

# Impact Report 2019

Nature  
United 



# United as Nature and People

Celebrating Thaidene Nënë with a fire ceremony led by the Łutsël K'édene First Nation. Read the story on page 4.

© Pat Kane

Our vision is a Canada where people and nature are united, and ecosystems, communities and economies are thriving.

**Conserving at Scale:** From forest to sea, we are working at an unprecedented scale, irrespective of borders and designed to endure, for the future of nature and people.

**Innovating for Climate Change:** We advance natural climate solutions in Canada—new science-based approaches to conserving, restoring and managing nature to mitigate climate change.

**Investing in People:** We bring together communities, industries and governments to set a new course that supports nature, bolsters economies, and respects culture and values.

**Advancing Reconciliation:** We put Indigenous rights at the heart of conservation, creating new pathways for reconciliation and investing in leadership.

**Amplifying Global Impact:** As an affiliate of the world's largest conservation organization, we bring unprecedented global resources, innovation and investment to Canada.



# Our Impact

Our Executive Director looks ahead to Nature United's new Strategic Plan on page 25



Learn more about Nature United's conservation impact across Canada: [natureunited.ca/impact2019](https://natureunited.ca/impact2019)

## *Thaidene Nëné*

Protecting 6.5 Million Acres and A Future for Generations to Come

## *Indigenous Guardians*

Safeguarding Nature, Culture and Communities

## *Clayoquot Sound*

The Language of Old-Growth Forests and Pacific Coastlines

## *Our Approach*

Learning and Working in Partnership with Indigenous Peoples

## *Our Donors*

Transformative Support that United Nature and People

# Thaidene Nënë

*“This is a huge step forward for us, our relatives and our Crown partners. These lands and waters have provided for our Dene way of life for generations. Now my grandchildren’s grandchildren will experience this land as my late grandfather once did.”*

**Chief Darryl Boucher-Marlowe**, Łutsël K’édene First Nation,  
Northwest Territories



Making history, the Łutsël K’édene First Nation has been working to protect Thaidene Nënë for more than 50 years

When Chief Darryl Boucher-Marlowe reflects on why the Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation has been fighting for 50 years to protect their homeland, he doesn't start with its natural beauty.

Or how his people have eaten its fish and hunted its caribou for thousands of years. Or how his ancestors still inhabit its glacier-carved cliffs, deep lakes and crashing waterfalls.

Chief Marlowe starts with the youth. As a father, he knows how important it is for young people to connect to their traditions out on the land. Chief Marlowe also sees opportunities for employment that are rooted in Indigenous values and practices. "With protection comes hope," he says, "It secures a future for our youth."

### Indigenous Protected Area

Chief Marlowe's words were amplified this summer when he stood beside Catherine McKenna, then-federal Minister of



## Our Impact: Thaidene Nënë

Environment and Climate Change, to establish Thaidene Nënë, a 6.5-million-acre Indigenous Protected Area that includes Canada's newest national park reserve and the Northwest Territories' first protected areas.

And while the sheer size of Thaidene Nënë is remarkable—almost four times larger than Banff National Park—it is the way it will be co-governed by the Łutsël K'é and the federal and territorial governments that is truly transformative.

## Reconciliation in Action

"This is a new model of partnership between Indigenous peoples and crown governments. A true step forward in reconciliation," Chief Marlowe told the crowd this summer. "We will share the authority and responsibility as was the original spirit and intent of our treaty in 1900."

Decisions about Thaidene Nënë will be made by consensus across the three governments. And the Łutsël K'é will play a key role in staffing and operations through their Ni Hat'ni Dene Rangers—"Watchers of the Land"—who will serve as the guardians of Thaidene Nënë. In her remarks, Minister McKenna said, "We have to reimagine partnerships. We need to be working in true partnership with Indigenous peoples."



### Looking Back

## Thelon River Expedition, 2011

**Nine years ago, Nature United's global affiliate organized an expedition for Łutsël K'é Dene youth along the Thelon River, adjacent to Thaidene Nënë. These protected areas span more than 18 million acres, creating one of the largest terrestrial protected-area zones in North America. Here is a dispatch from that trip:**

*Just south of the Arctic Circle, the Thelon is tundra country, skating on a bed of ice that liquefies during the short summers of perpetual days.*

*It is a place ruled by the biggest and smallest—the grizzly and the mosquito—and by the extremes of subarctic seasons.*

*And yet because the Thelon River flows northward into this land, and with it takes the boreal forest boundary on a*

*124-mile detour, tall trees encroach into otherwise-barren tundra. This intrusion of forest acts as a magnet for wildlife—and as an important hunting and fishing ground for the Indigenous Dene people.*

*For them, this is "the place where God began"—a sacred place, yet one not often visited anymore. Under the pressures of the modern world, the ties that bind the Dene and their way of life to the land are growing more tenuous.*

## Our Impact: Thaidene Nënë

### Decade-Long Partnership

Bolstering the co-governance model is the Thaidene Nënë Fund, an endowment that will directly support Łutsël K'é in protecting and managing their homelands. For over a decade, Nature United and our global affiliate have supported Łutsël K'é's conservation vision, ranging from providing technical mapping and science resources to inform the protection boundaries, to supporting the Ni Hat'ni Dene Rangers, in particular youth mentorship, to funding the community's work to expand economic development.

