over the last decade, the Canada Program has actively worked to align our strategies, approaches, and operational practices with our commitment to working in right relations with Indigenous Peoples. To critically evaluate our progress, we worked with an Indigenous-led consultancy, Reciprocal Consulting, to conduct an assessment in 2021, as well as internal workshops with Nature United’s board of directors. The team worked together to process the findings, focus on priorities, and raise honest questions about how to meaningfully expand this work—ultimately informing our Indigenous Right Relations Strategy and Action Plan.

Our work in partnership with Indigenous Peoples is guided by the principles of respect and trust, community leadership, and reciprocity. Our commitment to working in right relations with Indigenous Peoples means that we will continue to listen, learn and evolve at every level of our organization, to meaningfully advance this organizational priority over the long term.
Strategic Commitments for Working in Right Relations

Our Strategy and Action Plan is organized under a set of commitments that transcend planning cycles and short-term timelines, ultimately guiding and organizing this work into the future. For our team, working in right relations with Indigenous Peoples means acting on the following commitments:

- Invest in, plan for, and prioritize right relations work
- Advance reconciliation and work with reciprocity
- Consistently learn, reflect and share
- Listen to and elevate Indigenous voices and perspectives
- Ensure operations align with right relations commitments

Learn more about these commitments

© Jon McCormack; © Jason Houston; © Jason Houston; © Pat Kane; © Shane Kalyn/TNC Photo Contest; © Emily Norton; © iStock/Emily Norton
Your support has been instrumental to our growth and success. Because of you, we are accelerating climate action, working in partnership with Indigenous Peoples to advance their conservation visions, and protecting globally significant lands and waters. Our special thanks go to the supporters listed below who made outright gifts or pledges to the Nature Conservancy or Nature United to support our work in fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022).

$5,000,000+
- McCall MacBain Foundation

$500,000+
- Sitka Foundation

$100,000-$499,000
- Anonymous (2)
- Donner Canadian Foundation
- Alison Graham and Richard J. Messina*
- The Nature Conservancy’s Maine Trustees*

$10,000-$99,000
- Teresa Beck*
- Debra A. Cervenka*
- Arlin Hackman and Judith Wright
- Carl L. Haefling and Pamela C. Johnson*
- John Honderich
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  Foundation
- Unstoppable Conversations
- Vena Solutions
- Katy Welkie and Audrey Bramwell*
- Jennifer L. Wildstein*

* Gifts made to Nature United to support work in Canada
Your Legacy Has Power

Planned giving can benefit you and your loved ones while making a big difference for nature. Turn your passion for the natural world into an enduring legacy by including The Nature Conservancy’s Canada Program in your will or estate plan. Wills aren’t just a legal way to distribute your assets; they can be a powerful tool for change in the world. You may also be able to save on taxes, receive income for life or enjoy other financial benefits—all while helping to keep nature healthy for years to come.

By joining our Legacy Club, you can support our vision for Canada where nature—thriving and full of life—is the foundation of strong communities, a prosperous economy, and a future worth passing on to the next generation.

Tell us about your legacy

The Legacy Club is our way of recognizing those supporters who have chosen to make a gift in their will or estate plan. We are so grateful for your commitment to supporting nature in Canada for generations to come.

Legacy Club

• Estate of Robert Townsend *
• Estate of Fred Sack
• Estate of M.J. Rutherford*
• Anonymous (2)
• Anonymous* (4)
• L. Robin Cardozo
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• Susan A. Smith*
• Jamie L. Stanley*

* Gifts made to Nature United to support work in Canada

Aurora Borealis over Yellowknife, NWT © iStock/ NZSteve
Since joining Nature United in 2019, I’ve been impressed by how closely our team works with our global affiliate, The Nature Conservancy, which has ambitious goals, a diverse team that includes 400 scientists, and a track record of more than 70 years.

Globally, by 2030, we will reduce or store 3 gigatons of CO2 emissions yearly, effectively bending the climate curve. We will support 100 million people at risk of climate-related emergencies by protecting and restoring ecosystems, from mangroves and reefs to floodplains and forests. And we will conserve billions of acres of land, ocean and freshwater systems, working in partnership with communities, governments and industries.

Canada will make a vital contribution to these global goals. With expertise in science, finance, fundraising and more—our approach is accelerating impact at every scale.

A long-time contributor to our impact, John Honderich passed away this year. John was a strong voice on our Board, often saying what others were thinking and what needed to be heard, always in a supportive way. We will be forever grateful for his guidance.

This year, we also welcomed Q’a’nistíxl̓a (Michael Vegh) to our Board. Q’a’nistíxl̓a is a member of the Haíɫzaqv (Heiltsuk) Nation. Among other roles, he is the Hailcistut Implementation Manager, overseeing projects related to fisheries, economic development, language revitalization, housing and self-governance. Hailcistut is the Haíɫzaqv term for reconciliation, which means “to turn things around and make them right again.”

At this pivotal time, we need to unite leadership of all kinds, across every scale. I’m proud of our role and progress over the last year, and our ambition for the future.

Sasha Jacob
BOARD CHAIR, NATURE UNITED
Chairman & CEO,
Jacob Capital Management Inc.
2022 Board of Directors

Sasha Jacob
CHAIR
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Western/Canada Division Director, The Nature Conservancy (Global)

IN MEMORIAM

A Tribute to Our Friend John Honderich

We would like to take a moment to remember John Honderich—an incredible person, a champion for our cause, and a dear friend. John was a lover of nature, and he believed in and cared about people. In the context of our work, John was an ardent believer in the power of supporting Indigenous leadership and stewardship. As a loyal supporter and active member of our Board of Directors since 2016, John’s brilliance and dedication will be missed, and we will be forever grateful for his guidance.

Read our full tribute
The Nature Conservancy brings Canadian leadership and opportunities to our global mission.

Building on three decades of conservation in Canada, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is working towards a Canada where people and nature are united, and ecosystems, communities and economies are thriving.

In collaboration with Nature United, our Canadian affiliate, TNC builds partnerships with Indigenous and local communities, governments, industries and other groups to define new pathways towards a sustainable future; to advance reconciliation; and to conserve nature, the foundation of all life on Earth. As one of the most effective and wide-reaching environmental organizations in the world, we bring the best global science, innovation and resources to Canada.

Learn more about our impact

GLOBALLY

3,000 staff
400+ scientists
70+ countries and territories
100+ marine conservation projects