



ENVIRONMENT FUNDERS CANADA

Advancing a sustainable future

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2020



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

We are pleased to share with you Environment Funders Canada's 2020 Annual Report. It goes without saying that 2020 was a year unlike any other and one of major transition for the organization – not only did the world experience the global COVID-19 pandemic, but EFC experienced a major leadership change at the same time.

As we all know, Pegi Dover, EFC's long-time Executive Director, unexpectedly accelerated her retirement to March 2020 for health reasons and sadly passed away in May 2021. You can read more about Pegi and her incredible legacy later in this report.

Fortunately for EFC, Thea Silver, a former Board member, was already engaged on contract with EFC and was able to step in seamlessly as EFC's Interim Executive Director. Unfortunately, Thea's first day on the job coincided with states of emergency being declared and the unexpected transition to remote work. With the support of Redmond Chambers, EFC's Membership and Operations Manager, Thea was able to shift a largely 'paper-based' organization to the digital world, and to steer the ship during an incredibly uncertain time, ensuring that EFC not only survived, but thrived. Her attention to detail, professional approach, and ability to build partnerships and think strategically served EFC well during a difficult time. We are also thrilled that she has continued with EFC as Program Director in 2021, ensuring a smooth transition with our new Executive Director. On behalf of the entire EFC community, I'd like to express my gratitude to Thea for her leadership.

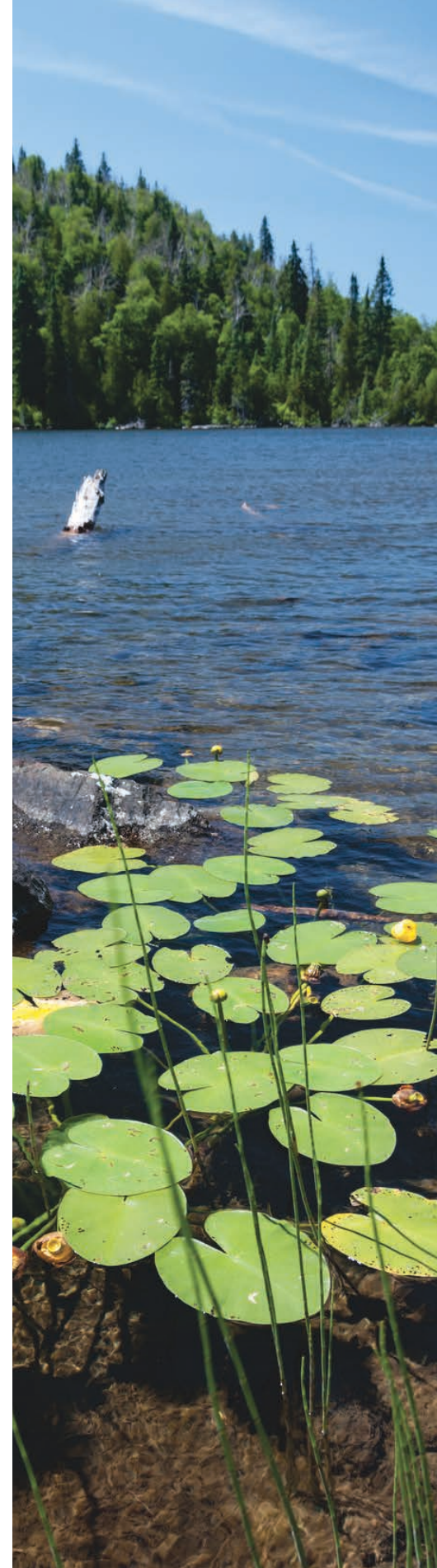
Speaking of EFC leadership, one of our major accomplishments toward the end of 2020 was the recruitment of EFC's new Executive Director – Devika Shah, who began in January 2021. The Board undertook a thorough search for this pivotal role and we are 100% confident that we have the right person for the job. Welcome Devika - we are excited about the new directions and possibilities for EFC that are emerging as we venture into the next chapter of EFC's history!

We know that there is much to be done and the priority for 2021 is to build the foundation for this next era, working hand-in-hand with you - our inspiring, diverse and committed members - to develop our next strategic plan and ensure that our operations are strong and well-resourced. We look forward to continuing to support the EFC community in service of the rapid and bold transformation that we are now being called upon to nurture and facilitate.



