

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



**Alberta
Emerald
Foundation**

OUR 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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To our supportive community,

I am delighted to present the Alberta Emerald Foundation's (AEF) Annual Report for 2023. It is with great pride that I reflect on the journey we have undertaken over the past twelve months. As Board Chair, I am privileged to witness the collective dedication and passion that drives our organization towards its mission of showcasing, inspiring, and empowering Alberta's environmental achievements.

Throughout the year, our team, along with our partners and supporters, have continued to make progress on our commitment to telling Alberta's environmental good news stories to uplift, educate, and inspire our province toward environmental excellence. As I look back on 2023, it's filled with celebration and a multitude of stories filled with innovation, collaboration, and dedication to our environment.

Telling these stories wouldn't be possible without the unwavering support of our partners, staff, volunteers, and the entire AEF community. Your dedication and collaboration have been instrumental in achieving our mission, for this, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you.

I look forward to another year of growth, collaboration, and positive change.

Sincerely,

Lee Funke
Board Chair



OUR PARTNERS

Platinum



Gold



Silver



STAFF

Marisa Orfei

Executive Director



Sabrina Huot

Communications & Engagement Specialist



ABOUT US

We tell Alberta's environmental good news stories to uplift, educate, and inspire our province toward meeting environmental and climate action goals

Research suggests that when we learn about what real environmental and climate change solutions look like and how they're being implemented in our communities, it increases our ability and desire to take action in our own lives. By providing real-life examples of these solutions through our various storytelling programs, we help Albertans take the next step toward environmental protection and climate action.

Mission

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

Vision

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

OUR PROGRAMS

Emerald Awards

Our flagship program, which showcases organizations, projects, and individuals from across Alberta who are working to address environmental and climate change issues.

Sharing Stories

This storytelling program brings examples of environmental excellence from across the province front and centre to educate Albertans on the environmental challenges we face, the inspiring work happening to tackle those challenges, and ways we can all get involved.

Emerald Youth Grants

The EYG program empowers youth in Alberta to make their dream environmental projects a reality through micro grants.



32ND ANNUAL EMERALD AWARDS



On June 7, 2023, we hosted the 32nd Annual Emerald Awards at the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton to celebrate and recognize the environmental achievements of the Emerald Award shortlist.

We were joined by numerous special guests including host Julian Faid, local indigenous hand drum group, Chubby Cree, Edmonton Mayor Amarjeet Sohi, Calgary Mayor Jyoti Gondek, Federal Environment Minister Steven Guilbeault, and Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Her Honour, the Honourable Salma Lakhani.

192 people attended the awards in person and 626 people tuned in online through our live-stream video.

39 Shortlisted groups

14 Municipalities represented

15 Recipients



“ I think having an event to recognize environmental work is important, not only to create a goal to work toward but also to help raise the profile of work happening in the province. Additionally, it gives people with similar goals a chance to interact and talk to one another to help form partnerships that work ”

“ I felt uplifted and encouraged by the quality of the shortlisted candidates and the amazing work performed by people who are devoted to making our planet a little better than we found it ”

SHARING STORIES



The Emerald Documentary Series

In 2023 we released season 4 of our documentary series, featuring the recipients of the 31st Annual Emerald Awards. These videos not only tell the story behind their environmental work but why it's so important and how it impacts our lives.

12 videos **16,800** views

What On EARTH Can We Do?

In this seasonal podcast, our host, Bri Huot, sits down with environmental leaders from across Alberta to figure out what on earth we can do to take action against climate change and protect our environment.

580 unique listeners **1008** downloads



The Environmental Speaker Series

This series is a space where you can learn from Alberta's environmental leaders, connect with members of your community, and be inspired to take the next step toward positive change for our environment. In 2023 we hosted our first in-person series at Roundhouse in Downtown Edmonton.

