



THE SPEAKERS

Keynote Speakers



Senator Rosa Galvez

The Honourable Rosa Galvez is an environmental engineer, an independent senator at the Senate of Canada, and the President of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change of ParlAmericas. She was a professor at Laval University in Québec for over 25 years and was Chair of its Civil and Water Engineering department from 2011 to 2016. She specializes in pollution control, water and wastewater treatment, municipal and hazardous waste, sustainable development, impact assessment and climate risk to infrastructure.

At the Senate of Canada, she is a member of the Senate Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources and the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance. Since her appointment, she has published several policy papers including a discussion paper on Canada's building codes and a white paper on a clean and just recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. In March 2022, she published a white paper on Aligning Canadian Finance with Climate Commitments, which led to the introduction in the Senate of Bill S-243, the Climate-Aligned Finance Act, legislation to help guide Canada's financial sector in its transition to a net-zero economy. She was the recipient of the Clean50 Award 2021, the 2022 Ecological Society of America Regional Policy Award and the 2023 Top 25 Women of Influence Award for her parliamentary work on climate and the environment.



Marianne Alto, Victoria Mayor

Victoria Mayor Marianne Alto is a professional facilitator with degrees in law and science. First elected to Victoria City Council in 2010, she has also served on the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board, where she chaired the Special Task Force on First Nations Relations. Re-elected to the CRD in 2022, she now chairs the Arts Commission and sits on several committees, including First Nations Relations, Liquid Waste Management, Hospitals and Housing.

Mayor Alto co-chairs the Victoria/Eskwimahl Police Board and serves on the Victoria Regional Transit Commission, BC Transit Board, and the BC Urban Mayors' Caucus. She has long served as City Council liaison to numerous regional organizations and is matriarch of the City Family, a unique partnership with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

A dedicated advocate for housing, equity, and inclusive civic engagement, Mayor Alto has led major initiatives in harm reduction, open government, and smart city innovation. She is a lifelong activist, a business owner, and a resident of Victoria's Burnside Gorge neighbourhood. She is married with two sons.



Hii nulth tsa kaa Karla Point

Karla Point *Hii nulth tsa kaa* is the Indigenous Resurgence Coordinator for the Faculty of Fine Arts. She guides the Faculty's responses to the TRC Calls to Action, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) and the provincial Declaration on the *Rights of Indigenous People Act* (DRIPA) Plan.

Karla also develops and delivers faculty-wide workshops that gives insights on decolonizing teaching and curriculum, and integrates Indigenous Resurgence initiatives for the Fine Arts faculty and staff.

She consults with Indigenous staff, faculty, local Elders and other knowledge holders when necessary, while also providing support and advocacy for Fine Arts Indigenous Students.

Part of the Hesquiaht First Nation, Karla is a life-long learner and UVic alumna with a BA (Humanities, 2003) and LL.B (Law, 2006).

Summit Speakers



Ian Attridge, Alliance of Canadian Land Trusts

Ian Attridge (he/him) is of Celtic heritage and grateful to live as a settler guest in Nogojiwanong, Michi Saagiig Nishinaabeg territory (aka Peterborough, Ontario). An ecologist and retired lawyer, he teaches and advocates for conservation and has led development of land trusts, protected areas, trails, and related law and policy in Ontario and elsewhere. Over the last decade, Ian has worked with various Indigenous communities to develop Indigenous-led land trusts and assist with Land Back/return projects on “privatized” lands. As the Indigenous Engagement Facilitator with the Alliance of Canadian Land Trusts, he supports Indigenous land trusts and encourages conservation land trusts to deepen their relations with Indigenous communities where they are active. Ian also teaches at Trent University, is active in local community and ally organizations, and has previously helped form and was Board Chair of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance and the Kawartha Land Trust.



Katie Blake, WSÁNEĆ Lands Trust Society

Katie Blake is a conservation professional with more than 20 years' experience in the land conservation sector. Her expertise spans a range of roles in private land acquisition, conservation and administration, as well as leadership, fundraising and governance. She has worked with the Nature Conservancy of Canada, American Friends of Canadian Conservation, Habitat Acquisition Trust and currently serves as the Manager of the WSÁNEĆ Lands Trust Society. Katie is a settler of British and German descent and has resided in Lekwungen Territory for 24 years.