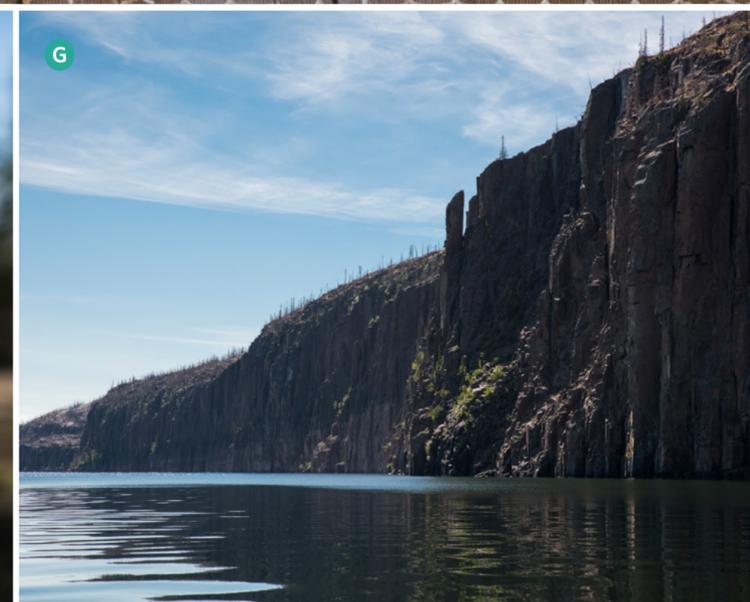
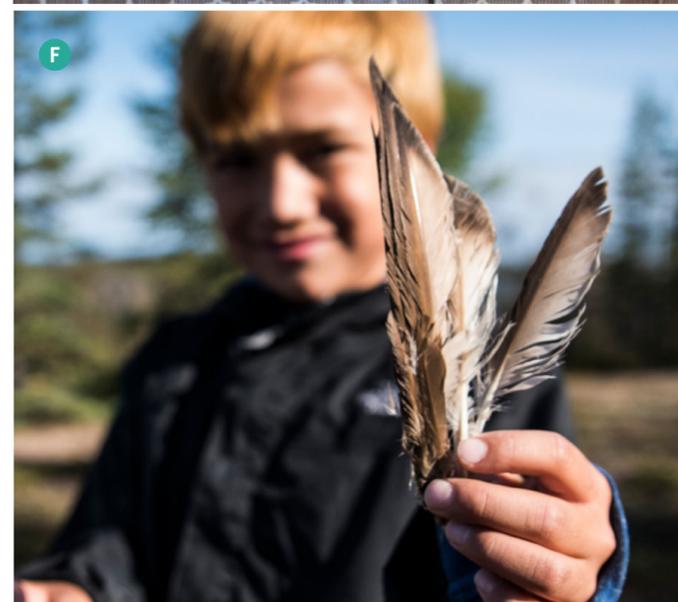
But perhaps Nature United's most sustaining support has been raising \$15 million for the Thaidene Nënë Fund. With matching funds from the Canadian government, the endowment fund will total \$30 million, giving Łutsël K'é the financial means to forever co-govern alongside the other governments.



#### Learn more:

[natureunited.ca/thaidenenene](https://natureunited.ca/thaidenenene)

(A) and (B) © Pat Kane; (C) James Catholique on the shore of the Thelon River © Ami Vitale; (D) Brendan Felix Head (centre) during the Thelon River trip © Ami Vitale; (E) and (F) © Pat Kane; (G) Thaidene Nënë, Northwest Territories © Pat Kane



### Making an Impact

*Thank you to the many donors who supported this effort along the way, including leadership gifts to the Thaidene Nënë Fund from Enterprise Rent-A-Car Foundation, the Knobloch Family Foundation, the Satter Family Foundation, the J.A. Woollam Family and the Wyss Foundation.*

*Read the Wyss Foundation's story on page 20.*

# Indigenous Guardians

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*“Our Guardian program was developed to assert our rights and title, to restore knowledge of natural laws that come from the land, and to ensure the health and security of our land, water and people.”*

**Heidi Cook**, Misipawistik Cree Nation, Manitoba



The Misipawistik Cree Nation's territory is in Canada's boreal forest, one of the largest intact forest ecosystems on Earth.

