



**Edmonton & Area
Land Trust**

**Annual Report
2014-2015**

www.ealt.ca

9910-103 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 2V7

Tel: 780 483-7578; Fax: 780 483-7627;

Charitable Number: 85470 1356 RR0001

Table of Contents

Message from our Executive Director	3
Board of Directors	4
Natural Area Conservation Accomplishments	5
Securement	5
Stewardship.....	5
Conservation Outreach Accomplishments	6
Conservation Resources.....	6
Educational Partnerships	6
In the Community	6
Social Network.....	7
Volunteer Accomplishments	7
Fundraising and Grant-raising.....	7
3 rd Annual Nature’s Nourishment.....	7
Fundraising Campaigns	7
Grants	10
EALT Financial Highlights.....	11

Message from our Executive Director

Since becoming inaugural Executive Director of the Edmonton and Area Land Trust in 2008, I've seen EALT grow and flourish: securing ecologically valuable lands for conservation; monitoring and stewarding them; developing partnerships with industry, academia, non-profits, and others; creating an annual Signature Event; participating in educational activities through outreach, presentations, and the development and distribution of unique brochures and booklets; and developing some very unique initiatives. This is largely due to our dedicated volunteers and Board, our donors, and staff.

This is such a delightful region in which to live, work, and play, and EALT is pleased to provide conservation lands for local residents and others to enjoy on foot. All EALT supporters know that there are tremendous environmental and economic benefits to conservation, but many visitors simply know our lands as “their spot”, and a place to recreate and enjoy the wildlife and peacefulness.

Over the past year, there have been great examples of how individuals and businesses have recognised the important role EALT plays in the social and environmental fabric of this region:

- We received our first bequest from the estate of Ursula Matthew; also our first land bequest from Ethel Coates – a glorious cliffy, forested natural area, straddling Willow Creek
- We held our first Peer-to-Peer fundraising campaign, which just exceeded our goal of raising \$10,000 to assist with perpetually stewarding the Coates Conservation Lands, as Ethel wished
- Critical volunteer and partner support enabled stewarding of all our natural areas – removing barbed wire to make the lands wildlife friendly, weeding, mowing trails, installing nest boxes, and installing strategic signs and fences to reduce illegal hunting and off highway vehicle trespassing
- Volunteers groomed a loop trail at Boisvert's GreenWoods so it can be better enjoyed by the public
- In total, volunteers contributed the equivalent number of hours as a full time staff person!
- We began Baseline documentation reports on new properties, and finalised the Conservation Management Plan for Boisvert's GreenWoods
- We began a new initiative – a science-based conservation priorities plan for the EALT region, merging multiple data sets of environmentally sensitive areas, important habitat, and other conservation priorities, with the goal of overlaying these maps and finalising a plan in 2016
- We began a partnership to conserve a 640 acre section at Bunchberry Meadows, west of Edmonton
- We developed a *Go Wild for Geocaching* project, stashing caches with educational messages and tips on every EALT property, which generated tremendous positive comments from geocachers
- We held our 3rd annual *Nature's Nourishment* outreach dinner event, yet another success!
- We began a *Protecting Pollinators* project, focussing on bee hotels, to continue through 2016

In the coming year, the Edmonton and Area Land Trust will continue to fulfil its obligations to steward its many lands, and to pursue opportunities to conserve new properties for landowners. This will ensure that more of our community can enjoy “wild” closer to home. We look forward to increasing protection for the special lands that provide recreation, solitude, fish and wildlife habitat, and other values that make this region so special. Please visit and enjoy EALT areas. None of this happens without you!

Thank you for a wonderful year of your support.



Pam Wight
Executive Director, Edmonton and Area Land Trust



Board of Directors

Glen Thoman, Chair

Project Manager
Al-Terra Engineering

Patty Walker, Secretary

Corporate Strategy Director
City of Fort Saskatchewan

Douwe Vanderwel

Supervisor, Planning and Engineering
City of Edmonton, Corporate Properties Branch

Dr. Ian Montgomerie

President
IMI Strategics

Angela Weaver

Legal Counsel
Enbridge Pipelines Inc.

