



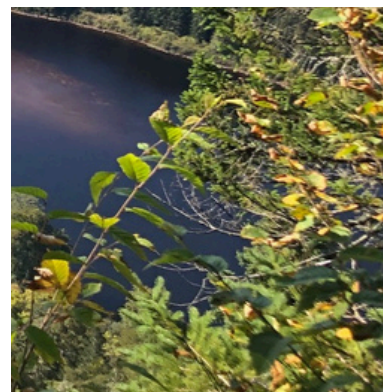
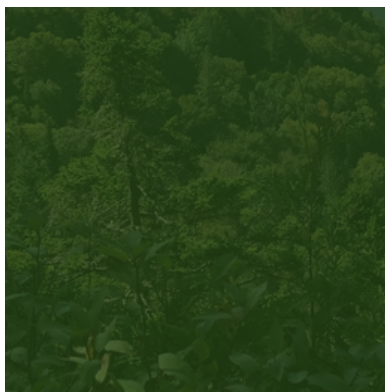
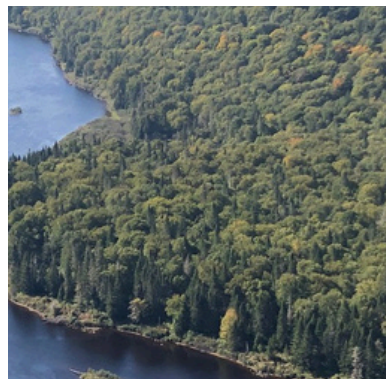
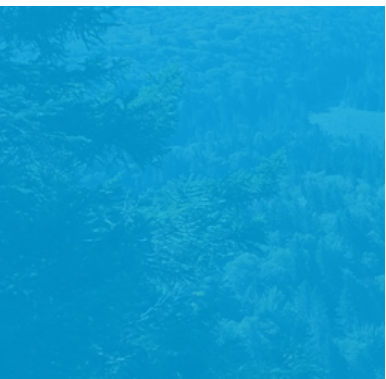
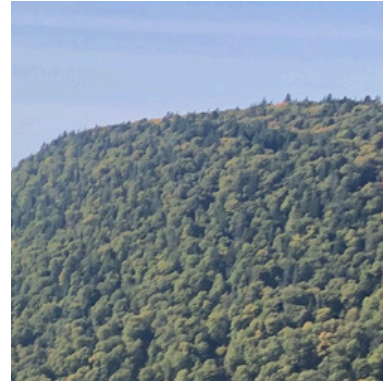
Alliance of Canadian
Land Trusts

Alliance canadienne des
organismes de conservation

Annual Report

2025

**Growing Strong:
A Snapshot of Private
Land Conservation**



The Alliance of Canadian Land Trusts (ACLT) represents 150+ land trusts across Canada

Our Vision

Thriving natural landscapes across Canada for all.

Our Mission

To support and empower land trusts across Canada to be vibrant, united and effective in advancing conservation with their communities.

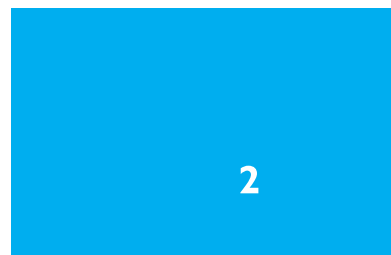
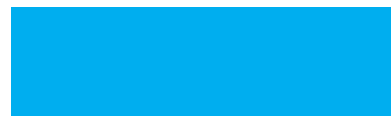
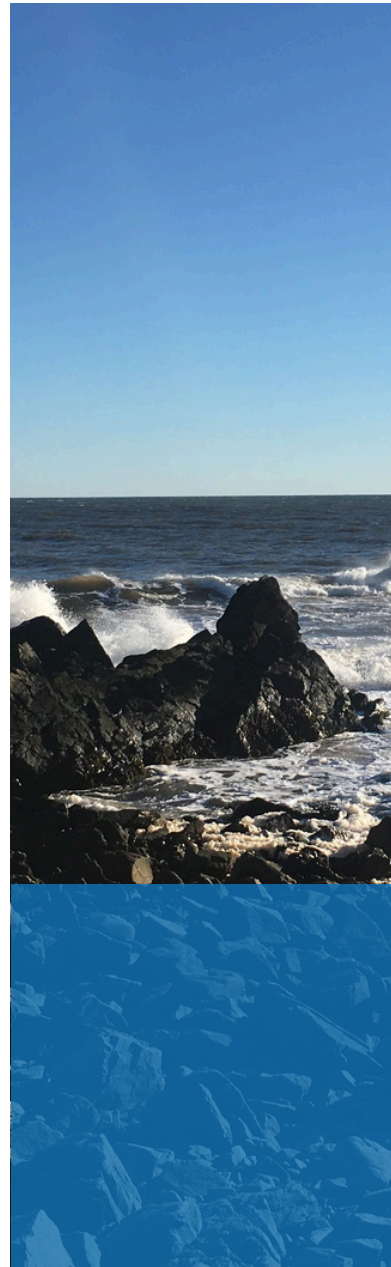


