

# NATURE

**CANADA PROGRAM**

Quarterly Update • Spring



Hadley Archer in Clayoquot Sound, B.C. © Hannah Letinich

I've been thinking a lot about 2030—a year by which the world must halt and reverse our devastating impacts on nature and climate. As the momentum for this decade of action continues to build, the Canada Program is committed to acting at scale, leveraging Canadian leadership and our global resources, and ensuring that we do things in a way that is equitable and just.

We know that collaborative action and bold leadership can shift our trajectory toward a nature-positive world by 2030, for the benefit of nature and people. To achieve this goal, our team and partners are accelerating Natural Climate Solutions, advancing Indigenous-led conservation and scaling collaborative action to support the resilience of lands, waters and people for generations to come.

I hope you'll enjoy this look at our work and join me in our mission to transform our collective strength into solutions to address the planet's greatest challenges.

  
Hadley Archer, Executive Director

The Nature Conservancy   
Canada Program



Indigenous Partners in Norway House Cree Nation © Robert Rideout

## Serving as the Eyes and Ears of Their Territories: Supporting Indigenous Guardian Programs in Canada

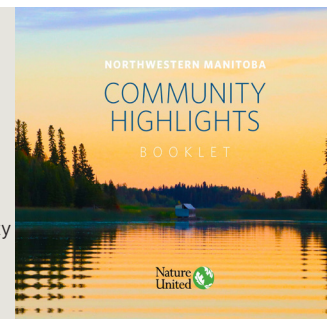
Indigenous Guardians are the “eyes and ears” of their territories. Their role—rooted in Indigenous wisdom and practices and blended with western science—involves monitoring and stewarding lands, waters and wildlife across Canada.

Indigenous Guardians' diverse responsibilities reflect the uniqueness of each community. They are on boats patrolling for illegal activities, in forests collecting data and on the land bringing together youth and elders. Since 2010, we have worked to support Indigenous stewardship by providing technical support and critical resources to Guardian programs.

[Read the full story](#)

### Work in Action: Boreal Manitoba

Boreal Manitoba is home to more than 140 million acres of vast forests, more than 8,000 freshwater lakes and the world's second largest peat land ecosystem—which stores twice as much carbon as all global forests combined. In order to celebrate local stewardship initiatives and encourage collaboration, we partnered with Indigenous Guardians programs in the heart of Boreal Manitoba to craft a Community Highlights Booklet. This booklet, which is available on our website, showcases recent conservation successes and ongoing work led by communities.



Manitoba Community Highlights Booklet © Robert Rideout.



© Hannah Letinich

## Q&A: Emilio Valeri B.C. Community Engagement Coordinator

**What drew you to this role?** My journey into community engagement began during my economics undergrad. I've worked on aid projects in Indonesia, focusing on financial literacy and policy promotion. Through these experiences, I learned that effective engagement hinges on personal qualities you can't learn from books or workshops. Understanding social cues and building trust stem from lived experiences, not just formal education. The emphasis on meaningful engagement and conservation aligns perfectly with my approach to community collaboration.

**What are some of the benefits to Nations who engage with The Nature Conservancy?** Nations historically faced exclusion from crucial decision-making processes, especially concerning their natural resources. Many haven't had the chance to participate meaningfully due to past injustices. Partnering with the Canada Program offers them an avenue to engage in these processes while mitigating risks. Through our funding and resources, Nations can experiment and learn without the burden of using their own capital. This minimizes the risk of failure, empowering them to build their capacity and rectify past injustices by offering equitable opportunities for growth and learning

**What are some examples of the types of projects you've supported through engagement?** Most of the projects we've supported involve aiding communities in establishing Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs). We provide flexible funding; in turn, Nations can address capacity gaps within their communities or organizations. While we plan to expand support for Indigenous-led initiatives, our emphasis on IPCAs reflects the widespread interest in conservation efforts among these Nations.

## NATURE CANADA



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### Your Legacy Has Power

Including the Canada Program in your will or estate plan can benefit you and your loved ones while making a difference for nature. No matter the size of your estate, you can be part of a powerful movement for change. And it's easier than you think. Your commitment will support a resilient Canada where people and nature thrive.

*"For me, a legacy gift was a natural extension of my commitment to the Canada Program's approach, which I believe is profoundly important."*

—Arlin Hackman, Legacy Club member since 2016

[Learn more about joining the Legacy Club](#)

### Our History in Canada

Over the past 40 years, the Canada Program has helped set the stage for remarkable conservation gains across Canada—including the landmark Great Bear Rainforest agreement which protected and sustainably managed 19 million acres and the establishment of the 6.5-million-acre Thaidene Nëné Indigenous Protected Area. Along with Nature United, our Canadian affiliate, we work in partnership with Indigenous and local communities, governments and businesses to create change. We are part of an ambitious global effort to change the trajectory of our future by 2030.

[Learn more about our work](#)