

Growing Stronger

2026

A YEAR OF RESILIENCE, COLLABORATION AND FORGING NEW PATHWAYS

ANNUAL REPORT

Conservation Council *of* New Brunswick
Conseil de conservation *du* Nouveau-Brunswick

Table of Contents

FROM OUR LEADERSHIP: ONE YEAR IN PERSPECTIVE.....3

RECONCILIATION: OUR CONTINUED WORK 5

IMPACT SUMMARY 6

PROGRESS ON OUR STRATEGIC GOALS 7

GROWING OUR COMMUNITY AND REACH.....8

CAMPAIGN SPOTLIGHTS.....9

- RIGS: We Demand a Comprehensive Review..... 10
- Electric School Buses in New Brunswick 11
- Stop Sisson Mine 12

PILLARS OF EXPERTISE 13

- Climate & Energy 14
- Forests..... 16
- Freshwater..... 18
- Marine..... 20
- School & Youth Education 22
- Community Engagement 24

STRONGER TOGETHER.....26

- Members and Supporters..... 27
- Our Generous Donors..... 28
- Thank You to Our Funders 31
- Board of Directors..... 32
- Staff 33

FINANCIALS 34

JOIN US 35



From Our Leadership

One Year in Perspective

A Message from the Executive Director

THIS YEAR WAS ONE OF GROWTH, CHANGE AND RENEWED PURPOSE FOR THE CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

Guided by our strategic goals, we strengthened our organization, expanded how we engage with people and increased our ability to influence the decisions shaping New Brunswick's future.

Our work unfolded within a changing political landscape. Federal and provincial governments placed greater emphasis on resource development, economic growth and faster project approvals. Too often, environmental safeguards, public participation and climate action were portrayed as barriers to progress rather than foundations for responsible and lasting prosperity. In keeping with our goal of strengthening CCNB's advocacy impact, we devoted more attention to emerging proposals, helped people understand what was at stake and worked to ensure environmental concerns were not pushed aside in the rush to develop.

Mining once again became a major issue in New Brunswick, with the resurfacing of the proposed Sisson mine. In response, CCNB joined with community organizations, experts and residents to rebuild public awareness and opposition, demonstrating the importance of strong partnerships and sustained public advocacy.

Advancing practical climate and energy solutions also remained central to our work. When the proposed RIGS gas and diesel power plant in Tantramar was presented as an answer to electricity reliability, we amplified public opposition, leading the call for a fuller examination of the alternatives at the EUB hearings.

We also advanced our strategic commitment to protecting New Brunswick's land and waters. We recommended improvements to the Clean Water Act and provided advice to the provincial government on its new biodiversity strategy, launched a forest-focused webinar series, and collaborated with communities and partners to advance marine conservation in the Quoddy region.



BEVERLY GINGRAS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

These efforts are connected by a simple truth: healthy forests, rivers, wetlands and coastal waters sustain both biodiversity and the communities that depend on them.

Our goals of strengthening community engagement and improving environmental literacy are more important than ever. We expanded opportunities for children and youth to learn outdoors, made complex environmental issues easier to understand and, reached people who have not always been included in environmental conversations. An informed and engaged public remains one of the strongest forces for lasting change.

Behind this public work, we continued building a stronger and more resilient organization. We invested in our staff, strengthened internal systems and governance, welcomed new perspectives and worked to deepen relationships with members, donors and partners. These efforts may be less visible, but they are essential to ensuring CCNB can respond effectively as a strong, independent environmental voice for years to come.

In the years ahead, we expect continued pressure for new mines, major energy projects and faster project approvals, and **we *will* meet these challenges**. We will continue to show that environmental protection is not an obstacle to New Brunswick's future, but fundamental to building a future that is healthier, fairer and more resilient.

Thank you to our members, donors, volunteers, partners, supporters, staff, and Board. Your commitment gives us the strength to respond when it matters and the confidence to imagine something better. Together, we will continue turning that vision into action.

From Our Leadership

One Year in Perspective

A Message from the President

THIS PAST YEAR POLITICAL WINDS, BOTH NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY, HAVE DIVERTED THE ATTENTION OF MANY LEADERS AWAY FROM ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

Affordability, tense international relations, and disasters from both human and natural causes have dominated the headlines. Yet, despite a rapidly evolving climate and political landscape, the Conservation Council of New Brunswick has remained true to its mission and vision to create a healthy, sustainable, just environment in New Brunswick for all.

Throughout the 2025-2026 year, CCNB has given nature a voice in schools, townhalls, and government offices. We have pursued a wide range of projects, ranging from educational resource development to participating in legal proceedings before the New Brunswick Energy Utilities Board. We've fostered new relationships,collaborated with like-minded organizations throughout Atlantic Canada to advocate for environmentally friendly solutions, and launched ambitious campaigns to help protect communities from environmentally damaging projects. We are continuing to move forward with the innovative and adaptive approach required to navigate these times of profound change while welcoming new staff to the team, and new directors to the board.



TOM MCLEAN
PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In this new world of uncertainty, increasing our capacity to support New Brunswickers has never been more important. In addition to continuing to build strong effective governance policies, expanding and enhancing our donor and member stewardship programs are key priorities.

Our ability to help communities protect their local environments is rooted in the collective action of our members, donors, volunteers, staff and board. Our strength comes from a shared belief that better is not only possible, but that **together, we will make it happen**.

Thank you to our community of supporters. Your passion, dedication, and belief in what's possible is truly helping to shape a greener future for New Brunswick.



Reconciliation: Our Continued Work

WE ARE COMMITTED TO STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND ORGANIZATIONS, COLLABORATING WHERE INVITED AND APPROPRIATE, SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP, AND BUILDING OUR OWN UNDERSTANDING OF RECONCILIATION.

During 2025–2026, we advanced this commitment through sustained relationships, shared conservation work, public education, advocacy, and staff learning. We sought to contribute our capacity and public voice while respecting the knowledge, authority, and priorities of Indigenous partners.

In the past year, our longest-standing collaboration continued with the Peskotomuhkati Nation and the Passamaquoddy Recognition Group. Regular meetings with Nation leadership and fisheries staff supported work on restoring the Skutik watershed, protecting coastal ecosystems, responding to aquaculture pesticides and seabird deaths, and examining rockweed harvesting and marine conservation. Together with Peskotomuhkati partners, we helped deliver the Charlotte County Fall Fair's Skutik activities, We Are the Watershed, the Alewife Run, Earthfest programming, school presentations, trail stewardship education, and environmental signage. We also supported proposals and research led by the Passamaquoddy Recognition Group, including work on the human and ecological history of the outer Bay of Fundy.

