



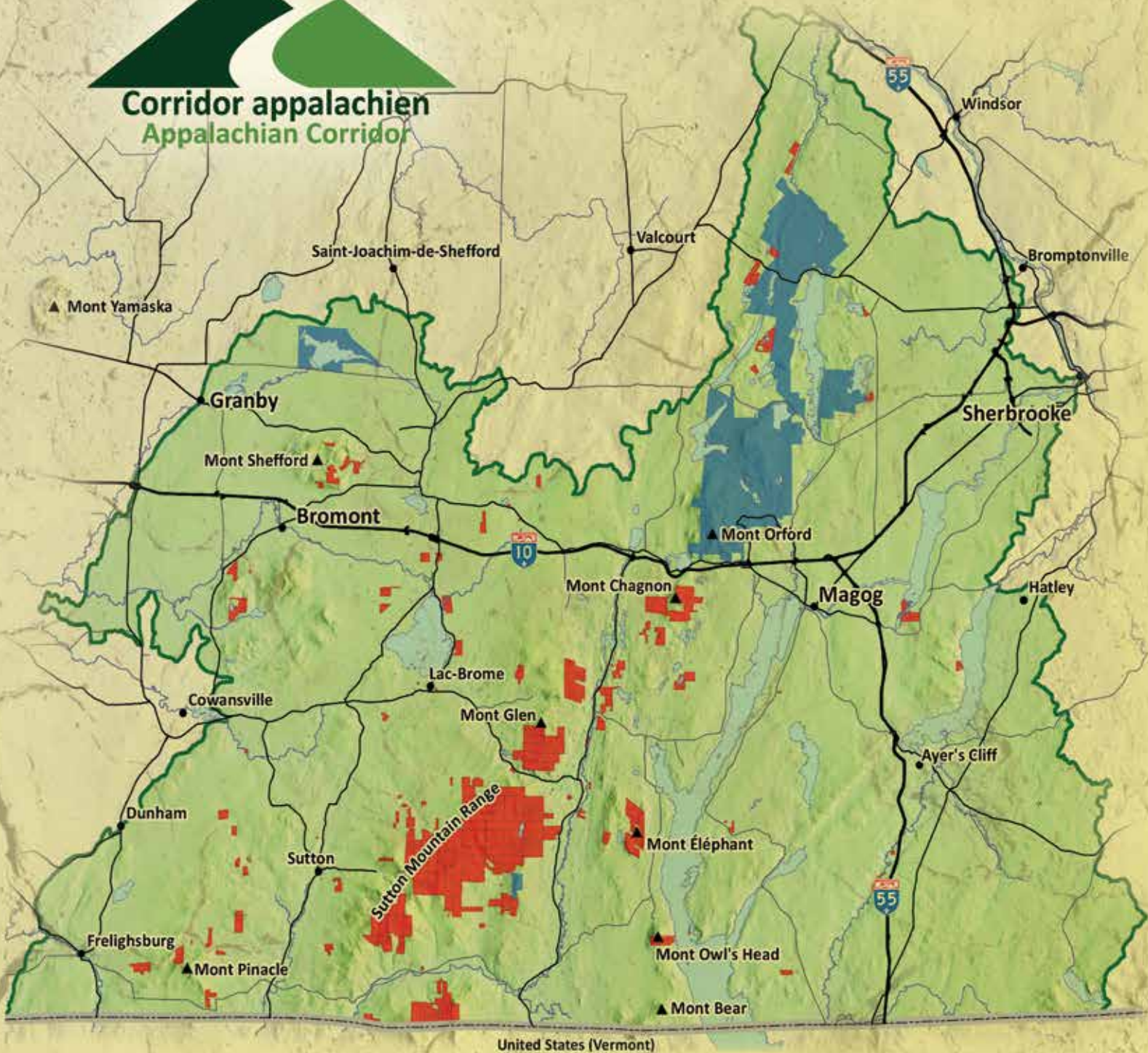
LET'S PROTECT THE FUTURE

Corridor appalachien
Appalachian Corridor
corridorappalachien.ca

PROTECTED AREAS WITHIN THE APPALACHIAN CORRIDOR TERRITORY



Corridor appalachien
Appalachian Corridor



Map ACA-0835, © September 2014. This map includes reference geographical information from the following source : © Government of Québec.
Other protected area exist on the territory but could not be shown on this map.

