



Alberta Emerald Foundation

2006 Annual Report



Past Recipients (1992-2005)

Climate Change

EPCOR Energy Services (Alberta) Inc. (2002)
Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc. (2003)
Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (2004)
The City of Calgary, ROADS (2005)

Communications, Media and the Arts

CFRN TV (1993)
ACCESS NETWORK (1994)
RDTV "Earthwatch" (1995)
Image Works Alberta Inc. (1996)
CKUA Radio and Chevron Canada (1997)
Evergreen Theatre Society (1998)
Puffin Productions (1999)
Encompass Magazine (2000)
King Motion Picture Corporation (2001)

Community Group

Calgary Zoo Education Programs, Brian Keating (1993)
Envirocycle Expediting International Institute (1994)
Mountain Bluebird Trails Conservation Group (1995)
Big Lake Environmental Support Society (1996)
Rotary Club of Calgary Olympic (1997)
Blackfoot Core Table (1998)
Wood Buffalo Environmental Association (1999)
Alberta Pacific Forest Management Task Force (2000)
Fish Rescue Project (2000)
Milk River Aquifer Management Advisory Committee (2001)
Oldman River Basin Water Quality Initiative (2001)
Wagner Natural Area Society (2002)
Cochrance Branches & Banks (2003)
Alberta NAWMP Partnership (2004)
Beaver Creek Watershed Group (2005)

Corporate or Institutional Leadership

Ken McCready (1993)
Dr. Bonnie Kaplan (1995)
Pat Cabezas (1996)
Barry Adams and Lorne Fitch (1997)
Jim Leslie (2000)
Barry Worbets (2001)
Brian Plesuk (2001)
Dr. Luigi Morgantini (2002)
Don Klym (2003)
Phil Lulman (2004)
Dr. Roger Creasey (2005)

Education: Other Organization

Federation of Alberta Naturalists (1993)
Environmental Resources Centre (1995)
Helen Schuler Coulee Centre (1997)
Bennett Environmental Education Centre, Edmonton (1998)
FEESA, An Environmental Education Society (1999)
University of Calgary, Kananaskis Field Stations (2000)
Kerry Wood Nature Centre (2001)
Sandy Cross Conservation Foundation (2002)
Sunpine Forest Products Ltd. (2003)
City of Edmonton, Waste Management Branch (2004)
Cows and Fish Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society (2005)

Education: School or Classroom

Alberta School Students (1992)
Marlene Keanie (1996)
Ardrossan Elementary Environmental Club (2000)
St. Teresa of Avila School (2001)
Clive School (2003)
Ellerslie Elementary & Junior High School (2004)
Dr. E.W. Coffin School (2005)

Government Institution

Alberta Special Waste Management Corporation (1992)
City of Edmonton (1994)
Alberta Environmental Protection (1995)
Strathcona County (1995)
John Jantzen Nature Centre (1996)
City of Edmonton, Asset Management and Public Works (1997)
City of Red Deer (1998)
Town of Okotoks (1999)
City of Edmonton (2000)
Waterton Community Plan 2000 (2001)
Town of Okotoks (2002)
City of Edmonton, North Division Police Station (2003)
The City of Calgary (2004)
Town of Canmore (2005)

Individual Commitment

Lois Soderstrom (1992)
Martha Kostuch (1992)
Elmer A. Kure (1993)
Alderman Tooker Gomberg (1994)
Micheal O'Brien (1994)
John O'Mahony (1995)
Clio Smeeton (1996)
Kim Allen (1997)

Peter Jansen (1998)
Corporal Ken Chatel (1999)
Ian Dyson (1999)
David Elphinstone (2000)
Dr. Stephen Herrero (2001)
Gordon Howell (2002)
Steven & Kristen Tannas (2002)
Pat & Dick Clayton (2003)
Cheryl Bradley (2004)
Clare & Kathy Tannas (2005)

Business: Large

Safety Boss Ltd. (1992)
Dow Chemical Canada Inc. (Western Canadian Division) (1993)
Alberta Power Ltd. (1994)
Hotel Macdonald (1995)
AGRA Earth & Environmental Ltd. (1996)
Suncor Energy (1997)
Alberta Newsprint Company (1998)
Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc. (1999)
Lamb-Weston - A Division of ConAgra (2000)
PanCanadian Petroleum Ltd. (2000)
Weldwood's Recreation Enhancement Project (2001)
Weyerhaeuser Company Limited (2001)
Rimbe Gas Plant (2002)
Daishowa-Marubeni International Ltd. (2003)
Weldwood of Canada Limited - Hinton Division (2004)
Ainsworth Lumber Co. Ltd. (2005)

