





#### Mission

Recognizing, celebrating and inspiring environmental excellence.

#### We Value

Recognition of environmental excellence.

Communication and collaboration with others.

Promotion of environmental attitudinal change.

Integrity and credibility of the Foundation.

## Social Media

Share your #EmeraldAwards experience with us. Join the conversation on Facebook (facebook.com/AlbertaEmerald) or Twitter (@albertaemerald).







## **PROGRAM**

#### 24th Annual **Emerald Awards**

Thursday, June 4, 2015 Citadel Theatre Edmonton, Alberta

Community Group or Not-for-Profit Association

Large Business

Small Business

Education

Public Education & Outreach

Government Institution

Ron Kruhlak Award

Emerald Challenge Award: Water

Individual Commitment

Reception will follow the ceremony







## MESSAGE FROM BILL WERRY

## Deputy Minister of Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development



Congratulations to all nominees of the 2015 Emerald Awards. You are truly an inspiration to us all, and our department is honoured to be a supporting partner of the Alberta Emerald Foundation.

Alberta is a province blessed beyond measure with the gifts of abundant natural resources, rich soil, bountiful forests and prairies, and beautiful lakes, rivers, mountains, and foothills. At the same time, these assets have fuelled tremendous growth across all sectors and regions. Today, the Alberta landscape is busier than ever

Clean air, fresh water, and thriving biodiversity are part of our identity and our heritage as Albertans. That is one reason why we are committed to an environment we can enjoy and a standard we can be proud of.

We are also committed to raising the bar in managing our environment and reducing our impacts on it – but this challenge requires collaboration. It also takes the entrepreneurial spirit, hard work, innovation, and commitment to the environment that are demonstrated so impressively by the Emerald Award nominees. Your contributions will help us raise that bar and set the standards for others to follow

The Alberta Emerald Awards are unique in Canada in recognizing and celebrating outstanding examples of environmental excellence by individuals, schools, not-for-profit associations, community groups, businesses, and government institutions. We salute your leadership and environmental stewardship, and your invaluable contributions to Alberta.

Bill Werry Deputy Minister



## **GREETINGS FROM** MAYOR DON IVESON

## Mayor of Edmonton



On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, Alberta's Capital City, I welcome everyone to the 24th annual Emerald Awards.

As Alberta's population continues to grow, it has never been more important for us to strive for environmental sustainability in our businesses, communities and governments. We are all stewards of this beautiful province, and the Emerald Awards celebrate the efforts of corporations, individuals, non-profits, community groups and governments to protect and preserve our environment.

I thank the Alberta Emerald Foundation and its volunteers and sponsors for making these awards possible each year. Their efforts encourage Albertans to lead the way in sustainable environmental practices.

Congratulations to all the nominees and award recipients. Enjoy your evening!

Yours truly,

Don Iveson

Mayor



# Edmonton is a great city to make a living and raise a family, all while enjoying nature.

Edmonton has a vast network of natural areas, including forest, grasslands, wetlands, lakes and river valley areas. It's a place abundant with 250 species of wildlife, including 178 bird species, 47 animals, 27 fish, two reptiles, five amphibians and countless other flora and fauna, and over 877,900 people.

#### Learn more at:

www.edmonton.ca/biodiversity



## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

#### Alan Ross



On behalf of the Alberta Emerald Foundation Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to welcome you, our finalists, supporters and friends, to the 24th Annual Emerald Awards. This event is the highlight of our year as we gather with people from all sectors to recognize and celebrate environmental excellence in our province.

We find ourselves on the cusp of a landmark year for the Emerald Awards: our 25th anniversary. This time calls us to reflect on the legacy of Alberta's environmental stewardship and the outstanding number of examples of excellence that we have had the honour to showcase and celebrate throughout the history of this uniquely-Albertan award.

Today, we will add to the list of inspiring environmental role models by honouring those who have committed themselves to the protection and preservation of our natural world. By elevating the hard work and dedication of our finalists and recipients, we hope to encourage others to assess their own personal global footprint, leading to a cleaner and healthier environment.

This year, we received many nominations, all of which shared exceptional examples of innovation and creativity in providing solutions for environmental issues and sustainability. We thank our panel of third-party judges who rose to the challenging task of selecting a minimum of three finalists and one recipient per category.

We would also like to thank our volunteers, sponsors and donors who give tirelessly to Emerald Awards and the Alberta Emerald Foundation. Without your participation and commitment to our cause, this important event would not be possible.

Please join me in recognizing and celebrating this year's finalists and Emerald Awards recipients who inspire us all.

Warm regards,

Alan Ross

Chair, Alberta Emerald Foundation

## 24th Annual

## EMERALD AWARDS

Albertans are passionate about balancing the development of rich resources with environmental stewardship. Celebrating its 24th year, the Alberta Emerald Foundation (AEF) is proud to recognize and showcase the extraordinary achievements made by individuals and organizations who are dedicated to protecting, preserving, enhancing and sustaining the environment.

The founding partners of the AEF were McLennan Ross LLP, Deloitte & Touche Chartered Accountants and Alberta Environment. Over the past two decades, the AEF has come to be represented by a diverse group of individuals and organizations working to bring together government, private industry, non-government organizations and individuals.

Since 1992, the AEF has received over 2,250 nominations, leading to the recognition of over 525 finalists and 256 Emerald Award recipients. The Emerald Awards pay testimony to Alberta's leadership in harmonizing innovative and sustainable solutions for the preservation of our natural world. By elevating the ingenuity, dedication and hard work of the Emerald Award recipients and finalists, the AEF hopes to inspire others to assess their everyday environmental habits and practices, leading to a healthier and cleaner environment.

This year, an independent panel of judges reviewed all submitted nominations to select a maximum of three finalists per category as well as the recipients. Nominations were judged based on the following criteria:

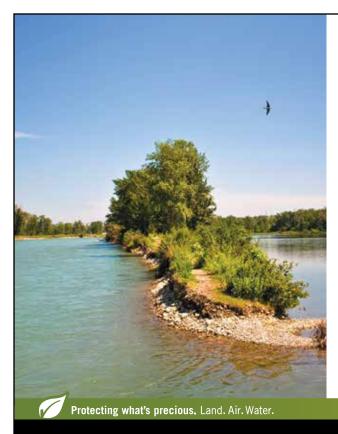
#### • Environmental Benefit and Outcomes:

The demonstrated tangible, positive results that benefit the quality of air, water and land, and protect or enhance biodiversity of flora and fauna.