33 attendees **57%** left feeling inspired to take action

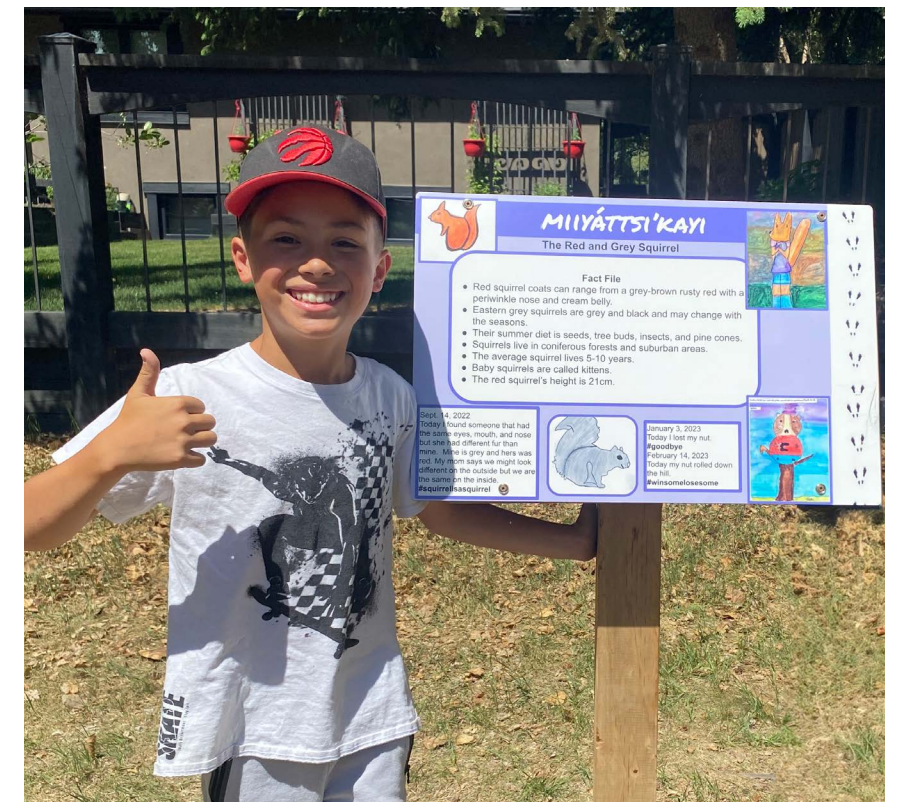
EMERALD YOUTH GRANTS



28 grants distributed

21,000 dollars in funding

10 communities across Alberta



“Funding from the EYG program has been the difference between teaching about energy and environmental education and experiencing it! It is very simply to apply, utilize and report for and has made such a huge difference in my classroom. I cant say enough about AEF and all of their generous support”



OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Benchmark NYC Awards

This year we hosted this inaugural award ceremony with the City of Calgary to celebrate buildings with the best year-over-year energy performance and also find out how it's helping the City more actively manage its emissions in accordance with its net zero emission targets for 2050!

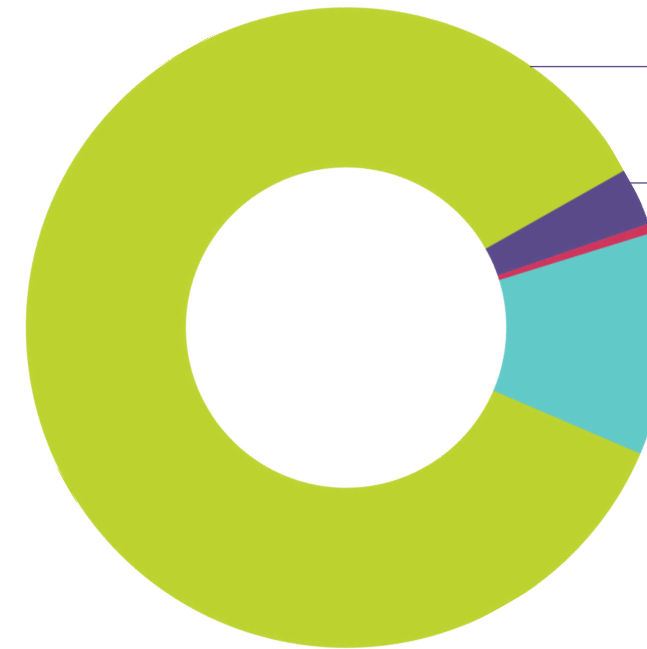
Having the opportunity to not only host these awards but play an integral role in the planning process was a huge honour and allowed us to find new ways to fulfill our mission of showcasing, inspiring, and empowering Alberta's environmental achievements.

Emerald Documentary Series: Season 5

This summer and fall, we explored 9 municipalities across Alberta, capturing the stories of the 32nd Annual Emerald Award recipients. Connecting with these environmental leaders was incredibly inspiring and we can't wait to share their impactful stories with you in January 2024!

REVENUE

\$231,233



Sponsorship
88.37%

Donations
3.02%

Event ticket sales
0.50%

Investment income
11.63%

EXPENDITURES

\$319,411



HR and Direct Program Delivery
56.19%

Administration
7.28%

Grants Distributed
16%

Travel
0.42%

Non-HR Program Delivery
20.06%

Advertising
0.09%



emeraldfoundation.ca
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The Alberta Emerald Foundation is a registered charity
CRA BN# 13380 0771 RR0001