Teluxutstun Raymond Tony Charlie, Quw'utsun' Cultural Connections Society

Teluxutstun Raymond Tony Charlie is an educator, artist, public speaker, author, and residential school survivor who is committed to holistic healing for true reconciliation. From Penelakut Nation, Raymond has been a part of the Cultural Connections Elder team for many years. He shares cultural teachings and stories, as well as his personal experiences of residential schools, speaking honestly, directly and straight from his heart. He has recently published a book about his experiences and his own personal healing journey - *In the Shadow of the Red Brick Building*.
Source: [Journey of Our Generation's website](http://www.journeyofourgeneration.com).

Summit Speakers



Erin Dann, Otipemisiwak Métis Government of the Métis Nation within Alberta

Erin is of settler ancestry and is originally from Calgary, Alberta within Treaty 7 territory and the Métis Homeland. She has Bachelor of Science in Zoology from the University of Toronto followed by a rewarding career in animal care. Seeking a new challenge, she studied for and graduated with a Masters of Resource and Environmental Management from Dalhousie University in 2020. Since then, her past employment at the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq and her current work at the Otipemisiwak Métis Government of the Métis Nation within Alberta (MNA) has contributed to Indigenous-led conservation initiatives, Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs), and Indigenous land trusts. In her current position as a Conservation Coordinator at the MNA, Erin has had the pleasure to support conservation initiatives such as SAR monitoring, wildlife monitoring, naïve seed collection, the development of a Métis land trust, as well as the establishment and stewardship of a Métis-led IPCAs.



Christine Drake, Parks Canada)

Biography not available.



Rachelle Dubois, Nature Canada

Rachelle DuBois is the Senior Nature Network Organizer for Protected Areas. In this role, she is always thinking of new ways to empower nature groups to raise their voices for protected areas. She loves to connect with passionate people and work together towards protecting Canada's lands and waters.

Previously, she spent 5.5 years working on Parliament Hill, including as an advisor to the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and the Minister of Northern Affairs. These roles gave her invaluable insight into the political landscape and the policy development process at the highest levels.

Born and raised living in Belgium during the winters and the Yukon Territory in the summers, she developed a profound love and appreciation for the wide variety of ecosystems these regions have to offer.

In her spare time, Rachelle can be found volunteering with her community association or tinkering away at her off-grid cabin in the Yukon.

Summit Speakers



Meghan Duell, The Couchiching Conservancy

Meghan Duell holds a bachelor's degree from the Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania and a master's and PhD in Biology from Arizona State University, specializing in the environmental physiology and behavior of insects. Meghan later completed postdoctoral research at the University of Western Ontario. Meghan's research experience includes work on pollinators such as honeybees, bumblebees, and stingless bees, as well as invasive insects like the emerald ash borer and other ecological indicator species in tropical and temperate regions.

Work with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and USAID strengthened Meghan's desire to have a more direct impact on conservation, contributing more immediately to the protection of land and wildlife. Meghan has been with The Couchiching Conservancy since 2023, overseeing stewardship of nature reserves and easements, community science programming, and fundraising. Meghan also serves on the Board of Directors for the Copeland Forest Friends Association.



Rebecca Ellis, Edmonton and Area Land Trust

Rebecca is a conservation biologist with a BSc in Environmental Studies from The King's University in Edmonton and a Master of Environmental Management from the University of Queensland, Australia. She has worked and volunteered in Kenya and Australia but was born in Edmonton and has lived here most of her life. She enjoys walking in Edmonton's river valley and other aspen parkland or boreal forest areas, usually looking down at the ground for interesting plants or peering up for birds in the trees. Rebecca provides leadership to EALT's three main program areas of Securement, Stewardship, and Outreach. She is a certified Environmental Professional through ECO Canada and a Professional Biologist through the Alberta Society of Professional Biologists.