- Commitment: The nominee's dedication and effort involved to complete their project.
- Sharing: The ability of the nominee to communicate their work with the public, inspire others to follow suit and to change attitudes across sectors or industries. Also, the extent of collaboration with other organizations and individuals.
- Innovation: Creativity and leadership shown in reaching or exceeding environmental goals.

The AEF would like to thank all those who shared their inspiring example of environmental excellence through a nomination, and congratulate the finalists and recipients of the 24th Annual Emerald Awards.





The City of Calgary is taking action to ensure clean land, air and water for all. This includes:

#### Land

Diverting waste from landfills. For example, The City is recycling waste materials from transportation construction projects, diverting 99 per cent of this waste in 2014.

#### Air

Investing in energy-saving technology. For example, The City is converting streetlight fixtures to LED lights, reducing energy use of those fixtures by 52 per cent in 2014.

#### Water

Conserving and protecting water resources. For example, The City is using proactive leak detection to flag and replace leaky water mains, saving up to 16 million litres of water per day in 2014.

calgary.ca | contact 311



Onward/ Protecting public health and the environment.



## AWARD SHOW PRODUCTION TEAM



**ERIN NEWELL-LUPIEN** (Volunteer) Producer

For almost 20 years, Erin's career has creatively interlaced the corporate and cultural sector. Since 2008, Erin has been a part of the ATCO Gas/ATCO Electric corporate communications

department, specifically with the community relations team. While at ATCO, Erin has developed positive relations with internal and external stakeholders, managed the community relations strategies for over 100 ATCO communities, and co-developed the multi-award winning safety education program, ATCO Energy Theatre.

Mrs. Newell-Lupien also has extensive experience and education in public relations and cultural management. Erin obtained her BFA Multidisciplinary degree from the University of Lethbridge, as well as an Arts and Cultural Management certificate and Public Relations diploma from MacEwan University.

Erin is also an active mother and volunteer in her community. She and her husband, Mike, have four children (Emily, Madeleine, Samuel and Alexander) who keep them extremely busy with their sports and cultural activities

JANA O'CONNOR

Co-Host / Script Writer

MICHAEL HAMM Video Producer

CHRIS BULLOUGH

Co-Host / Script Writer

CIMMERON MEYER

Set Designer

**ED LITTLE** 

Audio & Video Technician

NIESA SILZER

Stage Manager

## Toy Guns Dance Theatre



From inception Toy Guns has been challenging the relationship between art and it's audience. Toy Guns has performed across Western Canada to audience and

critical acclaim. Featured on The Winnipeg Uniter's top ten dance performances in Canada 2014 and Voted Edmonton's Best Dance Company 2014 in Vue Magazine Toy Guns has been called "Wildly energetic, wildly comedic, and wildly erotic" (Calgary Sun). Through the visionary artistic direction of Jake W Hastey, the company has pushed the boundaries of dance through interactive and immersive performances as well as award winning film and photographic work.

## Sturgeon County Choir



Sturgeon Composite High School, located in Namao, Alberta, serves the rural population of Sturgeon County as well as students from Edmonton and St. Albert.

Under the direction of Darwin Krips, the choir is open to any student wanting to learn to sing, no experience necessary. Comprised of 46 singers in grades 10 to 12, the choir has won many local awards and competed in provincials winning first place in 2011. The choir has performed in Halifax, Seattle, Havana, Honolulu, New Orleans, Memphis and Nashville.

## Mary Pinkoski



Currently the Poet Laureate for the City of Edmonton, Mary Pinkoski is an award-winning spoken word poet. A storyteller at heart, her writing has been called dynamic and visceral. Mary has presented her unique style of spoken word internationally.

In 2013, Mary placed third at the Canadian Individual Poetry Slam and in 2011 at the Canadian Festival of Spoken Word Mary was voted Most Valuable Poet of the festival and won the national championship as member and captain of the Edmonton Poetry Slam Team. Mary was the winner of the 2008 National CBC Poetry Faceoff.

When not performing, Mary runs spoken word workshops for youth and adults.

www.marypinkoski.com

## **EMERALD JUDGES**

Each year, the Alberta Emerald Foundation recruits an independent panel of judges for their breadth of understanding and knowledge of environmental issues and challenges. Committed to recognizing excellence in environmental preservation, protection, enhancement and sustainability, the Alberta Emerald Foundation appreciates the expertise and time our judges bring to the process.



**SARAH AHO** Sr. Hydrologist, Water Resources Suncor Energy

Sarah has a BSc (Spec.) in Geography from Brandon University as well as a Certificate in Watershed Management

from the University of British Columbia. Sarah started her career with the Federal Government in Whitehorse in 1999 as an intern in the Water Resources Division of Indian and Northern Affairs and then moved on to Yellowknife. In 2006, she moved down to Fort McMurray to work in the Oilsands. Currently Sarah is a Sr. Hydrologist with Suncor Energy Inc. She has served in several leadership roles with the Regional Aquatics Monitoring Program, most recently as the Steering Committee Chair. She is an active adventure traveler, most recently spending eight weeks in Africa of which one of the highlights was reaching the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro.



RAQUEL (ROCKY) FEROE Community Member

When not talking about herself in the third person. Raquel works as a medical doctor. She feels the most expedient route to achieving human health is to respect healthy

environments. To learn about and achieve, healthy ecosystems she volunteers on the board of the Solar Energy Society of Alberta, The Alberta Capital Airshed and The Edmonton and Area Land Trust. She enjoys learning from these organizations and from the many individuals and groups in Alberta that advance our ability to live healthfully. Being an Emerald Judge and viewing the depth and breath of Alberta's best initiatives puts her in the environmental catbirds seat. She would like to say a Thank You to the wonderful people that shared their excellent submissions.



#### **DAVE DAY**

Dave is a practicing geographer with extensive public and private-sector experience. His career spans 30 years in the parks and conservation field; and a decade pursuing

sustainable solutions for business and government as a management consultant, and in his past position as Director of the City of Calgary's Environmental & Safety Management business unit.