The name of the Guardian program that the Misipawistik Cree Nation launched last winter—the first in northern Manitoba—comes from the Cree word *kanawenihcikew*, which roughly translates to ‘caring for something for someone else.’

As Heidi Cook, elected councillor and lead of Misipawistik lands initiatives, points out, “The *kanawenihcikewak* are the ‘keepers,’ the ones who look after the land and water for us.”

Their community includes the mouth of the Saskatchewan River, where it ends at Lake Winnipeg. White-stone beaches and clear lakes are fringed by expansive boreal forest and wetlands. Rushing rapids were once a defining feature, but a hydroelectric dam built in the 1960s silenced the waters and wiped out abundant whitefish, sturgeon and other wildlife, hurting the people who had depended on them for thousands of years.



## Our Impact: Indigenous Guardians

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Since the swearing-in ceremony of the first Guardians, the program has led the way in monitoring wildlife, enacting closures to replenish fish populations, and educating visitors. It is one powerful initiative that integrates with many others: land-use planning, language revitalization, youth leadership and work towards an Indigenous protected area.

### A Rush of Momentum

Over the last decade, there has been an upsurge in Indigenous Guardian programs—Nature United’s own mapping now counts 50-plus programs, as far north as Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk in the Northwest Territories, more than 20 programs in British Columbia alone, and in nearly every province and territory.

This is good news for both nature and communities: A report commissioned by Nature United and Coastal First Nations in 2016 showed that Guardian programs have extensive and wide-ranging benefits, at least 10 times the amount invested.

### Listening to Support

A hallmark of Nature United’s work to support Indigenous Guardians is listening. The Indigenous Guardians Toolkit—the only online resource of its kind—launched two years ago



### Making an Impact

## Carolyn Kindle Betz

President of Enterprise Holdings Foundation



*Enterprise is committed to supporting the well-being of communities and protecting major rivers and watersheds. Our support of Canada’s boreal forest is just one example—it has more fresh water than any other ecosystem on Earth and is home to more than 600 Indigenous communities that have depended on and cared for this vital global resource for thousands of years.*

*In 2017, the Enterprise Rent-A-Car Foundation announced a \$30-million donation over five years to the global affiliate of Nature United to support long-term water resource management initiatives with the potential to benefit 150 million people.*

*In Canada, our support of Indigenous-led conservation isn’t just about protection; it’s about building partnerships that create healthy economies, enabling long-term solutions that help people and nature thrive. We recognize the importance of “blue infrastructure”—rivers and watersheds—that directly impacts Indigenous communities, as well as the critical role that Indigenous Guardians play in managing territorial lands and waters. We hope that our contribution will go a long way in supporting the work of Indigenous communities and Guardians.*

**Read the full interview online:**  
[natureunited.ca/donorstories](https://natureunited.ca/donorstories)

## Our Impact: Indigenous Guardians

as a direct response to a call for practical tools to start, troubleshoot and expand Guardian programs.

The Misipawistik program used the toolkit to create budgets, set up programming and even order uniforms. “It made our work easier,” Cook recalls. “We could build on the experiences of others instead of starting from scratch.”

### Learning Together

But of course, sharing knowledge is best done face to face. Through our Community Visit Fund, Nature United invests in facilitating in-person exchanges, so Guardians can learn from and inspire each other.

Our newest milestone was launching the Indigenous Guardians Technical Support Team last fall. These experienced facilitators are working virtually and on the ground to help communities build and strengthen their programs.



**Learn more:**

[natureunited.ca/indigenousguardians](https://natureunited.ca/indigenousguardians)

(A) © Mike Deal; (B) Misipawistik kanawenihcikew Guardians, courtesy of Misipawistik Cree Nation; (C) © Andy Reago & Chrissy McClarren; (D) © Ami Vitale (E) Ni Hat'ni Dene Ranger in the Northwest Territories © Pat Kane; (F) Moose with calf © Public Domain

## Looking Back

# 10 Years of Listening



# Clayoquot Sound

*“When I think of Tla-o-qui-aht, it’s not just the people; it’s all our relations, our non-human relatives that make up our culture. Our language comes from biodiversity and the living spirit of the lands and waters. We are interconnected.”*