Lara Ellis, Centre for Land Conservation

Lara Ellis brings three decades of environmental leadership experience to her work, with deep expertise in advocacy, policy development, community engagement, and strategic partnerships. Working from coast to coast across Canada, she has been involved with protected areas, sustainable forestry, and regenerative agriculture initiatives, collaborating closely with government, corporate, nonprofit partners, and local communities. Her work includes developing innovative environmental programs, building effective partnerships, and advancing policy solutions for climate change and biodiversity protection. Lara holds a Master of Management degree from the McGill-McConnell Program for National Voluntary Sector Leaders.

Summit Speakers



Gary Elaschuk Pruden, *Conservation Coordinator, Edmonton and Area Land Trust*

Gary is from Kikino Métis Settlement. Growing up on the settlement and in Lac La Biche Alberta, he spent a lot of time outdoors; hiking, camping, snowboarding and spending time on the lake. He holds a Bachelors of Science in General Biology from the University of Alberta with a focus on ecology and conservation. During his degree he interned with us at the EALT as a conservation assistant. Gary has experience as an environmental technician, as a public educator, as a research assistant, and as a lab technician/ educator. Gary previously worked with the Lac La Biche county monitoring the health of the numerous lakes within the county as well as running a science summer camp. He also worked with ALPAC measuring the growth of reclaimed forests. More recently Gary helped run the biology lab at Marianopolis College in Montreal, helping to instruct a variety of biology lab courses including ecology, zoology and physiology. Gary's role at EALT involves facilitating Indigenous community outreach, he is excited to help members of the local Indigenous community foster their personal connections with the land through conservation and cultural activities. He also looks forward to supporting local Indigenous organizations in conserving traditional territories.



Sulsameethl Deb George, *Quw'utsun' Cultural Connections Society*

As a worker and an elder on the Cultural Connections team, Silaat Linda Modeste finds joy and healing in sharing her story at workshops, and the importance of 'today' on the future. Through her experiences as a lifelong resident of Duncan, she has come to appreciate the preciousness of life and the healing power of storytelling as a valued member of the group. Grateful for the support and understanding of others, she finds beauty in life's journey despite its ups and downs.



Qwiahwultuhw Robert George, *Quw'utsun' Cultural Connections Society*

Qwiahwultuhw Robert George, born and raised in Cowichan, has worked closely with youth for over 35 years, teaching drum and dance, and coaching in a variety of sports. Robert has been involved with the Journey of our Generation workshop since 2006, bringing an awareness of history, of people, teachings, residential schools and building truth and understanding in our communities. He is a father and grandfather, and believes in the values of love, kindness, respect, generosity and truthfulness.

Source: *Journey of Our Generation's website*.

Summit Speakers



Guy Greenaway, Corvus Centre for Conservation Policy

Guy Greenaway has been a researcher, writer, and speaker on private land conservation for 25 years. He is Chair of the ACLT Capacity Building Committee, founding coordinator of the Regional Land Trusts of Alberta, and founding Chair of the Alberta Land Trust Alliance. Guy is also the Executive Director of the Southern Alberta Land Trust Society, where he continues to advance land conservation through collaboration, policy, and community engagement.



Jody Gunn, Australian Land Trust Conservation Alliance

Dr Jody Gunn is CEO of the Australian Land Conservation Alliance (ALCA), where she leads the organisation's work to advance large-scale conservation of Australia's private land. With more than 20 years of experience across the academic, government, and not-for-profit sectors, Jody is a conservation scientist and executive leader committed to protecting land, water and culture at both national and international scales.

Before joining ALCA in 2021, Jody served for six years as an Executive Manager at Bush Heritage Australia, leading joint management planning with the Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission, and managing conservation partnerships for Fauna & Flora International. She brings a deep understanding of the science, policy and practice of conservation, informed by a career grounded in collaboration and long-term impact. Jody holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Melbourne, a PhD in Environmental Science from Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge, and is a Churchill Fellow.



