

Annual Report 2019



Photo credits: middle, Pat Kane for Tides Canada; right, Jennifer Friesen for The Calgary Foundation

Message from the Chair and the Interim Executive Director

On behalf of the Board and staff of Environment Funders Canada (EFC), we are pleased to share with you the 2019 Annual Report for the organization, highlighting some of the major activities during the past year.

Before venturing into these activities, we first want to acknowledge the incredible work of our members during the past year. The wide diversity of EFC members – private and community foundations; public foundations; and corporate and government environmental funding programs – provides a rich array of innovative support to registered charities, as well as, in some cases, to non-profits and Indigenous communities directly. EFC members are addressing Canada’s environmental concerns through a range of strategies that include policy enhancement, direct action to improve terrestrial and marine environments, and environmental education for all generations. The pressing need to reduce carbon emissions has also spurred vital work by many of our members and substantially increased overall funder engagement with climate issues.

Drawing on the active work of our members, the Board of Directors and staff of Environment Funders Canada aim to support and steer “a vibrant network of funders advancing a sustainable Canada” with the long-term impact of “a sustainable Canada, valuing people, planet and place”.

CATALYZE COLLABORATION

BUILD & SHARE SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE

GROW INVESTMENTS FOR A SUSTAINABLE CANADA



Catalyzing effective funder collaboration is a core tenet for Environment Funders Canada and substantial progress was made in this area in 2019.

- The Low Carbon Funders' Group invested in the leadership role of more than 10 NGOs working to advance the implementation of the Pan-Canadian Framework for Clean Growth and Climate Change. This was the second year of this work, which is continuing in 2020. The Low Carbon Funders' Group also partnered with the Clean Economy Fund in 2019 to advance effective climate communications, another initiative continuing in 2020.
- 2019 also saw the formalization of the Oceans Collaborative, which brings together funders with a common interest in advancing the establishment of marine protected areas. Several projects were supported to strengthen effective communications regarding oceans issues. With the increasing focus on marine issues, we are excited about the promise this work holds for the future.

Building and sharing skills and knowledge was another key aspect of EFC's work in 2019.

- A key component of this work was, of course, our annual conference, "Maximizing Philanthropy's Impact for a Sustainable Future" which was held north of Toronto at the Kingbridge Centre. Guided by Reos Partners, the program focused on what might be done to increase funder impact and how might funders work together differently to increase impact. It was intentionally 'member focused' and sparked collaborative conversations and reflection that are helping EFC to build a stronger network.

Integral to the strategic plan for EFC in 2019 was a focus on "growing investments for sustainable Canada". In partnership with the other funder networks – Philanthropic Foundations Canada, Community Foundations of Canada, and The Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada – we launched an initiative called Foundation Investing 2.0.

With program leadership by SHARE and Rally Assets, Foundation Investing 2.0 aims to help and support Canadian foundations on their journey to implement more and better impact and responsible investing strategies, across their endowment portfolios. During 2019, we provided webinars for foundation staff and trustees on topics such as climate risk and investing, advancing reconciliation and growing Indigenous

economy, and just transition in climate action. We also hosted in-person learning sessions at each network’s conference. The program is continuing through 2020 with a keen desire to connect with trustees, as well as staff within the various funder organizations.

Last, but certainly not least, was the unveiling of a new name and brand for our organization in 2019. Effective November 1, CEGN was transformed to “Environment Funders Canada”, supported by the tagline “Advancing a Sustainable Future”. Key factors behind this rebranding were the desire for a shorter and more direct name, and an interest to build a strong linkage between a healthy environment and a sustainable future. We also wanted to better represent the innovative and diverse ways our members support environmental work beyond simply grant-making. To align with the re-branding of our network, we have launched a new website which provides key private information for members, as well as more general information for the broader community.

EFC offers members a welcoming place to convene, collaborate and learn from each other. We look forward to continuing conversations and engaging in new ones as we strive to advance a future that is good for people, planet and place.

