

Annual Report 2015



ON BEHALF OF THE CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTMAKERS' NETWORK (CEGN) board and staff, we are pleased to provide this brief report on CEGN's recent work and the new strategic direction that we are embarking on. But before going any further, we would like to recognize the tremendous work of our members. CEGN's diverse membership is drawn from private, public, and community foundations, as well as corporate and government environmental funding programs. Tackling a range of environmental issues at different geographic scales and with varied strategies, our members share a common goal of securing a more sustainable future for Canada. At CEGN, our mission is to strengthen philanthropy's impact in support of this shared goal.

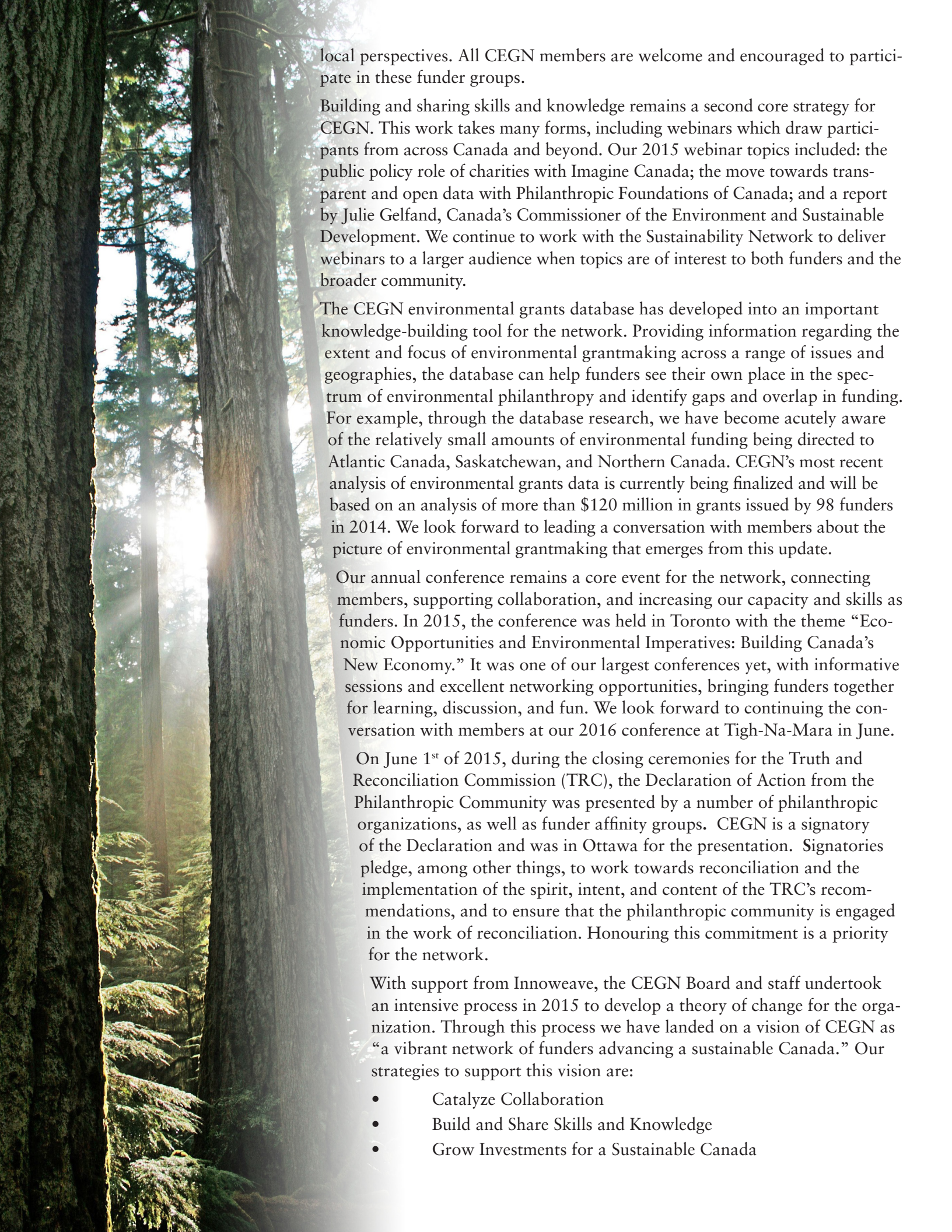
Catalyzing collaboration has been a key focus for our work since the network's inception. In 2015, three CEGN funders groups: Low-Carbon, Water, and Sustainable Cities, made important strides toward better understanding the landscape for each issue, and pursued opportunities for shared learning and collaborative engagement. Key factors driving the evolution of these funder groups are: committed CEGN members who co-chair the group; a growing appetite for collaboration on the part of many members; and the belief that collaboration can lead to greater impact.