Not-for-Profit Association

Ducks Unlimited Canada (Frank Lake Developments and Wetland Environments Curriculum Unit) (1992)
APEGGA (1995)
Ellis Bird Farm Ltd. (1996)
Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association (1996)
Edmonton Recycling Society (1997)
Alberta Ecotrust Foundation (1998)
Clean Air Strategic Alliance (1999)
Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (2000)
Red Deer River Naturalists Society (2000)
Southern Alberta Land Trust Society (2001)
Alberta Dairy Council (2002)
Alberta Conservation Association (2003)
Clean Air Strategic Alliance (2004)
Light Up the World Foundation (2004)
North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (2005)

Research & Innovation

Professor Steve Hrudý (1995)
Antelope Creek Ranch Technical Committee (1996)
Terry Macyk (1997)
Dr. Anne-Marie Anderson (1998)
Dr. Chi Chang (1999)
River Flow Regulation For Cottonwood Preservation (2000)
Dr. Walter David Willms (2001)
Dr. Harrie Vredenburg (2002)
Native Plant Development Team, Alberta Research Council (2002)
Alberta Conservation Association (2003)
Alberta Research Council (2003)
Foothills Model Forest (2004)
Forem Technologies Ltd. (2004)
Syn crude Canada Ltd. (2005)

Business: Small

Bagel Tree Delicatessen in Old Strathcona (1993)
DBS Environmental (1994)
Autonomous & Sustainable Housing Inc. (1995)
Challenger Homes Inc. (1996)
Eco Tech Consulting (1997)
Epsilon Chemicals Ltd. (1998)
Hi-Gain Ranching (1999)
Amici Enterprises Inc. (2000)
Spray Lake Sawmills (1980) Ltd. (2000)
Prairie Seeds Inc. (2001)
Vision Quest Windelectric Inc. (2002)
Mariah Energy Corporation (2003)
Active Environmental Services Ltd. (2004)
Highmark Renewables Inc. (2005)
Katch Kan Limited (2005)

Youth

Society, Environmental & Energy Development Studies Foundation (1996)
Alberta 4-H Conservation Camp (1997)
Destination Conservation (1997)
Pamela Langan and Erika Finlay (2004)
Cochrane High School (2005)



Report from the Chair

Another outstanding and extremely busy year

has seen the Alberta Emerald Foundation begin to truly solidify its leadership role in recognizing environmental excellence in Alberta.

With significant funding contributions, unprecedented nominations (113 – a ten year high) and over 700 guests attending the 2006 Emerald Awards, the Foundation has reached a stage where it can now actively begin to implement its Strategic Plan.

A grant of \$1 million from Alberta Environment, \$900,000 of which has been invested in Endowment Funds at the Community Foundations in Edmonton and Calgary, is proving to be a catalyst to trigger other support for the Foundation. This is the largest and, in terms of sustainability, most significant grant ever received by the Foundation, and we cannot begin to thank Alberta Environment for its leadership.

I am very pleased to report a small surplus of revenues over expenditure in 2006. I acknowledge and thank the Finance Committee and Kingston Ross Pasnak, the Foundation's auditors, for their timely assistance with the audit process as well as retired Executive Director, Becky Vander Steen and Acting Executive Director, Dree Thomson-Diamond for their unwavering support and guidance in 2006.

The Communications Committee of the Board must be applauded for its work on developing and initiating the implementation of a five-year communications plan that will take the Foundation into the future. A grant from the Alberta Lottery Fund made this work possible, and additional funds announced early in 2007 will see the plan's further implementation, increasing awareness and the Foundation's ability to share its treasure of environmental success stories even further.

The Resource Development Committee was hard at work throughout 2006 following up on the results of the 2005 feasibility study. Members helped secure both the grant from Alberta Environment and the Foundation's first Emerald Leader gift; ConocoPhillips, as a result of its understanding and commitment to the vision and mission of the Foundation, has pledged to step forward in 2007 as an Emerald Leader, supporting environmental excellence.

The Governance Committee was also busy during 2006 and initiated changes to the Articles of Association and Membership. The Board was historically comprised of sustaining patron representatives. While financial support is always encouraged and essential to the sustainability of the Foundation, Directors will now be drawn from a diversity of backgrounds to support and guide the work of the Foundation.

The Emerald Foundation depends on the support of many donors and volunteers. Stepping down as chair of the Board, I reflect back and realize just how complete that dependence is; I cannot thank each and every one of you enough for your ongoing guidance, support and commitment to the Foundation and to environmental excellence.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Hunt

Looking Ahead

As part of the 2006 Communications Initiative, the Foundation created a Communications Plan and conducted a Communications Survey. Results were extremely positive, with over 75 percent of respondents ranking the Foundation as satisfactory or better. Participants also shared some remarkable insights and suggestions for improvement.