- Protected area - Private Land
- Appalachian Corridor's Territory of Action
- Protected area - Public Land

0 5 10 km



MAJOR FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Let's Protect the Future

OUR GOAL : \$ 1,000,000

Dear friends,

It is with great pleasure and a lot of enthusiasm that we have agreed to co-chair the Campaign Cabinet for Appalachian Corridor's major fundraising campaign. As residents of the Eastern Townships, we appreciate the natural beauty of the forests and mountains and the importance of safeguarding the region for future generations. The work and projects undertaken by Appalachian Corridor are impressive and their impact is crucial, not only for the health of our natural surroundings, but also for our communities.

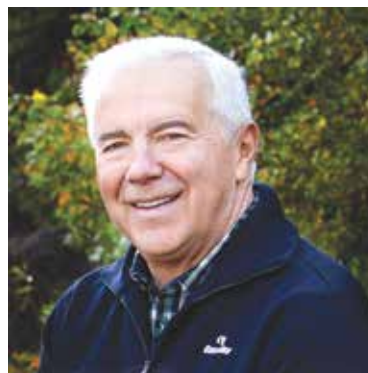
With the slogan "**Let's Protect the Future,**" this campaign will allow Appalachian Corridor and its partners to continue their tremendous work in the conservation of biodiversity and establishing protected areas.

We hope that through our involvement, more people than ever will participate and take concrete steps to support this important initiative. The campaign objective is to raise \$1,000,000 for the creation of two strategic funds that will consolidate all of the gains achieved since the organization's inception. We consider the financial and voluntary participation of local communities, businesses and regional institutions imperative to the success of the campaign.

We are appealing to your generosity and sincerely hope that you will join us in our efforts to achieve this ambitious goal. Become an active partner in such an inspiring initiative and help us conserve this major transborder corridor!



ROBERT TESSIER
Chairman of the Board
Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec



ALAIN LEMAIRE
Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors
Cascades inc.

The Need For Strategic Funds

The exceptional beauty of Appalachian Corridor's territory is greatly coveted. Once limited to lakeshores, today development within vast mountain forests offering spectacular views is increasingly in demand. The pressure is real and ecosystem fragmentation threatens the population of several wildlife species.

CREATION OF AN EMERGENCY BRIDGING LOAN AND SAFEGUARD FUND - \$700,000

Since its inception, Appalachian Corridor has contributed to the purchase of properties threatened by development, or land-use change. The acquisition of such properties is often made possible thanks to the support of our financial partners and may take some time to be achieved. However, we may occasionally have to react promptly to protect land of exceptional ecological value, for instance when owners want to sell their property rapidly. Since our organization does not have an Emergency Bridging Loan Fund available, we cannot intervene swiftly when these situations arise.

Meanwhile, protected lands are increasing annually. While our Affiliate Members offer their assistance as watchful stewards, they – all volunteers – don't have adequate resources, mid and long-term, to ensure that new property owners respect the existing conservation agreements. Sometimes, it can become necessary, even beneficial, to undertake different actions to safeguard the terms of conservation agreements and to maintain the validity of conservation on privately-owned land. The attribution of "Stewardship Funds" to each conservation project is still a recent practice. Finally, the question is not only to know how many hectares are protected, but to ensure that they are adequately protected and looked after. This issue draws to the very core of our mission as well as the long-term continuation and sustainability of our actions.

CREATION OF AN INFLUENCE AND EDUCATION FUND - \$300,000

Biodiversity conservation – essential to our quality of life – is at the very core of Appalachian Corridor's mission. We have a major role to play in raising awareness about the importance of integrating sensitive natural elements in land use planning and development, an integration that is directly linked to educating local and regional municipalities. By reinforcing our influential role among those key players and by establishing partnerships with them, Appalachian Corridor will be able to put preventive and durable actions into place and benefits in protection will be increased tenfold.

Protection also grows through a better understanding of the ecological wealth of the territory and the underlying conservation issues, as well as the importance of natural habitats in the maintenance of biodiversity. An increased investment in educational activities will contribute to a greater interest in the cause and help us recruit volunteers. Involving youth is fertile ground as we can simultaneously reach their parents and sow the seeds of conservation for the future.