**Gisele Martin**, Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation, British Columbia



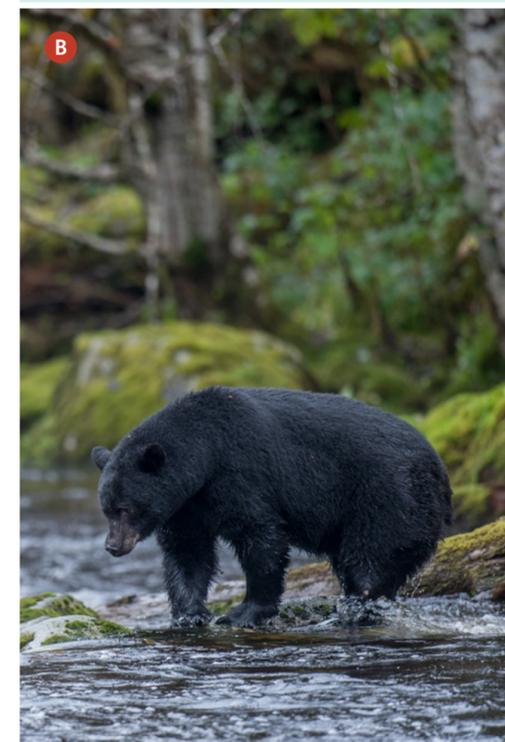
Clayoquot Sound is integrated into our Emerald Edge project spanning 100 million acres from Washington to Alaska

## The Nuu-chah-nulth language comes from Clayoquot Sound's thousand-year-old trees, vibrant coastlines and deep waters.

It echoes in the slow footsteps of the black bear, and in the frenzied splashing of spawning salmon. And it continues to guide generations of people in relationship with the lands and waters that have long sustained Nuu-chah-nulth existence.

"The Tla-o-qui-aht Land Vision articulated in our language explores our identity and ongoing relationship with our home," says Gisele Martin, the land-vision coordinator for the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation, who is practicing a language threatened by colonialism.

Martin leads the Uuqmis TLC (Tla-o-qui-aht Land & Culture), which is in its second year. Meaning "fun," or "nice stuff," Uuqmis is a language and culture project for youth to gain experience in Tla-o-qui-aht lands and waters, sharing knowledge and culture across generations.



## Our Impact: Clayoquot Sound

### Integrating Protection and Economy

Over generations, Tla-o-qui-aht have worked to express their relationship, rights and responsibilities—and now their Land Vision—to the rest of the world. That includes identifying areas that should continue to be protected alongside areas where development, tourism and other activities have had impact.

The neighbouring Ahousaht First Nation completed a similar process in 2017. Next steps include working with the Government of British Columbia to explore and implement the Nations' visions and identify opportunities to build a sustainable and diverse economy.

### Emerging Opportunities

Nature United works with First Nations in Clayoquot Sound to support economic opportunities including ecotourism and carbon finance. Together, we completed an economic analysis of current conditions and future opportunities that could align with new land-use changes. Nature United also supports the Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Parks Allies Program, engaging a community of businesses committed to supporting an ecologically and socially just conservation economy.



Clayoquot Sound has the last remaining old-growth forests on Vancouver Island



## Our Impact: Clayoquot Sound

Through the Nations' land visions, carbon finance could lead to sequestering as much as 2.5 million tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup>. Projects like this create new local jobs and maximize the role of Clayoquot Sound's old-growth forests in mitigating climate change.

## Indigenous-led Protection

To ensure that First Nations are supported in their management of protected areas created in Clayoquot Sound—projected to span more than 250,000 acres—Nature United is raising a stewardship endowment. Our investment will be bolstered by the federal government's announcement last summer that funding through the Natural Heritage Conservation Program would be used to protect these vital places.



**Learn more:**

[natureunited.ca/clayoquotsound](https://natureunited.ca/clayoquotsound)

(A) © David duChemin; (B) Black bear © Jon McCormack; (C) A Tla-o-qui-aht carver © David duChemin; (D) © Bryan Evans; (E) © John Beatty Photography; (F) T'ashii Paddle School in Clayoquot Sound © Alana Ferraro; (G) Seals in Clayoquot Sound © John Beatty Photography; (H) Nature United Conservation Director Jenny Brown with Emerald Edge Director Eric Delvin © Alana Ferraro; (I) Eagle in Clayoquot Sound © John Beatty Photography



## Making an Impact

### Hedy Rubin

Grants Program Manager, Real Estate  
Foundation of British Columbia



*The work we're supporting in Clayoquot Sound is inspiring on so many fronts, including its focus on Indigenous-led planning, scalability, and alignment with Canada's biodiversity and conservation protection targets. And we deeply value the fact that this work is being undertaken at the invitation of the Indigenous peoples who lead its future.*

*Our foundation is very happy to provide multi-year funding to this project. We know relationship-building is fundamental to this work. And we know that takes time. We recognize how important continuity and flexibility are to the success of complex projects,*

*such as Clayoquot Sound. We believe we need to invest in partnerships to catalyze change on the ground.*

*We value our partnership with Nature United, which has strong capacity and expertise in conservation and sustainable economic development. You also foster collaboration across governments, industry and other non-profit organizations. Moreover, Nature United is very well-regarded by its partners. It's a unique equation that we are very proud to be part of.*

**Read the full interview online:**  
[natureunited.ca/donorstories](https://natureunited.ca/donorstories)

# Our Approach

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Working in partnership with Indigenous peoples has always been at the heart of our conservation work in Canada.