Alex Nagy

Project manager & consulting engineer

Martin Garber-Conrad, Treasurer

Chief Executive Officer
Edmonton Community Foundation

Suzanne Young

Ecological Planner, City of Edmonton
Parks and Biodiversity

Dr. Raquel Feroe

Physician
LifeMark Health Institute

Barry McDonald

Newspaper Reporter
Pipestone Flyer

Karen Miller

Certified General Accountant
Labatt Brewery

We are thankful for the entire Board of Directors who give their time to work for the Edmonton and Area Land Trust. We would also like to thank previous board members who completed their terms:

Grant Pearsell, Director, City of Edmonton Parks and Biodiversity

George Kelly, Retired Exec. Coordinator, Edmonton Inner City Housing Society

Allan Bolstad, Executive Director, Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues

Patricia McKendrick, President, Edmonton Horticultural Society

Krista Tremblett, Alberta Environmental Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Agency

Jane Maze, Alberta Human Rights Commission

Natural Area Conservation Accomplishments

Securement

2015 was a busy year for EALT, moving forward to conserve many new securements, all of which are nearing completion.

Coates Conservation Lands is an 80 acre slice of paradise donated through Ethel Coates' will. This natural area features dramatic topography, dissected by a creek where dinosaur footprints were previously extracted, and protects a piece of an important wildlife corridor.

Thanks to an anonymous donor, EALT became the significant partner in the Bunchberry Meadows Conservation project, after pledging \$1.5 million to the Nature Conservancy of Canada's campaign to secure this section (640 acres) of natural area, right next to Edmonton.

EALT is working to implement our very first Conservation Easement (CE) agreement. This CE will protect old growth forest in an ecologically significant area of Parkland County.

EALT continues to collaborate with the City of Edmonton to have a CE registered at Larch Sanctuary, within the Whitemud Creek Nature Reserve, to amplify the level of conservation at this important natural space, right inside city limits. We also began stewarding this area.



Stewardship

EALT continued to monitor and steward over 1,300 acres of natural areas. Multiple conservation projects were completed in 2015, with the help of our dedicated Volunteer Team.

Wild species at our Glory Hills natural area benefitted from our [habitat restoration project](#). With the support of the community, we installed a variety of nest boxes and launched our very first floating nest platform to benefit the loons on the lake. A new protocol for cleaning and monitoring nest boxes was initiated, to help us monitor habitat restoration impacts at all our natural areas.

We were also pleased to see positive results at Glory Hills from our ongoing invasive plant management efforts, to [restore biodiversity](#) along the lake shoreline. A comprehensive Invasive Plants Management Plan was implemented to manage invasive plants at all properties.

Boisvert's GreenWoods received an environmentally friendly makeover this year. The [1.5 km loop trail](#) was cleared of deadfall and overgrowth and signed to create a safe experience for all visitors. Thanks to many volunteer hours, the entire perimeter fence has been modified to meet wildlife friendly standards.

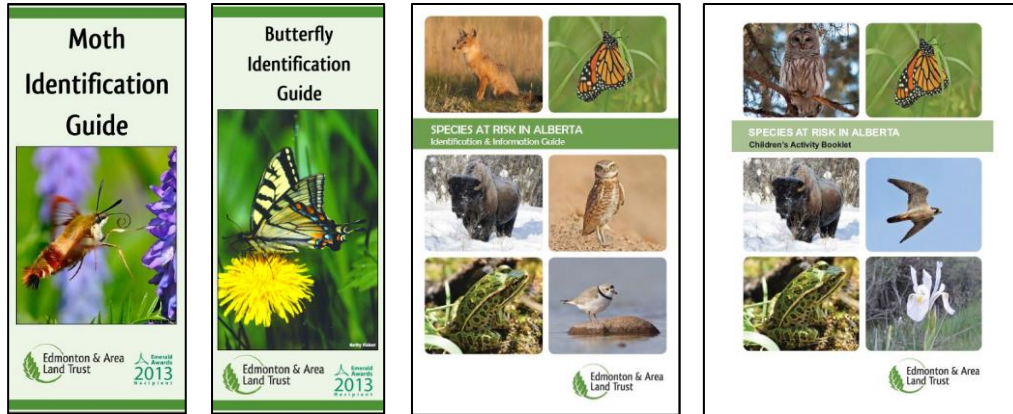
Pipestone Creek's growing trees were given ramped up security measures this year. A temporary snow fence was tested at a common off-highway vehicle access point, and was effective in reducing trespassing from previous years. Thanks to recycled supplies from a corral at Boisvert's GreenWoods, as well as some volunteer muscle, a permanent, attractive, wood-rail fence was installed.