When not canoeing, camping and discovering our planet, Dave and his wife Sue live in NW Calgary, an area rich in mountain views, pedestrian / bicycle trails and views of the spectacular Canadian Rocky Mountains. They have two grown children and two grandchildren that draw them frequently to Vancouver and southern Saskatchewan.



JENNIFER ISBISTER Community Involvement Advisor Encana

Jennifer Isbister is an Advisor with Encana's Policy. Environment and Sustainability team, overseeing

community investment for Environmental and Educational initiatives. A graduate of Queen's University (B.Sc.) and the University of Waterloo (Master's), Jennifer has worked in the upstream oil and gas sector for the past 11 years. In her spare time, Jennifer is passionate about promoting the sport of gymnastics and has worked for Canadian television at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and 2012 London Olympics.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO SUNCOR FOR HOSTING THE 2015 JUDGING.





DR. NAOMI KROGMAN Professor and Academic Director of the Office of Sustainability University of Alberta

Naomi Krogman is the Academic Director of the Office of Sustainability,

2012-2015. She is also a Professor of Environmental Sociology in the Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology at the University of Alberta. Naomi has done research on sustainable consumption, environmental policy implementation, integrated and collaborative resource management, gender, environmental change & development and social impacts of resource development. She teaches courses on social theory about environmental change and sociology of environment and development. She currently holds a position as Provost's Fellow, to examine the quality of graduate student and post-doctoral supervision at the University of Alberta. For the past four years, Naomi has also served as an elected member of the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance. She believes professors should be engaged with various communities of interest and practice to learn from others and share what they know in a face-to-face manner.



**NATHAN MAYCHER** Manager, Sustainable Development ConocoPhillips Canada

Nathan Maycher is a Professional Engineer and currently holds

the position of Manager within the Environment and Sustainable Development Department at ConocoPhillips Canada, one of Canada's largest oil and natural gas exploration and production companies. Nathan's primary focus area is the leadership of the Sustainable Development Team, which holds accountability for strategic projects, public policy advocacy, reporting and employee engagement.



KEITH MCCLAIN, PH.D., R.P.F. Program Lead, Mountain Pine Beetle Ecology & Social Economics **Programs** Foothills Research Institute

Keith is a Registered Professional Forester and has worked in the realm of forest science for nearly 40 years. He has worked in Ontario (with the Ontario Ministry of Natural resources, Thunder Bay), BC (with the Canadian Forestry Service, in Prince George) and more recently in Alberta with the Alberta Sustainable Resource Development until his retirement in 2012. Keith is now an independent forest science consultant supporting the use of science information to inform resources decisions and support policy development. Keith has Bachelor and Masters degrees from the University of Toronto and a Ph.D. from Oregon State University.



**RYAN SMITH** Senior Environmental Planner Shell Canada Limited

Ryan began his career in environmental consulting in 2006 working on a wide variety

of environmental planning and regulatory approval projects spanning numerous sectors including resource extraction, municipal infrastructure, and transportation infrastructure. In 2012, Ryan joined Shell Canada Limited's Environment & Regulatory Group helping to steer development through the numerous environmental and regulatory hurdles and improve project environmental performance. On behalf of Shell, Ryan participates in the Foothills Stream Crossing Partnership (FSCP) which promotes the best management practices and proactive measures to construct and maintain watercourse crossings. collaborates with the Parkland Airshed



JAY WHITE Principal Aquality Environmental Consulting

Jay is a Professional Biologist with a M.Sc. degree in Ecology from the

University of Alberta and a B.Sc. from the University of Western Ontario. He was a research associate at the University of Alberta's Sustainable Forest Management Network until he left to form Aquality Environmental Consulting Ltd. in 1999. Jay is the senior aquatic scientist and owner of Aquality Environmental Consulting Ltd. in Edmonton. His areas of expertise include lake and wetland management and he works in water regulations, water and wetland policy, public and First Nations consultation and consensus decision making. Water governance, environmental education and sustainability are his current topics of interest. Jay has been active with the Alberta Stewardship Network, Alberta Lake Management Society and Bow River Basin Council. Aquality's past projects have been recognized by the Alberta Emerald Foundation and the Canadian Geographic Society. Currently Jay sits on the Executive of the Alberta Water Council and participates on several project teams. In his spare time he enjoys fly fishing throughout Canada and playing in the water with his kids to help ward off "nature deficit disorder".

#### 2015 Finalist

## **COMMUNITY GROUP** & NOT-FOR-PROFIT ASSOCIATION

Recognizing particular environmental initiatives lead by volunteers, community groups, not-for-profit or professional associations that demonstrate commitment to the environment and has produced measurable and sustained positive change.



#### **ASENIWUCHE WINEWAK NATION (AWN)** OF CANADA

for Caribou Patrol Program (CPP)

For decades, AWN, the "Rocky Mountain People," have witnessed the decline of woodland caribou. Following the advice of the Elders who said, "We must speak for those that have no voice," AWN created CPP, providing a conduit to share traditional ecological knowledge and to demonstrate their core value of Protection and Preservation of the Environment in a hands-on. meaningful way. The CPP has effectively reduced vehicle collisions with woodland caribou, involved the public through education and outreach, and improved knowledge of local caribou herds and other species through data collection and research. Through the incorporation of traditional and scientific knowledge, the CPP has demonstrated innovation in action, reducing environmental impact and creating balance in the natural world.

#### **CAMROSE WILDLIFE AND STEWARDSHIP SOCIETY (CWSS)**

for Camrose Wildlife and Greenspace Stewardship Project (CWGSP)

This volunteer-based society is making the City of Camrose's vision of "a greenspace network that enhances community values and quality of life for [city] residents" a reality. Since 2002, the CWSS increased community knowledge and engagement through interpretive events, high-profile stewardship activities, research projects, and an annual wildlife festival. In 2014, the city adopted a Municipal Greenspace Plan to enhance the

management of greenspace and wildlife species, especially their flagship species, the Purple Martin, whose population has grown 20-fold since 2002. The CWSS demonstrates how a grassroots, community-based organization can assist local governments in achieving their vision of creating unique, desirable, and sustainable communities.