We believe that the increased authority of Indigenous peoples to steward their lands and waters results in durable and lasting solutions for people and nature over time.

As such, Nature United works in partnership to support Indigenous-led conservation, which is defined and implemented by Indigenous communities, grounded in Indigenous values and perspectives, and often focuses on the



## Our Approach

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interconnected issues of supporting vibrant communities, strong cultures, viable economies, and healthy ecosystems.

Our approach has meant taking on various roles in partnerships with Indigenous communities. Our roles can range from sharing models and approaches across geographies, to supporting and building local capacity, to contributing funding. Sometimes we bring global science expertise and conduct research; other times, we work on the ground to facilitate dialogue and connections.

Our approach has made successes like protecting Thaidene Néné, supporting Indigenous-led conservation across the Great Bear Rainforest, and piloting new conservation-financing mechanisms in Clayoquot Sound possible.

*“Indigenous-led conservation often focuses on the interconnected issues of supporting vibrant communities, strong cultures, viable economies, and healthy ecosystems.”*

## In Our Words

### Deb Froeb

Nature United  
Conservation Finance  
Strategy Advisor



*In my new assignment with Nature United, I'm eager to contribute my finance expertise and the conservation investment experience I gained with NatureVest, our global impact investing unit. Conservation finance, a multi-sector approach to expanding the amount and diversity of funding for conservation, is gaining momentum. Nature United is working with other leaders to develop strategy and policy recommendations to accelerate development of these innovative financial approaches in Canada.*

*Nature United continues to work closely with communities to understand their conservation objectives, help quantify financial needs and evaluate the feasibility of financial mechanisms. For funders and investors, we seek to articulate the economic, social and cultural benefits of Indigenous stewardship.*

*A successful strategy will result in more Indigenous-led conservation with improved management outcomes through programs such as Indigenous Guardians—all of which will help Canada achieve its ambitious climate and biodiversity targets while advancing the authority of Indigenous peoples to manage the lands and waters within their territories.*

## Our Approach

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But if we had to choose a single way to define Nature United's approach, it would be our commitment to learning. In our work over the last decade, we have learned much and made mistakes along the way. Our practice as a conservation organization has evolved in response to what we have learned.

Over 70% of Nature United's operating budget supports partnerships with Indigenous communities



## Making an Impact

# Alexandra Conliffe



Director of Grants and Organizational Learning, McCall MacBain Foundation

*In 2017, the McCall MacBain Foundation committed a three-year challenge grant to support projects on the British Columbia coast and provide core funding for Nature United's priorities. Since then, we have been inspired by the organization's progress as well as matching support from fellow donors.*

*We have really valued the opportunity to get to know Nature United—to see tangible progress in Clayoquot Sound and the surrounding region, and how their learnings are integrated into broader systems and strategies to effect change. That's what our core support is about—giving Nature United the unrestricted resources they need to innovate new solutions and respond to emerging opportunities.*

*Right now, Canada is well-positioned to be a global leader in conservation and in growing an evidence-based, community-focused approach to natural climate solutions. We're thrilled to see—and be part of—this important moment where it has become so clear that we need to apply a holistic approach to ensure people and nature thrive. This resonates with our values and the foundation's dedicated pillar of work around climate change and the environment. We also believe that it's a unique window of opportunity for organizations such as Nature United to spring into action.*

**Read the full interview online:**  
[natureunited.ca/donorstories](https://natureunited.ca/donorstories)

## Our Approach

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Our organizational commitment to “Be a Respectful Partner” involves taking responsibility at individual, team and organizational levels to build our knowledge and capacity. We do this in three primary ways:

- **Team Learning & Development:** Strengthening the knowledge and practice within Nature United as it relates to Indigenous issues so we can build a culturally competent team and organization;
- **Organizational Policy & Practice:** Developing and implementing relevant policies and practices to guide the work that Nature United and our global affiliate does in partnership with Indigenous peoples; and
- **Outreach & Education:** Engaging with other non-Indigenous partners, allies and funders to build cultural competency and create alignment with our policies and practices related to Indigenous peoples.



