



Alberta Emerald Foundation
Centre for Environmental Excellence

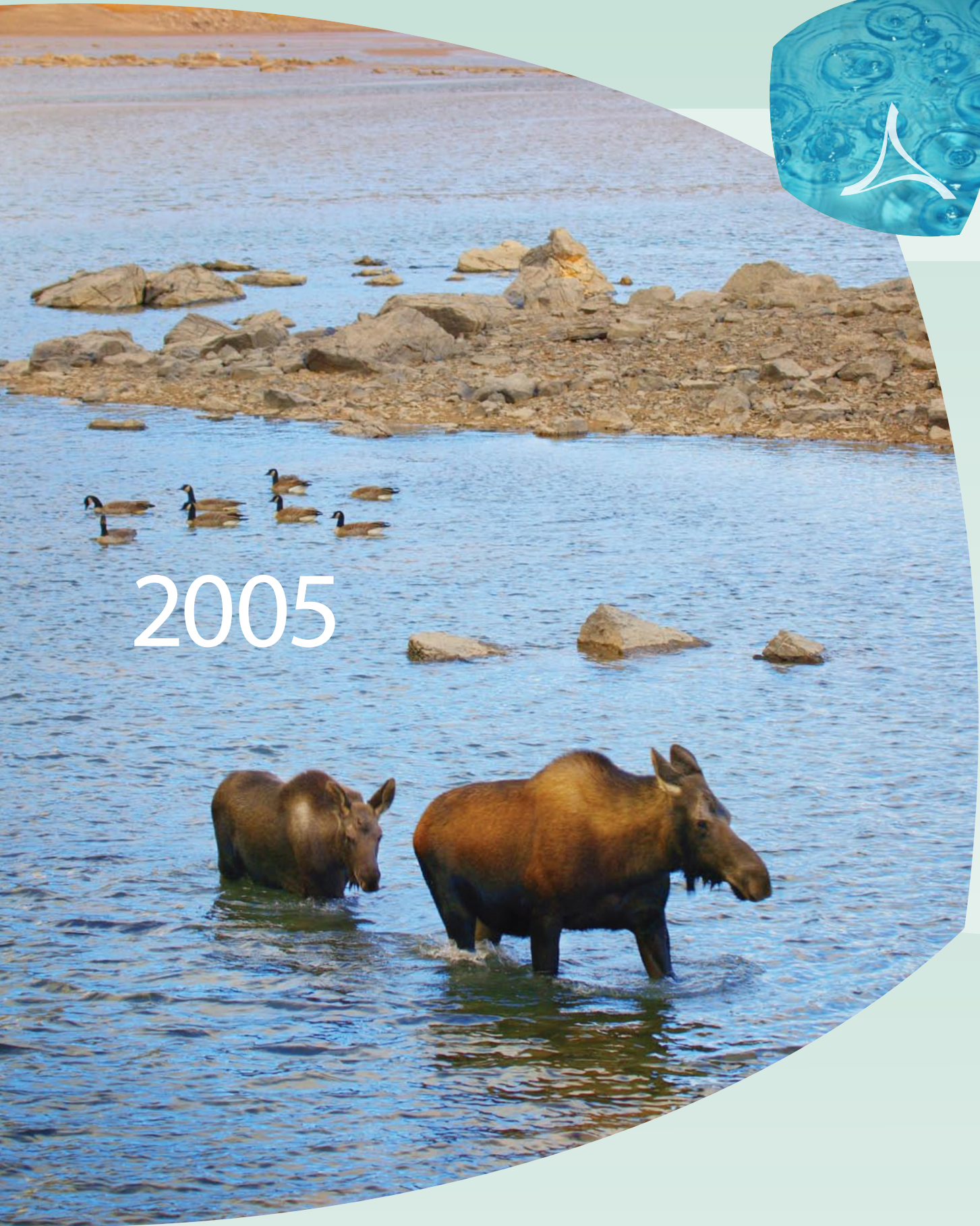


2005 Annual Report





2005



Report from the Chair

The Alberta Emerald Foundation experienced an exciting year in 2005, launching into a new era of celebrating environmental excellence. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank all those who have participated in making this possible.