Our Theory of Change

If ACLT helps land trusts across Canada strengthen through finding a common voice and building capacity, then the land trust sector will increase capacity as a community and accelerate conservation in Canada, because we will be united, visible and vibrant.

Conservation through Collaboration

The ACLT works together with the Ontario Land Trust Alliance, the Land Trust Alliance of British Columbia, and the Réseau de milieux naturels protégés to ensure effective and unified collaboration across the country to support the critical conservation and reconciliation work of land trusts across the country.



2025 Highlights from the National Stage

As your national voice, ACLT continues to advocate for land trusts, mobilize the sector, and communicate your conservation impact to decision-makers. Through our national network, we advanced a cohesive, grounded message that united land trusts as a resilient eco-system of community-based conservation organizations.



Nature on the Hill

3 Days // 45 meetings with Parliamentarians

ACLT joined a unified national effort to advance conservation priorities with federal leaders. Alongside partners from across the sector, we contributed to coordinated advocacy efforts, helping to elevate the role of land trusts in advancing Canada’s conservation goals and strengthening our collective voice on Parliament Hill.



Land Trust Parliamentary Breakfast

58 Participants // 11 Land Trusts

During Nature on the Hill, ACLT hosted a Parliamentary Breakfast to showcase the collective impact of land trusts and elevate the sector’s national profile. Featuring remarks from federal leaders, including the Secretary of State for Nature, Members of Parliament, and philanthropic partners, the gathering strengthened relationships and reinforced the importance of land conservation as a national priority in advance of the federal budget’s announcement.

Coordinating Priorities

ACLT, in partnership with regional alliances, continued advancing the land trust community. This year, we:

- maintained advocacy pressure for the renewal and redesign of the **Natural Heritage Conservation Program - Land Trust Conservation Fund**
- promoted the creation of a **Canada Conservation Investment Fund** to strengthen land conservation across Canada

We continued toward securing signatory status on the LTCF, so that land trusts are represented in federal funding programs, ensuring processes are optimized to on-the-ground realities.

Advancing Advocacy

During the federal pre-budget consultation, a critical period for nature, we launched a multi-faceted advocacy strategy: direct meetings with decision makers, collective action with other nature allies, and mobilization within the sector.

- Developed a customizable advocacy toolkit with workshops and direct assistance for 132 land trusts
- Presented a collective letter endorsed by 107 organizations
- Submitted 3 briefings to the government
- Convened a parliamentary roundtable with land trusts, parliamentarians and funders
- Advanced land trust and nature priorities as a member of the Green Budget Coalition
- Showcased land trust leadership at Nature on the Hill

Together, these advocacy efforts form a strong national narrative: local and regional land trusts empowered to engage directly and add their voices to a network of organizations caring for the landscapes fundamental to our identities and well-being.

Enhancing Visibility

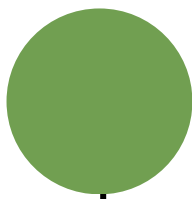
Through sustained advocacy and relationship building, ACLT elevated the profile of land trusts while establishing ourselves as a trusted partner:

- ECCC's Final Report on the Ecological Gifts Program highlighted ACLT's leadership in developing the Land Trust Starter Guide and its support to Indigenous engagement and pathways for Indigenous-led land trusts
- Members of Parliament championed land trusts in the House of Commons
- ACLT was acknowledged in the Senate