**Read more about Nature United’s approach:**

[natureunited.ca/indigenouslyled](https://natureunited.ca/indigenouslyled)

(A) Łutsël K'é, Northwest Territories © Pat Kane; (B) Klemtu, Great Bear Rainforest © Michael Pietrocarlo

## In Our Words

### Claire Hutton

Nature United Indigenous  
Stewardship Director



*At Nature United, we believe there is a different way to do conservation—we work in partnership with Indigenous peoples to achieve lasting outcomes for both people and nature. To do this, we need to be creative and flexible in building new pathways and approaches to support Indigenous-led conservation, and to make sure we show up as a respectful partner.*

*Over the last decade, through our direct experience at Nature United, we have learned that when Indigenous Nations have the authority to manage lands and water, it leads to more durable conservation as well as stronger, vibrant communities. Today, more than 70 percent of Nature United’s operating budget supports partnerships between Nature United and Indigenous communities that focus on building stewardship capacity, supporting governance, catalyzing economic activities, and supporting and sustaining Indigenous leaders.*

*I feel proud of the work we are doing as Nature United. We are reimagining conservation by putting Indigenous rights and authority at the heart of our approach, and charting a new path that is based on listening to and partnering with Indigenous peoples.*

# A Visionary Commitment

Transformational change means increasing the pace and scale of conservation

Inspiring conservation action around the world, the Wyss Campaign for Nature is a \$1-billion investment to help communities, Indigenous peoples, and nations conserve at least 30 percent of the planet in its natural state by 2030. Contributing to these goals is the Wyss Foundation's commitment to supporting the Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation's vision for the Thaidene Nënë protected area.

The foundation's steadfast support, including a \$6.5-million grant to the Thaidene Nënë Fund, will contribute to the protection of 6.5 million acres and a world-leading co-governance model that safeguards the Łutsël K'é homeland and vital habitat for birds, wolves, and some of the last free-ranging herds of barren-ground caribou.

## What inspired the Wyss Foundation to invest in Thaidene Nënë?

From day one, the effort to protect Thaidene Nënë was aligned with the Wyss Foundation's core principles, which include helping communities



Molly McUsic,  
President of  
the Wyss Foundation



permanently protect ecologically significant landscapes; assisting local communities and Indigenous peoples in their efforts to conserve the lands, waters and wildlife that sustain economic well-being; and supporting protected areas that will stand the test of time and be effectively managed for conservation over the long-term.

Thaidene Nënë is a truly spectacular landscape. Its forests and tundra are wildlife-rich and provide a globally significant carbon sink. The waters of Great Slave Lake are a source of subsistence and spiritual significance to the Łutsël K'é. Equally importantly, conservation of Thaidene Nënë was and will continue to be driven by the Łutsël K'é through an Indigenous co-management fund that provides sustained funding so the First Nation has long-

*“Nature United knows how to protect lands and oceans over the long term. You know the policy levers to pull that will ensure places are effectively managed for conservation and lasting durability.”*



Ecological and cultural integrity make Thaidene Nënë a globally significant landscape

## Our Donors: **Wyss Foundation**

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term capacity to manage their traditional homeland in partnership with federal and territorial governments.

### **What do you see as our greatest strength in working together for conservation?**

Nature United knows how to protect lands and oceans over the long term. You know the policy levers to pull that will ensure places are effectively managed for conservation and lasting durability. And you have effective people on the ground who know how to listen to the needs of local communities, helping to guarantee conservation is driven from the ground up.

### **What is Canada's role in helping to achieve the Wyss Campaign for Nature's ambitious conservation target?**

The campaign is working alongside partners to help conserve 30 percent of the Earth's lands and oceans by 2030 and to help mobilize the financial resources necessary to effectively manage protected areas worldwide.