Tiffani Harrison, Otipemisiwak Métis Government of the Métis Nation within Alberta

Tiffani is of settler ancestry and grew up in Ontario within Treaty 19 territory. She has Master's of Environmental Science with a focus in Conservation & Biodiversity from the University of Toronto. She spent most of her career working with pollinators, specializing in bumble bees. She has worked with NGO's to help research, monitor, and raise awareness about pollinator species, and particularly those at-risk. Her work led her to her present role as a Conservation Coordinator with the Otipemisiwak Métis Government of the Métis Nation within Alberta (MNA), moving to Edmonton AB in 2023. In her current role, Tiffani has been fortunate to support conservation initiatives such as SAR monitoring, wildlife monitoring, native seed collection, the development of a Métis land trust, the establishment and stewardship of a Métis-led IPCAs, and leading the MNA's Native Bee Conservation Program.

Summit Speakers



Mike Hendren, Ontario Conservation Accelerator

Mike has spent twenty years in the conservation sector including first as a real estate appraiser and later as a consultant negotiating acquisitions for clients such as Bruce Trail Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited and Credit Valley Conservation. He has held leadership roles including as Executive Director of the Kawartha Land Trust for nine years, growing the organization from its infancy to one of the leading land trusts in Canada. During this time, he was also Chair of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance and landed the first Ontario Government program for Land Trusts in Ontario. He progressed to lead NCC's largest division as VP for Ontario where, during his five years, revenue and land holdings were tripled and diversified. He is a registered urban and regional planner in Ontario with a master's degree in planning from Queen's University, and a business degree from Trent University. Mike is a regular volunteer and donor to many causes in his community, currently serving several Boards in the education and social services sector. Mike is an amateur musician and an avid outdoors enthusiast but more than anything, he simply likes to get things done. (Source: The Ontario Conservation Accelerator's website)



Alison Howson, Ontario Land Trust Alliance

Alison is the Executive Director of Ontario Land Trust Alliance (OLTA). She has been a passionate supporter of land and environmental protection for many years. Before joining OLTA, she held positions leading teams focused on protecting habitats and species in the context of sustainable development and changing land use policy. Her career experience includes leadership in business and financial development, team building, and operations. Alison has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology and a Research Masters in Ecology and Environmental Management. She has 25 years of experience working in the field of conservation and natural heritage protection, in both for-profit and not-for-profit positions. Alison lives in Toronto with her family and spends as much time as she can hiking, biking, and spending time outdoors. (Source: The Alliance of Canadian Land Trusts' website)



Carli Le Roux, Nature Trust of New Brunswick

Carli started working with the Nature Trust of New Brunswick in summer 2015 as a Stewardship Assistant, then transitioned to the conservation department. She is now acting Executive Director. She was born in South Africa and lived there until 2013, which instilled within her a great appreciation for wildlife and habitat conservation. Carli brings a different perspective from the other side of the world. Her time here has furthered her passion for conservation and love for adventure. In her spare time, Carli enjoys being outside and especially loves bird watching.

Summit Speakers



Emily Little, Nature Conservancy of Canada

Emily Little is the Land Stewardship Manager at the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), where she supports the national Conservation Agreement program. Since joining NCC in 2015, Emily has built expertise in conservation agreement development, enforcement, and stewardship. She supports regional teams across Canada in securing and managing conservation agreements, with a focus on program coordination, training, and compliance. Emily holds a Bachelor of Science in Ecological Restoration from Trent University and she is dedicated to collaborative, on-the-ground conservation work.



Shannon MacDonald, Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy

Shannon is the Land Securement Manager for Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy and the Chair of OLTA's CEA Working Group. Shannon began her journey in land conservation as the Stewardship Assistant for the Nova Scotia Nature Trust, monitoring CEA properties and assisting with the development of BDRs, while completing her B.Sc. degree in Environment, Sustainability, & Society at Dalhousie University. Over the past 5 years, Shannon has been working with the Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy (EBC) completing over 11 Conservation Easement Agreements while assisting with monitoring and enforcement of EBC's large CEA portfolio. As the Chair of OLTA's CEA Working Group, Shannon has helped to facilitate important discussions on CEA policy directions and best practices to prevent and manage CEA violations.