#### FISH AND WILDLIFE CROWSNEST PASS BEARSMART

This program, led by local certified volunteers, assists in managing two species of bears within the Crowsnest Pass area. Over its many years of operation, Bearsmart has reduced the amount of bear mortalities and relocations by engaging their community through various bear behaviour and wildlife/human co-existence management projects. Programs include industry and recreational awareness courses, local public service announcements, the Going Wild Wildlife Expo, annual apple picking, radio-transmitter monitoring systems, residential assessments and the creation of local Garbage and Wildlife Attractant bylaws, increasing safety for both the public and wildlife of the area.



#### 2015 Finalists

## LARGE BUSINESS

Recognizing businesses (with 101 employees or more) that demonstrate a significant ongoing commitment to the environment, social responsibility and exceed normal practices or statutory duties.

Presented by:



#### MAMMOET CANADA WESTERN LTD

When it comes to environmental stewardship, Mammoet leads by example through a balanced People, Planet, and Profit approach. To reduce the impact of their fleet of vehicles and large equipment Mammoet continually invests in equipment with engines right sized for the task and incorporating the latest standards and technologies. Auxiliary Power Pack Units have been installed on all heavy equipment to significantly reduce idling time. GPS devices monitor vehicle idling time and customized reports provide drivers with their personal performance and engage them to reduce unnecessary idling by 20%. The new facility in Fort McKay further exemplifies Mammoet's environmental commitment by consuming 50% less energy and 80% less water.

#### SYNCRUDE CANADA LTD

for Sandhill Fen Watershed Research Initiative

Reclamation research is integral to Syncrude fulfilling its commitment to return land disturbed by mining to a productive, biologically selfsustaining ecosystem. In 2008, Syncrude launched the Sandhill Fen Watershed Research Project to learn how to design and incorporate peatforming wetlands into operational scale reclamation. The Sandhill Fen is the largest reclaimed wetland in the oil sands and the first ever landform constructed on a foundation of oil sands tailings. The project brought together experts from eight universities to achieve results that are holistic and applicable in the entire context of landscape development and function. After three growing seasons, the Sandhill Fen Watershed is thriving, attracting wildlife and providing valuable information for the future.

#### SUNCOR ENERGY INC

for Suncor Nikanotee Fen

In 2013, Suncor achieved the extraordinary: the construction of the most common wetland type in the northern boreal forest region - the fen. The Nikanotee Fen program advances reclamation and sustainability practices in the oil sands and the world by enhancing the ability to reclaim the diversity of wetland landscapes, thereby increasing the similarity of the reclaimed landscape to pre-disturbance conditions. Knowledge gained throughout the design, construction and monitoring phases of the program are being shared throughout the industry, the region and the world through conferences, peer-reviewed publications and updates to guidance documents, further advancing state-of-knowledge and encouraging future work and innovation in fen and wetland reclamation.



#### 2015 Finalists

## **SMALL BUSINESS**

Recognizing businesses (with up to 100 employees) that demonstrate a significant ongoing commitment to the environment, social responsibility and exceed normal practices or statutory duties.



#### CIRCLE T CONSULTING

Prior to the mid-1990s, reclamation guidelines for agricultural zones were used to reclaim upland forested well-sites, resulting in open meadow instead of closed forest. Until recently, well-sites in peat-lands were reclaimed to upland forests, leaving islands of forest within wetlands. In response, Circle T Consulting initiated large-scale upland and wetland experiments in 2003 and 2007, resulting in science-based recommendations for industry and government, and improved planning, construction and reclamation best-practices in both upland and wetland environments. Circle T Consulting also developed the collaborative workgroup iFROG (industrial Footprint Reduction Options Group) to reduce the size, intensity and duration of industrial disturbance in Northern Alberta

#### DIG | DO IT GREEN

Do It Green (DIG) is a social enterprise officially launched in August 2013, in part to help manage all the waste at the Alberta Flood Aid benefit concert. Specializing in creating zero-waste events, DIG has helped its clients including the Calgary Stampede, Comic Expo and others divert more than 10 metric tons of waste away from the landfill and reached more than two million people through public education programs. DIG's mission is to reach 16 million people through waste, water and energy awareness programs and divert 100 metric tons of waste away from the landfill by 2020.

#### VERGE PERMACULTURE

Rob and Michelle Avis envisioned Verge Permaculture as a way to provide real-world solutions to create more sustainable homes, resilient communities and a healthy eco-system: however, what they have accomplished goes far beyond teaching and gardening. Through their accredited Permaculture Design Courses, Verge Permaculture has produced a generation of graduates who apply this new integrated design philosophy with the pragmatic entrepreneurial spirit to the communities they serve. Rob and Michelle's home garden reuses approximately 20,000 litres of rainwater annually, and has become a demonstration site for applied sustainability techniques, serving as the catalyst for a number of community sustainability activities.





## Proud to support the Emerald Awards

ConocoPhillips Canada is a proud supporter of the Emerald Awards. This important program showcases the incredible environmental efforts of many industries and businesses across Alberta.

Our goal is to be a leader in sustainable development in Canada and we've made clear, concrete commitments to improve our environmental performance.

To find out more, visit www.cpcsustainability.com.

## 2015 Finalists

## **EDUCATION: SCHOOL** OR CLASSROOM

Recognizing classrooms, schools or school boards within the formal education system as well as formal educational curricula and programs that have gone beyond the normal practices and shown leadership and creativity in educating students about environmental matters.



#### CAPTAIN NICHOLA GODDARD SCHOOL

for Green Commuting Hubs

Many schools in Alberta are challenged with vehicle congestion and idling around school drop-off and pick-up points. A student-leadership group at Captain Nichola Goddard School found a solution to this environmental and safety risk. The Green Commuting Hubs program invites students to meet in various established hubs and, accompanied by a Grade 9 hub leader, walk to school together. The initiative improves air quality and reduces the school's eco-footprint, while benefiting student health, fitness and mental alertness. From its inaugural year in 2012 to present, the project has enrolled almost 300 students and has evolved to include individual green-commuter, Hub commuting and Drop-Zone components. The Green Commuting Hubs project aims to engage students and the broader community in more eco-friendly commuting habits.