CAROLYN SCOTCHMER

Chair, Board of Directors





MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

EFC is committed to offering our members a welcoming place to convene, collaborate and collectively learn as, together, we strive to advance a sustainable future for Canada. While 2020 was a challenging year for all of us – and one that prevented us from gathering in our usual ways – we remained focused on our commitment to deliver this value to our members. A few highlights include:

- Working with our philanthropic network partners to help our members navigate COVID-19 and better support their grantees and communities by articulating five guiding principles and launching *Philanthropy Responds*, an interactive data mapping tool.
- Conducting a national ENGO survey on the impacts of COVID-19, in partnership with Sustainability Network, and convening related funder conversations to share and discuss the findings.
- Growing and advancing the work of our Oceans Collaborative with eight funders contributing financially (up from one in 2019) and initiating a deep learning program with The Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada to guide the decolonization of our work.
- Continuing the work of the Low Carbon Funders Group (3rd year in operation) to advance federal climate policy and releasing a related report, *Building Canada's Low Carbon Future*, to highlight climate opportunities for the philanthropic sector.
- Sharing information and insights with our members through:
 - a webinar on Activating the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (with The Circle);
 - a new report, *Leveraging Technology for a Healthy Planet*, thanks to support from RBC;
 - webinars on responsible and impact investing delivered in partnership with our philanthropic network partners and with leadership from SHARE and Rally Assets;
 - a webinar on *The New Plan for Climate Action in Canada* (highlighting the work of the Low Carbon Funders Group);
 - EFC's monthly newsletters.

For us, a key learning coming out of 2020 is, 'it's all connected'. The greatest problems facing our society – deadly viruses, climate change, biodiversity loss, racism and gender inequality, poverty, the housing crisis and more – are all symptoms of the same root cause. To solve one, we must address them all, together. Decolonization and equity are not parallel priorities alongside our conservation and climate goals. They are *key strategies* for achieving those goals.

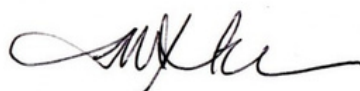
Last, but certainly not least, we wish to thank all of you, our members. EFC would simply not exist without its strong and highly engaged membership, who contribute to our community with additional financial support, engagement in collaboratives, knowledge sharing during gatherings – whether they be virtual or in-person – and a general willingness to help each other, share challenges and generate solutions together. Even in a year where we had to cancel our annual conference due to COVID-19 and do things very differently, all of you helped in so many ways to keep our network vibrant and strong.

We've built a special community over the years, thanks in large part to Pegi's tireless work, and we owe it to her and to the communities and missions we serve, to work together like never before, as we face unprecedented environmental challenges and a unique window of opportunity to nurture transformative change.



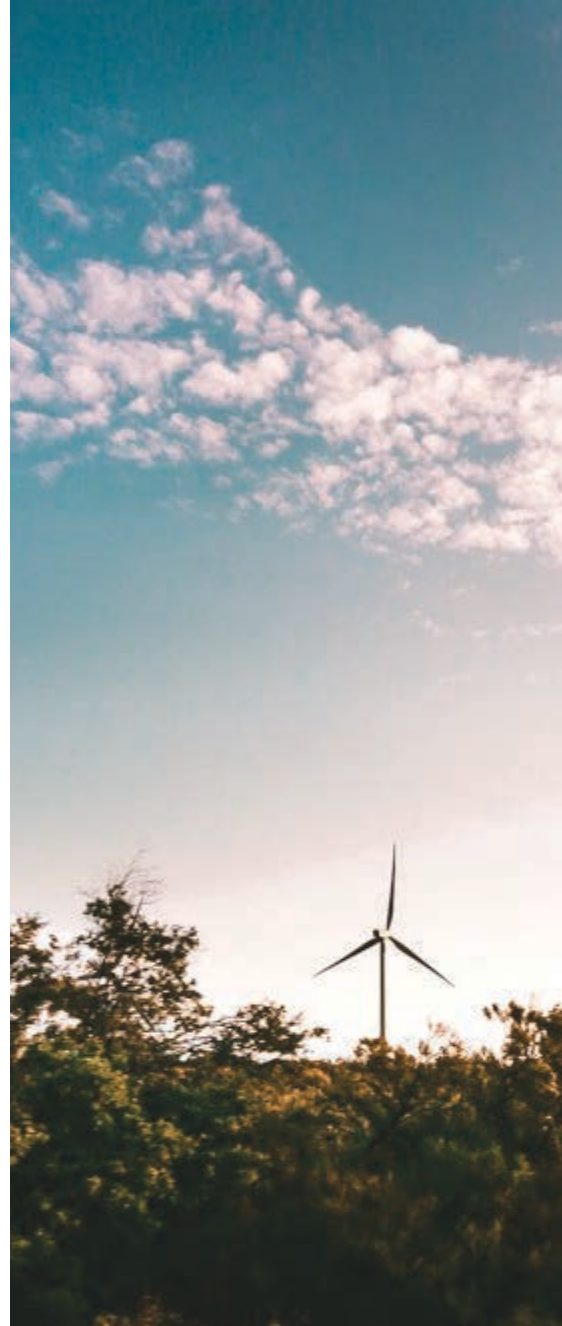
DEVIKA SHAH

Executive Director
(2021)



