

31st Annual
Emerald
Awards



Showcasing, inspiring, and
empowering Alberta's
environmental achievements.



Alberta
Emerald
Foundation

emeraldfoundation.ca

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**Alberta
Emerald
Foundation**

Mission

To showcase, inspire, and empower Alberta's environmental achievements.

Vision

Through our actions, we contribute to a more sustainable future for all.

We Value

- Promoting environmental leadership
- Communicating and collaborating with others
- Ensuring the integrity and credibility of the Foundation
- Engaging the next generation

The Alberta Emerald Foundation acknowledges and honours that we operate on Treaty 6, Treaty 7, and Treaty 8 territories, of which we have been beneficiaries since their signing. We extend our hands in peace and friendship to all Indigenous peoples who have made these places their homes since time immemorial.

We are grateful for the journey we are on as treaty people, with the responsibility and opportunity to carry forward and renew the spirit and intent of those agreements. To learn, to grow, to celebrate this journey of discovery, and to share our stories as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the rivers flow.

We call forward the spirit of tatawaw which in nehiyawewin means "Welcome, there is room" to guide us as we do our part to make Alberta a more welcoming and sustainable place to live for all.

We acknowledge and honour the fundamental value and dignity of all individuals. We believe in embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion within our organization and welcome those from all walks of life, regardless of race, colour, gender identity, sex, ancestry, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation or expression, age, marital status, or disability.



The 31st Annual Emerald Awards

June 1st, 2022

Calgary Central Library, Patricia A. Whelan Performance Hall

4:00 pm

4:00 PM

Ceremony and teaching with Ira Provost

Awards presentation

- Water presented by The Government of Alberta
- Air
- Land presented by Alberta Real Estate Foundation
- Waste Management presented by Alberta Recycling Management Authority
- Public Engagement & Outreach presented by City of Calgary
- Wildlife & Biodiversity presented by Alberta Forest Products Association

Musical Performance by Walter MacDonald White Bear

- Business presented by Edmonton Community Foundation
- Community Group or Nonprofit presented by Syncrude Canada Ltd. operated by Suncor
- Education presented by Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation & Beverage Container Management Board
- Youth presented by Capital Power
- Government
- Lifetime Achievement presented by Dow

6:30 PM

Catered reception



31st Emerald Awards

Alberta is home to leaders and innovators, each demonstrating a unique approach to environmental stewardship. For over 30 years, the Emerald Awards have showcased those who raise the bar in addressing local, regional, and global environmental & climate issues. In doing so, a standard of excellence is set that inspires others in their own practices. Since their inception, the Emeralds have celebrated the achievements of nearly 400 recipients and 900 finalists. To date, they remain the only award in Canada that recognizes environmental excellence across all sectors.

What began in 1992 as an initiative developed by then Minister for the Environment, Ralph Klein, McLennan Ross LLP, and Deloitte and Touche, has evolved into a robust communications strategy and year-round programming. Through the Alberta Emerald Foundation's (AEF) actions of showcasing, inspiring, and empowering environmental achievements, role models are established, best practices are shared, connections are made, and a sense of hope is fostered. The result is an increase in public awareness, engagement, and commitment to environmental stewardship, as well as the mitigation and adaptation to climate change, leading to a more sustainable future for all.

While we were unable to come together in person over the past two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we're delighted to be able to gather as a community once again for the 31st Annual Emerald Awards. We can't wait to celebrate the achievements of this year's shortlist and to inspire others to follow in their footsteps and work towards becoming better environmental stewards.

This year, the AEF received nominations from all corners of the province. The Foundation tasked a third-party panel of knowledgeable judges to review all nominations in order to select the shortlist and recipients. Our judges bring expertise from various sectors across Alberta, making sure that a diverse and informed perspective is brought to each nomination.

Nominations were judged on the following criteria:

- Environmental benefits and outcomes
- Leadership
- Seventh Generation Principle
- Alignment with the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals

In addition to an award certificate and digital logo designed by Studio Hazel, Emerald Award recipients receive a profile in our [Sharing Stories content](#) and a \$2,000 grant to support the continuation of their work, or to donate to an environmental cause of their choice. We thank our sponsors whose generous support has made this possible.

Nominations for the 32nd Annual Emerald Awards will open November 1, 2022. You can [sign up for our monthly newsletter, Elevate](#), and follow us on social media to stay up to date on AEF events, our [What On EARTH Can We Do Podcast](#), and much more!



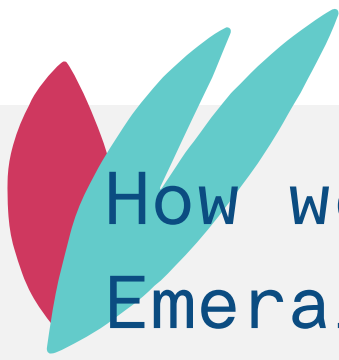
Listen to the first three seasons to unpack environmental issues with Emerald Award recipients and find out what on EARTH we can do to help fight climate change!

Available on:



emeraldfoundation.ca

whatonearthcanwedo.captivate.fm



How we're making the Emerald Awards sustainable

Because we're Alberta's environmental good-news storytellers, we try to keep the environment at the top of our mind in everything we do, including tonight's awards. Check out the ways we've made sure that tonight's event is as sustainable as possible:

The Venue

The Calgary Central Library was our top choice for hosting the 31st Annual Emerald Awards due to its many sustainable features, including:

- LEED Gold Certification
- During construction, over 79% of construction waste materials were diverted from landfill.
- Exceptional connection to public transit network reduces the need for parking and greenhouse gas emissions associated with vehicle use.
- Reduced water use by storing stormwater for irrigation and using low-demanding fixtures and flush valves.

The Catering

Devour Catering has worked diligently to ensure the menu for the Emerald Awards is sourced as sustainably and local as possible! They've incorporated food from past Emerald Award recipients, YYC Growers into the menu, as well as shortlisters from this year's awards, MicroYYC and Sunny Cider! In addition to this, Devour has ensured that no food waste will result from tonight's awards. Devour also values sustainability just as much as we do, they compost all their food waste and their fryer oil is collected and converted to biofuel!

The Set Design

This year we've kept the stage design quite minimal to ensure that nothing goes to the landfill at the end of the night. The beautiful planters on either side of the podium, graciously donated by Salisbury Greenhouse, will be given away to two of the audience members at the end of a night through a random draw.

Digital Program

Since 2018, the Emerald Awards has used a digital program, which saves about 7500 pages of paper each year!



