



**Alberta
Emerald
Foundation**

Emerald Youth Grants

Study Guides

Pat Letizia



30th Annual Emerald Award Recipient

Lifetime Achievement

Synocrude

Table of Contents

 Overview

 Key Terms

 Conversation Questions

 Continuing Work

 Resources

 Notes



About the Alberta Emerald Foundation



We're Alberta's environmental good-news storytellers!

The Alberta Emerald Foundation (AEF) is nonprofit organization that showcases and inspires our province's environmental achievements through the annual Emerald Awards. Through our Sharing Stories Communications Strategy, the incredible work of Emerald recipients is highlighted and celebrated year-round. What began as the Emerald Awards in 1992 has evolved into an ongoing conversation.

The AEF empowers the next generation by providing grants to youth-led and youth-targeted environmental initiatives in our province. The Emerald Educational Engagement Grants Program funds up to 30 groups a year for their dream environmental project inspired by the Emerald Documentary Series, What On EARTH Can We Do? Podcast, and Emerald Speakers Series. After finding inspiration from this content featuring Emerald recipients, submit your pitch to us online. If it's accepted, you will receive \$750, thanks to our sponsor Syncrude Canada Ltd., to make your project a reality.

We encourage you to use this study guide as a resource to help you along in your project's journey. For more information, please visit

www.emerald.foundation.ca

Overview

What they're all about

Pat Letizia has worked with Alberta Ecotrust Foundation for 25 of its 30 year history and led the organization as Executive Director and CEO for over 20 of those years. In the past 25 years, she has had many achievements as a leader, partnership broker and **advocate** for Alberta's environmental **nonprofit** sector including:

- Leading environmental **grant** programs that have disbursed over \$11M to 734 environmental projects in the issue areas of land use, water and **climate change**
- Brokering significant partnerships supporting environmental projects including a landmark 25-year \$1.25M agreement with corporate partner Encana in 2002 and, more recently, the \$44M Climate Innovation Fund endowment partnership with Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the City of Edmonton and the City of Calgary as part of the Low Carbon Cities Canada Network in 2020



- **Championing** ongoing sector needs assessment research and network mapping beginning with 2003's Maximizing Effectiveness to improve the **effectiveness** of grant programs, create relevant **capacity building** programs and **advocate** for needs of the sector with other funders by sharing the story of the sector through events like Picture a Province in 2012
- Co-founding and serving on the Boards of vital networks like Canadian Environmental Grantmakers Network (now Environment Funders Canada) and Calgary Chamber of Voluntary Organizations;
- And so much more!

Key Terms

Know your lingo



Advocate: a person is an advocate if they publicly support or recommend a certain cause. Advocate can also be an action, to publicly support or recommend a certain cause or policy.

Capacity building: the improvement of a person or organization's capacity to perform or complete tasks. This helps the individual or organization be more successful, as they learn new skills to do their work.

Championing: supporting or defending a cause.

Climate Change: also sometimes called “global warming”, a change in the average conditions – such as temperature and rainfall – in a region over a long period of time. Find out more on [NASA's website](#).

Effectiveness: how successful something is at getting a desired result, or how good something or someone is at completing a task.



Grant: a sum of money given by the government or an organization for a particular purpose. This money often does not need to be repaid back, and sometimes needs to be applied for through a program.

Nonprofit organization: also sometimes called a “charity”, these organizations do not exist to make a “profit”, or money, and work to help the public.



Conversation Questions

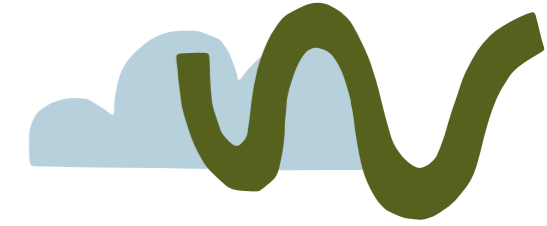
Let's talk about it

- What were Pat Letizia's main achievements?
- What do you want to do for a job when you grow up?
- Why is it important to have goals?
- What types of skills do you think that Pat used to have such a successful career?
- What is something that you are very passionate about?
- What is your biggest achievement?



Continuing Work

Inspiration for your Emerald Youth Grant



- Start volunteering with your family for a cause that you are passionate about. It could be something to do with the environment, or social causes that you care about, or could even be at your school with tasks that they need help with.
- Start your own club or organization at your school.
- Make sure to recognize the achievements of those around you. If you know an eco-hero that has made great accomplishments for the environment in Alberta, nominate them for an [Alberta Emerald Award](#) so that their story can be shared.
- Have you come up with an idea for a project? Apply for an [Emerald Youth Grant](#) to make your project a reality!