Conservation Outreach Accomplishments

Conservation Resources

EALT staff and volunteers proudly released new and updated [educational resources](#). Click on each resource to view the digital version:



In response to declining native pollinator populations, EALT developed a [bee hotel program](#) to empower members of the public to make a difference. Click on the following resources to view online.



Educational Partnerships

We worked with several classes from the University of Alberta through the Community Service-Learning Program, completing projects related to a variety of topics, including: the role of private protected areas; the impacts of different recreational uses; and the development of an edible plants guide and recipe book. EALT continues to build on relationships with educational institutions for mutual benefit and practical learning.

EALT also teamed up with the Serving Communities Internship Program to recruit student interns to assist in developing a citizen science manual, expand our culture connection, and lead outreach at community events.

In the Community

EALT continues to engage the community through a number of outreach activities. Staff and volunteers hosted information booths at 5 community events and 2 local businesses to spread awareness about our important conservation work. Presentations were made to the University of Alberta, King's University, and Master Naturalists' Program. We expanded our outreach by submitting articles related to environmental stewardship to the Edmonton Journal's *Country Asides* magazine, which is distributed weekly to over 60,000 rural households around Edmonton.

We encouraged new visitors to our conservation lands by stashing geocaches at every property, which was successful in inspiring local residents to discover and explore the natural areas in their community. Each geocache holds unique environmental stewardship messaging inside, which the geocacher can learn from and apply at their own homes.

Social Network



Volunteer Accomplishments

EALT is grateful to the many volunteers who make our work possible. Their dedication and hard work have resulted in great gains for conservation. In 2015, 149 volunteers contributed 2,032 hours – valued at \$30,480 – towards important conservation and outreach activities.

Volunteers cared for our natural areas removing barbed wire, improving ecosystem health by removing fungus and weeds, maintaining trails to reduce visitor impacts, and restoring wildlife habitat by maintaining nesting boxes. Volunteers also spread awareness through community events, developing and updating educational resources, working on bee hotel materials, and updating our website with news releases, videos, and new info. Many thanks to all of your contributions!



[Read our full Volunteer Accomplishments Report here.](#)

Fundraising and Grant-raising

3rd Annual Nature's Nourishment

EALT's 3rd Annual *Nature's Nourishment* event was another great success! The evening was a lively celebration in honour of Ethel Coates' bequest of our newest natural area. Accompanied by a live painting demonstration, 76 guests enjoyed a gourmet, wine-paired meal, creatively crafted by award-winning Chef Blair Lebsack and his culinary team, at a local farm.



Fundraising Campaigns

In 2015, we launched our first peer to peer fundraising campaign, [Conserving the Mystery Corridor](#). This campaign exceeded our goal of raising \$10,000 to fund initial conservation activities at Coates Conservation Lands. EALT also successfully competed in Phillips' *Benefit Brew* competition, to win a named label, and proceeds from a specialty brew released in 2016.

Our electronic autumn fundraising appeal is increasingly successful, and we very much appreciate those who have chosen monthly support via Canada Helps, including those who give anonymously. We'd also like to thank the following individuals and businesses who gave generously to EALT.

Legacy (over \$10,000)

Ursula Matthews Anonymous

Ambassador (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Brookfield Residential

Steward (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Patricia Addison	Michael C. May	Darry Hay
Diana Baragar	James McQuarrie	John Maude & Susan Quinn Charitable Foundation

Supporter (\$100 - \$999)