Message from the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta

The environment that we all share is one of the greatest gifts that we enjoy as Albertans, as Canadians and as global citizens, and we each can play an active role in caring for this most precious resource. The outstanding Emerald Award nominees being recognized at this ceremony are lighting the way forward, through their innovative and thoughtful contributions in a wide range of sectors and endeavours. I trust that their remarkable examples will inspire others to join in this essential work.

As Her Majesty the Queen's representative in Alberta, I offer my heartfelt thanks to our nominees, and to everyone at the Alberta Emerald Foundation, for your invaluable service and leadership. Best wishes for an enjoyable celebration and keep up the great work!

Her Honour, the Honourable Salma Lakhani AOE, B.Sc., LLD (Hon)
Lieutenant Governor of Alberta



MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF ALBERTA

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to send greetings to everyone attending the 31st Annual Emerald Awards.

For more than three decades, the Alberta Emerald Foundation has been showcasing the achievements of innovative Albertans who have made remarkable inroads to address local, regional, and global environmental and climate issues.

The Government of Alberta recognizes the importance of protecting the environment and mitigating greenhouse emissions, and I'm delighted that these awards give us all an opportunity to acknowledge the ingenuity of our local trailblazers. Their unique solutions to environmental challenges contribute to a more sustainable future for all of us.

Congratulations to this year's award winners, and thank you for your efforts and initiative. The positive work you're doing is making a real difference, and I can't wait to see what you do next.

Thank you also to the Emerald Foundation and its generous sponsors whose continued work inspires, empowers, and brings awareness to the environmental achievements of Albertans.

A stylized blue ink signature of Jason Kenney.

Hon Jason Kenney, Premier of Alberta





Message from Jyoti Gondek Mayor of Calgary



Calgary

On behalf of my City Council colleagues and all Calgarians, I am pleased to welcome you to the 2022 Emerald Awards! The Emerald Awards have brought the community together for more than three decades, showcasing exciting initiatives and sharing ideas for a more sustainable future.

In the past five years, Alberta was home to the top five costliest natural disasters in Canada. Climate change is contributing to billions of dollars annually in property and infrastructure damage worldwide, causing stress on local and international economies as well as social instability.

Calgary City Council recognizes that cities must play an active role in climate innovation. This year, Council included climate resilience as a strategic priority for the City of Calgary. We are working towards becoming a global centre of excellence in energy transformation and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero by 2050. By working together, we can accelerate our actions even further to shape a healthier and greener city for tomorrow.

Thank you to the Alberta Emerald Foundation for your efforts in organizing these awards each year. To all those nominated – your creativity, passion, and contributions are valuable to our province, and will inspire even more Albertans to take positive environmental action.

Sincerely,

Jyoti Gondek
Mayor of Calgary



Message from Sean Krausert

Mayor of Canmore

Town of Canmore

902 7 Avenue

Canmore, Alberta T1W 3K1

Phone: 403.678.1500 | Fax: 403.678.1534

www.canmore.ca



On behalf of Town of Canmore Council, I would like to extend my congratulations to all the nominees and recipients of the 31st Annual Emerald Awards.

Canmore has a long-standing commitment to taking meaningful action related to environmental stewardship, running the gamut between animal proof garbage bins and protecting wildlife connectivity through corridors and habitat patches. We have also taken strides with respect to climate change action. In 2019, Council declared a State of Climate Emergency. This declaration is intended to reaffirm our commitment and add Canmore's voice to a growing number of communities, territories, and nations making similar declarations.

It is my pleasure to recognize two Canmore based organizations for their nominations in this year's Emerald Awards, The Resilience Institute and Canmore Community Cruisers "Bike All Winter Program". The work of these organizations and others in our community, are part of what makes me proud to call Canmore home.

Thank you to the Alberta Emerald Foundation for the work you do to shine the spotlight on environmental leaders in Alberta.

Mayor Sean Krausert Town of
Canmore



Message from Ralph Leriger

Mayor of Westlock



A Message from Mayor Ralph Leriger

On behalf of the Town of Westlock, I congratulate all the nominees and recipients and thank the Alberta Emerald Foundation for showcasing environmental innovation and recognizing those individuals and organizations across the province making a difference today by planning for our tomorrow. From large scale projects to community-focused initiatives, real change happens when we set our sights on achievable goals and discover what we can do today.

To all in attendance, enjoy the evening, and I wish you every success as you continue to research, lead, and innovate for the betterment of all!

We thank you for combining your creativity and awareness with action to achieve a more sustainable future for us all.

Sincerely,

Ralph Leriger, Mayor
Town of Westlock

EMBRACE YOUR **WILD** SIDE



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Get ahead with a career in forestry.

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Alberta Emerald Foundation Board Chair, Lee Funke



On behalf of the Alberta Emerald Foundation's (AEF) Board of Directors, welcome to the 31st Annual Emerald Awards. We're so glad that we're able to gather together once again, in person, to celebrate the achievements of this year's shortlist and recipients.

The AEF has a distinguished history of honouring Alberta's environmental leaders, and today we welcome 29 organizations, collaborative projects, and individuals to the Emerald Awards alumni. Each and every one provides an inspiring story of extraordinary leadership and innovation in their approach to environmental stewardship. These are examples from all corners of our province who, in their own unique way, are advancing how we address local, regional, and global environmental and climate issues. Each deserves acknowledgement and respect for their outstanding accomplishments.

Congratulations to each of you!

I would like to thank the Emerald Awards judging panel. Each judge volunteers over 50 hours of their time, energy, and expertise each year to select our shortlist and recipients. Their dedication, passion, and enthusiasm to a measured and fair outcome contributes to the success of the Emerald Awards in immeasurable ways. For that, we thank you.

And finally, I would like to thank our sponsors and donors, both past and present, whose continued support of the AEF is critical in helping us tell Alberta's environmental good-news stories. Thanks to their support, we have been able to tell the stories of nearly 400 recipients and 900 finalists, inspire Albertans towards environmental stewardship, and contribute positively to the conversation of climate action in our province.

Please join me in recognizing, celebrating, and congratulating the 31st Annual Emerald Awards Shortlist.

Sincerely,

Lee Funke
AEF Board Chair



Alberta Emerald Foundation

Executive Director, Marisa Orfei and Communications & Engagement Specialist, Sabrina Huot



Welcome to the 31st Annual Emerald Awards!