Using a landscape assessment prepared by Dunsky Energy Consulting, our Low-Carbon Funders Group is focused on strengthening the role of philanthropy in advancing a low-carbon future for Canada. Our Water Funders Group engaged in a collective impact workshop in support of the Our Living Waters platform and with a major grant from RBC, the group is developing protocols for the shared measurement of activities designed to enhance freshwater protection in Canada. And our Sustainable Cities Funders are embarking on a webinar series looking at urban sustainability issues from the national, regional, and

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local perspectives. All CEGN members are welcome and encouraged to participate in these funder groups.

Building and sharing skills and knowledge remains a second core strategy for CEGN. This work takes many forms, including webinars which draw participants from across Canada and beyond. Our 2015 webinar topics included: the public policy role of charities with Imagine Canada; the move towards transparent and open data with Philanthropic Foundations of Canada; and a report by Julie Gelfand, Canada's Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development. We continue to work with the Sustainability Network to deliver webinars to a larger audience when topics are of interest to both funders and the broader community.

The CEGN environmental grants database has developed into an important knowledge-building tool for the network. Providing information regarding the extent and focus of environmental grantmaking across a range of issues and geographies, the database can help funders see their own place in the spectrum of environmental philanthropy and identify gaps and overlap in funding. For example, through the database research, we have become acutely aware of the relatively small amounts of environmental funding being directed to Atlantic Canada, Saskatchewan, and Northern Canada. CEGN's most recent analysis of environmental grants data is currently being finalized and will be based on an analysis of more than \$120 million in grants issued by 98 funders in 2014. We look forward to leading a conversation with members about the picture of environmental grantmaking that emerges from this update.

Our annual conference remains a core event for the network, connecting members, supporting collaboration, and increasing our capacity and skills as funders. In 2015, the conference was held in Toronto with the theme "Economic Opportunities and Environmental Imperatives: Building Canada's New Economy." It was one of our largest conferences yet, with informative sessions and excellent networking opportunities, bringing funders together for learning, discussion, and fun. We look forward to continuing the conversation with members at our 2016 conference at Tigh-Na-Mara in June.

On June 1st of 2015, during the closing ceremonies for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), the Declaration of Action from the Philanthropic Community was presented by a number of philanthropic organizations, as well as funder affinity groups. CEGN is a signatory of the Declaration and was in Ottawa for the presentation. Signatories pledge, among other things, to work towards reconciliation and the implementation of the spirit, intent, and content of the TRC's recommendations, and to ensure that the philanthropic community is engaged in the work of reconciliation. Honouring this commitment is a priority for the network.