The 2005 Emerald Awards once again recognized a number of sustainable environmental initiatives that consider community and environmental impacts. The nominations received demonstrate the depth and breadth of environmental excellence in Alberta. Congratulations to all those who took the time to submit a nomination, and my sincere thank you to the many volunteers who, each year, spend countless hours soliciting nominations and ensuring the success of the awards ceremony. I wish to acknowledge and extend my appreciation in particular to the judging panel who had the task of evaluating each and every nomination and selecting 13 award recipients from 107 nominees.

Over the past months, the Board undertook a number of projects to increase the profile of the Foundation and initiate plans to solidify the Foundation as a "Centre for Environmental Excellence":

- The recently completed feasibility study, conducted to explore expansion options, provided feedback that was gratefully accepted and incorporated into a plan that will ensure the long-term growth and sustainability of the Foundation.
- A Community Initiatives Program grant has allowed the Foundation to develop a three-year communications plan and support a volunteer Communications Committee of the Board.
- Alberta Emerald Endowment Funds were established at both the Edmonton and Calgary community foundations. A special thank you to Albion Sands Energy Inc. for its leadership in establishing a named fund to benefit the Emerald Foundation, now and forever.

- A restructuring of the Board will enable the Foundation to expand its sphere of influence and strengthen its position as a leader in recognizing environmental excellence in Alberta.
- Work progresses on new programs that encourage youth to participate in environmental projects and provide opportunities for Emerald Award recipients to share their knowledge, passion and expertise with a wider audience.

The Alberta Emerald Foundation operates solely through the efforts of committed, passionate volunteer Board and committee members and our part-time executive director, Becky Vander Steen, whose valuable guidance and support is appreciated. We are pleased to report a small surplus of revenues over expenses for 2005, allowing us to continue planning for the 2006 Emerald Awards.

And finally, a special thank you to all our donors and sponsors. Your ongoing support enables the Foundation to continue its work changing attitudes and behaviours through positive reinforcement. What were once seen as innovative, creative environmental initiatives have now become an everyday way of life for many. Together, we will continue to "raise the bar" and see Albertans benefiting from improved environmental practices for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Paul D. Hunt


Looking Ahead

The recently completed planning feasibility study, generously funded by Alberta Environment, has paved the way for the Emerald Foundation to truly become the “Centre for Environmental Excellence” in Alberta.

Beginning with our core activity, the Emerald Awards, the Foundation is committed to demonstrating leadership by showcasing environmental excellence and encouraging all Albertans to make a positive difference to the environmental health of our province.

- The new name, the Alberta Emerald Foundation, better reflects our core program, the Emerald Awards, and allows us to build on its excellent reputation. The official change will be completed in 2006.
- Through a Community Initiative Program grant, the Foundation has hired a communications consultant to help create a three-year communications plan that will increase the profile of the Foundation and Emerald Award recipients. A volunteer Communications Committee, chaired by Barbara Shumsky, Syncrude Canada Ltd., will guide this process and help implement the plan over the coming years.
- Encouraging positive attitudes and behaviours generally proves to be more effective than penalizing negative ones. By partnering with existing youth-related science and education initiatives, the Foundation will encourage young Albertans to participate in environmental projects, both as individuals and through their schools and community organizations.

- The Foundation’s database of over 1,500 stories of environmental excellence is a rich resource that is yet to be fully exploited. The development of a new website with a searchable database of stories and contacts will enable those looking to implement environmental initiatives to learn from others. In addition, the further development of the Emerald Talks program will see Emerald Award recipients sharing their expertise and passion to a wider audience.
- Creating the Centre for Environmental Excellence will, of course, take additional resources. The Resource Development Committee, chaired by Ron Kruhlak, McLennan Ross LLP, and supported by a development consultant, will be making calls beginning in the spring of 2006. The Board has approved development policies and procedures, completed the case statement and established endowment funds at both the Edmonton and Calgary community foundations.