Dagny Alston	Sharon Downs	Sydney Lancaster	Margaret Reine
Al-terra Engineering	Dave Ealey	Tara Lawrence	Remedy Cafè
Rona Ambrose	Andy Ellis	Jen & Orlando Martinez	Darryl Rewniak
Carol Amelio	Rebecca Ellis	Roy Maxwell	Bill Reynolds
Dianne Assaly	Raquel Feroe	Phillip & Lois May	Kevin Richtscheid
Mary Beckie	Martin Garber-Conrad	Janice McCrum	Kimberly Sanderson
Benevity Matching	Patricia Gillard	Barry McDonald	Frances Savage
Cheryl Bissel	Anne Gregory	Joanne McDonald	Paul & Maureen Shenher
Ronald Bjorge	Jane Haslett	Annie McKittrick	Elizabeth Singbeil
Halina Boisvert	Anne Henderson	James McQuarrie	Pauline Smith
Helen Bondurant	Jill Hill	Karen Miller	Harry & Teresa Stelfox
Stephanie Boonstra	Clare & Tammy Irwin	Ian Montgomerie	Robert Swart
Margaret Campbell	Adrian Jones	New Paradigm Engineering	Christa Teskey
Lu Carbyn	Constance Kenney	Coralee M Nonay	Dolores Tewitz
Jayne Carre	Gordon Kerr	Esther Ondrack	Sylvia Titchener
Michael Rawson Clark	Jennifer Kouri	Faye Parker	Marina Vande Griend
Bill Clarke	Steve Kulak	Grant Pearsell	Douwe Vanderwel
Richard Clayton	Labatt Family Picnic	Jeffrey Pearson	Lora Walker
Coughlan & Anderson	Loren Labonte	Katherine Ploit	Jay White
Wendy Davis	Nadia LaJeunesse	Hil Reine	Pam Wight

Friends (up to \$100)

Trudy & Denis Ayotte	Clara Hugg	Janice May	Rod Stewart
Deanna Baker	Phyllis Hutchinson	Karl May	Hubert Taube
Louise Dorner	Robert Karpinski	Anthony Nong	Mr. Mark Tempest
Aydan Dunnigan-Vickrcuk	Mrs. Margaret Kroening	Joanne Peterson	Raymond Theriault
James Gendron	Mark & Allison Lewis	Don & Georgie Scafe	William Weizenbach
Felysia Green	Ian McCrum	Michael Seneka	Wild Birds Unlimited
Emily Herdman	Arlene Miller	Miranda Smit	
Ross Hodgetts	PayPal Matching	Kevin Stewart	

Gifts from Edmonton Community Foundation Funds & Individuals

Many thanks to the Family Funds and individuals who have chosen to give EALT endowments at the ECF, or to EALT via the ECF, including: John & Barbara Poole Family Funds, Cinders Fund, John and Leni Honsaker Fund, and Ken & Jennifer Kouri. And thanks to the donors who gave through the ECF, but who have chosen to keep their donations anonymous

Also, thanks to the ECF for their Community-Directed Initiative, which has enabled us to recruit a staff person.

Gifts in Honour

In honour of **Graeme Alston** from Dagny Alston
In honour of **John Sidney Coates** on his 92nd birthday and in memory of his sister, Ethel Coates, from Carol Russell Coates
In honour of **Lucille Denham** from Ms. Jamie Cronin
In honour of **Jo & Diane Eustace** from Laura Eustace
In honour of **Natalie Hilbrecht's** volunteer hours from ATCO

In honour of **Bea Hunter** from Greg Hunter
In honour of **Jennifer Larson** from Scott Brewer
In tribute to **David and Aline Stasiwich** of Acre Rig Mats & Oilfield Products Inc., by John K.J. Campbell, Barrister and Solicitor
In honour of **Robert Turner & Patty Walker** from Debra Walker
In honour of **Heidi Zwickel** from Dr. Michael Sullivan

Gifts in Memory

In memory of **Annabel Berretti** from:

- Marguerite Fraser
- Robert Giffin
- K.C. Mackenzie
- Seanna Mackenzie
- Allan & Frances Olson
- Esther Ondrak
- Barry Schloss & Maureen Hemingway

In memory of **Terry Footz** from Glen Thoman
In memory of **Suzette Marxheimer** from Jeannette Wheeler
In memory of **Allan Devins**, from Marg & Hil Reine
In memory of **Dr. Jim McMillan** from Marg & Hil Reine
In memory of **Dr. Lorne Hatch** from Marg & Hil Reine
In memory of **Dr. Dave Coughlan** from Marg & Hil Reine