Doug Makaroff, Living Forests Trust

Doug has 35 years of experience as a sustainable urban planner and real estate developer, creating new towns and walkable neighbourhoods with a mix of uses, ages and incomes. Doug has been responsible for the planning of four significant new communities in B.C., Mexico and the U.S.A., ranging from 400 to 2000 homes. From 2006 to the present, Doug has focused on building Living Forest Communities in British Columbia, where light-on-the-land development is clustered on 5–15% of the land base, while the remainder of the forest lands are conserved or dedicated to ecosystem-based forest management. This model is an alternative to clear cutting and suburban sprawl, providing jobs and homes, and saving trees. Doug serves as secretary for Living Forest Trust, a registered Canadian charity, committed to advancing forest conservation through the Living Forest Communities model.

Summit Speakers



Laurie Marchand, Appalachian Corridor

With a background in communications and business administration, Laurie Marchand specializes in organizational management and team capacity building. For nearly three years, she has been actively involved with Appalachian Corridor, a conservation organization based in the Estrie region, dedicated to preserving the ecological integrity and biodiversity of the Northern Green Mountains. This area of the Appalachians is recognized as one of the most biodiverse and climate-resilient temperate forests. Her involvement reflects a strong commitment to contributing to meaningful projects and continuously embracing new challenges.



Richelle Martin, Alliance of Canadian Land Trusts

Richelle is a New Brunswick-based lawyer with a law degree from the University of Ottawa. She has extensive experience in private land conservation, including several years with the Nature Trust of New Brunswick, where she served as Acting Executive Director. Richelle also works in Indigenous-led conservation and maintains a small private law practice focused on environmental and Aboriginal law. In addition, she is a staff lawyer with East Coast Environmental Law, a public interest environmental law charity, and serves on the Board of Directors for Alliance of Canadian Land Trusts.



Jennifer Miller Herzog, Land Trust Alliance

Jennifer Miller Herzog is Chief Program Officer for the Land Trust Alliance. Her 25+ years in the nonprofit conservation sector includes roles in philanthropy, organizational capacity building, landscape-scale and collaborative conservation, strategic grassroots advocacy and policy, and fundraising in statewide, regional, national and binational contexts. In her nearly ten years at the Alliance, she has also served as Interim President and CEO, Eastern Division Director of Field Programs and Mid-Atlantic Senior Program Manager—including launching a special Initiative to engage land conservation in meeting water quality protection and restoration goals in the Chesapeake Watershed. Previously, Jennifer worked at Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Wilderness Society, and Wilburforce Foundation as Program Officer for the Yellowstone to Yukon region.



Debra Morse

Deb Morse is a graduate student in Royal Roads University's Environmental Education and Communication Master's program, where her research explores empathy, place, and ecological identity, and the development of an eco-emotional literacy curriculum. She began collaborating with Living Forest Trust a decade ago as a marketing consultant, coordinating special events, and leading tours at a Living Forest Community. After serving five years on the Board of Directors, she now leads the organization as Executive Director, guiding its mission to connect people and place through conservation, education, and community. Outside of work, Deb enjoys native plant gardening in her neighbourhood Garry Oak habitat, volunteering to remove invasive green crabs in Victoria's Gorge Waterway, and learning about climate-resilient landscape design.

Summit Speakers



Tracey Moss, Nature Conservancy of Canada

Tracey Moss brings nearly three decades of experience in making natural spaces more accessible, sustainable, and vibrant. She believes that a thriving ecosystem isn't just ecologically intact—it's also meaningfully connected to the communities around it, reflecting local perspectives and a shared commitment to stewardship.

As Director of Land Management at the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), Tracey works with regional teams across the country to support visitor access, resolve land management challenges, and ensure compliance with conservation agreements. A passionate advocate for protected areas, she champions inclusive access to nature for people of all backgrounds and abilities.

Tracey holds a Bachelor of Arts from Vancouver Island University, where she focused on the history of parks and protected areas.



