

NATURE

CANADA PROGRAM

Quarterly Update • Fall



Hadley Archer in Meares Island, B.C. © Nature United

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. As the momentum for this decade of action continues to build, the Canada Program is committed to acting at scale, leveraging our Canadian leadership and our global resources, and ensuring that we do things in a way that is equitable and just.

We know that collaborative action and bold leadership can shift our trajectory toward a nature-positive world by 2030, for the benefit of nature and people. To achieve this goal, our team and partners are accelerating Natural Climate Solutions, advancing Indigenous-led conservation and scaling collaborative action to support the resilience of lands, waters and people for generations to come.

I hope you'll enjoy this look at our work and join me in our mission to transform our collective strength into solutions to address the planet's greatest challenges.

Hadley Archer, Executive Director

The Nature Conservancy 
Canada Program



Actions like improving the way forests are managed can significantly increase the amount of carbon sequestered by forests. © Jason Houston

The Value of Managing for Carbon in Forests

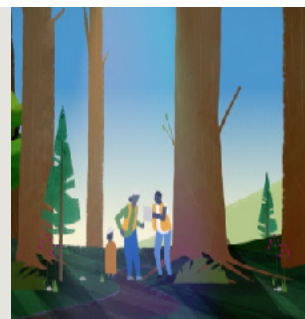
We can work with forests to help restore biodiversity and fight climate change

For decades, Canada's vast forests have been managed for timber and employment. But we are missing an opportunity to unlock the living value of forests, rather than strictly focusing on their harvest value. Harvesting forests in the status quo model comes at a cost to biodiversity and to maximizing one of nature's greatest carbon capture tools. By prioritizing different forest management techniques, biodiversity, cultural and economic outcomes could all be vastly improved—all while sequestering carbon to aid in the global fight against the climate crisis.

Learn more about why we need to prioritize climate in Forest Management.

Advancing Indigenous-led Forest Management

We can improve forest management in partnership with First Nations—to better balance cultural, social, environmental and economic outcomes. Many Indigenous communities across the country are already managing forests in ways that draw from their traditions and values. In many cases, these practices are sequestering more carbon, stabilizing biodiversity loss and ensuring resilient communities. This approach benefits not only local communities and provinces, but the whole of Canada and the wider world, contributing to the global fight against climate change.



Advancing Indigenous-led forest management cannot happen without strong action from governments. © Nature United



Supporting sustainable and climate-smart agricultural practices benefit nature, people and local economies. © Mark Skalny

Q&A: Les Fuller Agriculture Strategy Director, Nature United

What drew you to this role at Nature United? I grew up on a multi-generational mixed farm in Saskatchewan, where our family had a Land Ethic that governed how we treated the land. This went far beyond production considerations, but emphasized diverse values, including the beauty of the landscape. In contrast, I've watched agriculture across Canada become increasingly industrialized and dependent upon fossil fuels. Recent energy price fluctuations have directly impacted farm profitability. This raises the question of whether the status quo is sustainable and whether it is consistent with a secure food production system. I've joined Nature United to enable a resilient way forward, particularly how to advance agricultural Natural Climate Solutions (NCS).

What is the role of agriculture in Canada for addressing the climate crisis? Canadian agriculture has a choice to make—do we want to be leaders in climate mitigation, or will we be followers who are governed by forces beyond our control and beyond Canadian borders? The potential for Canadian agriculture to lead in carbon sequestration and integrating ecosystem services is only expanding. This needs to be led by producers, while being backed by the agricultural system—including supply chains, marketing agencies, finance and risk management institutions—as well as provincial and federal governments in developing helpful policy and legislation. I am hopeful that we can help achieve these benefits for Canadian agriculture.

What are the challenges in accelerating agricultural NCS? The barriers are the very structures, entities and philosophies that support the status quo. If we wish to do things better, we cannot use the same thinking that got us here. Numerous players in the Canadian agricultural sector already acknowledge the need to step up and lead the world in adopting NCS for sustainable, resilient and healthy food production systems. Society is demanding it, and the time is ripe for change.

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Your Legacy Has Power

Including the Canada Program in your will or estate plan can benefit you and your loved ones while making a difference for nature. No matter the size of your estate, you can be part of a powerful movement for change. And it's easier than you think. Your commitment will support a resilient Canada where people and nature thrive.

"For me, a legacy gift was a natural extension of my commitment to Nature United's approach, which I believe is profoundly important."

—Arlin Hackman, Legacy Club member since 2016

[Learn more about joining the Legacy Club](#)

Our History in Canada

Over the past 40 years, the Canada Program has helped set the stage for remarkable conservation gains across Canada—including the landmark Great Bear Rainforest agreement which protected and sustainably managed 19 million acres and the establishment of the 6.5-million-acre Thaidene Nëné Indigenous Protected Area. Along with Nature United, our Canadian affiliate, we work in partnership with Indigenous and local communities, governments and businesses to create change. We are part of an ambitious global effort to change the trajectory of our future by 2030.

[Learn more about our work](#)