We strengthened relationships with Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq partners. At the invitation of the Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick, we supported its campaign opposing the closure of the Mactaquac Biodiversity Facility and amplified concerns about the consequences for Polamuwok, or Atlantic salmon. We collaborated with Wolastoqey partners on forest and protected-area mapping, watershed stewardship, and the Musquash Marine Protected Area anniversary. At Black Beach, we co-hosted an event that included Wolastoqey archaeological knowledge, fishing demonstrations, children's activities, and opportunities for community learning. We also built relationships with the North Shore Mi'kmaq Tribal Council, Pabineau First Nation, Woodstock First Nation, and Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn Inc. This included sharing our mining analysis and producing stories about Indigenous-owned renewable energy and Pabineau's community-led energy-efficiency work.

Education and organizational learning also continue to be important. To advance this, we partnered with Peskotomuhkati Elders to complement language and cultural teaching with ecological activities for approximately 80 students. Staff attended ceremonies and events hosted by Under One Sky Friendship Centre, participated in Red Dress Day activities, completed Indigenous climate leadership learning, and continued Mi'kmaq language classes.

This work reflects an ongoing commitment rather than a completed task. By listening, showing up consistently, supporting Indigenous-led priorities, and investing in long-term relationships, we strengthened our ability to contribute respectfully to shared work protecting lands, waters, climate, and communities.



Photo by Nick Hawkins

Impact Summary

WE ARE BUILDING A RESILIENT, AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT IN NEW BRUNSWICK THROUGH RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT WITH BOTH COMMUNITIES AND DECISION-MAKERS.

In 2025-2026, we continued to stand with New Brunswickers working to protect the places they call home while building the relationships, knowledge and organizational capacity needed for lasting change. Amid a shifting political climate and new global uncertainties, we moved forward with focus and perseverance, reaching new milestones along the way.



943

NEW BRUNSWICK DECISIONS-MAKERS
WHO RECEIVED LETTERS FROM OUR COMMUNITY



842

LETTERS SENT FROM THE PUBLIC
TO DECISION-MAKERS THROUGH OUR CAMPAIGNS CALLING FOR ACTION



200+

MUNICIPAL ELECTION CANDIDATES
CONTACTED WITH ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS AND INFORMATION



83

MEDIA APPEARANCES
BY OUR TEAM THAT DREW ATTENTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND SOLUTIONS



14

FORMAL POLICY SUBMISSIONS
SENT TO PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS



22+

FORMAL MEETINGS
BETWEEN OUR TEAM AND PROVINCIAL AND/OR FEDERAL BUREAUCRATS

Progress on
Our Strategic Goals

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR WE TOOK MANY STEPS TOWARDS REACHING OUR STRATEGIC GOALS. AND WHILE WE ARE FAR FROM THE FINISH LINE, WE ARE PROUD OF THE WORK WE'VE ACHIEVED, ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD WITH INNOVATION, TENACITY, AND PURPOSE.

EXPAND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

We continuously work to grow our impact and to do that, investing in and refining our internal systems is critical. In 2025-2026, we strengthened CCNB's organizational foundation by modernizing our policies, practices, and technology. By identifying opportunities to strengthen financial management, governance, recruitment and training, measurement, and stakeholder engagement, we improved our ability to support our staff and board. Much of this work is ongoing, and we look forward to further advancing our capabilities in the years to come.

STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We believe that creating a healthy, safe, just environment in New Brunswick for all is possible - but we can't achieve it alone. To bring our vision to life, we rely on our community to join us in standing up for nature and our future. On average, our team attended one event every week, engaging with thousands of people across the province to listen to their feedback and spread our message. We built new relationships with like-minded organizations in order to share knowledge and resources. And we've expanded our online community, amplifying our message to every corner of the province and beyond.

DIVERSIFY FUNDING SOURCES

As political realities shift and funding sources change, staying nimble and adaptive is essential. In response, throughout the year we've found new sources of funding through consultation, developed new and deepened donor relationships, introduced new fundraising approaches, and grown our community of members. While we've made strides, securing predictable, long-term funding remains a priority.

ADVANCE ADVOCACY IMPACT

Nature needs a voice - and we are committed to speaking out for a sustainable future, challenging risky policies that put our environment, communities, and



health at risk. Through research, public mobilization, and direct government engagement, we continued to influence important political decisions throughout the year, even helping to stop a proposal that could have opened protected lands to increased industrial forestry.

ENHANCE ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

Building a sustainable future doesn't start at the finish line - it starts with each person, the choices they make, and the habits they create. This past year, our team collaborated with community members, artists, and organizations that shared our commitment to environmental protection in order to raise awareness and foster community connections with nature. We also launched our own *Little Free Library*, with books available for all age groups and in both English and French, helping expand access to environmental literature in our community. Together, this work strengthened our role as an advocate, connector, and convener, creating more ways for New Brunswickers to take action.

Growing our Community and Reach

Year-over-year change

8.6%

GROWTH
IN MEMBERSHIPS

7.2%

GROWTH
IN NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS
DELIVERED 12 TIMES PER YEAR