Nico Muñoz, Ontario Land Trust Alliance

Nico is the Manager of Research and Nature Smart Climate Solutions at Ontario Land Trust Alliance. He is a biologist with over 12 years of experience conducting ecological research. He completed his PhD in 2022 at Simon Fraser University and has published on topics such as biological responses to climate change and invasive species, ecosystem dynamics, and the conservation of Ontario's species at risk. In his PhD he led field research projects on the impacts of invasive species in Patagonia, southern Chile.



Jackie Ohayon, WSÁNEĆ Lands Trust Society

Jacqueline Ohayon (she/her) is a settler of French and British descent originally from Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec. Jacqueline is the Policy Analyst for the WSÁNEĆ Lands Trust Society, where she leads policy development, land acquisition research, and multi-partner initiatives supporting WSÁNEĆ-led land governance. She coordinates the QENENITEL Community of Practice, bringing together regional conservation organizations, individuals, and academics to align restoration and land return efforts under WSÁNEĆ leadership. She holds an LL.M. from the University of Victoria, where her research examined narrative and law in the context of settler environmentalism and Indigenous land governance.

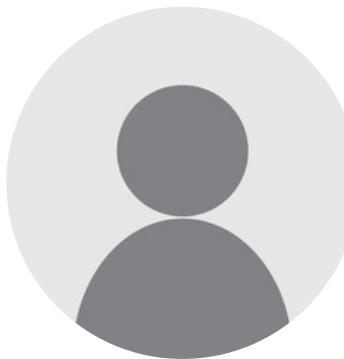


Darran O'Leary, Passamaquoddy Recognition Group

Darran O'Leary is a Land Manager with the Passamaquoddy Recognition Group, where he has spent the past eight years focused on land conservation and stewardship through Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) and other private land conservation tools. He is also committed to relationship building with other Indigenous Nations, governments, and environmental organizations such as the Nature Trust of New Brunswick.

Darran is a proud father of two and a longtime coach of softball and hockey. Prior to working for his Nation, he held a variety of roles in sales, manufacturing, real estate, management, and business development in both Canada and the United States.

Summit Speakers



Paul Peterson, Lawyer, private practice

Paul Peterson is a lawyer with more than thirty years experience working with land conservation organizations, governments and landowners on private land conservation projects. He was instrumental in the creation of the Ontario Land Trust Alliance and in the development of the first Standards and Practices for land trusts in Canada. In private practice, he worked for many years providing legal advice to land owners and municipalities on land planning and development including major resort and commercial projects. In addition to private practice Paul has worked in recent years with The Nature Conservancy of Canada, advising on issues of acquisition, asset management and disposition across the country.



Rébecca Pétrin, Eau Secours

Executive Director of Eau Secours since 2019, Rébecca Pétrin is a biologist and holds a master's degree in environmental management. She previously led the organization VERTerrebonne during its founding. Rébecca has also worked within the office of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, and Parks (Québec), as well as for Jour de la Terre. In addition, since 2014, she has volunteered as treasurer for Société pour la conservation de la tourbière de Lanoriaie, and since 2019, she has served as a board member of the Association of Biologists of Québec.



Dylan Rawlyk, Nature Canada

Dylan Rawlyk works with the environmental charity Nature Canada, supporting nature organizations across the country to ensure that nature remains central to government decision-making. He manages a suite of municipal environmental campaigns that help communities and nature groups protect biodiversity and connect residents with nearby nature. He has worked for a range of environmental organizations in BC, Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec. With an academic background in botany and education, Dylan has served as Executive Director and Director of Conservation and Education for organizations based in some of Canada's most iconic urban parks, including Stanley Park and Mount Royal.



Joaquín Riesgo, Fondation SÉTHY

Joaquin Riesgo joined the SETHY Land Trust in 2020 as Coordinator of Conservation Strategies and Threatened Species. Since then, he has led numerous conservation projects in the Haute-Yamaska region, including the area's first strategy for species at risk, as well as several major conservation plans such as the Mount Yamaska Conservation Plan, the Boivin Lake Nature Interpretation Centre, and the Granby Peatlands. He has also developed initiatives supporting threatened species, including nesting management systems for swallow populations. Joaquin is a natural collaborator and serves on several regional committees, and is a board member of the Alliance of Canadian Land Trusts (ACLT).