The Alberta Emerald Foundation Centre for Environmental Excellence will be the organization that others look to when searching out examples of environmental excellence. Through its leadership, the Centre will make a positive impact on the attitudes and behaviours of Albertans. 



J.J. (Janet) Zazubek, an environment co-op student who worked at Albian's Muskeg River Mine in 2005, holds a large wooden raptor designed to scare birds away from the mine site. Albian's innovative bird deterrent system has received international recognition and set a benchmark with respect to continuous improvement and compliance in environmental management systems.



Albian Sands


Sustainable development is fundamental in the everyday choices Albian Sands Energy Inc. makes – both in its current operations and in its future development plans. It is how the company does business.

Environmental sustainability is factored into all aspects of Albian Sands' development cycle, from design through to operations and reclamation. In operating the Muskeg River Mine north of Fort McMurray, Albian Sands manages each of these elements using the best practices available and with a commitment to continuous environmental improvement.

When Albian Sands became the first oil sands mining operation in the world to be ISO 14001 certified, the company celebrated by establishing the Albian Sands Endowment Fund at the Edmonton Community Foundation. The purpose of the endowment fund is to promote environmental stewardship and sustainable development and to celebrate and advance excellence in environmental matters. The beneficiaries of the fund are the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo and the Alberta Emerald Foundation.

ISO 14001 is a voluntary, internationally recognized standard for environmental management systems applicable to all kinds of industries world wide. An environmental management system is developed to identify and prevent or minimize environmental impacts in any part of an organization's activities.

"Achieving our ISO 14001 certification was a major milestone in the development of our business," says Chris Jones, Albian Sands' chief operating officer. "The efforts of our staff were considerable and we wanted to do something to honour that dedication and commitment. The Albian Sands Endowment Fund will support environmental initiatives, like the Emerald Foundation, that exemplify a commitment to environmental stewardship and excellence."

The Albian Sands Endowment Fund is now part of a "family of funds" established at both the Edmonton and Calgary community foundations. Gifts of all sizes are welcome to the Alberta Emerald Endowment Funds and a gift of \$10,000 or more means the donor can establish a named fund within the family. 

The 2005 Emerald Award Recipients



Not-for-Profit Association

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance

Corporate or Institutional Leadership

Roger Creasey, Shell Canada Limited

Community Group

Beaver Creek Watershed Group

Individual Commitment

Clare and Kathy Tannas

Education: School or Classroom

Dr. E.W. Coffin Elementary School

Education: Organization

**Cows and Fish Alberta Riparian
Habitat Management Society**

Large Business

Ainsworth Engineered Canada LP

Small Business

**Highmark Renewables Inc.
Katch Kan Limited**

Government Institution

Town of Canmore

Research & Innovation

Syncrude Canada Ltd.

Climate Change

The City of Calgary

Youth

Cochrane High School





The Town of Canmore has implemented a number of programs that protect biodiversity and measure performance to ensure environmental sustainability.



2005 Emerald Awards

“Receiving the Emerald Award was very gratifying to the community. The recognition has further inspired the community to pursue the various environmental initiatives it has embarked on,” says Don Kochan, director of environmental services, Town of Canmore, recipient of the 2005 Emerald Award, Government Institution.

It is critical for Albertans to be passionate about balancing the development of this province’s rich resources with environmental stewardship. Through its core program, the Emerald Awards, the Foundation recognizes and rewards the excellent environmental initiatives undertaken each year by large and small corporations, individuals, not-for-profit associations, community groups and governments.

In 2005 the Foundation received 107 nominations in 12 categories. A panel of knowledgeable judges, with cross-sectoral experience, carried out an independent evaluation based on commitment to preservation, protection, enhancement or sustainability of the environment and the positive, tangible and long-term impact on the quality of the air, water or land; preservation of biological diversity; climate change/ greenhouse gases; and public or corporate attitudes toward the environment.

This process narrowed the field to 37 finalists. Then the most difficult task – determining those who stood out above the rest to truly demonstrate environmental excellence.