Since 2020 we've been patiently waiting for the time to come when we could gather in-person again and celebrate Alberta's environmental leaders, and that time is finally here.

While the past two years brought many challenges, we never wavered from our mission of telling Alberta's environmental good-news stories. Now, we find ourselves in a new environment that allows us to celebrate the 31st Annual Emerald Awards in-person and we could not be more excited to be with you all.

The Alberta Emerald Foundation is known for being Alberta's environmental good-news storytellers, and tonight we're here to tell the stories of 29 organizations, collaborative projects, and individuals from across the province. Congratulations to each of you for making this year's shortlist and thank you to everyone who took the time to submit a nomination!



Each year, a third-party panel of judges with expertise from various sectors across Alberta brings a diverse and informed perspective to each nomination we receive for the Emerald Awards. We'd like to thank this year's judges who reviewed and scored the 44 nominations that we received for the 31st Annual Emerald Awards, the awards wouldn't be possible without you!

One of the most important criteria the Emerald Award judges used when scoring this year's nominations was the Seven Generation Principle of the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), which holds the philosophy that the decisions we make today should result in a sustainable world seven generations into the future. Tonight we keep the Seventh Generation Principle at the forefront of our minds as we celebrate and tell the stories of Alberta's environmental leaders.

The 31st Annual Emerald Awards wouldn't be possible without the support of our Annual and Category sponsors, as well as our donors. Their generosity allows us to tell Alberta's environmental good-news stories and inspire environmental stewardship throughout the province. Thank you to The Alberta Forest Products Association, The Alberta Real Estate Foundation, Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation, Alberta Recycling Management Authority, Beverage Container Management Board, The City of Calgary, Capital Power, Dow Canada, Edmonton Community Foundation, The Government of Alberta, and Syncrude operated by Suncor, we wouldn't be able to do this important work without you.

We hope you enjoy this evening of celebration!

Sincerely,

Marisa Orfei & Sabrina Huot



Over the last 30 years, we've established ourselves as Alberta's environmental good-news storytellers.

Now we're sharing our advice, experience, and connections to help strengthen our province's environmental voice.

- **Tutorials**
- **Webinars**
- **Partnerships**

Learn more at
emeraldfoundation.ca/tys



Mortimer Capriles

**Director of Sustainability and Innovation at
Goodwill Industries of Alberta**

Mortimer Capriles has been the Director of Sustainability and Innovation at Goodwill Industries of Alberta since January 2018. His responsibilities include leadership of all sustainability projects, including sustainability reporting and stakeholder engagement, he is also responsible for the Goodwill Impact Centres in Edmonton and Calgary. Capriles holds an Executive MBA, a Bachelor's degree in Geography, a Diploma in Hospitality management, and several postgraduate certificates related to sustainability, environmental planning, and leadership. He also holds the Environmental Professional Certification awarded by Eco Canada and the Global Sustainability Practitioner certification (CSR-P).



Bradley Peter

**Professional Biologist and Executive Director
of the Alberta Lake Management Society**

Bradley received his BSc in Ecology in 2010 from the University of Alberta. For the past 10 years, he has worked to design, coordinate, and deliver participatory science programs to support the understanding and management of Alberta's lakes and watersheds. In 2015, Bradley and the Alberta Lake Management Society team received the Emerald Challenge Award: Water for the LakeWatch program.



Monique Dietrich

Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program
Coordinator, Alberta Environment and Parks

Monique has been working with Alberta's watershed stewards for the past 15 years during her career with Alberta Environment and Parks. She has supported efforts all over the province with watershed planning, and currently by coordinating the Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program. In the 1990s she moved from the Maritimes to attend the University of Calgary where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Geography and a Master's of Science in Resources and Environment, specializing in water management. She fell in love with the beauty of Alberta and feels fortunate to love her work too. She especially likes working with the dedicated and hardworking Albertans who develop and implement plans to restore and conserve Alberta's natural areas.



Sarah Fulton

Senior Advisor, Environmental and Social Risk
Management, Export Development Canada (EDC)

Sarah has been providing advice to the corporate world on environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues since 2006, first as an external consultant and most recently as an in house expert. Based in Calgary, Sarah's experience has focused on the Canadian energy sector. Sarah holds a Master's degree from Dalhousie University, where her thesis examined greenhouse gas emissions in the supply chain of a UK seafood company. Sarah was formerly on the Board of the Bow River Basin Council, and started their Young Professionals Committee.

A stylized logo consisting of two overlapping leaf shapes, one dark teal and one light teal, positioned behind the word "Judges".

Judges



Michael Nemeth

Senior Advisor, Agricultural and Environmental Sustainability, Nutrien

Mike is a Professional Agrologist (P.Ag.) in the practice areas of Environmental Impact Assessment and Mitigation Planning and Water Resources Planning and Management and registered as an Environmental Professional (EP) with the ECO Canada Certification Program. He provides decision and policy support for government, municipalities, and various industry sectors through collaborative processes. Mike currently serves on the Board of Directors for Inside Education and for Field to Market Canada. Mike has previously served as an Advisory Board Member for the Alliance for Water Stewardship North America, as well as the Board of Directors for the Bow River Basin Council, a member of the Alberta Chamber of Resources Responsible Development Committee, and on numerous other boards.



Katie Kohlenberg

Project Manager, EcoAmmo Sustainable Consulting

Katie started in the sustainability industry in 2006 and is currently a project manager for EcoAmmo Sustainable Consulting where she manages sustainable building certifications and facilitates IPD projects. She has been interested in environmentalism since taking a class on the topic at University, this one class helped to shape her career in sustainability. Sustainability not just Katie's career choice, it is also a personal passion.



Judges



Kelsey Dokis-Jansen

PhD student, Faculty of Native Studies,
University of Alberta

Kelsey is Anishinaabe and a PhD student at the University of Alberta. Her research is focused on Indigenous governance, community development, and land-based conservation and research practice. She also completed her BSc in Environmental and Conservation Sciences and MSc in Risk and Community Resilience at UAlberta. Kelsey's initial post-secondary and professional background was focused on Environmental Technology, working primarily on environmental and cultural assessments on and near First Nations lands in southern Alberta. Kelsey has always been driven by a desire to see Indigenous peoples as fully engaged partners in the management of land in their territories, bringing together the wisdom of traditional knowledge with the tools of science to understand and care for the land.