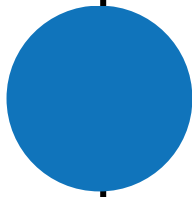
Charting the course ahead

In 2025, ACLT developed a new strategic plan to guide the next phase of growth and impact. Led by a dedicated task force, the process was grounded in meaningful input from our strategic partners (OLTA, LTABC, RMN), Indigenous partners, working groups, and our broader membership. Through this, three pillars were created:



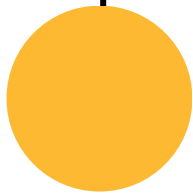
Strengthen the Land Trust Sector

- Visibility Through Public Advocacy and Communication
- Sector Growth and Capacity
- Build and Nurture Strategic Partnerships



Land Trust Health and Excellence

- Land Trust Engagement, Knowledge Sharing and Support
- Indigenous-led Conservation Efforts



Research, Policies, and Principles

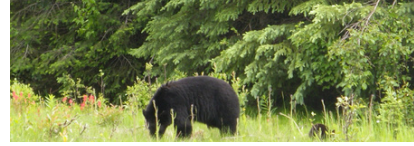
- Evidence, Insight and Values for Advocacy
- Policy and Advocacy Impact
- Land Trusts' Organizational Excellence

This collaborative approach reflects the strength of our network and ensures that the plan reflects shared priorities and collective ambition. As we transition from founding to maturing as an enduring national body, the strategic plan for the upcoming years will strengthen the sector's capacity for lasting, inclusive conservation across Canada.

Maintaining ACLT's Operations

ACLT's operational continuance ensures continued support for the land trust sector. We will continue to strengthen the values, systems, and partnerships that sustain our impact:

- Equity, inclusion, and well-being
- Strong governance, operational, and administrative practices for long-term resilience
- Diverse and sustainable revenue streams
- Sector-wide learning, collaboration, and connection
- Responsible stewardship of resources and relationships



2025 Canadian Land Trust Summit

The alliances' national conference was a milestone moment that brought together land trusts, partners, and leaders from across Canada to strengthen connections, share knowledge, and advance collective priorities.



Reconciliation Workshop: Journey of our Generation led by Quw'ustun Cultural Connection Elders

18 Sessions
43 Speakers
80 Organizations
154 Participants



The Opening Keynote, presented by Senator Rosa Galvez



2025 Canadian Land Trust Participants at the conference's close in Victoria, BC

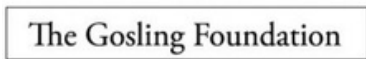
Designed around current and emerging interest areas for land trusts, the three-day program included:

- Indigenous sharing circles and reconciliation-focused learning
- Keynotes and film exploring conservation, climate, and reconciliation
- Presentations on Land trust partnerships, including Indigenous collaboration
- Climate resilience and conservation innovation sessions
- Exploration of governance, compliance, and best practices
- Workshops and panels on advocacy, communications, and navigating political change
- Forum for land trust input and strategic planning

This bi-annual flagship conference plays a critical role in catalyzing new relationships, exchanging knowledges, and convening to build a unified, effective, and resilient land trust community. Thank you to our land trust members, Indigenous partners, and conservation allies for participating, and to our sponsors for their support:



This project was part of the Accélérer la conservation dans le sud du Québec (ACSQ) project for which the Nature Conservancy of Canada received funding from the gouvernement du Québec.



Foundation

Supporting Indigenous Priorities and Projects for Land Conservation
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ACLT's Ongoing Project Highlights:



Indigenous Relations Program

The Indigenous Relations Working Group and ACLT's Indigenous Relations Program continued to play a critical role in advancing learning, dialogue, and actions throughout the Alliance. Through ongoing engagement with Indigenous communities, organizations, and land trusts, the group deepened understanding of Indigenous-led conservation priorities, representation and co-governance while delving into key technical, legal, and funding barriers and opportunities. This year, the national conference provided an important platform for Indigenous-led sharing circles, where participants identified priority areas for further collaboration and learning. Responding to Indigenous Land Trust voices and interests, we began planning a forum series on identified key topics.