THEA SILVER

Interim Executive Director
(2020)



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

	2020	2019
Revenue	\$2,436,309	\$2,084,105
Expenses	\$2,388,117	\$2,049,466
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	\$ 48,192	\$ 34,639
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$ 115,486	\$ 80,847
Net Assets at End of Year	\$ 163,678	\$ 115,486



REMEMBERING PEGI

It is with deep appreciation and love that Environment Funders Canada remembers Pegi Dover, our long-time Executive Director, who passed away peacefully on May 5, 2021.

For over forty years, Pegi worked to make this planet a better place. Pegi was the heart and soul of EFC (and CEGN before that) during her 12 years as Executive Director. She was critical to the success and growth of our organization and helped us all become stronger in the process. At EFC and in her previous senior leadership at Project Canoe, WWF-Canada and the Donner Canadian Foundation, Pegi used her journalism training, organizational skills, passion and compassion, openness to ideas and diversity, and understated leadership to accomplish great things across Canada. Her dedication to serving the greater good was remarkable and an inspiration to all. The environmental and philanthropic sectors are genuinely better off for her having played a part — she will be missed.

As many know, Pegi was diagnosed with brain cancer December 2019. After retiring from EFC in early 2020, Pegi revelled in nature; campaigned to stop the destruction of Ontario's wetlands, conducted inventories of neighbourhood trees, and spent time outdoors with family and friends. True-to-character, Pegi made the best of the situation, staying fiercely positive until the end; she didn't waste a minute.

Pegi's family has created a [website](#) to honour Pegi and the rich life she led. It is full of beautiful photographs, videos and memories that perfectly capture Pegi's passion and 'joie de vivre'.

Donations in Pegi's memory can be made to the Pegi Dover Memorial Fund at [Project Canoe](#), Pegi's favorite charity where she was Executive Director for eight years, prior to joining EFC.

Photo credit: Phillip Jessup

ENVIRONMENT FUNDERS CANADA 2020 MEMBERSHIP

Champion Members (\$10,000+)

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 – \$9,999)

All One Fund
The Calgary Foundation
Carthy Foundation
Catherine Donnelly Foundation
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Donner Canadian Foundation
The Gordon Foundation
Gosling Foundation
Greenbelt Foundation
The Hewlett Foundation
The Lawson Foundation
Max Bell Foundation
North Family Foundation
Oak Foundation
Palmer Family Foundation
RBC Foundation
Real Estate Foundation of BC
The Schad Foundation
The Sitka Foundation
TD Friends of the Environment
Foundation
The Winnipeg Foundation
Vancity
Vancouver Foundation

General Members

444S Foundation
Alberta Ecotrust Foundation
Alberta Real Estate Foundation
American Friends of Canadian
Nature
Atkinson Foundation
The Borealis Foundation
The Bullitt Foundation
Canada Nature Fund, ECCC
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
The Chawkers Foundation
Chisholm Thomson Family
Foundation
Claudine and Stephen Bronfman
Family Foundation
Coast Funds
The Consecon Foundation
CS Fund
De Gaspé Beaubien Foundation
Federation of Canadian
Municipalities
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
MakeWay
The McLean Foundation
The Midloch Foundation
Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation
for the Americas
Mountain Equipment Co-op
Okanagan Basin Water Board
Peter Gilgan Foundation
Small Change Fund
Suncor Energy Foundation
The Atmospheric Fund
Toronto Foundation
The W.C. Kitchen Family Foundation
The Weston Family Foundation
Woodcock Foundation

ENVIRONMENT FUNDERS CANADA 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

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

Karen Shelstad (Treasurer)
Program Director
The Lawson Foundation

Amy Buskirk (Secretary)
Senior Program Officer
Donner Canadian Foundation

Karen Wilkie (Past Chair)
Program Director
Carthy Foundation

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

Nicolina Farella (to June 2020)
Program Director
McConnell Family Foundation

Jeremy Guth
Trustee
The Woodcock Foundation

James Littley
Operations and Grants Manager
The Okanagan Basin Water Board

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

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 (to June 2020)
Program Officer
Wilburforce Foundation

ENVIRONMENT FUNDERS CANADA 2020 STAFF

Pegi Dover
Executive Director
(to March 2020)

Thea Silver
Interim Executive Director
(from March 2020)

Redmond Chambers
Membership and Operations Manager

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