Over the coming year, the Communications Committee and the Foundation Board will take advantage of this feedback to continue improving the Emerald Awards, Foundation communications, new programs and other initiatives.

Communications

With the launch of the new website at www.emerald.foundation.ca, AEF increased accessibility to its richest resource – a database of over 1,600 environmental success stories. Work will continue to increase the search-ability of the database and update past finalist and recipient information.

Emerald Awards

In November 2006 the Foundation launched an electronic submission format for the 2007 Emerald Awards. Sixty-eight of the 106 nominations were received using this tool and a follow-up survey revealed a number of ways to improve this process, many of which will be implemented for the 2008 nominations process.

New Program Development

As one of a number of new initiatives outlined in the strategic plan, the Foundation will begin work on developing a youth focused program. Research into creating a meaningful youth program and how best to collaborate with other worthy organizations already working with youth will take place in 2007, along with efforts to secure funding to implement the program in 2008.

Resource Development

The Resource Development Committee will continue to work towards continued sustainability and growth through Foundation relationships in the community. The legacy leadership demonstrated by Alberta Environment lays a first step upon which to build; others will continue to be invited to add their support for endowment, operations, new program development and the Emerald Awards. 






Alberta Environment provides \$1 million to build endowment

This investment allows the Alberta Emerald Foundation to expand programs that encourage environmental excellence.

Through a \$1 million grant from Alberta Environment, the Alberta Emerald Foundation substantially increased its endowment funds at Community Foundations in both Edmonton and Calgary. In addition, \$100,000 of the total grant was allocated to support new program development and Foundation operations during 2007: a year destined for significant growth.

Everyone has a role to play when it comes to protecting the environment. Seeing environmental leaders in action can inspire others to act. Since 1991, the Alberta Emerald Foundation's core mandate has been the recognition of outstanding environmental achievement through its premier event, the Emerald Awards. This grant is the first step in expanding the Foundation's mandate and establishing the Centre for Environmental Excellence: an information centre.

The Alberta Emerald Foundation is seeking a total of \$5 million in endowment funding. Alberta Environment's leadership sets the stage to encourage others to contribute to this essential sustainability fund.

"The investment income received from this growing endowment will enable the Foundation to plan for the future," says Ron Kruhlak, Chair of the AEF Resource Development Committee. "We can now initiate the development of youth-based and outreach programming and continue enhancements to the website database of Emerald Award nominations." Through these initiatives and others, the Centre will play a key role in sharing environmental success stories and involving more Albertans in stewardship activities. 



2006 Emerald Award Recipients

Business: Large

EnCana Corporation

Eliminating flaring and hydrogen sulphide H₂S emissions

Business: Small

Calibre Environmental Ltd.

Recycling industrial and commercial paint

Climate Change

Sterling Homes

Using a combination of proven and new technologies
to achieve environmental savings

Community Group

Little Red Deer River Watershed Initiative

Improving water quality with a focus on manure management

Corporate or Institutional Leadership

E. B. (Buck) Cunningham

A visionary pioneer in environmental and conservation
enforcement education

Education: School or Classroom

Riverdale Elementary School

Walk the Prairie Grass Labyrinth to enter the Naturescape -
a meditative journey to an urban nature experience

Education: Other Organization

Strathcona Wilderness Centre

Outdoor recreation as an approach to environmental education

Government Institution

Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture Program

Supporting environmentally sustainable growth

Individual Commitment

Edgar T. and Jeanne Jones

A lifetime developing awareness and educating North Americans
about conservation

Not-for-Profit Association

Alberta Reduced Tillage LINKAGES

Promoting economically and environmentally sustainable
farming practices

Research & Innovation

Dennis McKerracher

Increasing drinking water efficiency in commercial pork
production facilities

Youth

Lakeland College's Enviro Club

Sunfuel: a viable, cost-saving, environmentally friendly
agricultural solution



Students, teachers and community volunteers learn about sustainable landscapes at the Riverdale Elementary School "naturescape."



2006 Emerald Awards

With a total of 113 nominations to review, the judges for the 2006 Emerald Awards faced a daunting task. In the end, 36 were chosen as finalists and, on June 14, 2006, in front of over 700 guests, 12 were called to the Winspear stage to receive an Emerald Award.

