



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

RECOGNITION FOR APPALACHIAN CORRIDOR AT THE GALA DES PRIX D'EXCELLENCE EN ENVIRONNEMENT

Eastman, Tuesday, November 3rd, 2015 – Appalachian Corridor distinguished itself at the last Gala des prix d'excellence of the Fondation Estrienne en Environnement. The ceremony took place on October 27 at the Delta Sherbrooke with over 350 people from the environmental sector.

Corridor was awarded a prize in the Environmental or Non-Profit Group category for its efforts protecting biodiversity and natural areas in the Appalachians of Southern Quebec, more specifically for its work on the identification and protection of the region's ecological network, i.e. the large forest blocks on our territory of action and natural corridors linking them. These natural links between large forest blocks are crucial for wildlife movements and the survival of many wild species including wide-ranging mammals such as Black Bear, Moose, Bobcat or Fisher. "For the last 13 years, Appalachian Corridor worked really hard to protect the Eastern Townships' greatest treasures: our natural areas, biodiversity and inspiring landscapes. It is a real honour to receive this recognition from our peers. Rest assured that we will continue to work with the same passion and ensure future generations will also benefit from this exceptional environment. "

Moreover the late Terri Monahan, cofounder of the organization, received posthumously an award for her personal contribution. Marie-José Auclair, president of Appalachian Corridor's Board of Directors, paid tribute to Ms. Monahan: "Visionary and avant-garde environmentalist, Terri understood the importance of protecting natural areas long before we even talked about biodiversity and climate change. She was a hard worker, passionate about nature and had an extraordinary drive. Without her, there is no way we could have protected so many hectares of natural areas in the Green Mountains of Southern Quebec. On behalf of Appalachian Corridor and its partners and on behalf of future generations, I thank you very much Terri." Appalachian Corridor was proud to put forward Ms. Monahan's application to the jury.

Growing Needs

Thanks to Appalachian Corridor's and its partners' efforts, the territory currently counts 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 provide essential ecological services and host ecotourism activities such as hiking and wildlife watching. Up until now, Appalachian Corridor's mission had mostly been financed 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 interest groups to pursue its conservation activities. To contribute to our projects, visit campagne.corridorappalachien.ca.

A Team Work

The Appalachian Corridor team would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to its Board of Directors, its Affiliates, Nature Conservancy Canada, its Major Fundraising Campaign Cabinet and its financial partners, all of whom are critical to our success.



Pictures and descriptions



From left to right:

Caroline Daguét, Biologist, and Martine Ruel, Acting Executive Director at Appalachian Corridor; Guy Hardy, Member of the national Assembly for Saint-François; and Marie-José Auclair, President of Appalachian Corridor’s Board of Directors.



From left to right:

Denis Poirier, Treasurer at the Fondation Estrienne en Environnement and Associate at RCGT; Marie-José Auclair, President of Appalachian Corridor’s Board of Directors; Guy Hardy, Member of the National Assembly for Saint-François; and Nathalie Dupuis, Mayor of Waterville.



Terri Monahan was awarded a prize posthumously for her personal contribution.

For further information, please contact:

Mylène Alarie, Communications Coordinator
 Appalachian Corridor
 450 297-1145
mylene.alarie@corridorappalachien.ca
www.appalachiancorridor.ca