#### **CLANDONALD SCHOOL**

for Warriors of the Rainbow

According to Cree legend, "Leaders will be those whose actions speak the loudest; the ones that have demonstrated wisdom and courage and have proven that they work for the benefit of all." Adopting this philosophy, Clandonald School created Warriors of the Rainbow, a clanof environmental stewards dedicated to the preservation and beautification of the natural world. For the past 12 years, the Warriors of the

Rainbow have established a recycling program and engaged in community cleanups. Recently, the group has increased their program to include gardening, composting, constructing bluebird houses and reusable tote bags, and have brought plants into each classroom to improve air quality.

#### WESTMOUNT CHARTER SCHOOL

for The People for Energy & Environmental Literacy (PEEL) Program

Forty-two Grade 4 students from Westmount Charter School, their two teachers and one highly-committed parent volunteer created PEEL, a literacy program that empowers students to understand the environmental, social and economic challenges and opportunities around energy consumption, climate change and sustainability. With the support of over 25 energy-sector organizations, PEEL has inspired students and parents to evaluate their energy usage through environmental initiatives such as an EcoFair, weekly nature field trips, letter writing campaigns, home and school audits, a "turn me off" campaign, and various art and math activities. Students are learning the power of their voices, the impacts of their choices and the need for continued and immediate change concerning the environment.



LoveToRecycle.ca matches organizations that want to recycle their beverage containers with the many compatible recycling resources and services available in Alberta. By starting new programs and growing existing ones, we're making it easy for Albertans to help our environment.

#### 2015 Finalists

## **PUBLIC EDUCATION** & OUTREACH

Recognizing individuals, organizations and on-the-ground local initiatives within the non-formal education system that demonstrate leadership and creativity in educating the broader public about environmental matters.

Presented by:



#### CENTRE FOR AFFORDABLE WATER AND SANITATION TECHNOLOGY

for Youth Wavemakers

This unique program equips educators with resources, curriculum support and professional development workshops on local and global water issues, teaching youth about efficient water use, raising awareness, and inspiring independent action. In 2014, students involved in Youth Wavemakers conserved over 500,000 litres of water and reached over 14,000 Albertans with action projects on water and sanitation. Youth Wavemakers also provides an annual Youth Summit, classroom workshops, and action grants for water-conservation projects. The highlight of the Youth Wavemakers year is World Water Day, where students showcase their action projects to the public.

#### **CONOCOPHILLIPS CANADA**

for School Environmental Quest/Destination Conservation Program

Since 2007, ConocoPhillips Canada School Environmental Quest has partnered with the Elements Society to fund the Destination Conservation Program, assisting schools in fostering an eco-friendly culture by reducing their global footprint and establishing studentled environmental projects and programs. Supporting 145 schools annually in Alberta, northeastern British Columbia and the Northwest Territories, the program grants schools \$1,000 to implement environmental

and energy-saving programs, and provides resources and workshops to educators on environmental issues. Knowledge sharing is encouraged through the annual School Environmental Quest booklet, which showcases the programs and projects implemented that year.

#### **GREEN ENERGY FUTURES (GEF)**

This Alberta-based online multi-media storytelling project documents the clean energy revolution by sharing inspiring, fact-based stories of people engaged with clean energy solutions in their homes, businesses and communities. In three years, GEF has created the single-best collection of video, audio and written content on clean energy in Canada. This popular suite of online content has helped educators, individuals, entrepreneurs, civic leaders and media understand, appreciate and get involved with clean energy solutions. Millions from around the world have been reached with these empowering stories. Visit www.greenenergyfutures.ca to learn more!



## 2015 Finalists

## **GOVERNMENT** INSTITUTION

Recognizing all levels of government, Crown corporations, public institutions, etc., that demonstrate an ongoing commitment to the environment and exceed normal practice or statutory duties. This category includes universities, colleges and schools at the facilities or governance level.





#### ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

for The Alberta Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program

In 2013, the Alberta government launched a prototype focused on the "Crown of the Continent Ecosystem" in order to address the risks of specific aquatic invasive species (AIS) zebra and quagga mussels, as well as Eurasian watermilfoil. It became evident there was a need for expansion due to the ecologic and economic risks facing the entire province. In response, the Government of Alberta created the AIS Program in 2014, which focuses on the prevention and management of many harmful invasive plants, invertebrates and fish species. A collaborative cross-Ministry AIS Committee worked closely with national and international agencies, local stakeholders, and the public to create a cohesive and innovative program that capitalizes on the experience of others while making efficient use of available resources.

#### CITY OF EDMONTON

for Designing for Wildlife Passage in an Increasingly Fragmented World

Habitat loss and fragmentation is the single largest threat to biodiversity conservation in an urban area. As large contiguous habitats are quickly converted into smaller more isolated remnants the value of maintaining functioning ecological connections between patches increases significantly. With the help of a multidisciplinary team, The City of Edmonton incorporated ecological infrastructure with human networks, creating the Wildlife Passage Engineering Design Guidelines (WPEDG), an educational publication that provides clear and accessible information on wildlife passage design. This eight year project has resulted in the design and/or construction of 27 wildlife passage structures, and a 51% reduction in wildlife collisions.

#### LACOMBE COUNTY

for Lacombe County Environmental Management System - Leading from within

Sometimes the best way to lead is through example. To encourage their community's commitment to a healthy environment for current and future generations, Lacombe County created the internally-focused Environmental Management System (EMS). Implemented in 2014, and developed through extensive community and staff consultation, EMS establishes targets and deliverables to conserve, protect and enhance the natural environment while balancing the social and economic needs of the Lacombe community. On an annual basis, the success of the system is evaluated, and a new set of achievable actions is implemented.

From **SOLAR**...

to **SOARING**...

to STREETLIGHTS...







## A Sustainable Vision

ATCO employees live, work and play right here in Alberta. That's why we continue to innovate and develop new ways to protect the land, water and skies we all share. ATCO Electric and ATCO Gas congratulate the individuals, organizations and companies recognized at the 2015 Emerald Awards. Together, we're building a sustainable future.





LEFT: The ATCO Gas Award-winning Drake Landing solar community in Okotoks. CENTRE: ATCO Electric protects ferruginous hawks through its Avian Protection Program. RIGHT: ATCO Electric offers long-lasting, energy-saving LED streetlights to new residential installations/developments.