Kathryn Wagner

Program Director, Inside Education

Inside Education is an Alberta-based non-profit education society dedicated to supporting teachers, inspiring students and creating a province of informed stewards of natural resources and the environment. Kathryn discovered Inside Education in 2006 while completing her after-degree in education and upon learning about the wide range of student and teacher programs knew it was the perfect fit to build a career as a self-proclaimed 'cool aunt of teaching'.



Melissa Radu

Sustainability Manager, Edmonton Economic Development Corporation

As sustainability manager at the Explore Edmonton Melissa manages the long-term sustainability strategies for Explore Edmonton including both the Edmonton Convention Centre and Edmonton EXPO Centre. Stressing the importance of data and measurement in sustainability, Melissa works closely with these teams to set the benchmarks for year-after-year improvement and works to empower event professionals to collaborate outside of industry boundaries to drive positive change for future generations. Melissa holds a masters in Sustainable Regional Development and Tourism and brings international experience to the Explore Edmonton sustainability program. Melissa's main motivation in this work is to help all of us to be more courageous and optimistic about protecting our earth's natural systems.



Wendy Coons

Sustainability Performance Specialist with Cenovus Energy

Wendy has worked within the energy industry in Canada and the financial industry in Australia. Over the past 20 years, Wendy has helped implement software systems and processes to track and report on environmental data, as well as help establish sustainability strategies and programs. As a Chartered Professional Accountant, her focus is on preparing and presenting ESG data to inform and drive continuous improvement in environmental and social performance within her organization.

Regulating and Stewarding Beverage Containers for 30 years



BEVERAGE CONTAINER MANAGEMENT BOARD



ALBERTA BEVERAGE CONTAINER
RECYCLING CORPORATION

Congratulations and good luck to all 2022 nominees



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Mark Brostrom

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Department of Resource Economics and
Environmental Sociology

Trina Innes

Executive Director, Municipal Climate Change
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Alberta Municipalities, Alberta Urban Municipalities
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Kari McDonald - Chief Operating Officer,
YellowBike Solutions



Making a difference. For the industry. For Alberta.

We advance and improve the real estate industry by investing in education, law reform, research, and projects and activities that benefit the industry and Albertans.

Explore the projects and resources we fund that support sustainable land use and contribute to healthier built environments in Alberta.



Foundation-funded projects left to right, top row: [Enabling housing choice through policy refinement, integration & collaboration](#) from the Rural Development Network; [Toolkit for healthy, resilient homes and communities in times of pandemic recovery](#) from the University of Alberta, School of Public Health; [Welcome to the lake program](#) by the Pigeon Lake Watershed Association. Middle row: [Green Communities Guide](#) by the Land Stewardship Centre; [Transformative revitalization in Alberta's underutilized downtown assets](#) from the University of Calgary, School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape; [Remediation of Water from livestock feeding operations, farmlands, and residential areas using native wetland plants](#) from Olds College Centre for Innovation. Last row: [Enhancing rural properties and communities values](#) by the Agroforestry & Woodlot Extension Society; [Uncovering real estate value through a digital home label pilot program](#) from Alberta Ecotrust Foundation; [Towards a future free of radon in the residential built environment](#) by the University of Calgary, Cumming School of Medicine and EvictRadon.



Special Guests



Gordie Lucius

Creator, comedian, and writer

Gordie is a creator, comedian, and writer from Edmonton. Most recently, he has become the host of the totally wild and out there comedic natural history series Frick, I Love Nature which you can totally now watch on CBC Gem! In the series, Gordie uses jokes, puppetry, and blind enthusiasm to educate the world about some of nature's more "wack-a-doo" facts. Other than being a cheeky lil nature host, Gordie was a finalist of the National Screen Institute's 2020 Totally Television Program and is a recent alumnus of the Corus Writer's Apprenticeship program where he worked on Run The Burbs. When he's not writing, hosting, or making props out of old tennis ball containers he can be found listening to Norah Jones and drinking a \$7 dollar bottle of Copper Moon. He is absolutely tickled "green" to be this year's Emerald Award's MC!



Walter MacDonald White Bear

Singer-songwriter, educator, and motivational speaker

Walter MacDonald White Bear is a Cree singer-songwriter, educator, and motivational speaker originally from the First Nation of Moose Factory, Ontario. Walter has been performing acoustic and flute music for many years. His music is a reflection of his personal journey as a First Nations person in Canada. Performance highlights include The Edmonton Folk Music Festival, The Chiefs Summit with Tom Jackson, The Dream Speakers Festival, The Mountain Song Native Theater, and the World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education.



Special Guests



Ira Provost

Manager of Piikani Nation Consultation

Ira Provost is the Manager of Piikani Nation Consultation representing the Piikani First Nation in External Government Relations as intermediary between external proponents (Industry & Government) and the Nation to facilitate and conduct relationship in Piikani ancestral land development. Ira's graduate studies have involved the impact and examination of consultation and Indigenous knowledge application in land and land use planning. Ira has also developed innovative technologies for his nation in Traditional Knowledge data capture and meaningful implementation into business development. Ira is a Traditional Knowledge Keeper for the Piikani Nation and Blackfoot Confederacy actively involved in ceremony and Indigenous knowledge stewardship.



Research & Development delivers a new technology solution for oil sands tailings

Syncrude's Base Mine Lake (BML), is the oil sands industry's first full scale demonstration of water-capping tailings to form a lake from a former oil sands mine.

Syncrude has researched the technology since the early 1980s. Results gave Syncrude confidence to pursue the technology at full-scale. After the lake was commissioned in 2012, a multi-university, interdisciplinary Research and Monitoring Program was implemented.

The Program tracks trends across a range of physical, chemical and biological lake characteristics and compares these to key performance indicators. It also helps Syncrude determine if any management actions are required to keep progress on track.

Results are shared with stakeholders, including local First Nations. In 2019, a new walking trail allowed access to the Lake and its reclaimed shoreline.

"The new trail allows us to show people how the lake is progressing rather than just talk about it," says Carla Wytrykush, Reclamation

and Closure Research Ecologist at Syncrude. "We're able demonstrate our research and monitoring practices right in front of visitors, and show the plants and animals living in the lake. They can see for themselves how well the lake is doing."

Although Base Mine Lake is still in the early stages of development, results already include tailings consolidation, abundant biological activity, and improved water quality.

Syncrude's goal is to evolve the lake into a landscape that connects to the reclaimed forests and wetlands in the final closure landscape. Says Carla, "Our ability to successfully prove this tailings technology will be instrumental for the oil sands mining industry, as it will benefit all of the operators on their reclamation journey."