This was the largest field of nominations in 10 years, and the quality of the projects improves each year. Recipients ranged from grass roots organizations to government institutions and large corporations; all were recognized for their efforts to maintain or improve our environment, not just now, but for generations to come. Through this recognition, the Foundation provides examples of environmental excellence for others to follow and encourages the continuation of calibre work by nominees.

The panel of judges was again outstanding. Each year, every attempt is made to balance background and experience with other relevant attributes to ensure an unbiased, impartial approach to the judging process. "As a member of the judging panel I was consistently amazed at the environmental commitment and creativity shown by the nominees," says Dr. Robert

Steadman, Professional Leader, Environment, National Energy Board. "It was often very difficult and humbling to choose just one submission in each category, when many were deserving of recognition."

Several students from Riverdale Elementary School in Edmonton, along with parents, teachers and community volunteers, attended the Awards ceremony and were thrilled to receive the Education: School or Classroom Award. "The School's 'naturescape' and prairie grass labyrinth help students learn about sustainable landscapes," says Lyndi Karbonik, principal. "Receiving the Emerald Award really provides a stamp of approval for the kids and the community." The project provides natural habitat, reduces green house gas emissions and encourages conservation and recycling; all while integrating curriculum based instruction with hands on activities.

Continues>>

Sterling Homes was a recipient for its work in combining proven and new technologies to achieve environmental savings. "We were honoured to be considered," says Keith Paget, Manager of Special Projects. "For a homebuilder to be chosen to receive the Climate Change Award, that says a lot – to our staff and contractors, to our customers and to the rest of Canada." The Drake Landing Solar Community, the first of its kind in North America, derives 90 per cent of the energy required for household heating through a unique system of solar collectors using bore-hole thermal energy storage technology.

Peter Gamache, Team Leader, Alberta Reduced Tillage Linkages says, "This Award for Not-for-Profit Associations recognizes not just our efforts, but also the many great initiatives farmers undertake to care for the soil as well as our partners who had the vision to create the organization and keep it going." RTL helps farmers adopt seeding methods that decrease the environmental

impact of farming while reducing operating costs and increasing yields. Over the last 11 years, direct seeding has increased to nearly 66 per cent of annually cropped acres in Alberta.



2006 Emerald Awards Judges

Bette Beswick
Golder Associates Ltd.

Andy Boyd
Alberta Fish & Game Association

Doug Heaton
Pyecombe Consulting Services

Jeff Reynolds
Alberta Forest Products Association

Dr. Robert Steedman
National Energy Board


Gilbert Van Nes
Alberta Environmental Appeal Board

Honorary Patron

Honourable Norman L. Kwong, CM, AOE
Lieutenant Governor of Alberta

Sustaining Patrons

Alberta Environment
Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc.
Alberta Research Council
Albian Sands Energy Inc.
The City of Calgary
City of Edmonton
Climate Change Central
ConocoPhillips Canada
EPCOR
GE Canada
McLennan Ross LLP
Suncor Energy Inc.
Syncrude Canada Ltd.
TransCanada Corporation
Western Economic Diversification Canada

For more information on these and other 2006 nominations visit the AEF website at www.emeraldfoundation.ca 

The Alberta Emerald Foundation operates almost exclusively through the contributions of time and talent from a number of committed volunteers. We sincerely appreciate the time and dedication of all Foundation volunteers. Thank you!

Honorary Council

Gerald J. DeSorcy
DeSorcy Consulting Services Ltd.

James Martin
Centre for Environment-Economy Learning

Eric P. Newell

Dr. Michael O'Connor
O'Connor Associates Environmental Inc.

Board of Governors

Chair: **Paul Hunt**
Climate Change Central

Vice Chair: **Ron Kruhlak**
McLennan Ross LLP

Past Chair: **Dr. David Lewin**
EPCOR

Treasurer: **Michael Smith**
EPCOR

Dr. Bill Calder
Alberta Environment

Marilyn Carpenter
TransCanada

Dave Day
The City of Calgary

Shawn Gervais
Alberta Research Council

Dr. Roland Hosein
GE Canada

Darrell Martindale
Albian Sands Energy Inc.

Al Maurer
City of Edmonton

Barbara Shumsky
Syncrude Canada Ltd.

Lloyd Visser
ConocoPhillips Canada Limited

Communications Committee

Chair: **Barbara Shumsky**
Syncrude Canada Ltd.

Marilyn Carpenter
TransCanada

Jim Dau
Prismatic Group Inc.

Lee Funke
Torque Communications

Paul Hunt
Climate Change Central

Paul Manuel
Syncrude Canada Ltd.