## THE RON KRUHLAK **AWARD**

From the dozens of Youth Environmental Engagement Grant recipients awarded this year, one youth-targeted organization has been selected to receive the Ron Kruhlak Award of \$1,000 cash, Junior Achievement of Northern Alberta & NWT. This special prize honours Mr. Kruhlak's extraordinary contributions to the Alberta Emerald Foundation over the past 24 years, while rewarding an inspiring youth-led or youth-targeted organization for their excellent environmental stewardship.

Presented by: MCLENNAN ROSS...

2015 Recipient JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF **NORTHERN ALBERTA & NWT** 

For the past 50 years, Junior Achievement of Northern Alberta & NWT has engaged and inspired students from grades 3 to 12 in classrooms across Edmonton. Northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories. This has been

possible thanks to the great partnerships with education and industry who recognize the importance of educating students about entrepreneurship, workforce readiness and financial literacy. Their approach allows volunteers to deliver their curriculum-based programs while sharing their own experiences and knowledge. The value is in the 'real world' perspective.

## The Youth Environmental Engagement **Grant Program**

The Alberta Emerald Foundation believes in inspiring the next generation of eco-heroes by supporting Alberta's youth in their environmental efforts. With funds from sponsors and individual donors, the Alberta Emerald Foundation provides micro-grants of up to \$400 to youthled and youth-targeted environmental projects across the province. The Alberta Emerald Foundation strives to allocate over 100 Youth Environmental Engagement Grants every year.

Youth Environmental Engagement Grants have been awarded to initiatives such as gardening and naturalization projects, environmental awareness programs, composting, recycling and waste management projects, scientific

experiments focused on environmental issues, energy consumption monitoring programs, and field trips to zoos, outdoor classrooms, museums and other environmental education centres. In 2014 alone, over 7,000 youth participated in activities supported by the program. For more information, or to apply for a grant, visit emeraldfoundation.ca/ourprograms/#youth-engagement.

Thank you to all of the individual donors who contribute to this program, as well as our 2015 Program Sponsors:





## We're Centered Around Sustainability

Newalta is guided by responsible environmental stewardship. We use sophisticated technologies and techniques to reduce the environmental footprint of our customers and continuously improve our own performance by implementing new ideas within our operations.

At the Newalta Wastewater Centre of Excellence in Brooks, Alberta we are looking for innovative ways to treat frac and produced water. We are testing new technology and repurposing existing technology to make water suitable for reuse and therefore reduce the amount of fresh water needed in production. We work with our customers to find efficient and economical ways to reduce industry impact on watersheds.

newalta.com

**NEWALTA** 

ConocoPhillips believes in doing business today with tomorrow in mind. As part of this, we are committed to implementing high environmental standards to ensure our actions today will not only provide the energy needed to drive economic growth and social well-being. but also secure a stable and healthy environment for future generations. That's why it's so important to us that we support the youth in our community, and why we are very pleased to sponsor the 24th Annual Emerald Awards Youth Award.

As annual supporters of the Emerald Awards, the management and staff of ConocoPhillips are always inspired by the project and actions of all the nominees. When we seek inspiration for making a true difference in our community, we look at the work taken on so passionately by the individuals and teams recognized here. We would like to commend each and every one of you, and extend our heartfelt congratulations on your incredible achievements!



#### 2015 Finalists

## EMERALD CHALLENGE AWARD: WATER

The 2015 Emerald Challenge Award recognizes excellence and leadership related to actives in water. The Emerald Challenge Award is open to individuals, groups, businesses and governments that demonstrate a significant ongoing commitment to the environment and exceeds normal practices or statutory duties.

Presented by: encana

#### **NATURE ALBERTA**

for Living by Water

In an ongoing effort to educate shoreline residents and communities on lake ecology and riparian health, the Living by Water program encourages responsible lake stewardship through promoting shoreline management. Advisors work one-onone with residents to improve the condition of their watershed by evaluating their personal impact on water quality, shoreline health, and fish and wildlife habitat. To date, the program has reduced the use of fertilizer, pesticides, phosphatecontaining products and harsh chemicals, and has led to an increase in riparian buffers on shoreline properties. Working with local stewardship groups, municipalities, and non-government organizations, Nature Alberta effectively instills positive and sustained behavioral change in residents and watershed groups, resulting in improved water quality across the province.

#### TROUT UNLIMITED CANADA

for Yellow Fish Road

When you walk through the streets of any major city in Alberta, you may see a bright-yellow fish painted on the storm drains reminding 'only rain should be going down the drain.' Celebrating its 24th anniversary, The Yellow Fish Road (YFR) program is Trout Unlimited Canada's premiere environmental education program. This Albertagrown educational phenomenon has reached more than 65,000 people in schools, community groups and day camps, motivating positive environmental change by creating an appreciation for our rivers, streams and creeks and the importance of clean, healthy water.

# LEADING WATER MANAGEMENT THROUGH LEADING TECHNOLOGY.

Read our Sustainability Report and learn more about our approach to water management and the technologies we use to ensure it's used responsibly: encana.com/sustainability



#### 2015 Finalists

## INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENT

Recognizing individuals who, through their superb leadership and dedication, have profoundly inspired others to become environmental stewards.

Presented by:



#### DR. BONNIE SHAPIRO, PROFESSOR, WERKLUND SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Dr. Shapiro has been an enthusiastic and passionate Science and Environmental Educator in the Province of Alberta for many years. She has provided tireless and committed support to promote environmental excellence through inspirational advisement and work with a generation of student teachers, practicing educators, hundreds of graduate students and members of the Alberta and Canadian Environmental Education Community. She has developed outstanding university courses, award-winning curriculum materials, and has presented and hosted numerous workshops, dialogue sessions and Research Symposia focusing on Environmental Education. Through her extensive research and many conference

presentations, Dr. Shapiro has contributed nationally and internationally to the scholarship of teaching and learning in the field. As Consulting Editor for the Canadian Journal of Environmental Education (CJEE) the Journal of Environmental Education (JEE- International) and numerous other education journals, she continues to support the work of others. Most recently Dr. Shapiro has shown outstanding leadership to initiate, design and champion the innovative new Graduate Certificate Program, Education for the Environment, at the University of Calgary. he students and colleagues she has come in contact with have benefitted through her unfailing support and encouragement and the sense of community she strives to build. Many of her former students are leaders in the Environmental Education community.