The Base Mine Lake walking trail allows Syncrude to lead conversations with stakeholders and visitors.

Syncrude
Operated by Suncor

Legacy Categories

Celebrating an organization or individual's legacy of environmental excellence in addressing and mitigating the effects of local, regional, and global climate and environmental issues.



Business



SunnyCider

Upcycling Organic Waste

Location: Calgary

SunnyCider utilizes wasted fruit and upcycles them into consumable beverages of cider, spirits, and vinegars. They work with a network of donors that collect and deliver the fruit which they convert primarily into apple cider.



Zeno Renewables

Location: Calgary

Zeno was started because they believe that every home can be a catalyst for change. They work with Canadians who are looking for exceptional solar products and sustainable energy solutions to fuel a greener, brighter future for their homes, their community, and the world.

To Zeno, sustainability is not just about individual gain. It's about the betterment of the entire planet. They know that the key to change is through collective action, and it's why they aim to create impact within local and global communities. To build momentum towards this ambitious future, Zeno's team moves at lightning speed to bring turn-key solutions and best-in-class solar products to homeowners across Canada. They're not just imagining an exciting and brighter future, they're creating it.

A photograph of two women standing in a park, wrapped in large, quilted blankets with a prominent star pattern in red, black, and white. The woman on the left is seen from the side, looking towards the right. The woman on the right is facing forward, smiling. The background shows trees and a grassy area.

Star
bright.

Funding from Edmonton Community Foundation supports the Edmonton Artists' Trust Fund and provides the means for our city's creative community to grow its cultural roots. As gifts expressing respect and recognition, Andrea Bellegarde-Courchene's star blankets wrap the recipient in the rich past and bold promise of the Indigenous culture.

Donations to ECF inspire hope, create opportunity and enhance the Edmonton lifestyle. We work with our donors to give, grow and transform.
ecfoundation.org helps Edmonton shine.



Charity begins at Home.



Community Group or Nonprofit



Newo

Location: Camrose

Newo is a non-profit social enterprise exploring ways to share abundance (Wêyôtan) through harmonious relationships (Wahkohtowin). Newo is interested in wide-ranging outcomes: promoting respectful relations through reconciliation, empowering workers with barriers to employment, fostering friendships with clients, and blazing a trail to a society that helps the people and places within it thrive. They believe our society has the human and material resources needed to transform the way we do business; they want to help build an economy based on more than scarcity and competition.

Their services include solar-PV design and installation, energy audits and educational workshops. They are also piloting initiatives ranging from Indigenous food-security projects, to pay-it-forward financing models, to supporting Indigenous sharing circles.



Society of Grasslands Naturalists

Three Decades of Conservation

Location: Medicine Hat

The Society of Grasslands Naturalists (GN) is a registered non-profit charitable organization that aims to encourage study, appreciation, and protection of the natural world; encourage the preservation of natural features, habitat and species; assist in the collection of observational records of species for research, education, and policy development; and provide opportunities for responsible stewardship of the natural environment in the Medicine Hat area.

GN provides regular meetings, field trips, education, and stewardship action opportunities for the benefit of our members and other interested individuals and groups. We also offer extensive public and school programming by managing the Medicine Hat Interpretive Program (MHIP) and operating the Police Point Nature Centre under contract to the City of Medicine Hat.

Community Group or Nonprofit



The Resilience Institute

Location: Canmore

Wicked challenges, like climate change, require multi-pronged and transdisciplinary approaches for successful adaptation and mitigation. The Resilience Institute's work focuses on co-developing initiatives that weave local and cultural knowledge with scientific and technical expertise and foster multi-generational engagement.

The Resilience Institute partners with local and Indigenous communities, academia, governments, and other charities on initiatives that advance our charitable objectives. They co-develop activities that unite multi-generations in learning and sharing and most initiatives are community-led, supported by them where needed.

A woman with glasses and curly hair, wearing an orange life vest over a blue shirt, is standing in shallow water. She is smiling at the camera. The background shows a body of water and some greenery under a blue sky with clouds.

Carla
is turning a
former mine
into a lake.

Decades of research has led to the oil sands' first commercial demonstration of an End-Pit Lake. Developed to reclaim mine tailings, this technology contains the tailings in an empty mine pit with water on top to create a lake. The water supports a variety of aquatic life including algae, zooplankton and insects. Continued research and monitoring is helping us optimize and validate this innovative technology.

Learn more at
syncrude.ca

Syncrude
Operated by Suncor

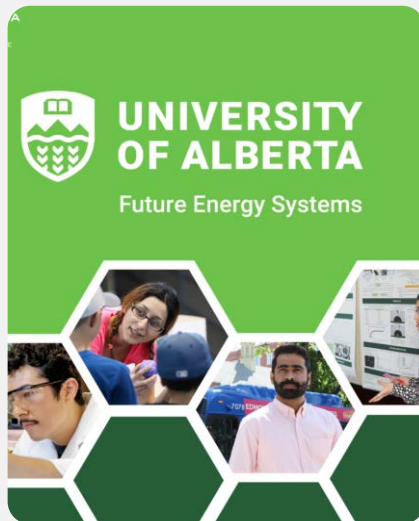


Presented by:



BEVERAGE CONTAINER MANAGEMENT BOARD

Education



Future Energy Systems

Location: Edmonton

Future Energy Systems (FES) is a research program at the University of Alberta funded by the Canada First Research Excellence Fund. Their mission is to enable a brighter future for energy, in Canada, and around the world, supporting the energy transition towards a sustainable, economically viable, and just system where energy and environment exist in harmony and the needs of people and communities are met without strife.

FES is focused on positively impacting the environment and mitigating the effects of climate change by supporting research on the energy transition considering technology, the intersection of energy and the environment, as well as social and economic challenges.



Seeing is Believing: A Legacy of Providing EdTech for Sustainability to Alberta Students

Alberta Tomorrow Foundation

Location: Cochrane

In 2003 Dr. Brad Stelfox and Matthew Carlson recognized the need for an educational tool to help Albertans understand the complexities of land use planning in Alberta. With limited resources and a booming economy and population, the need to create land-use plans that looked at the cumulative effects of our activities on the land and balanced our environmental and socio/economic needs led to the first free, online educational land-use simulator for Alberta.

Between 2011-2017 the simulator evolved. Over this time 4 new versions were developed to modernize the look and to increase functionality and gamification necessary to appeal to the ever-changing technological expectations of students. With an expanding list of teacher resources and collaborations with other groups, registered user numbers grew.



