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2019-2020 IMPACT REPORT



New and Significant Conservation Targets: Protecting 30% by 2030

Let me begin by thanking you for standing with us for another year as we continue the fight to protect and restore Canada's unmatched and irreplaceable wilderness.

Our 2019-2020 year began with the affirmation of our CPAWS All in for Nature pledge to double what we are able to raise to support our efforts in public land and ocean conservation in Canada over the next decade and to triple our supporter base. Our unwavering determination is inspired by the science that demonstrates that protection and restoration of nature is essential for stemming the impact of climate change and biodiversity loss.

Over the course of this reporting period, Canada surpassed its 10% target for the protection of oceans – an admirable and essential achievement, as encouraged in our 2019 ocean report. While Canada continues to progress toward its target of 17% by 2020 for the protection of land and freshwater, the federal government made new and significant conservation targets of 25% by 2025 and 30% by 2030.

Securing these targets has been and will continue to be core to our mission at CPAWS.

As a fall 2019 election loomed, CPAWS was steadfast in its non-partisan advocacy for nature conservation as a key component of all party platforms. The same was true for commitments to protecting and restoring nature as Parliament resumed with a minority government.

It was inspiring to see, and influential to share, polling data from the International Boreal Conservation Campaign that showed that nine out of 10 Canadians support the commitment to protect nature and invest in Indigenous protected areas.

CPAWS and our nearly 200,000 supporters have a lot to be proud of.

Our efforts – our annual conservation reports detailing Canada's progress and encouraging further action, our ongoing regional conservation and protected areas campaigns, and our collaborative efforts with other organizations, such as the Green Budget Coalition – all contributed to helping Canada take steps to protect and restore more of our cherished land and ocean over the last year and to adopt ambitious new targets for the years to come.

There is still much to do!

Our February 2020 report, Government investments bring Canada closer to conservation goals, provided an in-depth look at the success of the conservation efforts funded through the federal government's \$175-million Challenge Fund. It also illustrated that greater investment is needed to have a significant and long-standing impact.

Our July 2019 annual parks report, Canada's Nature Emergency: Scaling up solutions for land and freshwater, focused on highlighting the biodiversity crisis in Canada and how protected areas are one of the best solutions.

And our first-ever climate report released in August 2019, Finding Common Ground: Six steps for tackling climate change and biodiversity loss in Canada, provided clear steps the federal government can take to address climate change by addressing emissions from land disturbance due to industrial activity.

CPAWS does what it does because of the generous support we receive from our donors, volunteers, and partners. We thank you for making our successes possible. I look forward to keeping you informed on our progress as we forge ahead.

Yours in conservation,

Sandra Schwartz National Executive Director



Protecting and Restoring Nature in Canada



At the close of my inaugural year as CPAWS President, I am encouraged by the progress CPAWS, with our 13 chapters across the country, are making in the protection and restoration of nature in Canada and I am motivated by the pressing need to do more.

Looking back, across our country and around the world, we saw youth-

led marches for climate action recognizing that our future, that of nature, and our planet, lay in the hands of the decisions that governments make today. CPAWS was there, marching alongside Canadians, young and old, from coast to coast to coast, asking for a better tomorrow.

To help guide the way forward, in August 2019 we released our first-ever report on climate change and the benefits of nature-based solutions to mitigate the impacts of climate change. The report provided a high-level roadmap for policy makers to harness ecosystem conservation and deliver win-win climate and biodiversity benefits by 2030.

In February 2020, we went from strategy to action by co-hosting the Nature-Based Climate Solutions Summit in Ottawa. With 12 partner organizations, CPAWS brought together 450 thought leaders on climate change and biodiversity policy to collaborate on the roadmap for implementing nature-based climate solutions.

Summit participants came from across Canada and sectors – government, Indigenous leadership, conservation and climate non-profits, foundations, farmers, labour unions representatives, industry associations, and more. They explored nature-based climate solutions from different angles, digging deeper on the role of Canadian ecosystems – forests, wetlands, grasslands and the ocean – in addressing climate change. They shared insights on approaches for implementing nature-based climate solutions, such as carbon pricing, forest management regulations, protected areas, ecosystem adaptation and restoration and Indigenous-led solutions. The result was a demonstration of widespread support for bold government investment and action on nature-based solutions to climate change.

We were thrilled in December 2019 when Canada's government confirmed its commitment to protecting 25% of Canada's land and ocean by 2025 and 30% by 2030, and also to implementing nature-based climate solutions.

Our work is far from finished, but momentum is building. Our voices are being heard and change is coming. CPAWS remains focused, today more than ever, on ensuring that the government's bold and necessary commitments result in concrete action to deal with the current nature emergency.

We will continue to work with decision makers, knowledge brokers and traditional guardians of the land to protect and restore the biodiversity of Canada's magnificent natural heritage.

Laura Colella Chair and President, National Board of Trustees

Conservation highlights from an inspiring year! (April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020)

In April 2019, CPAWS declared that we're *All in for Nature* at the Nature Champion Summit held in Montreal, Quebec. If we want fresh air, clean water, and safe environments to live in, this scale of conservation action is what nature champions need to be advocating for! And this work is well underway.