Sincerely,



Karen Wilkie
2019 Chair



Thea Silver
Interim Executive Director



Photo, left: Low Carbon Funders’ Group meeting in Ottawa.

Summarized Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

	2019	2018
Revenue	\$2,084,105	\$1,450,908
Expenses	\$2,049,466	\$1,387,433
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	\$ 34,639	\$ 63,475
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$ 80,847	\$ 17,372
Net Assets at the end of the Year	\$ 115,486	\$ 80,847

Environment Funders Canada Members in 2019

Champion Members (\$10,000 and above)

Echo Foundation
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
Ivey Foundation
Laidlaw Foundation
McConnell Foundation
Metcalf Foundation
The Trottier Family Foundation
Wilburforce Foundation

Leadership Members (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

The Calgary Foundation
Carthy Foundation
Catherine Donnelly Foundation
Donner Canadian Foundation
The Gordon Foundation
Gosling Foundation
The Hewlett Foundation
The Lawson Foundation
Max Bell Foundation
North Family Foundation
Oak Foundation
Ontario Trillium Foundation
RBC Foundation
Real Estate Foundation of BC
The Schad Foundation

TD Friends of the Environment
Foundation
Tides Canada
The Winnipeg Foundation
Vancouver Foundation

General Members

444S Foundation
Alberta Ecotrust Foundation
Alberta Real Estate Foundation
All One Fund
Atkinson Foundation
The Borealis Foundation
The Bullitt Foundation
Canada Nature Fund, Environment
and Climate Change Canada
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
The Chawkers Foundation
Chisholm Thomson Family Foundation
Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Family
Foundation
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Coast Funds
The Consecon Foundation
CS Fund
De Gaspé Beaubien Foundation
EcoAction Community Funding
Program, Environment and Climate
Change Canada

Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation
Fundy Community Foundation
Glasswaters Foundation
Government of New Brunswick,
Department of Environment and
Local Government
The John and Pat McCutcheon
Charitable Foundation
The Joyce Foundation
The Manitoba Habitat Heritage
Corporation
The McLean Foundation
The Midloch Foundation
Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation for
the Americas
Mountain Equipment Co-op
Neptis Foundation
New Venture Fund
Okanagan Basin Water Board
Palmer Family Foundation
Peter Gilgan Foundation
The Sitka Foundation
Small Change Fund
Suncor Energy Foundation
The Atmospheric Fund
Toronto Foundation
Vancity
The W. Garfield Weston Foundation
Woodcock Foundation

2019 Board of Directors

Karen Wilkie (Chair)
Program Director, Carthy Foundation

Carolyn Scotchmer (Vice-Chair)
Executive Director, TD Friends of the
Environment Foundation

Karen Shelstad (Treasurer)
Program Director, The Lawson Foundation

Jason Bates (Secretary)
Vice-President, Grants and Community
Initiatives, The Calgary Foundation

Kris Archie
Executive Director, The Circle on
Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in
Canada

Amy Buskirk
Senior Program Officer, Donner Canadian
Foundation

Lauren Dobell (to January 2020)
Director of Strategic Partnerships, Vancity
Credit Union

Nicolina Farella
Program Director, McConnell Family
Foundation

Jeremy Guth
Trustee, The Woodcock Foundation

Scott Lloy
Director, Government of New Brunswick,
Department of Environment and Local
Government

James Littley
Operations and Grants Manager,
The Okanagan Basin Water Board

Andrea Moffat
Vice-President, Ivey Foundation

Eric St-Pierre
Executive Director, The Trottier Family
Foundation

Megan Tate
Director of Community Grants,
The Winnipeg Foundation

Wendy Vanasselt
Program Officer, Wilburforce Foundation

2019 Environment Funders Canada Staff

Pegi Dover (retired March, 2020)
Executive Director

Sandy Hoang
Membership Services Manager (departed
September 30, 2019)

Redmond Chambers
Membership Services Manager (started
September 16, 2019)



**ENVIRONMENT
FUNDERS CANADA**

Advancing a sustainable future

Previously known as Canadian Environmental Grantmakers' Network (CEGN)

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