



ENVIRONMENT
FUNDERS CANADA

Advancing a sustainable future



ANNUAL REPORT
2023

FROM THE CHAIR

The end of 2023 marked the completion of the second year of our three-year strategic plan. We are proud of the role EFC has played in nurturing and catalyzing relationships among our members, mobilizing knowledge, building thought leadership on environmental funding opportunities to support our members, promoting transparency on environmental grantmaking, diversifying our membership, and working collaboratively with partner organizations.

Though I have been a member of EFC's Board of Directors for several years now, this was my first year as Chair, and I've gained a new perspective on all the care and attention it takes to build a strong, cohesive and collaborative network! I would especially like to thank all the members of our wonderful Board of Directors for their thoughtful advice and insight, which has provided important guidance to our fantastic staff team in developing offerings that meet the needs of our members and in building strong governance infrastructure to guide us in the years to come.

"...we are all stronger, more capable and more impactful when we can draw inspiration, ideas and energy from each other."

I've also been reflecting on the idea that EFC is only as strong as the sum of our individual contributions and engagement as members. I encourage us all to lean into everything that EFC has to offer, because we are all stronger, more capable and more impactful when we can draw inspiration, ideas and energy from each other. With every year that passes, it is clear that we are building a very special, collaborative and inspiring community of funders working together to build the future that we want to see.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Megan Tate".

MEGAN TATE
CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What a time to be alive!

The pace of change in our world today seems more accelerated than at any other point in human history. As leaders who spend more time than most thinking about the systemic impacts of ecosystem degradation and climate change, it can be hard not to feel overwhelmed with fear, anxiety and a sense of hopelessness. Perhaps these feelings are a necessary step in the journey of our collective evolution. From the ashes, new ways of being and new worlds can emerge, but we first have to be clearly aware of what is collapsing and what is on the verge of collapsing. Opportunities to build these new worlds from a place of clear-eyed seeing are truly energizing.

As environmental funders, our role in this bigger story is significant! We are uniquely perched to see the big picture and to shift systems, and it is inspiring to watch each of you doing that in the spaces that you occupy. It is my hope that our small but mighty team at EFC is able to support you, our diverse members, in a good way, as you carry out this critical work. As always, we rely on your feedback and influence to help shape what that support looks like, and we are truly grateful for your partnership.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Devika Shah".

DEVIKA SHAH
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

	2023	2022
Revenue	\$ 4,223,080	\$ 4,271,583
Expenses	\$ 4,180,413	\$ 4,082,690
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	\$ 42,667	\$ 188,893
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$ 485,757	\$ 296,864
Net Assets at End of Year	\$ 528,424	\$ 485,757
<u>Breakdown of Net Assets</u>		
Operating Reserve	\$ 365,000	\$ 365,000
Opportunity Reserve	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 63,424	\$ 20,757
Total Net Assets at End of Year	\$ 528,424	\$ 485,757

Note: A complete set of the financial statements, audited by Adams and Miles CPAs, is available on request.



2023 EFC MEMBERS

Trailblazer Members

(\$40,000+)

Trottier Family Foundation

Builder Members

(\$25,000 - \$39,999)

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
Suncor Energy Foundation

Champion Members

(\$10,000 - \$24,999)

Catherine Donnelly Foundation
Donner Canadian Foundation
Echo Foundation
Ivey Foundation
Laidlaw Foundation
The Lawson Foundation
MakeWay
McConnell Foundation
Metcalf Foundation
Palmer Family Foundation
Real Estate Foundation of BC
The Sitka Foundation
TD Friends of the Environment Foundation
Wilburforce Foundation
The Winnipeg Foundation

Leader Members

(\$5,000-\$9,999)

The Borealis Foundation
The Calgary Foundation
Carthy Foundation
Chisholm Thomson Family Foundation
Definity Insurance Foundation
The Gosling Foundation
Greenbelt Foundation
The Houssian Foundation
North Family Foundation
The Northpine Foundation
Oak Foundation
RBC Foundation
Vancity
Vancouver Foundation

General Members

444S Foundation
Alberta Ecotrust Foundation
All One Fund
Arc'teryx Equipment
Atkinson Foundation
The Atmospheric Fund
Balsam Foundation
Canada Nature Fund, ECCC
Chamandy Foundation
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
The Chawkers Foundation
Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Family Foundation
Coast Funds
Consecon Foundation
CS Fund
de Gaspé Beaubien Foundation
Dickhout Family Foundation
Endswell Foundation
Fondation Béati
Fondation du Grand Montréal
Fonds climat du Grand Montréal

Glasswaters Foundation
The Joyce Foundation
The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation
The McLean Foundation
Meighen Family Foundation
Metro Vancouver Zero Emissions Innovation Centre
The Midloch Foundation
Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation for the Americas
Oceankind
Okanagan Basin Water Board
Ottawa Community Foundation
Peter Gilgan Foundation
The Schad Foundation
Sustainable Capacity Foundation
Toronto Foundation
W.C. Kitchen Family Foundation
Waltons Trust
Weston Family Foundation
Woodcock Foundation



ENVIRONMENT
FUNDERS CANADA

We catalyze funders to respond to environmental crises with ambitious and innovative solutions. By facilitating learning, connection and collaboration, our efforts are bolder, smarter and stronger.