After labouring for many years to ensure the future of sea pens, sharks and turtles as well as more than 20 species of whales and other creatures, CPAWS celebrated the **final designation of the Laurentian Channel Marine Protected Area (MPA)**, a rich ocean area off the southern Newfoundland coast, and the government's intention to prohibit oil and gas activities.

Additionally, Canada successfully met – and significantly surpassed – its commitment to protect 10% of its ocean territory. This achievement was made following the announcement of interim protection for the Tuvaijuittuq Marine Protected Area in the High Arctic Basin of Nunavut, which covers 5.55% of Canada's ocean territory. Since 2015, Canada has increased its ocean protection from just over 1% to an incredible 13.82%!



Photo: Canadian High Arctic. Source: Adobe Stock.

On land we saw **new properties acquired for the Blue Mountain-Birch Cove Lakes wilderness park in Nova Scotia**, more than doubling the amount of existing land in the park. The additional 135 hectares of property help buffer the provincial protected wilderness area from the encroachment of suburban sprawl and provide key local access points for people to enjoy the spectacular wilderness.



Photo: Birch Cove Lakes. Source: Irwin Barrett

In August we celebrated two long-awaited and monumental announcements, each of which set precedents on how conservation and Indigenous stewardship work hand in hand:



Photo: Former federal Environment Minister Catherine McKenna with Chief Darryl Boucher-Marlowe of the Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation. Source: LandoftheAncestors.com

For over a decade CPAWS worked with the Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation on **the protection of Thaidene Nëne**, or the *Land of the Ancestors*, an important part of the Northwest Territories. The total area, encompassing 26,376 km², is protected in a partnership between the Łutsël

K'é Denesoline and the Governments of the Northwest Territories and Canada. CPAWS is proud to have supported this innovative approach to conservation in Canada.

We also saw the culmination of a 30-year campaign highlighting the cultural and ecological value of the Peel Watershed in the Yukon with the formal signing of the Peel Watershed Regional Land Use Plan. In total, 55,858 km² will be protected in the Peel Watershed region, roughly the same size as Nova Scotia! The focus



Photo: Chief Simon Mervyn of the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun, one of the First Nations Chiefs attedning this historic event. Source: CPAWS Yukon.

on conserving spaces with ecological and cultural values and having joint decision-making between First Nations and the Yukon Government sets an important benchmark for future land use plans in the Yukon.

As the year neared its close, CPAWS celebrated the withdrawal of Teck Resources' application for the Frontier oil sands mine in Alberta. The proposed mine would have removed thousands of hectares of wetland and old-growth boreal habitat and threathened the ecological integrity of Wood Buffalo National Park and the Peace-Athabasca Delta, one of the largest freshwater inland deltas.



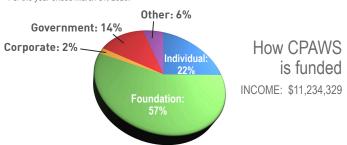
Photo: Aerial view of Wood Buffalo National Park. Source: CPAWS Northern Alberta.

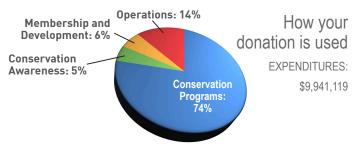
As we head into another year, we hope you'll renew your support and continue to stand with us as a voice for nature to protect Canada's wild spaces and its inhabitants. **THANK YOU!**

FINANCIAL FITNESS

	2020	2019
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	5,933,662	3,456,036
Guaranteed investment certificates	106,564	113,254
Accounts Receivable	547,513	370,810
Accounts receivable from		
controlled foundation	26,036	-
Investments	502,304	626,073
Prepaid Supplies, expenses and deposits	52,411	38,131
	7,168,490	4,580,905
Long-term assets		
Investment in susidiary	1,456,204	1,670,292
Note receivable	1,914,995	1,938,394
Capital assets	372,962	16,677
Subtotal	10,912,651	8,206,268
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	366,865	204,963
Deferred contributions	3,670,084	3,031,518
Transfers payable to regional chapters	1,514,951	737,881
Transfers payable to the controlled Foundation	-	480
Subtotal	5,551,900	3,974,842
Deferred contributions related to capital assets	-	-
Subtotal	5,551,900	3,974,842
Deferred lease incentives	-	-
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted net assets	1,009,235	416,179
Invested in capital assets	372,962	16,677
Reserve fund	498,706	389,655
Endowment—Now & Forever Wild Fund Subtotal	3,479,848 5,360,751	3,399,915 4,231,426
Subtotal	5,360,751	4,231,420
TOTAL	10,912,651	8,206,267

^{*} For the year ended March 31, 2020.





HONOURING OUR DONORS Thank you to those individuals, foundations, businesses, and organizations that demonstrated their leadership in our 2019-2020 fiscal year with gifts of \$1,000 or more to CPAWS.

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