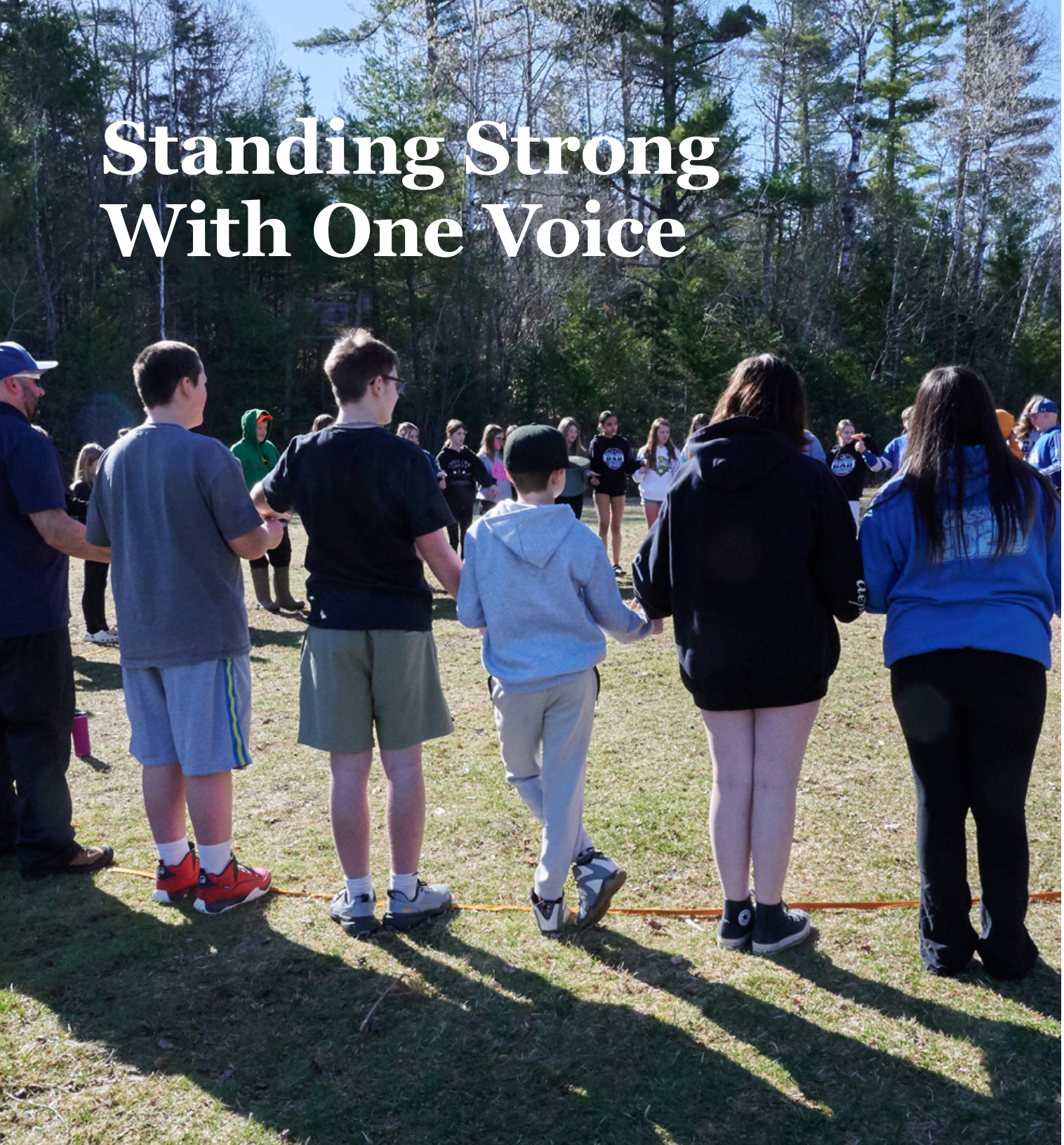
930

NEW FOLLOWERS
INSTAGRAM & FACEBOOK

100%

AVERAGE INCREASE
IN PAGE VISITS
INSTAGRAM & FACEBOOK





Campaign Spotlights

Campaign Spotlight

RIGS: We Demand a Comprehensive Review

IN 2025, NB POWER ANNOUNCED A PROPOSAL TO BUILD A 500-MEGAWATT FOSSIL GAS-FIRED GENERATING STATION IN TANTRAMAR, KNOWN AS THE RENEWABLES INTEGRATION AND GRID SECURITY (RIGS) PROJECT.

Over the past year, we've played a leading role in challenging NB Power's proposal, responding to the project's environmental impact assessment and intervening when NB Power argued that the Energy and Utilities Board did not have jurisdiction to review it. Our intervention directly helped to secure an important decision, requiring the project to undergo a full regulatory review.

We retained *East Coast Environmental Law* as legal counsel, and energy specialist Toby Couture as an expert witness. After reviewing NB Power's evidence, we submitted formal questions and presented independent research on the project's financial, climate and public-interest implications. This led us to participate in 10 days of hearings on the original 400-megawatt proposal and the additional 100 megawatts intended to supply Nova Scotia as a recognized intervener.

Our work didn't end there; we also advocated for cleaner ways to meet New Brunswick's electricity needs including renewable energy, battery storage, energy efficiency and demand-side management. We expanded public awareness of RIGS through numerous channels, including factsheets, public meetings, presentations, rallies, and community events. We also launched a province-wide letter-writing campaign, helping residents call on decision-makers for stronger scrutiny and cleaner alternatives.

Although the Energy & Utilities Board ultimately found the project to be prudent, we publicly disagreed and continued opposing the project as a member of the ***Protect the Chignecto Isthmus Coalition***.

Our research, expert evidence, public materials, community outreach and media work encouraged a broader discussion about renewable energy and batteries versus fossil gas. Together, these efforts increased scrutiny of the project, demonstrated that cleaner alternatives are available and may encourage NB Power and the provincial government to reconsider long-term reliance on fossil fuels.



CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

640

PUBLIC LETTERS
generated, calling for a comprehensive environmental review of the RIGS power plant

10

DAYS OF ENERGY AND UTILITIES BOARD HEARINGS ATTENDED
presenting evidence and raising concerns

6+

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS
delivered in communities throughout New Brunswick

32+

RIGS-RELATED MEDIA INTERVIEWS,
broadcasts or news articles featuring CCNB

✔

WE ADVANCED PUBLIC AND POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS
surrounding renewable energy, battery storage, efficiency, and grid alternatives

Campaign Spotlight

Electric School Buses in New Brunswick

EVERY SCHOOL DAY, THOUSANDS OF NEW BRUNSWICK CHILDREN TRAVEL TO SCHOOL BY BUS. ON AVERAGE, A DIESEL SCHOOL BUS EMITS APPROXIMATELY 18 TONNES OF CARBON POLLUTION PER YEAR, MAKING THE SWITCH TO ELECTRIC A CLEAR CHOICE.

But while the provincial government has committed to full fleet electrification by 2035, progress is slow, and misinformation about *electric school buses (ESBs)* circulating online has fueled public uncertainty.

In response, we've worked to build public understanding, countering misinformation, and providing decision-makers and communities with credible, accessible information about electric school buses. After obtaining the *Atlantic Canadian Electric School Bus Feasibility Study* through an information request, we translated its findings into accessible public communications addressing common questions and misconceptions about electric buses. Our misinformation-focused social media campaign reached thousands of people, complementing direct engagement with students, families and communities.

We also worked with the Ecology Action Centre, manufacturers, and other partners to develop and release an *Electric School Bus Buyer's Guide*, providing practical information about available buses and helping make a complex technology easier to understand. At the regional level, we established the *Atlantic Electric School Bus Coalition*, which grew to 14 participating organizations with representation from all four Atlantic provinces, creating a new space for collaboration and knowledge-sharing.

Together, these efforts are helping move the conversation beyond whether electric school buses can work in Atlantic Canada toward how communities and decision-makers can successfully make the transition. By combining trusted information, public engagement and regional collaboration, we are building the momentum needed for a cleaner and healthier school transportation system.



CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

14

ORGANIZATIONS,
representing all Atlantic provinces, and 1 Indigenous partner, joined us in the Atlantic Electric School Bus Coalition

19

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS
published about ESBs, generating 34,671 views

✔

CO-DEVELOPED AN ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUS BUYER'S GUIDE,
covering major ESB options available to fleet decision-makers



Campaign Spotlight

Stop Sisson Mine

IN 2025, DISCUSSIONS ON THE PROPOSED SISSON MINE RESURFACED, REVIVING CONCERNS ABOUT A PROJECT THAT WOULD PERMANENTLY ALTER THE NASHWAAK WATERSHED AND LEAVE FUTURE GENERATIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING ITS WASTE AND POLLUTION RISKS.