In Kind Donations

Calmack Welding City of Edmonton	David's Tea Southgate Home Depot	Lawnmower Hospital River City Rentals	Wetaskiwin County Wildbird General Store
-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--	---

Donation Box Displays

Earth's General Store	Second Cup	Wild Birds Unlimited	Wildbirds General Store
-----------------------	------------	----------------------	-------------------------

EALT has been building endowments held at the Edmonton Community Foundation (ECF) to benefit EALT's perpetual conservation. We are grateful to the ECF for managing these funds, which now include the following, and to which all are welcome to contribute:

Capital and Conservation Funds

EALT Capital Fund	EALT Operating Endowment Fund
Noni Lee Conservation Endowment	North Saskatchewan River Valley Conservation Society Capital Fund

Natural Area Stewardship Funds

EALT Conservation Endowment Fund	Betty Fisher Fund
Ross and Eleanor Wein Family Fund	Russell Family Conservation Fund
Prairie Crocus Conservation Fund	Livia Stoyke Foundation EALT Fund
Ministik Stewardship Endowment Fund	Pipestone Creek Endowment Fund
Boisvert's GreenWoods Endowment Fund	
Edmonton Nature Club Endowment for Conservation & Stewardship	

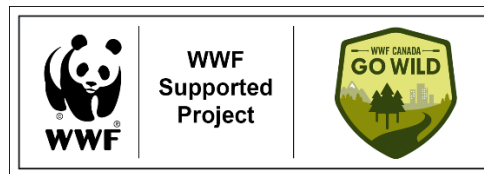
Agricultural Funds

EALT Agricultural Legacy Fund

Many thanks, all these contributions make conservation possible!

Grants

We are grateful to all the generous grantors who enabled our essential conservation projects in 2015, including: Canada Summer Jobs, TD Dinner and Events, University of Alberta Community Service Learning, and the following.



This project was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada.
Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada.

EALT Financial Highlights

Edmonton and Area Land Trust Statement of Operations January 2, 2014 to December 31, 2014

	<u>2014</u>
UNRESTRICTED REVENUE:	
Grants - Edmonton Community Foundation	\$185,752
- Culture and Community Spirit.....	-
Donations - Edmonton Community Foundation.....	35,855
- Other	22,066
Fundraising, interest and other	<u>25,381</u>
Total unrestricted revenue	<u>269,054</u>
RESTRICTED REVENUE:	
Grants (Note 4).....	77,863
Amortization of deferred revenue (Note 4).....	<u>3,969</u>
Total restricted revenue	<u>81,832</u>
Total revenue.....	<u>350,886</u>
EXPENSES:	
Advertising and promotion	8,673
Appraisal fees and surveying.....	12,318
Amortization.....	5,154
Board meetings	1,382
Communication.....	2,461
Endowment contribution	42,180
Fundraising.....	5,400
Goods and services tax	1,554
Insurance.....	3,586
Interest and bank charges	426
Office	4,200
Professional fees	11,744
Property taxes	705
Salaries and benefits	194,402
Subcontract	-
Travel.....	<u>6,288</u>
Total expenses	<u>300,473</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE FOR THE YEAR	<u>\$ 50,413</u>

Edmonton and Area Land Trust
Balance Sheet
As at December 31, 2014

	<u>2014</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>	
CURRENT ASSETS:	
Cash	\$ 88,250
Term deposits	306,714
Accounts receivable	242
Prepaid expenses	<u>1,213</u>
Total current assets	396,419
ECOLOGICALLY VALUABLE LAND	4,619,125
EQUIPMENT (Note 3)	<u>30,248</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$5,045,792</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>	
CURRENT LIABILITIES:	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 7,383
Deferred revenue (Note 4)	<u>7,843</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>15,226</u>
DEFERRED REVENUE (Note 4)	<u>36,962</u>
NET ASSETS:	
Invested in ecologically valuable land	4,619,125
Invested in equipment	1,930
Unrestricted	<u>372,549</u>
Total net assets	<u>4,993,604</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$5,045,792</u>

The Edmonton and Area Land Trust was audited for the year 2014. The financial statements are excerpted from the audited statements, and exclude the audit report and notes. A complete copy of the auditor's report is available on request.