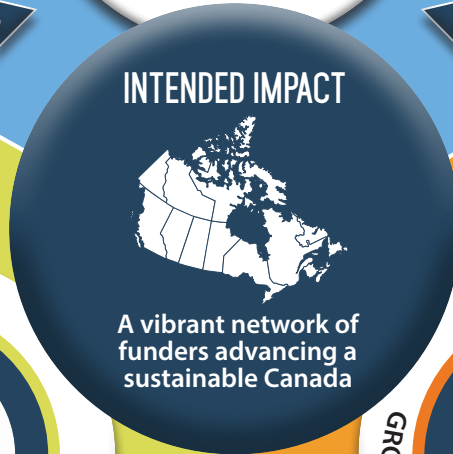
With support from Innoweave, the CEGN Board and staff undertook an intensive process in 2015 to develop a theory of change for the organization. Through this process we have landed on a vision of CEGN as "a vibrant network of funders advancing a sustainable Canada." Our strategies to support this vision are:

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

CEGN'S THEORY OF CHANGE



- Connect individual members with similar interests
- Convene signature events including annual conference & regional gatherings
- Convene & facilitate funder groups on specific issues & areas of policy work
- Connect & engage with different sectors & diverse voices
- Collaborate with other funder affinity groups



- Provide tools (i.e. webinars & workshops) & resources (i.e. reports) to meet critical skills & knowledge needs of members
- Facilitate sharing of good grantmaking practices to support more impactful funding
- Increase members' knowledge of topics relevant to CEGN's strategic goals through regular communications including e-newsletter & Annual Report
- Conduct research on environmental grantmaking to inform funding decisions



- Reach out to diverse funders to increase grantmaking for a sustainable Canada
- Establish a working group to advance a shift towards sustainable investments

www.cegn.org

CEGN'S THEORY OF CHANGE IS ROOTED IN THE NOTION THAT A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT IS THE FOUNDATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

The strategic plan to support the implementation of these strategies is being developed and will be shared with the membership for comment later this year.

As we look to the future, the opportunities for philanthropic action to help achieve a more sustainable future for Canada are rich and diverse. Whether it be as grantmakers, convenors, investors, innovators, or influencers, we are pleased to see our members actively leading on many fronts. CEGN is eager to support and profile the excellent initiatives underway and to bring additional value to this work.

Sincerely,

Andre Vallillee
Chair, CEGN and
Environment Program Director
Metcalf Foundation

Pegi Dover
Executive Director
CEGN

Financial Snapshot for 2015

Revenue: \$399,327

Expenses: \$387,625

Excess of Revenue
over Expenditures: \$11,702

Net Assets beginning of the year: \$28,863

Net Assets at end of the year: \$40,565

CEGN pays close attention to the financial health of the network. In recent years, the growth in the number of Sustaining Members, as well as the size of these contributions, has enabled CEGN to meet its core operating costs, as well as to build the program offerings and other services to members.

2015 CEGN Members

444S Foundation
Alberta Ecotrust Foundation
Alberta Real Estate Foundation
Max Bell Foundation*
The Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Family Foundation
The Bullitt Foundation
The Calgary Foundation*
Canadian Shield 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*
Ivey Foundation*
Independent Electricity System Operator
Laidlaw Foundation*
Lawson Foundation*
London Community Foundation
The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation*
John and Pat McCutcheon Charitable Foundation
The Joyce Foundation
Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship
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
Patagonia
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
Tula Foundation
Vancity
Vancouver Foundation*
The W. Garfield Weston Foundation
Wilburforce Foundation*
The Winnipeg Foundation*
Woodcock Foundation

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

2015 Board of Directors

Wanda Brascoupé Peters

The Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada

Lara Ellis*

Ivey Foundation

Beth Hunter (Treasurer)

The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation

Pat Letizia (Past-Chair)

Alberta Ecotrust Foundation

Burkhard Mausberg

Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation

Cameron Miller

RBC Foundation

Dave Secord*

Tides Canada

Thea Silver

Ontario Trillium Foundation

Andrew Stegemann*

Mountain Equipment Co-op

Megan Tate (Secretary)

The Winnipeg Foundation

Andre Vallillee (Chair)

Metcalf Foundation

Wendy Vanasselt

Wilburforce Foundation

Jack Wong (Vice-Chair)

Real Estate Foundation of B.C.

*These directors stepped off the Board in 2015, following their departure from their organizations.

CEGN Staff

Pegi Dover

Executive Director

Sandy Hoang

Membership Services Manager

Callum Gaskin

Environmental Researcher (Intern)



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