The proposed Sisson mine threatens the Nashwaak watershed with lasting damage to streams, water quality and wildlife habitat. It also raises concerns about public health, the cost of managing mine waste, and whether New Brunswickers would receive enough benefit to justify those risks.

Our goal is clear: stop the mine by building an informed coalition and demonstrating public support for protecting the watershed.

We began by reconnecting with local advocates. We helped establish the ***Stop Sisson Mine Coalition***, and worked with the Nashwaak Watershed Association and other partners to build a coordinated campaign.

To give residents and decision-makers clear information, we researched the mine's environmental, health and economic risks. We produced three detailed briefing papers and three accessible fact sheets, published a Sisson mine-focused webpage, participated in national and provincial media interviews, and launched a letter writing campaign, providing an opportunity for New Brunswickers to express their opposition directly with the Premier and MLA's.

By year's end, the campaign had grown into a visible, coordinated provincial effort. While we've made meaningful gains in awareness, participation and campaign capacity, our work must continue until the Sisson mine project is stopped.



Photo by Nick Hawkins



CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

100+

ORGANIZATIONS, PADDLERS, VOLUNTEERS, AND SUPPORTERS
engaged through the Great Paddle for the Nashwaak

300+

COUNCILLORS AND MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES
contacted with project briefing materials, with several replying, opposing the mine

100+

ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS
have joined the Stop Sisson Mine Coalition so far

PROTECT OUR WATER
STOP SISSON MINE

Creating Change Through Action



Pillars of Expertise

Climate & Energy

RENEWABLE ENERGY, ENERGY EFFICIENCY, STORAGE, DISTRIBUTED GENERATION AND A MORE FLEXIBLE ELECTRICITY GRID CAN HELP MEET GROWING DEMAND WHILE REDUCING POLLUTION AND PROTECTING HOUSEHOLDS FROM UNCERTAIN FUEL COSTS.

Our role is not only to challenge proposals that could take New Brunswick in the wrong direction, but also to help build support for solutions that are cleaner, more affordable and ready for the future. And this past year, we did exactly that.

Through community events, listening sessions, surveys, letter-writing campaigns, presentations and accessible public information, we created opportunities for people and organizations across the province to raise their voices and participate meaningfully in conversations about New Brunswick's energy future.

Our work focused on increasing public and provincial government involvement in climate and energy decisions and advancing a cleaner, more affordable and more reliable energy future for New Brunswick. We met regularly with New Brunswick decision-makers to advocate for greater progress on renewable energy, battery storage, energy efficiency, electricity reform, clean transportation and emissions reduction, while continuously ensuring community perspectives were represented.



OUR IMPACT AT A GLANCE

30+

ORGANIZATIONS
collaborated with to advance climate solutions in New Brunswick

499

EMAILS SENT FROM THE PUBLIC
to local government challenging climate misinformation

10+

CLEAN AIR ACT RECOMMENDATIONS
submitted to the Government of New Brunswick

29

MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS
discussing climate solutions

Project
Highlights

Sparking Solutions: Energy & Energize



Addressing climate change requires collective action - that's why we brought together 50 representatives from more than 30 environmentally focused organizations from across New Brunswick to share perspectives, showcase ongoing work, identify common priorities, and build relationships across sectors. This day-long gathering strengthened our network, and reinforced the collective momentum needed to advance a more equitable energy transition in New Brunswick.

Addressing the Energy Affordability Crisis Through Storytelling



New Brunswickers across the province are feeling strained from ongoing energy rate increases and household inefficiencies. To draw attention to this issue, we produced a video featuring Pabineau First Nation Deputy Chief Susan Ducasse, who shared her community's barriers to energy affordability. Many homes in her community were not built for New Brunswick's winter conditions, and while government funding for necessary upgrades is available, it remains insufficient.

By elevating Susan's story and bringing attention to these systemic barriers, we demonstrated why New Brunswick's energy transition must include accessible funding and energy-efficiency solutions for Indigenous and other communities facing disproportionate energy burdens.



WATCH THE VIDEO HERE

Forests

FOREST CONSERVATION IS CORE TO OUR STRATEGIC COMMITMENT TO PROTECT LANDS, WATERS AND BIODIVERSITY.

Last year, we advocated for protected areas, expanded understanding of ecological forestry, examined forest biomass electricity, opposed glyphosate spraying and recommended improvements to the province's biodiversity strategy. This work combined policy, science, education and collaboration to improve forest protection and management.



Photo by Nick Hawkins

OUR IMPACT AT A GLANCE

913

PEOPLE ENGAGED
through our forestry webinar series

50+

RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED
to the Provincial Government pertaining to the development of a biodiversity strategy

200,000

HECTARES OF CROWN LAND
nominated by CCNB for protection using GIS Mapping

We helped protect forests in New Brunswick by participating in the province's Shared Landscapes initiative, which aims to increase protected land and water to 15 per cent by 2027. We met with government officials and used GIS analysis to identify approximately **220,000 hectares** of candidate areas for protection, including 178,930 hectares of forest containing large and old trees, and 19,833 hectares of forested wetlands with high ecological and biodiversity value.

Project
Highlights

Forest Conservation

We continued pressing the province to modernize the Protected Natural Areas Act so protected areas receive strong, permanent and enforceable protection.

In addition, an important conservation win involved a forest-industry proposal to exchange existing protected lands for other areas. The proposal could have removed protection from conservation forests and reopened them to industrial harvesting, increasing the wood supply available to industry. Forest-industry representatives approached municipalities seeking support for the proposal, without first engaging conservation organizations. In response, we worked with conservation partners to provide municipal councils with clear information about the lands at risk, the ecological implications of the proposed exchange and the importance of maintaining existing protections, while also bringing the issue into the public conversation. As awareness grew, Indigenous Nations became engaged and public opposition increased. This pressure contributed to the government changing its position and rejecting the proposed land swap on February 5, 2026. This outcome demonstrated how timely information, collaboration and public participation can defend conservation commitments when protected lands are threatened.

New Brunswick's New Mining Strategy

Following the release of New Brunswick's new Mining Strategy, we played an active role in reviewing and responding to it. We raised concerns that the strategy focused too heavily on attracting investment, while providing insufficient detail on environmental protection, community health, public accountability, mine closure and reclamation liabilities. In May 2026, we submitted a comprehensive review of Bill 45, the proposed *Mineral Resources Act*, supported by nine other environmental organizations. Our recommendations called for a modern, forward-looking law with a clear purpose and guiding principles; stronger environmental safeguards; consideration of cumulative effects and ecological limits; meaningful Indigenous participation; community benefits; transparent decision-making; climate resilience; and firm requirements for mine closure and financial security. This led us to meet with departmental staff and Minister Herron, along with representatives from other organizations, to discuss concerns and suggest improvements.