“Many of the projects are truly inspirational. It’s hard not to fall in love with those special projects that touch your heart,” says Bette Beswick, principal and environmental assessment specialist, Golder Associates. “The challenge comes when different judges are touched by different projects.”

On June 7, 2005, in front of over 700 guests at the Jack Singer Hall in Calgary, the Foundation recognized 13 individuals and organizations for their commitment to our environment. Because of their ingenuity, dedication and hard work, others will follow, what is now innovative will become the norm, and all Albertans will benefit from a healthier, cleaner environment.

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“Take, for example, municipal recycling programs, renewable energy such as wind power and energy efficiency programs,” says Paul Hunt, chair of the Alberta Emerald Foundation. “In past years the Emerald Awards have recognized such programs as being innovative, now similar practices are the

norm for many people. These are just a few samples of how leading by example can, and does, make a difference.”

“Winning this well known award confirms that preservation of the

environment has moved up a notch. The oil industry is employing

the Zero Spill System (ZSS) as a proactive approach to oilfield drilling fluid management and the improvement of workplace health and safety. These systems directly contribute to the preservation, protection and sustainability of the environment,” says Quinn Holtby, president, Katch Kan Limited, recipient of the 2005 Emerald Award for Small Business for the development of this unique and innovative technology. 



“Many of the projects are truly inspirational. It’s hard not to fall in love with those special projects that touch your heart”, says Bette Beswick, a member of the judges panel for the 2005 Emerald Awards.

Honorary Patrons

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

Honourable Ralph Klein
Premier of Alberta

Sustaining Patrons

Alberta Conservation Association
Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc.
Alberta Research Council
Albian Sands Energy Inc.
City of Edmonton
Climate Change Central
ConocoPhillips Canada
EPCOR
Government of Alberta
McLennan Ross LLP
Suncor Energy
Syn crude Canada Ltd.
The City of Calgary
TransCanada
Western Economic
Diversification Canada

Major Sponsors

Alberta Venture
Chronos Video Productions Inc.
Equus Consulting Group Inc.

Contributing Sponsors

Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife
Foundation – Park and Wildlife Ventures
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP
E. L. Audio Services
Golder Associates Ltd.
KPMG LLP
Mountain Equipment Co-op
Weyerhaeuser Company Limited

Volunteers

The Alberta Emerald Foundation operates almost exclusively through the contributions of time and talent from a number of committed volunteers. Their continued support is sincerely appreciated.

Honorary Council

Gerald J. DeSorcy
DeSorcy Consulting Services Ltd.

James Martin
Inside Education

Eric P. Newell

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

Board of Governors

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Climate Change Central

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Government of Alberta

Lin Callow
ConocoPhillips Canada

Marilyn Carpenter
TransCanada

David L. Day
The City of Calgary

Steven Hull
Alberta Conservation Association

Ron Kruhlak
McLennan Ross LLP

Dr. David Lewin
EPCOR

Darrell Martindale
Albian Sands Energy Inc.

Al Maurer
City of Edmonton

Dr. Ian Potter
Alberta Research Council

Barbara Shumsky
Syn crude Canada Ltd.

Shawn Wasel
Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc.

David Woynorowski
Western Economic
Diversification Canada

Governance Committee

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Government of Alberta

Paul Hunt
Climate Change Central

Dr. David Lewin
EPCOR

Ron Kruhlak
McLennan Ross LLP

Steven Hull
Alberta Conservation Association

James Mallet
McLennan Ross LLP

Communications Committee

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Syn crude Canada Ltd.

Marilyn Carpenter
TransCanada

Jim Dau
Prismatic Group Inc.

Lee Funke
Torque Communications

Paul Hunt
Climate Change Central

Paul Manuel
Syn crude Canada Ltd.

Resource Development Committee

Chair: Ron Kruhlak
McLennan Ross LLP

Paul Hunt
Climate Change Central

Dr. David Lewin
EPCOR

David Woynorowski
Western Economic
Diversification Canada

2005 Emerald Awards Committees

Nominations & Selections Committees

Co-Chair: Pete Marshall
Adelantar Consulting

Co-Chair: Esther Rondeau
UMA Engineering Ltd.