Finance Committee

Chair: **Michael Smith**
EPCOR

Dr. Bill Calder
Alberta Environment

Paul Hunt
Climate Change Central Inc.

Ron Kruhlak
McLennan Ross LLP

Dr. David Lewin
EPCOR

Governance Committee

Chair: **Dr. Bill Calder**
Alberta Environment

Paul Hunt
Climate Change Central Inc.

Ron Kruhlak
McLennan Ross LLP

Dr. David Lewin
EPCOR

James Mallet
McLennan Ross LLP

Resource Development Committee

Chair: **Ron Kruhlak**
McLennan Ross LLP

Paul Hunt
Climate Change Central Inc.

Dr. David Lewin
EPCOR

Josh Bilyk
University of Alberta

Bob Mitchell
Inspired Value Inc.

2006 Emerald Awards Committees

Nominations & Selections Committees

Co-Chair: **Esther Quiambao**
UMA Group

Co-Chair: **Pete Marshall**
Adelantar Consulting

Calgary:
John Addy
Addy Environmental Services Inc.

Brenda Austin
Alberta Energy and Utilities Board

Ilona Berbekar
Equus Environmental Inc.

Jim Campbell
Queen's University

Susan Dowse
Calpine Canada

David Elphinstone
The City of Calgary, Parks

Darrell Haight
Trace Associates Inc.

Jill Kirker
Alberta Ecotrust Foundation

Bob Moll
New Energy Corporation Inc.

Tracey Moll
The City of Calgary

Daron Naffin
Bennett Jones LLP

Rashaad Sader
University of Calgary

Stacey Schaub-Szabo

Kelly Young
North Shore Environmental Consultants Inc.

Edmonton:
James Atkinson
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development

Antonella Bell
Devonian Botanic Garden

Josh Bilyk
University of Alberta

Mark Brostrom
City of Edmonton

Roger Bryan
Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development

Cheryl Croucher
Porcupine Stone Productions

Valerie Golka
Alberta Research Council

Lisa Grotkowski
Alberta Environment

Cory Habulin
Alberta Environment

Kent Kristensen
Golder Associates Ltd.

Jacqueline Ladouceur
Inside Education

Brad Ledig
Alberta Environment

Karina Low
Mountain Equipment Co-op

Shelley Lundvall
EPCOR

Joel Nodelman
Nodelcorp Consulting Inc.

Garry Ogletree
Bodycote Testing Group

John Shires
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development

Steven Tannas
University of Alberta

Jaclyn Valderrama
Focus

Erin Young

Event Committee

Chair: **Sian Weaver**
TransCanada

Morag Erskine

Sandra Gomez
The Pembina Institute

Lesley Gordon
Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences Alberta (IFASA)

Pam Koss
Climate Change Central Inc.

Ed Little
EL Audio Services

Rhonda Sarnoski
Alberta Research Council

Tracy Scanks
McLennan Ross LLP

Financials

Alberta Emerald Foundation

(formerly the Alberta Foundation for Environmental Excellence)

Balance Sheet

December 31, 2006, with comparative figures for 2005

	2006	2005
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 129,428	\$ 222,578
Short-term investments	-	35,560
Contributions and other amounts receivable	26,001	6,846
Prepaid expenses	1,160	2,808
	156,589	267,792
Endowment fund investments (Note 3)	20,380	10,380
	\$ 176,969	\$ 278,172
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 25,698	\$ 10,765
Deferred government grant (Note 4)	62,103	179,435
	87,801	190,200
Net assets:		
Internally restricted endowment fund (Note 3)	20,000	10,000
Unrestricted	69,168	77,972
	89,168	87,972
	\$ 176,969	\$ 278,172

Alberta Emerald Foundation

(formerly the Alberta Foundation for Environmental Excellence)

Statement of Operations

Year ended December 31, 2006, with comparative figures for 2005

	2006	2005
Revenue:		
Contributions and donations	\$ 191,535	\$ 173,000
Government of Alberta grant (Note 4)	117,332	39,647
Ticket sales	4,410	4,760
Interest income	475	1,045
	313,752	218,452
Expenditures:		
Production and design	89,937	62,343
Advertising	85,400	13,565
Consulting	46,556	39,647
Project management	38,852	49,275
Food and beverage	15,911	3,937
Professional fees	8,948	6,208
Facility rental	8,847	22,398
Nominations and selections	7,825	6,241
Disbursements	7,381	3,714
Printing	2,354	5,696
Donations	545	3,000
	312,556	216,024
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 1,196	\$ 2,428

Complete audited financial statements are available on request.

Making Environmental Excellence an Everyday Occurrence



Alberta Emerald Foundation

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