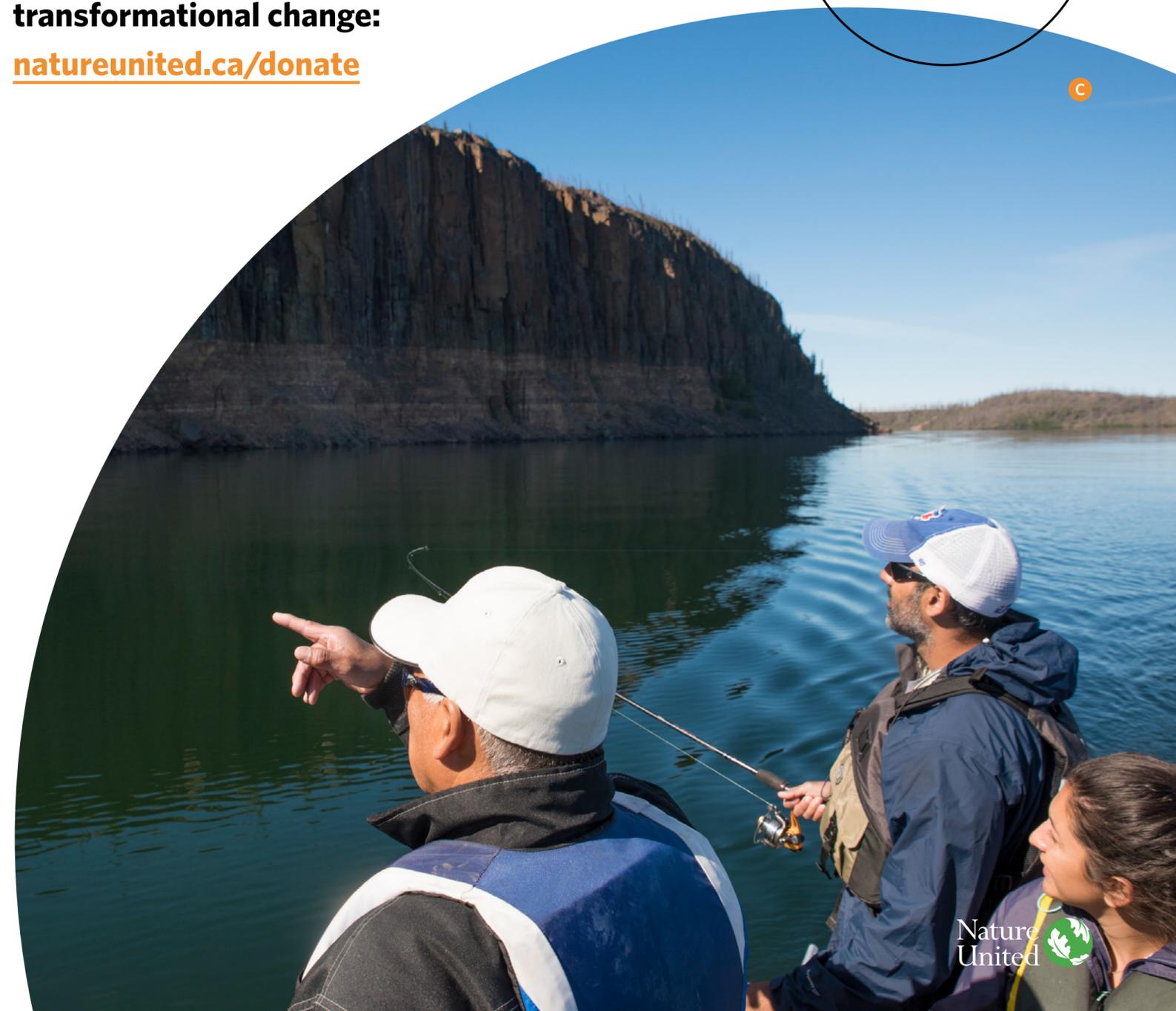
(A) (B) and (c) © Pat Kane

Canada is providing global leadership to reach the 30-by-30 goals. The Government of Canada has committed to protecting 25 percent of its lands and oceans by 2025, en route to protecting 30 percent by 2030, and Canada's Nature Fund is a global model for public financing to accelerate the pace of conservation.



**Join us in building a vision for transformational change:**  
[natureunited.ca/donate](https://natureunited.ca/donate)

Read more about the success of Thaidene Nënë on page 7



# Thank You for Investing in People and Nature

Nature United supports  
Indigenous youth  
as the future leaders in  
vital ecosystems across  
Canada

© Pat Kane

The following donors have made gifts, pledges or pledge payments of \$1,000 or more to support our work in fiscal year 2019 (July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019).

## \$500,000+

Anonymous \*†

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## Legacy Club

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Richard Gordon \*  
Arlin Hackman and Judith Wright  
Jeri Isbell \*  
Wendy Miller \*  
Mary Ann Redeker \*  
Susan A. Smith \*  
Dr. Charles Wheatley III and Judith Wheatley \*

\* Gifts made to The Nature Conservancy  
in U.S. dollars to support work in Canada

† Pledge Payment

‡ In-kind Gift

## Making an Impact

### Jeri Isbell

Legacy Club Member



*In June 2013, I was invited to travel to the Great Bear Rainforest with a group from Nature United's global affiliate—and immediately fell in love. Being out on the land was not a big part of my upbringing, so to have the opportunity to see this landscape and to meet the people there first-hand was truly life-changing.*

*What really resonated with me was your science-based approach and focus on working with First Nations to make a lasting and positive difference. The Great Bear Rainforest holds a special place in my heart and learning about your work there, and around the world, inspired me to get involved in conservation. This journey has led me to make a lasting commitment to nature through a legacy gift designated to Canada among other programs.*

*My unrestricted gift reflects my trust in this organization, and I want my support to be used where it is needed most so that future generations—including my own children and grandchildren—have the clean air and healthy lands and waters they need to thrive.*

**Learn more:**  
[natureunited.ca/legacy](https://natureunited.ca/legacy)

# Reimagining Conservation Together

Five years ago, as Nature United came into its own as a Canadian conservation organization, we focused on a single question:

**What is our role in safeguarding a future for nature and people?**

It was critical that our efforts expand and amplify, rather than duplicate, the valuable work others were doing to conserve lands and waters in Canada.