Edmonton:

Josh Bilyk
University of Alberta

Roger Bryan
Alberta Agriculture, Food & Rural
Development

Cheryl Croucher
Porcupine Stone Productions,
Innovation Alberta

Erin Gregg
Alberta Environment

Cory Habulin
Alberta Water Quality Awareness Day

Kent Kristensen
Golder Associates Ltd.

Jacqueline Ladouceur
Inside Education

Karina Low
Mountain Equipment Co-op

Joel Nodelman.
Nodelcorp Consulting Inc.

Stacey Schaub-Szabo
Alberta Research Council

John Shires
Alberta Sustainable Resource
Development

Steven Tannas
Eastern Slopes Rangeland Seeds

Jaclyn Valderrama
PHH ARC Environmental Ltd.

Brian Waddell
Alberta Environment

Kelly Young
North Shore Environmental
Consultants Inc.

Calgary:

John G. Addy
MGV Energy Inc.

Brenda Austin
Alberta Energy & Utilities Board

Ilona Berbekar
Equus Environmental Inc.

Troy Bulbuck
Alpine Environmental Ltd.

Jim Campbell
Queen's University Western
Regional Office

Susan Dowse
Calpine Canada

David Elphinstone
The City of Calgary, Parks

Darrell Haight
EBA Engineering Consultants Ltd.

Jill Kirker
Alberta Ecotrust Foundation

Bob Moll
New Energy Corporation Inc.

Tracey Moll
The City of Calgary, Environmental
Management

Daron Naffin
McLennan Ross LLP

Nadine Sauder
Ann and Sandy Cross
Conservation Area

Event Committee

Chair: Sian Weaver
TransCanada

Jennifer Douglas
Golder Associates Ltd.

Morag Erskine

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

Pamela Koss
Climate Change Central

Ed Little
EL Audio Services

Tracy Scanks
McLennan Ross LLP

2005 Emerald Awards Judges Panel

Bette Beswick
Golder Associates

Andy Boyd
Alberta Fish & Game Association

Karen Haugen-Kozyra
Alberta Agriculture, Food
and Rural Development

Doug Heaton
Pyecombe Consulting Services

Dr. Eddy Isaacs
Alberta Energy Research Institute

Pat Letizia
Alberta Ecotrust Foundation

Dr. Robert Steedman
National Energy Board

Financials

Alberta Foundation for Environmental Excellence

Balance Sheet

December 31, 2005, with comparative figures for 2004

	2005	2004
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 222,578	\$ 136,853
Short-term investments	35,560	35,000
Contributions and other amounts receivable	6,846	5,609
Government grant receivable	-	50,000
Prepaid expenses	2,808	4,306
	267,792	231,768
Endowment fund investments	10,380	-
	\$ 278,172	\$ 231,768
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 10,765	\$ 2,242
Deferred government grant	179,435	144,082
	190,200	146,224
Net assets:		
Endowment fund - internally restricted	10,000	-
- externally restricted	-	-
Unrestricted	77,972	85,544
	87,972	85,544
	\$ 278,172	\$ 231,768

Alberta Foundation for Environmental Excellence

Statement of Operations

Year ended December 31, 2005, with comparative figures for 2004

	2005	2004
Revenue:		
Contributions and donations	\$ 173,000	\$ 167,000
Government of Alberta grant	39,647	568
Ticket sales	4,760	4,165
Interest income	1,045	223
	218,452	171,956
Expenditures:		
Advertising	13,565	11,764
Consulting	39,647	568
Disbursements	3,714	10,016
Facility rental	22,398	3,028
Food and beverage	3,937	16,098
Nomination and selections	6,241	3,062
Printing	5,696	6,094
Production and design	62,343	56,649
Professional fees	6,208	2,205
Project management	49,275	40,646
Donations	3,000	-
	216,024	150,130
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 2,428	\$ 21,826

Complete audited financial statements are available on request.



Alberta Emerald Foundation
Centre for Environmental Excellence

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