Evergreen Theatre Society

Location: Calgary

The Evergreen Theatre Society (ETS) proudly offers curriculum-based musical theatre touring shows and artist-in-residency programs.

ETS' innovative curriculum-linked residencies get kids to teach their peers about science and the environment through theatre. Using inquiry-based learning, students are challenged to discover meaning and relevance in curriculum-linked topics pertinent to natural, scientific, and environmental issues. Facilitating the development of both critical and creative thinking, ETS raises environmental and social awareness and empowers youth to take part in making positive choices. Students "Grow A Show" through a series of playwriting and performance workshops over a period of one week – two weeks. The artists will lead the school in the creation, rehearsal, and performance of a brand new, science-inspired work of theatre, showcasing the students in an environmental extravaganza of their own invention.

Regulating and Stewarding Beverage Containers for 30 years



Congratulations and good luck to all 2022 nominees

Youth



The Alberta Youth Leaders for Environmental Education

Location: Edmonton

Initiated in 2016, the Alberta Youth Leaders for Environmental Education (AYLEE) is a collaborative, inclusive program for students grades 7-12 that demonstrates leadership in environmental education and climate action.

AYLEE provides members with opportunities to connect with like-minded youth; learn about the environment and climate change; collaborate on projects that advance climate action and climate education, and take action within their schools to help build a more sustainable future. Through the program, youth are empowered to advocate for increased sustainability in their schools and environmental education in the curriculum, all in the pursuit of creating change within Alberta's K-12 education system.



The Power of Skate

Next Step High School

Location: Sherwood Park

The Power of Skate is a student-led project that is built around environmental sustainability and conservation. We create skateboards and goods that are centered around what's important to us and the world at large.

In The Power of Skate program, students create their own brand that engages in energy conservation topics that are important to them. In turn, they create brands that promote their cause. Students explore the fundamentals of manufacturing, marketing, and design to create brand assets and merchandise such as T-shirts, skateboards that provide social commentary and awareness on student chosen energy conservation issues facing the local community, society, and the globe. The project culminates with each student being provided an opportunity to curate a real-world product launch and pop-up sale in the local community with proceeds helping local conservation efforts.

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Over the last 30 years, we've established ourselves as Alberta's environmental good-news storytellers.

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- Tutorials
- Webinars
- Partnerships

Learn more at
emeraldfoundation.ca/tys



25 Years of Environmental Achievements at the M.D. of Ranchland No. 66

Location: Nanton

The Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66 prides itself as one of the most environmentally conscious municipalities in Alberta. Nestled away in the foothills and Rocky Mountains, the M.D. is home to countless watersheds, rangelands, forests, and wildlife, and has made it a top priority to take care of them. For 25 years, Ranchland has consistently implemented creative solutions to environmental issues. The M.D. has gone above and beyond to promote activities that are sustainable and compatible with the environment and the species and habitats we share the landscape with. The municipality particularly endeavors to protect and enhance the headwaters of the Oldman River and South Saskatchewan River Basin.



Fish in Schools (FinS)

Bow Habitat Station, Government of Alberta

Location: Calgary

FinS is a provincial fisheries management education program coordinated by Bow Habitat Station (BHS) that provides schools across Alberta unique and hands-on opportunities to raise rainbow trout in their classrooms. Since its inception in 1998, the program has engaged close to 45,000 students in over 30 communities across the province – from Hines Creek in the north to Pincher Creek in the south.

This sought-after program directly engages students and teachers from across Alberta with unique educational tools that support the delivery of science and nature topics in the classroom. Over a five-month period (January through May), students and teachers maintain fish health and the development of 65 rainbow trout in an aquarium in their classroom. Students monitor and participate in fish care to raise the fish from egg to fry and release them into provincially-approved water bodies.

CULTIVATING PARTNERSHIPS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

For as long as Dow has been solving problems, we have been investing in partnerships that are not just good for business, but good for the planet. Our collaboration with Global Citizenship partners like the Alberta Emerald Foundation continues to inspire solutions that the world needs — sowing the seeds for a more sustainable future. Congratulations to the finalists of the 31st Annual Emerald Awards.



Dowcanada.com |  

Imagine **Better**



Dale Gienow's passion is working with animals. With funding from Edmonton Community Foundation and as Director of WILDNorth, Dale is saving animals in distress in and around Edmonton; protecting the living nature that surrounds us.

Donations to ECF inspire hope, create opportunity and enhance the Edmonton lifestyle. We work with our donors to give, grow and transform. ecfoundation.org gives WILDNorth wings.

**EDMONTON
COMMUNITY**
FOUNDATION

Charity begins at Home.

A decorative graphic consisting of three overlapping leaf-like shapes in shades of pink, orange, and green.

Lifetime Achievement



Steve McIsaac

Location: Edmonton

Steve's career began in 1992 as the first full-time educator at Inside Education (then FEESA). With his background as a social studies teacher, Steve ensures a balanced approach to exploring environmental issues and sustainability. The legacy, consistency, and opportunities that Inside Education provides as an organization are directly attributed to Steve's leadership.

In addition to co-leading Alberta's first climate change education program, 1992's Atmospheric Change Teacher's Institute, Steve led Inside Education's first-ever student outdoor education field trip, delivered dozens of teacher professional development programs, co-authored numerous learning resources and even starred in an Educational Video.

Under his leadership, Inside Education has been recognized internationally, nationally and provincially – including being proud recipients of multiple Emerald Awards. As Executive Director he has proudly mentored dozens of Alberta's environmental and natural resources leaders, current and future teachers.

Inside Education has pivoted over the past 30 years, but its mission has never drifted. Steve's guidance and vision have encouraged staff to take risks and think big, but always within the scope of supporting teachers and inspiring students to become engaged stewards of our environment and natural resources.

With Inside Education's annual reach averaging over 20,000 students Steve's passion for environmental education has influenced the lives and learning of more than 600,000 young people!



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We are proud to support the Alberta Emerald Foundation's 31st Annual Emerald Awards.

Project/Initiative Categories

Showcasing the Albertan environmental projects and initiatives that have addressed and mitigated the effects of local, regional, and global environmental issues by achieving excellence aligned to current environmental priorities.