Stop Herbicide Spraying

New Brunswick uses more glyphosate per hectare than any other province in Canada, making our work to advocate against its use continuously important. Glyphosate has been linked to serious environmental and health risks, reinforcing the need to push for better, more sustainable, and modern forest management practices. Last year, our approach included partnering with Stop Spraying New Brunswick to submit a joint letter to the government calling for the end of glyphosate use, attending the provincial Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship update on glyphosate use, and raising awareness as a panelist on an East Coast Environmental Law webinar.

New Brunswick's Biodiversity Strategy

We've played an active role in helping to update the province's biodiversity framework and strategy. Through participating in discussions with the Department of Natural Resources and key decision-makers, we've provided data-driven insight into the growing pressures that forests, wetlands, and other ecosystems are currently facing due to the climate crisis. We called for a new strategy with clear targets, timelines, responsibilities and public reporting so it leads to measurable action, and submitted over 50 recommendations to help guide and inform its development.

Freshwater

CLEAN, ABUNDANT WATER IS ESSENTIAL TO NEW BRUNSWICK'S COMMUNITIES AND ECOSYSTEMS.

In keeping with CCNB's strategic goals, our freshwater work focused on strengthening provincial protections, bringing scientific perspectives into decisions, and building partnerships to protect watersheds, wetlands and drinking-water sources.



SARAH BLENIS

"CCNB's role in freshwater protection reminds me of a silver maple growing along a river's floodplain: deeply rooted, resilient through changing waters, and quietly strengthening everything around it.

Silver maples do not stand apart from the river; they are woven into its resilience, holding soil in place, creating habitat, and helping the landscape withstand change. Marieka brings that same kind of strength to freshwater work in New Brunswick.

Through efforts such as the modernization of the Clean Water Act, Marieka and the CCNB team have helped connect watershed groups, communities, science, policy and advocacy, giving collective action stronger roots and greater reach.

Their work is thoughtful, persistent and foundational- the kind of work that helps others stand stronger and helps lasting change take hold. In a province shaped by water, that kind of leadership deeply matters."

PROJECT MANAGER AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR & CCNB FRESHWATER COLLABORATOR, HAMMOND RIVER ANGLING ASSOCIATION

OUR IMPACT AT A GLANCE

25+

CLEAN WATER ACT RECOMMENDATIONS
submitted to the Government of New Brunswick

60

MINUTES
presenting recommendations to the standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship

10+

ORGANIZATIONS
collaborated with to advance freshwater protection via the NB Clean Water Act

Project
Highlights

NB Clean Water Act





We engaged in the province's modernization of the *Clean Water Act*, submitting key recommendations backed by connections, notable gaps in protections, connections among land use, forestry, wetlands and water quality, and calls for enforceable safeguards, stronger monitoring, and accountability. In the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick, we presented to the *Standing Committee on Environment and Climate Change*, emphasizing that New Brunswickers do not have a clear picture of the state of water quality in the province. Our calling attention to this lack of information may have resulted in the government subsequently releasing a water-quality report, an important step toward greater transparency and informed decision-making. The *July 2026 What We Heard* report also reflected many of our recommendations.

Wetland Protection



Our work supported communities facing freshwater and wetland threats. At Cap-Bateau, we assisted residents opposing Scotts Canada's proposed development of 110 hectares of peat bog. We helped develop advocacy strategies, supported letters and a public petition, contributed to media coverage and participated in meetings with the ministers responsible for Environment and Natural Resources. We submitted the Crown land portion of the bog as a candidate for protection through Shared Landscapes. This work connected local concerns with policy expertise and highlighted peatlands' importance for water storage, biodiversity, carbon storage and climate resilience.

Marine

COASTAL AND MARINE CONSERVATION ISSUES ARE COMPLEX, OFTEN REQUIRING ENGAGEMENT WITH INDIGENOUS, MUNICIPAL, PROVINCIAL, FEDERAL, AND SOMETIMES EVEN INTERNATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES.

In 2025-2026 we engaged broadly to ensure marine conservation efforts continue to move forward even as Canada realigns its policy priorities. By combining advocacy, partnerships, research, and public engagement, we worked broadly to advance marine conservation, and protect New Brunswick's coastal and marine ecosystems.



OUR IMPACT AT A GLANCE

7

RECOMMENDATIONS
for advancing action on marine conservation in Atlantic Canada jointly submitted to federal and provincial governments

650

PEOPLE ENGAGED
in interactive marine conservation programming

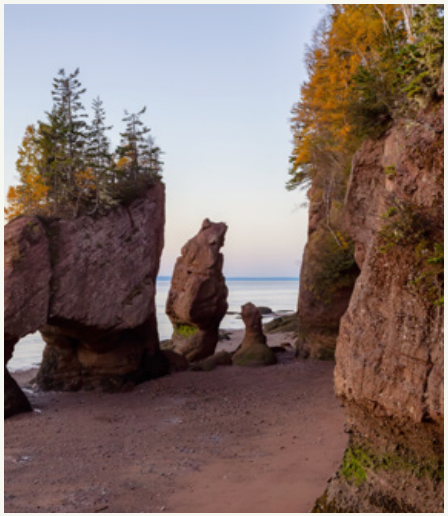
15+

MEETINGS
with government officials to advocate for marine protection

Project
Highlights

Scotian Shelf–Bay of Fundy Marine Conservation Network Plan

We continuously advocate for release and implementation of the ***Scotian Shelf–Bay of Fundy Marine Conservation Network Plan***. Throughout the development process, we've played a critical role, meeting with officials, environmental organizations, fishing interests, regional partners, and participating in advisory processes.



Honouring The Skutik (St. Croix River)

For two centuries, dams, pollution, and disruption to fish passage damaged the watershed, and weakened people's relationship with the Skutik - but we are working to restore both a human connection and ecological vibrancy.

In the winter we hosted "Skutik Sessions" at Salmon Falls, former site of the Milltown dam on the Skutik (St. Croix River). Skutik is the original, Peskotomuhkati, name of the river and means "place where there is fire." For decades we have been fighting, with many allies and under the leadership of the Peskotomuhkati Nation, for restoration of the Skutik. The removal of the Milltown Dam in 2024 was a notable success, and as a result we are seeing fish come home for the first time in over 200 years. Alongside our ongoing work to restore the river's ecology, we have sought to restore human connection to the river. The Skutik Sessions brought people of all ages (including grades 3 and 4 students from Milltown Elementary School), to gather around a fire by Salmon Falls and learn about the river, foster community, and reconnect to the waters.

