

Annual Report 2016



Photo credit: Philip Jessup for The Lawson Foundation

Message from Chair and Executive Director

On behalf of the Board and staff of the Canadian Environmental Grantmakers' Network (CEGN), we are pleased to present this report on the organization's recent activities. However, before doing so, we want to acknowledge and celebrate the work of our members – the more than 60 funders, drawn from private and community foundations, as well as corporate and government environmental giving programs, who are working to advance a sustainable future for Canada.

Members are focused on a wide range of issues which include biodiversity, climate and energy, marine conservation and sustainable cities. They are tackling these issues with diverse strategies, such as policy change, market transformation, research, environmental literacy and direct stewardship. And increasingly, their suite of tools goes beyond grantmaking to include investing, convening and the direct modelling of innovative approaches. This collective work of the membership touches on all of Canada's provinces and territories.

Our members are undertaking this work in a rapidly evolving milieu – both in terms of the growing severity of many of the environmental issues they are seeking to address, but also in terms of the changing nature of philanthropy itself. The recognition

**CATALYZE
COLLABORATION**

**BUILD & SHARE
SKILLS &
KNOWLEDGE**

**GROW
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FOR A
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that thorny issues need to be addressed systemically; that collaboration among funders and with others has the potential for much greater impact; and the growing understanding of the power of data and the importance of transparency are just some of the factors influencing this changing landscape.

Navigating the role that philanthropy can play in reconciliation has also emerged as a key priority as funders begin to address the recommendations of The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) which were released in June of 2015. Many of our members joined as signatories to The Philanthropic Community's Declaration of Action in Support of Indigenous Peoples at the time of the closing of the TRC hearings, as did CEGN.

While championing the excellent work of our individual members is a key role for CEGN, we also seek to ensure that as a network we are greater than the sum of our individual parts. To this end, the CEGN Board approved a Theory of Change in the Spring of 2016 with CEGN's Intended Impact articulated as "A Vibrant Network of Funders Advancing a Sustainable Canada" and with our Ultimate Impact being "A Sustainable Canada, Valuing People, Planet and Place". Our Theory of Change is rooted in the notion that a healthy environment is the foundation for a sustainable future and outlines three core strategies:

- Catalyze Collaboration
- Build and Share Skills and Knowledge
- Grow Investments for a Sustainable Future.

Key activities over the past year to advance these goals included:

- Our national conference, held in June, 2016 on Vancouver Island with the theme "Culture, Conservation and Philanthropy". Connecting philanthropy with Indigenous communities and concerns was a key focus of the conference and an initial step for CEGN in opening up a conversation as to the role for philanthropy in advancing reconciliation.
- Webinars that helped to build the skills and knowledge of members, focusing on topics from systems grantmaking to urban sustainability to Canada's Pan Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change.
- Funder collaboration around the goals of advancing a low carbon future, ensuring sustainable cities and achieving healthy fresh waters. Our Low Carbon Funders

were particularly active, with ten funders coming together to support a set of communications activities, including a series of opeds, which spoke to the environmental and economic benefits of strong climate policies.

- Updating of CEGN's online environmental grants database platform with 2014 grants data, making it possible for funders and others to gain a better understanding of the landscape of environmental grantmaking in Canada.
- Participation in charitable sector activities, including the "Day on the Hill" to meet with parliamentarians about the important role the charitable sector plays in Canada and discussions concerning the need to support the public policy role of charities. With respect to the latter, CEGN also made a submission to the Canada Revenue Agency Consultation on Charities' Political Activities, speaking up in support of the public policy role that charities play and must continue to play in Canada.

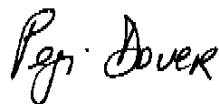
We thank members for their support of the network in 2016 and look forward to working together in the year ahead to advance a more sustainable future for Canada. As always, we welcome your thoughts and comments on how to improve the work of the network.

Sincerely,



Jack Wong

Chair, CEGN and
CEO, The Real Estate
Foundation of B.C.



Pegi Dover

Executive Director

Financial Snapshot for 2016

Revenue: \$660,352

Expenses: \$648,190

Excess of Revenue Over Expenditures:
\$12,162

Net Assets at Beginning of Year: \$40,565

Net Assets at End of Year: \$52,727



Photo credit: Justina Ray



Photo credit: Pat Kane for Tides Canada

CEGN Members in 2016

Alberta Ecotrust Foundation
Alberta Real Estate Foundation
Max Bell Foundation*
The Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Family Foundation
The Bullitt Foundation
The Calgary Foundation*
The Carthy Foundation*
Catherine Donnelly Foundation*
Chisholm Thomson Family Foundation
Coast Opportunity Funds
CS Fund
de Gaspé Beaubien Foundation
Donner Canadian Foundation*
Eburne Mill Fund
EcoAction Community Funding Program, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Echo Foundation*
Federation of Canadian Municipalities-Green Municipal Fund
Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation
Fundy Community Foundation
Glasswaters Foundation
Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation*

Gosling Foundation*
The Ivey Foundation*
Laidlaw Foundation*
The Lawson Foundation*
The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation*
John and Pat McCutcheon Charitable Foundation
The Joyce Foundation
The McLean Foundation
Metcalf Foundation*
The Midloch Foundation
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation*
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
Mountain Equipment Co-op*
Neptis Foundation
New Venture Fund
North Growth Foundation*
Oak Foundation*
Okanagan Basin Water Board
Ontario Trillium Foundation*
Pacific Salmon Foundation
PwC Canada Foundation*
RBC Foundation

Real Estate Foundation of B.C.*
Sage Environmental Program
The Salamander Foundation*
The Schad Foundation*
The Thomas Sill Foundation Inc.
The Sitka Foundation*
Small Change Fund
Suncor Energy Foundation*
TD Friends of the Environment Foundation*
Temagami Community Foundation
Tides Canada*
Toronto Atmospheric Fund
Toronto Foundation
Trottier Family Foundation*
Tula Foundation
Vancity
Vancouver Foundation*
The W. Garfield Weston Foundation
Wilburforce Foundation*
The Winnipeg Foundation*
Woodcock Foundation
444S Foundation

*These are Sustaining Members of the Network, contributing additional financial support to CEGN beyond their membership fee.

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