The Alberta Real Estate Foundation is a proud sponsor of the Alberta Emerald Foundation and the Alberta Emerald Awards that recognize outstanding achievements in protecting, preserving, enhancing and sustaining the environment. The Alberta Real Estate Foundation was established in 1991 to enhance the real estate industry and benefit the people of Alberta. The Foundation's community investment programme enables Albertans to understand and respond to changing land use patterns, growth pressures, air and water management issues and to

enhance the quality of their communities. The Foundation believes we all have a role to play in taking responsibility for how we use our land. When a home buyer in Alberta deposits money in trust through a real estate broker, the interest that's earned on the deposit is accumulated and forwarded to the Foundation for investment in Alberta's communities, www.aref.ab.ca





# Making an impact in Alberta

20+ years



\$15+
Million



## ~500 projects



## Where does the money go?



54% EDUCATION + RESEARCH



21% HOUSING AFFORDABILITY



15%
LAND
STEWARDSHIP
+ ENVIRONMENT



10%
INDUSTRY
LEADERSHIP
+ OTHER

## Where does the money come from?

Every time a real estate broker holds \$\$ in trust in a bank during a real estate transaction, the interest goes to AREF. All those quarters and loonies add up and AREF invests it back into our communities.



#### Making a Difference. For the Industry. For Alberta.

The Alberta Real Estate Foundation supports initiatives that enhance the Real Estate Industry and benefits Albertans.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Alberta Emerald Foundation would like to thank our Board of Directors, who through their talent and dedication, make our mission a reality.

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Alan L. Ross, Partner, Borden Ladner Gervais, LLP

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Andy Etmanski, Principal, Millennium EMS Solutions

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## Volunteering with the Alberta Emerald Foundation

The Alberta Emerald Foundation is volunteer driven and we thank those who generously share their time, talent and expertise. Volunteers are involved with the Board of Directors, committees, special events and as Emerald Ambassadors.

Support the Alberta Emerald Foundation by becoming a volunteer. To learn more, please contact Executive Director Carmen Boyko at 780.616.1556 or executive director@emeraldfoundation.ca.



## EMERALD DAYS

Held year-round in communities across Alberta, Emerald Days inspire environmental excellence through speakers, networking and environmental activities for all levels. Find out when Emerald Days is coming to your community at emeraldfoundation.ca.

Be a part of Emerald Days. We are recruiting presenters, displays, volunteers and ambassadors to take part in these events. Please contact Executive Director Carmen Boyko at 780.616.1556 or executivedirector@emeraldfoundation.ca.

## Join us for Emerald Days this October in Fort McMurray.

Presented by:

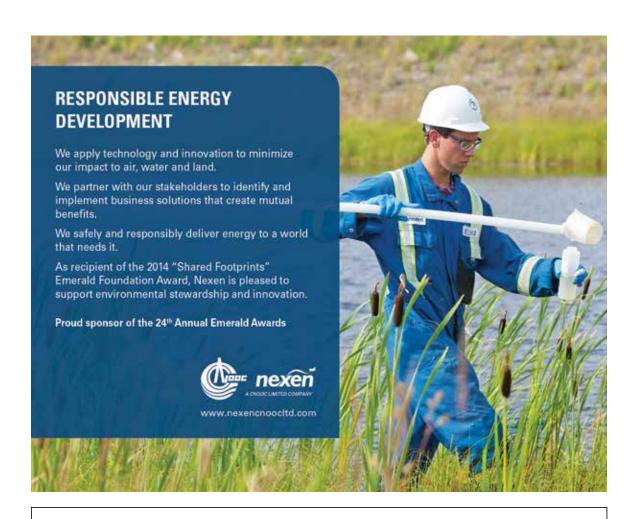








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## PROUD TO SUPPORT THE 24TH ANNUAL EMERALD AWARDS





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#### An Emerald City

Edmonton is a city alive with energy and boundless opportunity - a growing economic powerhouse where businesses and people thrive. We're also proud to be leading change in the way we manage our civic energy and environmental impacts - and in how we support Edmontonians in making their own contributions to a sustainable future.

The Way We Green is the City of Edmonton's 10-year environmental strategic plan. Its implementation drives action to protect and preserve the environment, encourage Edmontonians to understand nature's limits, and help us live within those limits. The Way We Green promotes change for long-term sustainability, and for the resiliency required to thrive in times of global and local change. In addition, Edmonton's Community Energy Transition Strategy was recently unanimously endorsed by City Council, with policies being created to move us towards achieving our energy and climate change goals.

Edmonton endeavors to lead the way with our world-renowned Waste Management Centre, our commitment to sustainable design and construction and conservation of biodiversity. These initiatives (and many more) coupled with the energetic participation of our community; put Edmonton on the path to being a resilient and sustainable city.

The City of Edmonton congratulates all Emerald Award winners and nominees for their work towards a greener world. Thanks to vou, we are all winners.

For more information on how Edmonton protects the environment, visit www.edmonton.ca/environmental.aspx.



#### In the last year, Albertans have recycled over 1.9 billion beverage containers.

Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (ABCRC) is proud to represent Alberta's successful product stewardship system on behalf of manufacturers, and to work collaboratively with the industry's regulator, the Beverage Container Management Board (BCMB), and the Alberta Bottle Depot Association (ABDA) who represents the province's independently owned Depots.

The (non refillable) beverage container recycling industry in Alberta provides a wide range of programs to enable participation in container collection. Our Community Champions Program provides recycling bins and other support to a wide

variety of organizations who wish to start recycling programs. As part of an on-going commitment to public education, ABCRC's LoveToRecycle Team accepts invitations to festivals, events and presentations around the province to provide recycling bins and promote participation in beverage container recycling. Especially for schools, the "Every Empty Counts" K-12 program provides free bins, prizing and great classroom tools.

For more information about how to get connected with the container recycling program that's right for your community, school or business, or to book our LoveToRecycle Team, visit abcrc.com.

Keep on recycling, Alberta!