Appalachian Corridor's Strategy in Five Themes



PROTECT in perpetuity and enhance natural areas in southern Quebec

SUPPORT the region's conservation efforts

ACQUIRE and share knowledge to better focus on priorities

INFORM the public and raise awareness about our natural heritage

PROMOTE sustainable use of natural resources

Appalachian Corridor's efforts towards biodiversity conservation are focused on the creation of protected areas and the maintenance of their connectivity through land purchases, donations and servitudes or through nature reserves. Other initiatives aim at reconciling forestry and agriculture with the protection of threatened and vulnerable species. Moreover, we work towards developing projects fostering stewardship and enhancement of protected land. Increasingly we integrate the concept of ecological services provided by nature in our conservation strategies, such as sustaining water supply and its quality.

Appalachian Corridor's activities take place almost exclusively on private land, where governments' intervention for conservation is circumstantial. Therefore, Appalachian Corridor is contributing to the Quebec government's objective of increasing protected areas to 12% of the provincial territory by 2015 (*Strategic Guidelines*, Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, 2011).

Today, Appalachian Corridor is a true leader in private land conservation in Quebec. Our scientific credibility, technical expertise and unique collaborative model based on the active participation of conservation stakeholders are widely recognized and inspire groups from other regions.



What is Appalachian Corridor?

Appalachian Corridor is a non-profit conservation organization whose mission consists of protecting natural areas in southern Quebec's Appalachians. Since its inception in 2002, it has instigated and developed a network that brings together 16 local groups and the national organization Nature Conservancy Canada, all committed to the protection and stewardship of natural environments on private land. In addition to playing a leading role within the network, Appalachian Corridor provides scientific, technical and financial support. This partnership has enabled the implementation of Appalachian Corridor's cross-border conservation strategy, as the organizations work collectively to maintain and restore a way of life that respects the ecology of the region in a sustainable development perspective.

Pursuing its Mission

Thanks to Appalachian Corridor's and its partners' efforts, the territory currently amounts to more than 12,500 hectares of private lands protected in perpetuity. Not only do these habitats play a vital role in the survival of the plant and wildlife species that make up the territory's biodiversity, they also require essential ecological services and provide activities linked to the region's attractiveness, such as hiking and nature study.

Up until now, Appalachian Corridor's mission has been financed for the most part by public grants and donations from private foundations. Today our activities have grown to the point that we need new financing resources. Appalachian Corridor is therefore reaching out to individuals, businesses and other financial institutions to pursue its conservation activities to the benefit of present and future generations.



Territory of Action

Of high ecological value, the vast territory of the Appalachian Corridor covers an area of almost 3,500 km² and constitutes one of the last great wild regions over southernmost Quebec.

As part of the Appalachian Mountain Range featuring some of the highest peaks in southern Quebec, including the Round Top (962 m) in the Sutton Mountain Range, it consists of large forests, wetlands, mountain streams, lakes and abundant sugarbushes. Because of the area's ecological importance and the threats it's facing, the territory is recognized by international organizations as being one of the five most critical ecological regions of Northern Appalachia and Acadia.



The territory is made up of a large variety of habitats providing refuge to an abundant flora and fauna. Numerous mammals with a large and vital home range thrive there, such as the black bear, moose, lynx and fisher. There is about a hundred species whose survival is threatened: birds (Bicknell's Thrush, Peregrine Falcon), amphibians and reptiles (Wood Turtle, Aquatic Salamanders) and many plants (Green Mountain Maidenhead Fern, White Wood Aster), just to name a few.

More than 225,000 people live within the territory spread out over 43 municipalities that straddle two administrative regions: Eastern Townships and Montérégie. The lakes, the mountains, the beautiful landscapes and the quality of life attract more and more vacationers, new residents and tourists. Once an agroforestry and manufacturing region, tourism and vacation resorts are now an important part of its economic engine. Nearly 70 million people live within a day's drive! This is why conserving what is left of the forest habitats is a great challenge.