Indigenous-focused learning resources



Municipal Protected Areas Project (MPAP)

Since our 2024 reports delving into tax incentives and community engagement, we have continued exploring key focus areas: case studies, municipal land disposition, land-based tax incentives, the benefits of tax incentives, and coordination with MPAP partners to synergize learnings. This includes several aspects of opportunities and experiences of partnerships between municipalities and Indigenous organizations, including those where land trusts may play a role. This year, our draft publications discussed Indigenous-municipal land case studies and identified measures that could be applied to recognize Indigenous Peoples, rights, uses and roles within conservation easement agreements. These reports are developed under the joint MPAP that is delivered by the Coalition:



Standards and Practices

The [online self-assessment tool](#) was launched in partnership with LTABC, OLTA, and RMN. The website supports a Land Trust community of practice, allowing organizations to evaluate policies and practices with the opportunity to contribute to a growing body of collective knowledge. ACLT continues to provide free accounts, demonstrations, and support to interested land trusts. Further details and resources are provided on our [website](#).





Growing Our Voice & Digital Presence

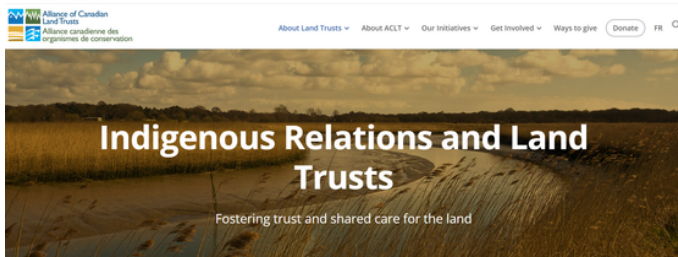
Refreshing the Central Hub

Our website continues to serve as the central hub for our tools, services, and resources. This year, we introduced a refreshed design and expanded content to make it easier for visitors to learn about land trusts and access the information they need.

Support for Land Trusts

Explore tools and resources, including the Land Trust Starter Guide, the Standards & Practices Online Tool, and more!

New page



Updated content

- Our Publications
- Advocacy
- Our Team
- Who We Are
- Funding

Keeping You in the Loop

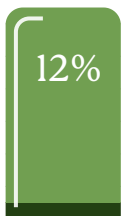
11
Newsletters

200+
Posts & Stories

375,000+
Views



Average open rate 15% higher than the industry standard



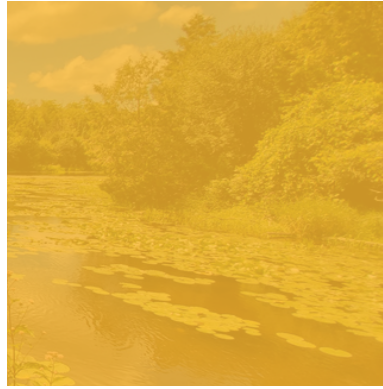
Average engagement rate 12x greater

- Advocacy updates
- Land trust achievements
- Ongoing Projects
- Learning opportunities
- Funding announcements



Connecting Internationally

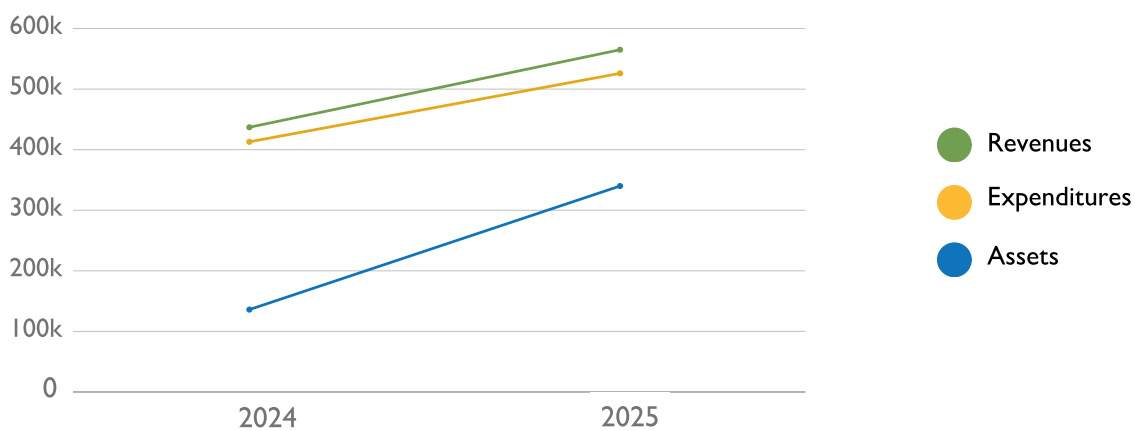
Extending beyond the Canadian context, we engaged the international community by bringing Canada's innovative conservation solutions to the global stage at the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025.