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Co-hosted an in-person workshop with the Woodcock Foundation in March on Civic Infrastructure Bonds in Toronto.

Hosted five EFC Speaker Series webinars tackling familiar, urgent, and emerging topics, including Code Red: Standing Up for Ontario's Greenbelt, Cellular Agriculture, Connected Waters: Funder Collaboratives and Water Health, ECCC's Freshwater Action Plan, and Building Wildfire Resilience.

Hosted our annual conference in Quebec City in May – Accelerate 2023: Building Bridges & Embracing Change. The conference was devoted to answering the question, what are the bridges we need to build and the new pathways that we need to embrace, to accelerate progress and the scale of change required in a very short time?

Launched Project Clearinghouse Canada! Members jumped on this new dedicated opt-in listserv to share their projects and collaborate with other members on specific funding opportunities.

Welcomed members and other interested funders to Rising to the Challenge: Integrating Climate Justice and Equity, a one-day bilingual event on September 12 in Montreal, in partnership with Le Collectif des fondations québécoises contre les inégalités.

Kickstarted our Open Data and Transparency Project, an initiative that utilizes grants data to facilitate deeper insights about funding within the environmental sector in Canada. To date, forty-five EFC members contributed their 2022 environmental grants to the data pool!

Brought Alberta funders together to a special day-long gathering at the Stampede's Rotary House in Calgary in November for Environmental Solutions at the Heart of Community Wellbeing.

Facilitated new EFC Funder Interest Groups (affectionately known as the FIGs), chaired by various EFC members, to enable members with shared interests to meet regularly and share knowledge, learnings, and discuss funding opportunities and/or explore collaboration. Our current FIGs are: Conservation Finance, Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas, Trust-based Philanthropy, and Let's Talk Climate.

PHOTO: 2023 FUNDER EVENT AT THE STAMPEDE'S ROTARY HOUSE IN CALGARY

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Continued to support the work of our established funder collaboratives – the Oceans Collaborative and the Low Carbon Funders Group – each of which has increased investments in 2023 to support Indigenous-led oceans conservation and strong federal climate policy respectively.

Launched our new funder collaborative, Building Power for Climate and Nature Funder Collaborative (BPCNC). Our work includes establishing a baseline understanding of Canada's 'social movement ecology' through original research, shared learning and resources among funders, and creating a pooled fund that will support key power-building organizations and initiatives.

Continued our partnership with The Circle on Philanthropy in Upwelling & Truth Telling, an initiative designed to elevate the voices and experiences of Indigenous leaders to uncover assumptions about the quality of partnership between settler-led ENGOs and Indigenous peoples.

Hosted a panel discussion on Controlling Toxics for Our Health and Planet, in partnership with Philanthropic Foundations of Canada and Community Foundations of Canada to learn about the Coalition for Action on Toxics, and how this funder-initiated collaboration has forged critical change and the road ahead to safeguarding our health and planet.

Extended our reach through several speaking engagements such as our Executive Director's panel participation at Generous Futures: Demanding Climate Justice held at Toronto Metropolitan University in April.

Launched a blog on our website to share new perspectives, explore areas of interest, and highlight the work of our members and partners, beginning with an interview with 360Giving Chief Executive, Tania Cohen.

PHOTO: 2023 EFC CONFERENCE IN QUEBEC
Pre-conference field trip along the St. Lawrence River

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carolyn Scotchmer (Chair to June 2023) *
Executive Director
TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

Megan Tate (Chair from June 2023)
Vice-President, Community Grants
The Winnipeg Foundation

Amy Buskirk (Vice-Chair)
Executive Director
The Hilary and Galen Weston Foundation

Scott Lloy (Treasurer)
Director, Strategic Infrastructure and Agreements
Government of New Brunswick, Environment and
Local Government

Kristina Inrig (Secretary)
President and CEO
Sustainable Capacity Foundation

Kris Archie
Executive Director
The Circle on Philanthropy

Jason Bates *
Vice-President, Grants and Community Initiatives
The Calgary Foundation

Phylicia Davis-Wesseling
Community Relations Officer
Toronto Foundation

Aurore Fauret **
Climate Change Program Director
Trottier Family Foundation

Jeremy Guth
Trustee
The Woodcock Foundation

Floriane Lemoine
Program Director, Climate and Health
Definity Foundation

Liz Liske
Director
Arctic Funders Collaborative

Elizabeth McCallion
Program Director
Peter Gilgan Foundation

Caroline North
Executive Director
North Family Foundation

Rod Ruff
President
Alberta Ecotrust Foundation

Malcolm Shield **
Vice-President, Sustainability
Wesgroup Properties

Eric St. Pierre *
Executive Director
The Trottier Family Foundation

Luc Tittley **
Director, Public Affairs
Environment and Climate Change Canada

* Departed Board in June 2023

** Joined Board in June 2023



2023 STAFF

Devika Shah, Executive Director
Thea Silver, Managing Director
Tesicca Truong, Program Manager
Nancy Moniz, Operations Manager

Ashley Watson, Logistics and Information Manager
(departed August 2023)



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