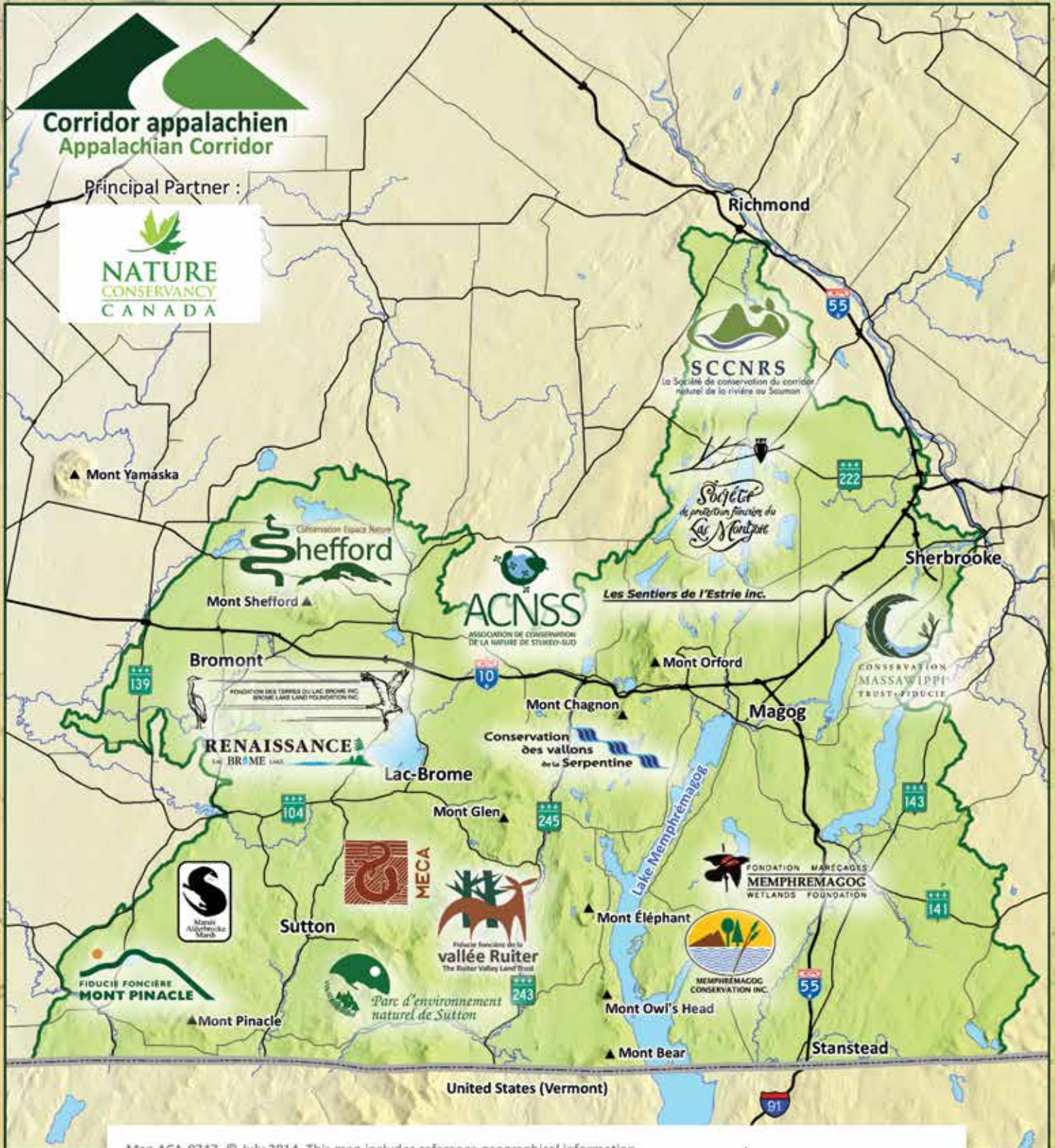


Appalachian Corridor is:

- The privileged partner of Nature Conservancy of Canada in the Green Mountains;
- More than 75 properties totalling 11,500 hectares of natural areas protected in perpetuity;
- The developer and manager of the Green Mountains Nature Reserve, the largest privately-held protected area east of Saskatchewan, owned by Nature Conservancy Canada;
- The only organization in Quebec to work in collaboration with 16 local conservation groups;
- A team of 10 employees who contribute annually to the achievement of a dozen conservation projects;
- Yearly meetings with more than 30 property owners interested in preserving the ecological characteristics of their land;
- Yearly production of more than 10 ecological inventories and conservation plans;
- Support to member groups through financing, training workshops and counselling services in conservation, ecology, geomatics and communications.
- Public education and ecological awareness of the territory;
- Collaborating with local municipalities in order to integrate conservation principles into their land-use planning;
- Collaborating with forest-industry stakeholders to harmonize forest use and conservation;
- A website offering a treasure trove of information;
- A bi-annual *Appalachian Corridor Newsletter*, with a circulation of more than 10,000 copies.



PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION



Map ACA-0747. © July 2014. This map includes reference geographical information from the following source : © Government of Québec.

 Appalachian Corridor's Territory of Action



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CAMPAIGN**

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