Water



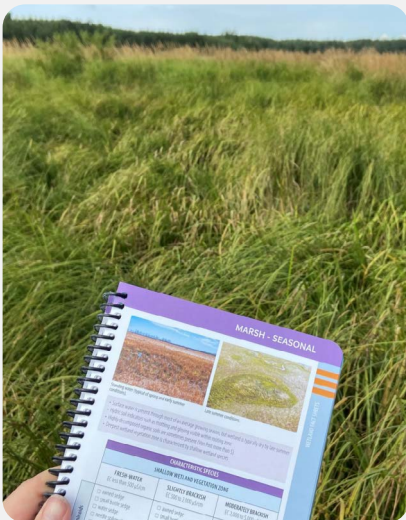
Riparian Web Portal

North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance

Riparian Web Portal is an exciting new project created by Alberta's watershed community. Officially launched in 2021, this online space is designed to encourage Albertans to conserve and improve riparian health today for a better tomorrow.

The Riparian Web Portal provides access to riparian data and summary tools, shares examples of on-the-ground restoration and conservation projects, and provides resources such as beneficial management practices, and links to relevant grants and programs.


Examples of real on-the-ground projects can be found throughout the Web Portal's map. Landowners can browse photos, timelines, and supporting partners of restoration and conservation projects in their area. Links to over 75 online resources are provided to users of the site.



A Very Visual Field Guide for Wetland Classification in Alberta

Ducks Unlimited Canada

The Alberta Wetland Classification System Field Guide provides wetland information clearly and logically, for users to navigate while assessing a wetland in the field. The introductory content of the guide exposes users to wetland functions, values, and classification concepts like the five main wetland classes in Alberta (bog, fen, swamp, marsh, shallow open water). The guide then walks users through wetland classification with 24 detailed fact sheets for each wetland class, form, and type, over 250 images and illustrations of wetlands and the 80 most common wetland plant species and Vegetation-based classification decision key.



Conservation today. A prosperous tomorrow.

Alberta has a strong history of environmental conservation, thanks in large part to the efforts of governments, businesses, non-profit organizations, Indigenous communities and everyday Albertans. Conserving our air, land, water and biodiversity is not only a moral obligation, but a tremendous source of provincial pride.

Congratulations to all the 2022 Emerald Award finalists and thank you for your continued commitment to environmental excellence.



Bike All Winter Program

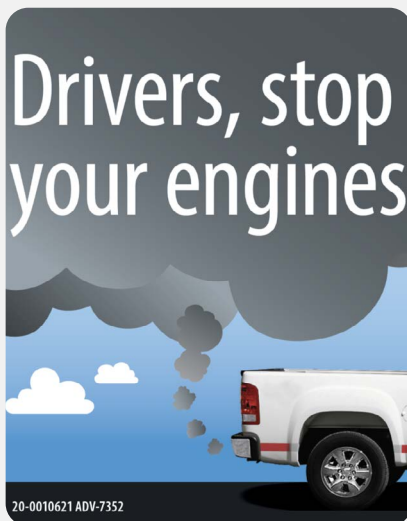
Community Cruisers

Location: Canmore

The goal of the Bike All Winter program is to increase the number of people using bikes for transportation during the winter months by targeting residents of Canmore and Banff that are currently not using bikes for transportation during the winter months but would like to start.

The program is run entirely by volunteers and has been in operation since September of 2020. In 2020 the program supported 38 participants and in 2021 it supported 85 participants. In 2022 the plan is to further grow the program to include 100 participants.

Participants receive training on winter bike riding, a Bike All Winter Mentor, and assistance and supplies to winterize their bike (e.g. studded tires, fenders, lights). Participants agree to ride their bike twice a week or more from November to March; post about winter riding at least once per week on social media; complete participant pre-and post-surveys; and participate in photo and video events.



Idling Reduction Initiative

City of Calgary

In November 2019, Idling Reduction Targets for The City's fleet were set by Calgary Council and Fleet Services was tasked with leading and coordinating the Idling Reduction Initiative. The City took several fundamental steps to reduce unnecessary idling of our municipal fleet, including the following highlights:

- Retrofitting fleet vehicles with technology to eliminate idling
- Supporting green driver training and safety initiatives
- Developing creative messaging and imagery to launch an internal communications campaign

The Emerald Documentary Series

Discover Alberta's environmental good-new stories...

Watch the first three seasons
at emeraldfoundation.ca



Emerald Speaker Series



Our version of TEDTalks, this series provides Emerald recipients with a platform to share their award-winning work and an inspiring environmental message with an audience.

Presented by:



Catch up on the series at emeraldfoundation.ca





Land



Edmonton Urban Farm is Growing

[Explore Edmonton](#)

Location: Edmonton

Since 2014, the Edmonton Urban Farm (EUF) has helped make Edmonton a greener, more sustainable city in several ways. The EUF has transformed 2 acres of excess urban land (abandoned, strewn with garbage and invasive weeds) into a productive space providing almost 50 (soon to be 100) people and their families with nutritious, locally grown food. This reduces the city's carbon footprint AND it serves as a model to other municipalities. The EUF is also a centre for learning about urban farming and food production. Groups that visit include youth groups, language learners, day camps, school groups, seniors, municipal employees, community garden members, new Canadians, just to name a few.



West Ritchie Community Gardens

Location: Edmonton

West Ritchie Community Gardens (WRCG) is a youth-led project to transform neglected land in Ritchie into a vibrant community space. This garden has created a community gathering space, with picnic tables, community art, and native edible landscaping. The WRCG also has garden boxes, water barrels, and composters to support local growing and better organics management. In addition to this, they also host events in the space, such as introductions to gardening and composting.

The WRCG aims to prioritize low-income families/food bank users in the area, as well as apartment dwellers who support our city's density initiatives at the expense of not having their own green space. They also work in harmony with the local community league to spread awareness of the new space, and amplify community involvement by our enthusiastic community group.



Highfield Regenerative Farm

Location: Calgary

Highfield Farm is located on 15-acres in the heart of an industrial community in the city of Calgary. In partnership with the Compost Council of Canada and the City of Calgary, they are transforming this vacant property into a vibrant and productive urban farm through soil revitalization, food production and community programming. The Highfield Farm urban agriculture project produces locally-grown food, raises general awareness of urban agriculture, generates entrepreneurial opportunities, and strengthens our communities.

They provide opportunities for our community to become engaged in their local food system through volunteering, learning, and sharing skills. Together with their volunteers they grow food, create compost, and activate and re-naturalize the land.

30 years
\$26.5 million
665+ initiatives

benefitting the real estate industry & Albertans.