Together, these efforts strengthened Indigenous and community relationships, brought credible evidence into decision-making, and gave residents meaningful ways to participate.

A public that knows and values the Skutik and the Bay of Fundy is more likely to defend them. By connecting policy change with research, education, and place-based action, we helped build the public support needed for healthier waters, resilient coastal communities, and enduring marine protection.



School & Youth Education

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE IN NEW BRUNSWICK STARTS WITH EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS.

To support this, we continuously work to expand access to meaningful, hands-on environmental education across New Brunswick, while strengthening the capacity of the education system to support environmental and climate literacy through Learning Outside and related programming.



OUR IMPACT AT A GLANCE

149

LEARNING OUTSIDE
and related programs
delivered

2,630

K-12 STUDENTS ENGAGED
through nature-based
programs

79%

OF PROGRAMS
incorporated
climate-focused learning

Project
Highlights

Learning Nature's Way: New Brunswick's Environmental & Climate Education Framework



Developed in partnership with Nature NB and the New Brunswick Environmental Network, we crafted a shared approach to environmental learning in order to support teachers and outdoor educators. The development process was both collaborative and thorough, integrating input from educators, community organizations, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, and diverse school communities. After piloting and refining, we introduced Learning Nature's Way to 535 New Brunswick teachers, delivering hands-on professional development through Great Minds Think Outside.

Our work continues to build environmental literacy at multiple levels, equipping teachers, schools, and community educators with the tools they need to make environmental learning a lasting part of education in New Brunswick.

Improving Access to Environmental Education

A healthy and sustainable future requires the inclusion of diverse voices, perspectives, and representation - that's why making educational programming more accessible to all communities across New Brunswick is a core priority. By building meaningful relationships and creating opportunities for collaboration, we partnered with newcomer-serving organizations to connect more than 560 newcomer students and 130 Indigenous students with hands-on, nature-based learning experiences.



Community Engagement

CREATING ACCESSIBLE AND MEANINGFUL OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW BRUNSWICKERS TO ENGAGE IN ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND EXPLORE SOLUTIONS IS CRUCIAL TO FOSTERING A FUTURE WHERE NATURE AND COMMUNITIES THRIVE TOGETHER.

Through events, workshops, webinars, listening sessions and art programming, we created multiple entry points for people with varied levels of environmental knowledge to get involved, learn, and take action.



OUR IMPACT AT A GLANCE

54

PUBLIC EVENTS
hosted/participated in to spread environmental awareness

4,591

PEOPLE ENGAGED
with through events

3

ENVIRONMENTAL ARTIST RESIDENCIES
facilitated

Project
Highlights

Connecting With Nature Through Art



Through our ***Mindfulness & Moss*** and ***From Harm to Harmony*** projects, we create spaces for people to explore environmental issues using creativity, reflection, and fostering connection with nature. In a world where eco-anxiety is steadily rising, these interactive programs give New Brunswickers opportunities to explore issues ranging from forests and freshwater to climate and energy in a way that feels safe, accessible, and practical. In 2025-2026 we engaged **44 participants** in our Mindfulness & Moss workshop, with more than 80% rating the workshop as “excellent”.



Amplifying Community Voices: Energy Affordability

Creating opportunities for all New Brunswickers to share their perspectives is critical in addressing energy affordability issues. In spring 2025, we hosted a community listening session, *Powering NB’s Future: A Community Listening Session on Electricity Reform*. Open to the public, we gave New Brunswickers an opportunity to voice concerns and share their perspectives on energy affordability. Following the session, we brought this community feedback directly to the Department of Energy, including Minister Legacy and Deputy Minister Hoyt.





Your Support Makes it Work

Stronger Together

Members and Supporters

WITHOUT NEW BRUNSWICKERS SUPPORTING OUR MISSION, JOINING US AT EVENTS, GENEROUSLY DONATING AND AMPLIFYING OUR MESSAGE, WE COULDN'T MAKE THE IMPORTANT IMPACTS THAT WE DO.

This past year has been full of many milestones - from co-launching the Stop Sisson Mine Coalition to playing a central role as an intervener in EUB hearings.

We've cultivated new partnerships, engaged thousands across the province in education and action, and brought greater visibility to environmental issues facing our province. We're proud of what we've accomplished. But even more, we are grateful for our supporters whose passion, commitment, and belief in a sustainable future continue to inspire and energize us.



"People should support the work of CCNB in order to feel that they can make a difference.

Climate change is overwhelming when taken as a whole, and when thinking about what a person can achieve as an individual. But, by supporting or getting involved with CCNB, a person joins forces with a group of people all working towards the same goal, and they are able to amplify the impact they might be able to make on their own."

HANNAH WESTNER
DONOR, MEMBER & BOARD MEMBER



"We have one earth

WITH LIMITED RESOURCES. NB IS RICH IN NATURAL RESOURCES AND BEAUTY AND I WANT THESE TO ENDURE. AS A RESIDENT IT IS MY PRIVILEGE AND RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT IT."

KIMM MOORE
DONOR & VOLUNTEER

Our Generous Donors

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS. WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT, WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO CONTINUE OUR WORK IN INDEPENDENT RESEARCH, ADVOCACY, EDUCATION, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT.

We believe that a healthy, sustainable, and just environment for all is within reach. Together, we can bring our vision to life.

Alain Patoine
Allison McCarthy
Alyssa Sankey
Amy Adams
Andrew Corey
Ann McAllister
Anna Holdaway
Anne Riley
Anthony Little
Antony Diamond
Barbara Gould
Barbara Sinclair
Bas Hugenholtz
Beth Powning
Beverly Gingras
Bonnie Hamilton Bogart
Bonny Pond
Brenda Ryan
Brian Drisdelle
Bridget Venner
Canadian Online Giving Foundation
Carl Duivenvoorden
Carolyn Wagner
Catherine Laratte
Cathy Seguin
Charles Doucet
Christopher Turnbull
Colin Meek
Contact NB
Corinne Allan
Cyril Blake Gilks
D.M. White Architecture Inc.
Dale Bray
Danielle Routier
Darroch White
David Cannon
David Coon
David Macdonald
David Wagner
Deborah Carr
Deborah Kirkby
Deborah McCutcheon
Deborah Payne
Denis Belliveau
Denyse Leblanc
Dianne Taylor
Don McAlpine
Donna Lynne Steeves
Douglas Macdonald
Edith Dextraze
Edith Snook
Ellen Foulkes
Emile Paras
Erik Homenick
Erin Steuter
Errol Amos
Fran Oliver
Frances Howard
Fredericton Naturopathic Clinic
Gail Campbell
Gail Dornan
George Peabody
Georgina Macfarlane
Greg McLaughlin
Greg Wingate
Gregor MacAskill
Groupe Savoie Inc.
Hannah Westner
Harold and Kathy Popma
Heather Marmura
Heather Millar
Helen Stanley
Impact Wealth
Ivan Levine
Jacqueline Bateman
Jamie Simpson
Jane Doull
Jane Hawketts
Janice Graham
Janice Harvey
Jared Carney
Jean Ann Dickeson
Jean Arnold
Jeannette Gaudet
Jeffrey Straw
Jen Conway
Jennifer Kay
Jessie Davies
Jim Emberger
Joan Green
Joan McFarland

Our Generous Donors

continued...