We called it **reimagining conservation**. What does that mean for us?

- Listening to, learning from and supporting Indigenous communities as they revitalize their relationship with their traditional territories and reclaim their stewardship practices.
- Building local economic development into conservation.
- Bringing global innovation and resources to Canadian challenges and opportunities.



Working in partnership  
with Chief Darryl  
Boucher-Marlowe  
of the Łutsël K'é Dene  
First Nation  
© Pat Kane

- Working in partnership—always—to unite nature and people.

Our approach over the past five years has proven itself in coastal British Columbia, the Northwest Territories, northern Manitoba, and beyond. But more importantly, it has triggered a shift in conservation across Canada. Today, I see many others reevaluating approaches and building partnerships that support Indigenous values, knowledge and authority—protecting nature better than ever before.

## Thank You

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Now, Nature United is ready to embark on our new Strategic Plan to tackle the biggest challenges, and unlock the biggest opportunities, in how we manage our lands and waters in Canada.

We must find a better path to sustainable resource use that supports our economy and livelihoods, and protects our environment. We must think strategically and creatively about long-term financing for conservation. And we must unlock what could be one of Canada's greatest contributions towards solving the climate crisis—managing and restoring our vast lands and waters, which globally has the potential to sequester up to a third of the emission reductions needed by 2030.

Our ambition over the next five years is grounded in a strong team, our track record, expertise and resources from our global organization, and truly visionary donors. But most of all, it is grounded in a true commitment to partnership.

Thank you for reimagining conservation with us.



**Hadley Archer**, Executive Director

Thank you to our 2019 Board of Directors

## *Our Leadership*

**Arlin Hackman, Board Chair**, Principal, BG&E Consulting Ltd. and former Vice President and Chief Conservation Officer, WWF-Canada

**Florence Eastwood, Vice Chair**, Board Member, Lake Winnipeg Foundation and former educator

**Caroline Cathcart**, Head of Client Engagement, RPIA

**Toni Hardesty**, Pacific Northwest/Canada Division Director, The Nature Conservancy

**John Honderich**, Chair, Torstar

**Jess Housty**, Councillor, Heiltsuk Tribal Council and Executive Director of Qqs Projects Society

**Sasha Jacob**, Chairman & CEO, Jacob Capital Management Inc.

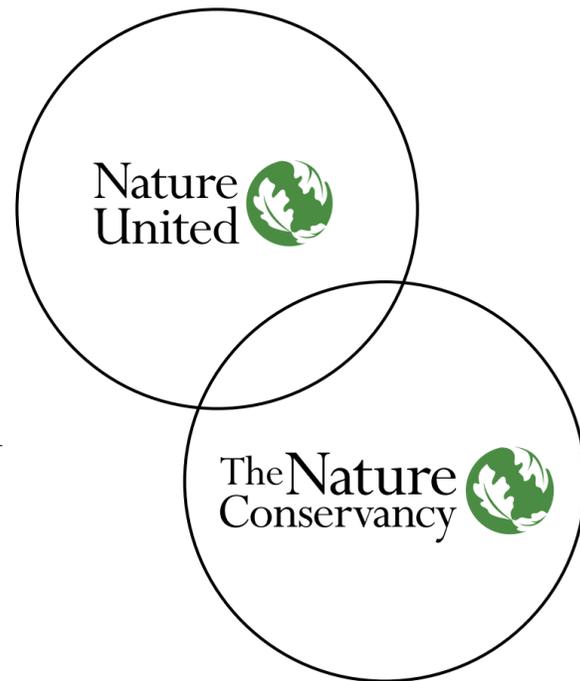
**Aliya Jasmine Sovani**, Reporter and Television Producer, NBC News

**Peter Kendall**, Executive Director, Schad Foundation and President, Earth Rangers

**Doug Neasloss**, Stewardship Director of the Kitasoo/Xai'Xais Nation

**Michael van Aanhout**, Chairman at Stratos Inc.

# Nature United is the Canadian affiliate of the world's largest conservation organization.



Building on three decades of conservation in Canada, Nature United is working towards a Canada where people and nature are united, and ecosystems, communities and economies are thriving.

Our organization builds partnerships with Indigenous and local communities, governments, industries and other groups to define new pathways towards a sustainable future; to advance reconciliation; and to conserve nature, the foundation of all life on Earth. And with the backing of the world's largest conservation organization, we bring the best global science, innovation and resources to Canada.



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(B) United States: Conserving wildlife habitat in California [nature.org](https://nature.org)

(C) Africa: Working with communities in Tanzania [nature.org/africa](https://nature.org/africa)



## Global Stats

**3,600**  
staff

**1,350**  
active volunteers

**1 million**  
members

**400**  
scientists

**79**  
countries and territories



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