Summit Speakers



Aaron Rusak, *Georgian Bay Land Trust*

Aaron Rusak is the Conservation Director with the Georgian Bay Land Trust and has worked within the land trust sector for almost ten years. He has extensive experience with monitoring of provincially rare ecosystems and species and oversees the management of GBLT's protected areas, as well as the research and monitoring activities conducted on them.



Esteban Salcedo, *Commission for Environmental Cooperation*

Esteban Salcedo is a legal officer at the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC), an international organization focused on facilitating effective cooperation and public participation to conserve, protect and enhance the North American environment in support of sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations.

Mr. Salcedo is involved in implementing the SEM process, a mechanism that allows persons in Canada, the United States and Mexico to file submissions regarding the effective enforcement of environmental laws in the three countries.

Before joining the CEC, Mr. Salcedo worked with Nature-Action Québec on land conservation projects. He has also taught at the University of Ottawa and worked on various files for the Department of Justice Canada.

Mr. Salcedo holds a master's degree in public international law (LL.M.) from the University of Amsterdam and a bachelor's degree in civil law (LL.B.) from the University of Montreal. He is also a member of the Quebec Bar.



Margaret Sasges, *Camas Law*

Margaret Sasges, K.C. is a lawyer based in Victoria BC, in the Lekwungen Territory, who has been working with landowners and conservation organizations and on private land conservation for over 25 years. She has been involved in the conservation of tens of thousands of hectares throughout the Province and is continually inspired by the opportunities and challenges that her clients present.



Christine Schmalz, *Delta Farmland & Wildlife Trust*

Christine has a B.E. in Environment and Business from the University of Waterloo and a Master's from Carleton University's School of Public Policy. She has worked in the non-profit sector on stewardship programs for farmers for 20 years. Christine started her career in Ontario working on species at risk stewardship and ground and surface water protection within agricultural areas. Since joining the Delta Farmland and Wildlife Trust in 2022 Christine has enjoyed being deeply immersed in the agricultural landscape in BC. Although the land and climate are different from Ontario, many similar environmental challenges persist.

Summit Speakers



Justin Thompson, Southern Alberta Land Trust

Justin serves as Executive Director of Southern Alberta Land Trust Society (SALTS). Justin spent much of his childhood in the foothills of southern Alberta, including time working on his family's ranch near Pincher Creek. This strong connection to the land influenced him to pursue a BSc in Biology and a Masters in Public Policy, with an interest in implementing better environmental practices. His work at SALTS is motivated by the rapid conversion of southern Alberta ranchlands witnessed over his lifetime. Prior to SALTS, Justin had a varied career in wildlife conservation, the electricity industry, and his own home-building business. He continues to run a small beef cattle operation on his land in partnership with his extended family. Justin likes to spend his free time with his wife and two teenage boys in the foothills, hiking, fishing, hunting, fixing fences, and managing invasive weeds.



Luke Wonneck, Treaty Land Sharing Network

Luke Wonneck is a settler with ancestors from Germany, Scotland, Ireland, France, and Iceland. Like many of these ancestors, he loves growing food and hopes to one day make a living as a farmer. For now, he is a Coordinating Committee Member of the Treaty Land Sharing Network in Alberta and doing his PhD on how Indigenous access to land in the prairies has changed over the past century.



Renata Woodward, Alliance of Canadian Land Trusts

Renata Woodward is a seasoned land trust practitioner who has spent most of her career working to conserve the environment across Canada. Most of her experience in the land trust sector was gained as CEO of the Nature Trust of New Brunswick and, more recently, as Executive Director of the Alliance of Canadian Land Trusts. She is a progressive leader, effective decision-maker, visionary, great communicator, and manager who demonstrates sound judgment and brings out the best in a team of passionate and diverse people. Her expertise lies within the realms of capacity building, engagement organizing, biodiversity, and land conservation. She is a natural connector who seeks to bring people together to conserve the environment that will allow future generations to thrive on our planet.