Joanne Keith
John and Connie DeRoche
John Pottle
Jonathan Sabean
Josephine Savarese
Judah Bunin
Julia Karnes
Karen Balland
Karen Davidson
Kathleen Bunin
Kathleen Keith
Katie Jewett
Keay Halstead
Kevin Gibson
Kevin Gick
Kurt Schmidt
Lance Howard
Leanne Talaber
Lee & Katelynn Everett
Lee Reed
Lesia Fesiak
Leslie Chandler & Ron Batt
Liane Thibodeau
Linda Dornan
Linda Hubbard
Lisa Dykeman
Lois Corbett
Lois Mclenaghan
Louise Comeau
Magdalen Normandeau
Manuel D. Paradis
Maple Leaf Homes
Marc Blanchard
Marcia Hicks
Margaret Devor
Margo Sheppard
Marilee Reimer
Marilyn Merritt-Gray
Mario Doiron
Mario Paris
Marion Laurence
Mark Gallop
Mark McAloon
Martha Vowles & William Toner
Mary Ann Coleman
Mary Ferris
Matthew Kinney
Megan Mainwaring
Meredith Fisher
Michael Britton
Michael Kerr
Michelle Dionne
Michelle Pellerin
Mike Hickey
Muriel Jarvis
Nadine Gauvin
Nancy Schell
Natech Environmental Services
Neil MacLean
Nicola Benjamin
Nirupma Mohindra
Odette Landry
Paul LeBlanc
Paul Morrison
Peregrine Riley
Peter Bjerkelund
Peter Higham
Rachelle Standing
Richard Abbott
Richard Owen
Rob Moir
Rob Monterio
Robin Round
Rod Hill
Roland Chrisjohn
Ron Batt
Ron Jackson
Ronald D. Hallett
Rory Bray
Roy Turner
Russell Hunt
S Gurholt
Sadie Gagner
Sam Arnold
Samara Eaton
Sarah Colwell
Sarah King
Scott Kidd
Sisters Of Charity Of The Immaculate Conception
Sophia Wagner Adams
Stanley Choptiany
Starla Mcdougall
Steve Law
Steven Perry
Stratis Gavaris
Susan Eddy
Susan Johnson
Susan Tyler
Suzanne McKernna
Suzanne Webster
Sylvie Guénette
Tara Daley
Tara Swift
Tim & Carol Savage
Tim Tibbetts
Tom McLean
Tommi Linnansaari

Our Generous Donors

continued...

Tonya Price

United Way Gta

Valerie Acland

Virginia Leiter

Warren Wulff

William & Erika Kelly

William Nowlan

In Memory of

Ben Baldwin

David MacDonald

Dick Keilty

Donna Chernoff

Heiner Reinartz

Helen Chernoff

Helen Steadman

Sebastian & Amelia Westner

In Honour of

Charlotte McAdam

David Coon and Janice Harvey

Eric Bunin

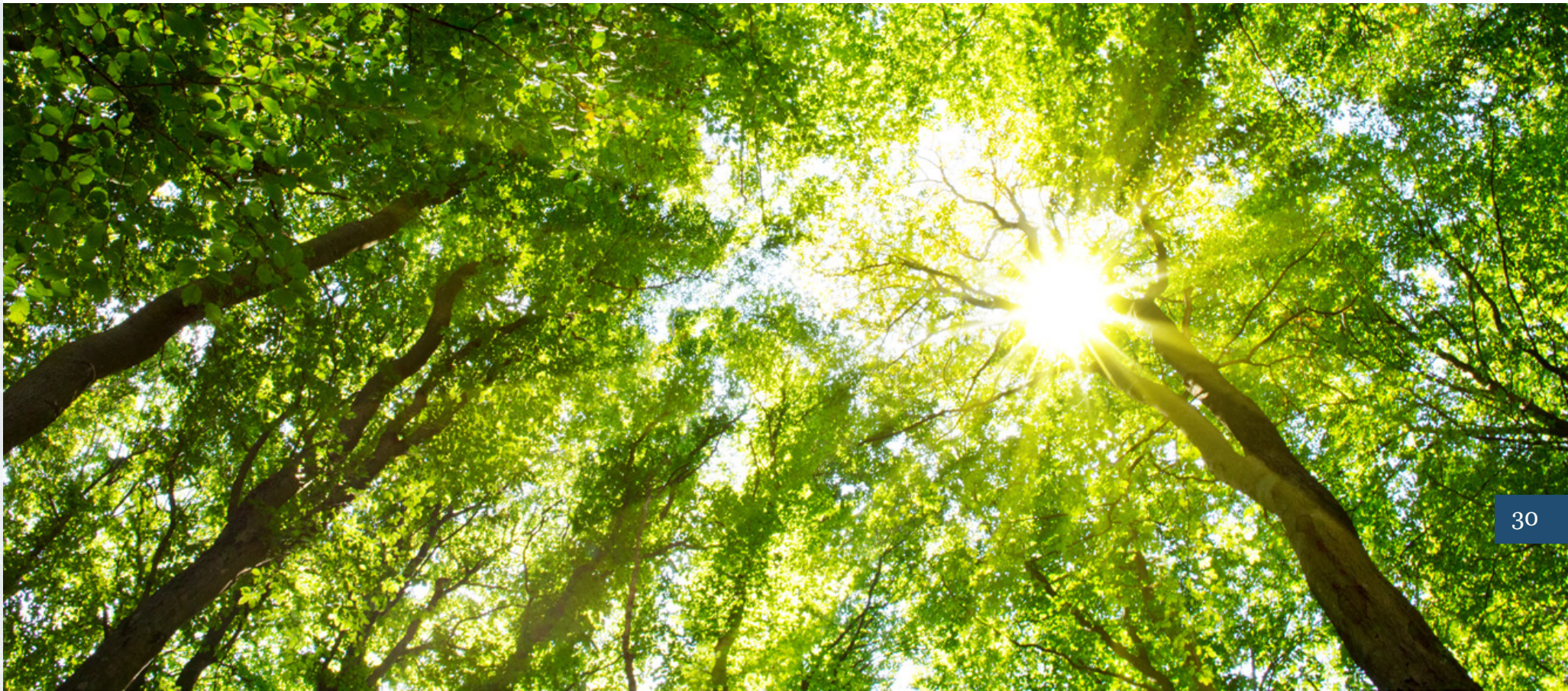
Sebastian & Amelia Westner

In Celebration of

Heather Millar

Henry, Ned and Miles Buckler

Sylvie Race



Thank You to Our Funders

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS FUNDERS WHO HELP MAKE OUR IMPORTANT WORK POSSIBLE.