Resources

Click to discover

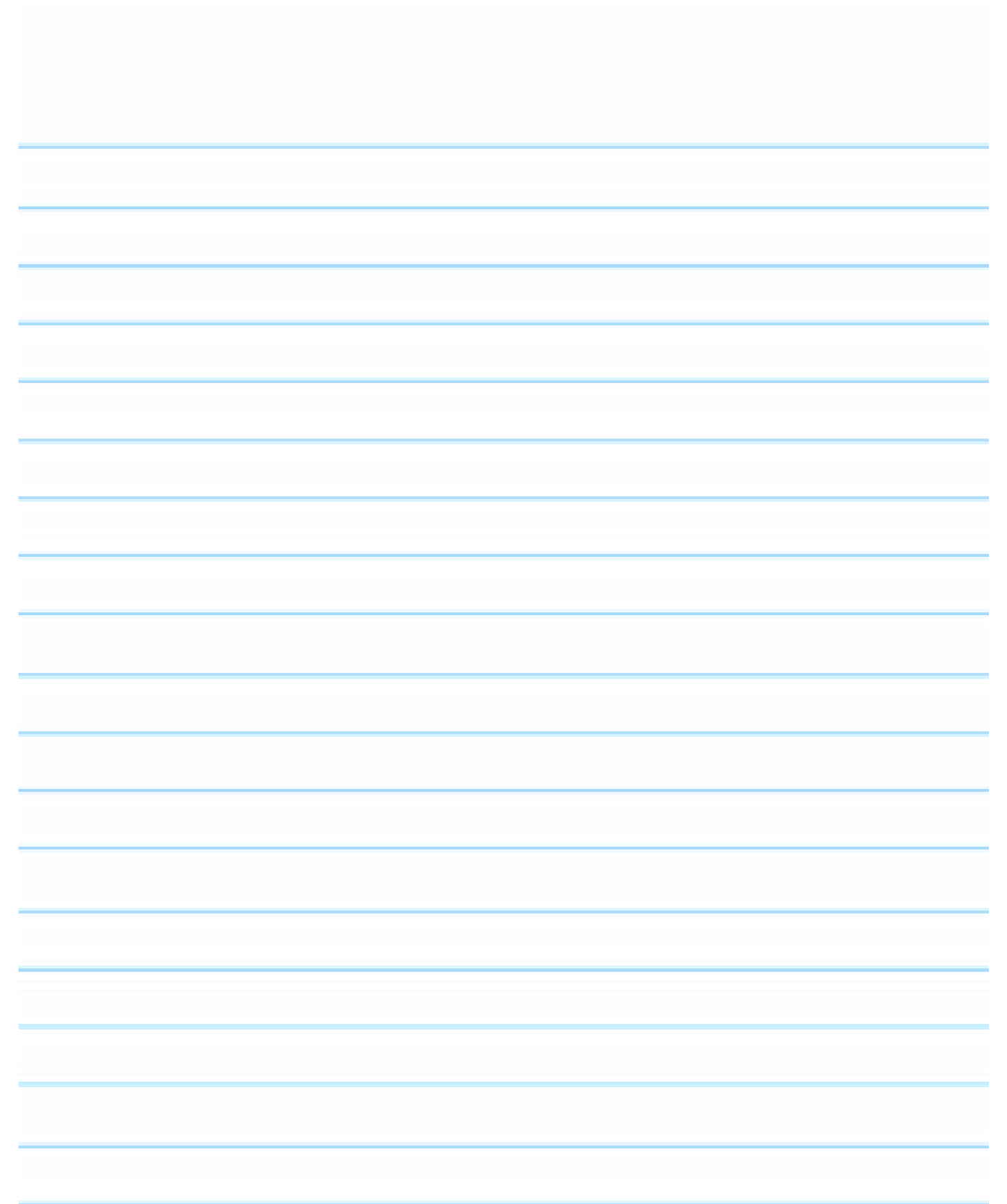
[Alberta Ecotrust Foundation](#)

[Volunteer Opportunities in Alberta](#)

[Britannica Kids](#) (used for Key Terms)

[36 environmental project ideas that you could get funding for!](#)

Notes





Emerald Youth Grants

The AEF would like to thank Syncrude Canada Ltd. for their sponsorship of the Emerald Youth Grants Program. As well, we'd like to thank Hoopla Media for their work on the Emerald Documentary Series.

This study guide was created and written by AEF Summer Student, Katherine Rogers.

[Click to apply for an Emerald Youth Grant!](#)