#### Congratulations to all Emerald Award winners.

Your efforts inspire our continued work with partners on local environmental enhancement projects. We are currently investing in an initiative to enhance the river valley in Fort Saskatchewan. The funding will create wetlands to provide habitat for waterfowl and help treat rain runoff before it flows into the North Saskatchewan River. An interpretive centre will be constructed at these wetlands to educate people on the environmental benefits of the wetlands and the different species of animals that use the area.

In partnership with Tree Canada, Shell is continuing to support tree plantings over the next two years at the new West River's Edge Recreation Area in Fort Saskatchewan. These re-forestation efforts will see at least 250 mature trees as well as indigenous flora and fauna planted in strategic locations; ensuring this former gravel extraction pit is efficiently reclaimed.

Shell has also funded the construction of interpretive centres overlooking the historical sturgeon spawning grounds on the North Saskatchewan River. The centres will focus on fish species and their relation to local history and future conservation efforts. As well, Shell is funding the installation of trail information markers educating trail users on the vegetation that grows in the area.



#### ATCO's Green Future

At ATCO, our success depends on our ability to operate responsibly and sustainably—today and in the future. Reducing our environmental footprint is critical to our pursuit of operational excellence. Responsible stewardship of the environment is embedded in all aspects of our business, from strategic decision-making to employee training.

As part of our commitment to operate in an environmentally responsible manner, ATCO Electric has implemented a new Environment Management System with a vision to minimize our environmental impact through commitment to innovation, integrity and continuous improvement. ATCO Electric also offers light-emitting diode (LED) streetlights for new residential and stand-alone streetlight installations. LED lights use about 55 per cent less energy than traditional HPS lights, last longer and reduce carbon dioxide emissions. In 2013, Fort McMurray implemented a full-scale conversion project and ATCO Electric retrofitted more than 4,400 streetlights in the city.

ATCO Gas is in the business of distributing the cleanest burning fossil fuel—natural gas. Through voluntary measures, like operating Alberta's largest natural gas vehicle fleet, ATCO Gas supports Canada's greenhouse gas reduction initiatives. ATCO Gas's Combined Heat and Power (CHP) program helps municipal and commercial customers lower their facility operating costs, increase energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. CHP uses natural gas a primary fuel source to generate both heat and electricity simultaneously. ATCO Gas also operates the Drake Landing Solar Community in Okotoks—the first thermal solar community in the world to generate 97 per cent of its annual space-heating needs through solar energy.



## **PRODUCING** RESPONSIBLY BEFORE PRODUCING ANYTHING AT ALL.

Read our Sustainability Report and learn more about our responsible approach to development: encana.com/sustainability

encana



#### At Enbridge we know that life takes energy.

We connect people to the energy they need to fuel their quality of life and we take great pride in meeting our primary responsibility of safely and reliably delivering oil and natural gas to people across North America.

The products we deliver are used to heat homes, power transportation systems, and provide fuel and feedstock for industries. At the same time, we recognize that our relationship with hydrocarbons comes with great responsibility. As society looks to greater use of green energy over the long term, we must lead the way now in supporting renewable energy sources — naturally occurring sources that are continually replenished.

Since our initial investment in 2002, we've invested more than \$4 billion in wind, solar. geothermal, power transmission, waste heat recovery, and a host of other emerging technology projects that, together, have the capacity to generate more than 2,200 megawatts (MW) gross of zero-emission energy (1,600 MW net). Enough energy to meet the electricity needs of nearly 750,000 homes, based on gross generation figures. Enbridge is one of the largest renewable energy companies in Canada, and our portfolio of renewable energy projects is diversified and growing.



## Supporting the

## ALBERTA EMERALD FOUNDATION

#### JOIN US IN SUPPORTING **ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE**

From grassroots organizations to individuals, corporations to governments, Albertans are leading the way in making our province, country and world a better place to live. The Alberta Emerald Foundation showcases, supports and recognizes environmental excellence in our province, as well as the people behind these efforts.

#### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO **SHARE THESE STORIES?**

The Alberta Emerald Foundation knows that sharing environmental success changes environmental behaviour, and encourages others to participate. We believe all Albertans will benefit from a healthier, environmentally secure future.

#### YOU CAN HELP

#### With your financial support the Alberta Emerald Foundation will continue to:

- Stimulate public and corporate environmental awareness
- Encourage environmental behavioural change
- Create and strengthen strategic partnerships
- Enhance youth participation
- Ensure the sustainability of the Foundation

All donations over \$25 are eligible to receive a tax receipt. You can complete the form in this program or visit our website to make a donation using your credit card. The Alberta Emerald Foundation uses CanadaHelps for our on-line donations program and tax receipts will be issued electronically

#### **EMERALD MONTHLY**

The Alberta Emerald Foundation accepts donations year round however, in addition to one time, annual donations, you can sign up to become a monthly donor. Monthly donations can be set-up using our on-line system; CanadaHelps, and tax receipts will be electronically issued.

#### **EMERALD CLUB**

The Alberta Emerald Foundation has two endowment funds with the Edmonton Community Foundation and one with the Calgary Community Foundation. The growth of these endowments is a step in creating sustainability for both the general operations of the Foundation and our Youth Environmental Engagement Grants Program.

If you are interested in supporting the Foundation by making a donation to one of our endowments or creating a family legacy while supporting the Foundation please contact our office. Together with the Community Foundation, we will work to find the perfect solution while providing you with tax advantages.

#### For more information on how you can support the Alberta Emerald Foundation please contact

Carmen Boyko, Executive Director Alberta Emerald Foundation 700 Scotia Tower 1 10060 Jasper Avenue Edmonton AB T5J 3R8

T: 780-616-1556

E: executivedirector@emeraldfoundation.ca W: www.emeraldfoundation.ca

The Alberta Emerald Foundation is a registered charity. Charitable Registration Number 1338 0771 RR0001.



## YES! I WANT TO SUPPORT THE ALBERTA EMERALD FOUNDATION

## Recognizing, celebrating and inspiring environmental excellence

Please find enclosed my gift of:	Please return this form, along with your donation, to:  Alberta Emerald Foundation 700 Scotia Tower 1 10060 Jasper Avenue Edmonton, AB T5J 3R8		
□ \$1,000 □ \$500 □ \$200 □ \$100 □ \$50 □ Other \$  Payment Method			
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## Legacy Leader



## **Emerald Leaders**



















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