Echo Foundation

ECO Canada

Environment Funders Canada

European Climate Foundation

Government of Canada through the Environmental Damages Fund's Climate Action and Awareness Fund

Green Communities Canada

McConnell Foundation

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)

Passamaquoddy Recognition Group Inc.

Province of New Brunswick - Environmental Trust Fund

Small Change Fund

TD friends of the Environment Foundation

The New Brunswick Wildlife Trust Fund

Trottier Foundation

Water Rangers Canada

Western Organization of Resource Councils



Board of Directors

Tom McLean
President

Judah Bunin
Vice President

Hannah Westner
Secretary

Robert Jackson
Treasurer

Karen Balland

Morgan Bulman

Holly Burke

Peter Higham

Michael Kerr

Tommy Martel

Meghan McClure

Heather Millar

Jean Paul Nuuk

Krista Uomala



Staff

Beverly Gingras
Executive Director

Michelle Pellerin
Administration

Matt Abbott
Marine Program Director & Fundy Baykeeper

Moe Qureshi
Director of Climate & Research Policy

Danielle Smith
Director of Education & Engagement

Marieka Chaplin
Director of Freshwater & Forest Conservation

Katelyn Plant
Director of Communications & Marketing

Kyle Reid
Communications Officer

Erinn Sharpe
Engagement Coordinator

Annie Furman
Education Coordinator

Faith Mambo
Climate Change Analyst

Madison Stadler-Rose
Climate Change Analyst

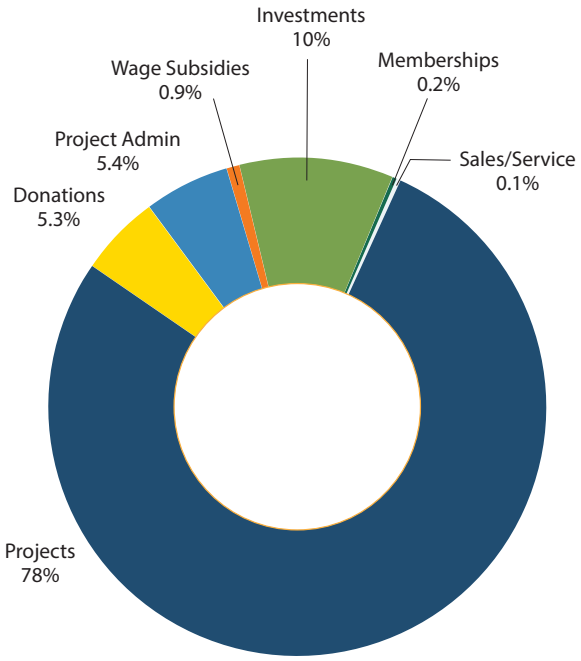
Islay Hayward
Education & Engagement Intern

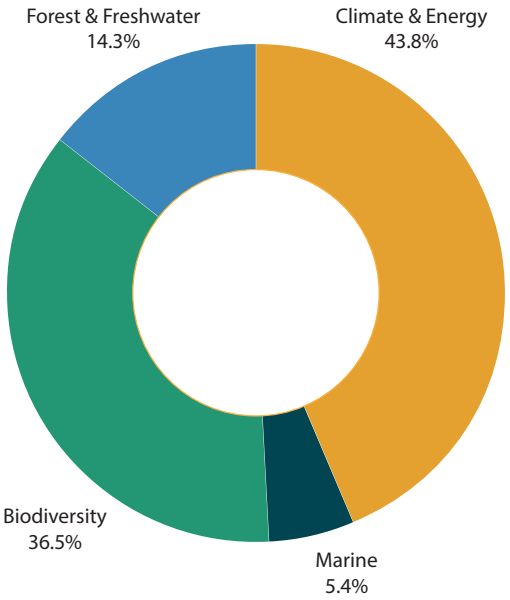
Photo reflects our most current team as of 2026, while the staff list reflects the 2025-2026 reporting year.

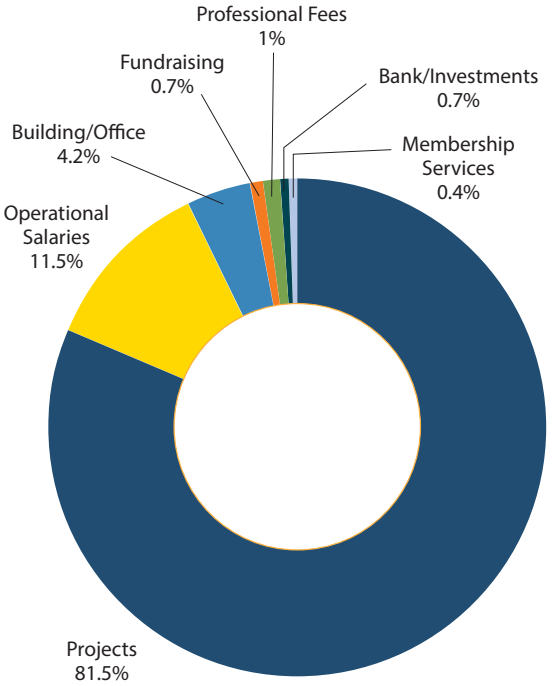


Financials

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026







REVENUE

Projects	$1,146,570
Donations	$77,449
Project Admin	$78,526
Wage Subsidies	$9,130
Investments	$146,423
Memberships	$3,463
Sales/Service	$2,626
TOTAL	**$1,464,187**

INCOME BY PROGRAM

Climate & Energy	$536,375
Marine	$66,215
Biodiversity	$447,537
Forest & Freshwater	$174,969
TOTAL	**$1,225,096**

EXPENSES

Projects	$1,153,332
Operational Salaries	$162,966
Building/Office	$59,403
Fundraising	$9,978
Professional Fees	$14,353
Bank/Investments	$9,865
Membership Services	$5,863
TOTAL	**$1,415,760**

Join Us

HELP US CONTINUE TO BUILD A SUSTAINABLE NEW BRUNSWICK FOR ALL

Make a one-time donation or become a monthly donor.
Every donation, small or large, helps to protect nature in New Brunswick.

Visit ***conservationcouncil.ca*** to learn more.

Conservation Council *of* New Brunswick
Conseil de conservation *du* Nouveau-Brunswick

180 St. John Street, Fredericton, NB E3B 4A9

Email: *info@conservationcouncil.ca* | Phone: 506-458-8747

Charitable Registration #118874841RR0001