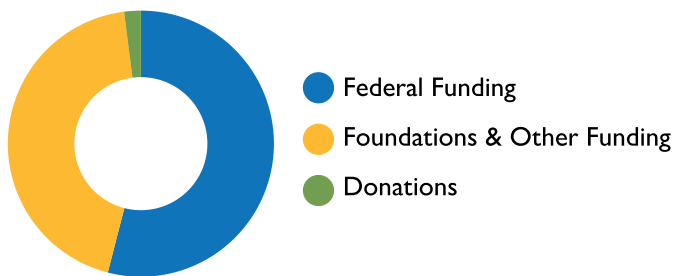
Our Financial Health

As we continue to establish ourselves as a **long-term national support for land trusts** and conservation, our programs and services have expanded in step with growing demand. This expansion is reflected in **increased program investment**, enabling broader conservation impact across the country. At the same time, we have made meaningful progress in strengthening our financial resilience by **diversifying revenue streams**, reducing dependence on primary government funding by 23% since 2024. The majority of expenditures continue to be directed toward program delivery, ensuring resources are focused on conservation outcomes. Visit our website for the full 2025 Financial Statement.

Investing in Growth and Building Conservation Capacity: ACLT 2025



Revenues



Expenditures



Note: ACLT’s work is strengthened by the ongoing support of volunteers and in-kind contributions. Although these contributions are not recorded in the financial statements, they meaningfully extend our organizational capacity and impact.



Our Board of Directors

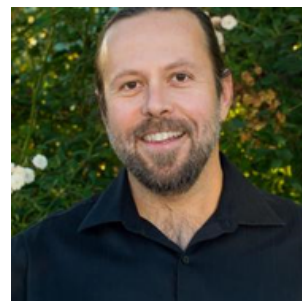
With an intimate knowledge of land conservation, our directors provide valuable governance and direction to the ACLT. Key skills and areas of expertise include governance, legal, communications, fund development, and more.



Brice Caillié
Québec



Paul Chapman
British Columbia



Tim Ennis
British Columbia



Kristyn Ferguson
Member at large



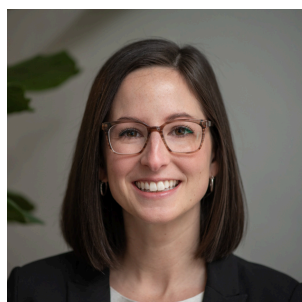
Max Fritz
Prairies



Alison Howson
Ontario



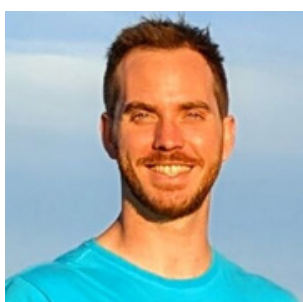
Bill Loughhead
Member at large



Richelle Martin
Member at large



Darran O'Leary
Member at large



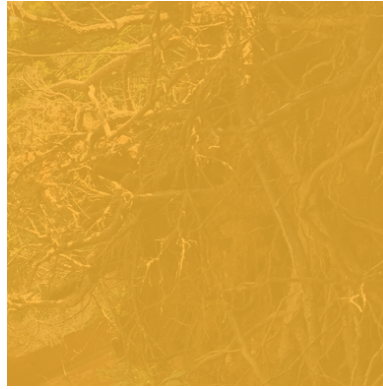
Joaquin Riesgo
Québec



Bonnie Sutherland
Atlantic Canada



Gregory Wickware
Ontario



Our Staff

The ACLT staff manage daily operations, programs, and fundraising while supporting working groups and implementing strategic plans and board policies.



Renata Woodward
Executive Director



Ophélie Bile-Aka
Program Manager



Ian Attridge
Indigenous Engagement
Facilitator



Hallie Robinson
Engagement and
Communications Coordinator



Nawaf Alkherayf
Operations Technician

Our Volunteers

Thank you for your generosity, dedication, and service this year. Your support helped track conservation, communicate impact and make our community stronger. We are sincerely grateful for the many ways you contributed your time and talents.

Our Regional Partners