ALBERTA
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Wildlife & Biodiversity



Plant Biodiversity Lab

Dr. Jana Vamosi, University of Calgary

Location: Calgary

This research program has been operating with the mission to prevent the extinction of plants in Canada by identifying and maintaining resilient ecosystems that foster their persistence for 15 years. The vision of this research program is to develop a system of prediction of extinction risk so that effort is directed to species deserving the most immediate attention.

The Plant Biodiversity Lab lab pinpoints important traits involved in improving the reproductive health of plants species, such as those involved in pollination and adaptability to climate change and works on a number of crop wild relatives to improve our ability to combat food insecurity.



Impact of long-term behavioral studies on the management and conservation of ungulates

Dr. Kathreen Ruckstuhl, University of Calgary

Location: Calgary

Dr. Ruckstuhl is particularly interested in what drives gregariousness, the social organization within groups, affinities and associations between group members, cost and benefits of group living, such as competition for food and mates, parasite and disease transmission, and cooperation, to name but a few aspects. She mainly studies different ungulate species in the field, mostly bighorn sheep and elk (or red deer). Current topics under investigation include among others: Sociality: costs and benefits of group living and decision-making; dominance hierarchies and hormones in bighorn sheep; red deer and bighorn sheep social networks and disease dynamics; and sociality, mate choice and parasites in bighorns; effect of urbanization on coyotes and elk.



Living with Wildlife

Dr. Shelley Alexander, University of Calgary

Location: Calgary

Living with Wildlife is an initiative on the University of Calgary (UCalgary) campus that includes an active human-coyote co-existence program, combined with a public education and outreach website. The aim is the non-lethal prevention of conflict.

Education outreach is derived from ecological and community-based research conducted in Dr. Alexander's Canid Conservation Science Lab, infused with 30 years of personal experience in wolf and coyote ecology, conservation and co-existence. This flagship co-existence program is founded on 4 pillars: monitoring/investigation, education, enforcement, and mitigation.



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Before a single tree is harvested, we plan
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take more than we give back.

Learn more about your relationship with Alberta's
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Waste Management



Blenderz Garment Recyclers Inc.

Location: Edmonton

Blenderz Garment Recyclers reclaims and recycles textiles that are deemed unsellable by thrift stores, charities, the general public, and businesses. Blenderz uses a zero-waste, no landfill approach through a mixture of solutions that keep these textiles from the traditionally linear supply chain stream and recycles them in a closed-loop system.

In nine months Blenderz has reclaimed and upcycled, 81.35 tons of textile waste from the local export and waste streams. Most of the material has been upgraded in value and re-entered into the local textile and garment supply chain further reducing the consumption of new fabrics for other small businesses. The volume of landfill avoided is 32,138.27 cubic yards which is equal to 9.8 Olympic size swimming pools.



Alternative Root Compost

Location: Westlock County

AltRoot is an Alberta-based waste management company that specializes in the handling of organic waste streams from municipal sources to produce organic compost and nutrient-dense soil. Their facility north of Edmonton is licensed to receive 20,000 tonnes of organic waste each year from surrounding towns and rural municipalities. They use covered aerated static pile (CASP) techniques and technologies that provide rapid biodegradation. CASP effectively provides the required environmental controls for air and odor emissions and for water quality concerns. With controlled high temperatures, we are able to process year-round and turn organic waste into nutrient-rich compost in as little as four to six weeks.



Microgreens Club – A Zero Waste Initiative

Micro YYC

Location: Calgary

The Microgreens Club is an entirely zero-waste home delivery program by Micro YYC. They deliver their microgreens directly to their club members in durable, reusable containers on a weekly or biweekly basis. Customers receive two containers of a curated rotating selection of microgreens delivered to their doorstep. They simply return their containers to Micro YYC each week, where they then sanitize them and use them again. They use a simple deposit system to assign value to the containers and create accountability. These containers will ideally remain in their system indefinitely. This program requires no single-use packaging whatsoever.



**11 MILLION
ELECTRONICS**
SINCE 2004



**135.8 MILLION
TIRES**
SINCE 1992



**31 MILLION LITRES
OF PAINT**
SINCE 2008



**1.94 BILLION LITRES
OF USED OIL**
SINCE 1997

THANKS A MILLION AND A BILLION ALBERTA!

Congratulations to all the nominees! Your continued passion, creativity, and innovation in solving today's environmental challenges is leading to positive change in building greener communities across Alberta and propelling us toward a *future without waste*.

Public Engagement & Outreach



Becoming Less Podcast

Waste Free Edmonton

Location: Edmonton

Becoming Less is a podcast about an Edmontonian journey to less waste, less impact, less consumption, and less clutter. With a focus on mindset, episodes fall into four different themes. Some episodes focus on ways our culture affects us unconsciously, bringing awareness to how our surroundings influence us. Some are about concrete swaps and solutions that individuals can make. Then there are interview episodes that include talking with local citizens about their individual journeys and what they have done to reduce their impact on waste and emissions. And finally interviews with local businesses that are making an impact within our city and beyond.



WILD Outside and Canadian Conservation Corps

Canadian Wildlife Federation

Location: Edmonton & Calgary

WILD Outside is a national conservation-based youth leadership program designed for youth ages 15 to 18. By participating in this unique and flexible program, youth across Canada experience opportunities for personal growth while developing and encouraging their own “conservation ethic.” Learning alongside their peers from our CWF facilitators and community partners, youth in the WILD Outside program enjoy opportunities for outdoor adventure and immersive nature experiences.

Change your life. Change the world! That’s the promise of the CWF Canadian Conservation Corps (CCC). This three-part program presents an exciting opportunity for youth ages 18 to 30 to learn, grow and experience Canada in a unique way while having a real impact on conservation in Canada.

Public Engagement & Outreach



The Power of Nature for Newcomers

Green Calgary

Location: Calgary

The Power of Nature is a series of workshops designed to engage ESL learners with actions they can take to reduce their energy consumption, lower utility bills, understand the connection between actions and climate change, and learn about jobs in the alternative energy industry. The program was delivered through 16 – 1-hour presentations and 4 – 1-hour in language sessions. Connecting environmental experts with immigrant-serving agencies, Power of Nature is designed to make climate actions approachable.

Calgary



Climate change impacts all of us.

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Thank You

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Marisa Orfei | Executive Director
marisa@emeraldfoundation.ca
(780) 938-6177

**Sabrina Huot | Communications
& Engagement Specialist**
sabrina@emeraldfoundation.ca
(780) 616-1556

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