

BULLETIN

FALL 2022

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FOR 20 YEARS **Appalachian Corridor** with its affiliates members, partners and Nature Conservancy of Canada **HAVE COLLABORATED WITH OVER 230 private landowners** to carry out **voluntary conservation projects**

Some of these donors even decided, sometimes a few years later, to undertake a **SECOND CONSERVATION PROJECT**. Discover these “repeat” donors who are true ambassadors for conservation.

DOUBLY GENEROUS LAND DONORS!



GAIL WATT | West Bolton

2003 – Donation of 4.9 hectares to Nature Conservancy of Canada
2022 – Donation of a conservation easement of 3.2 hectares

« Having lived here for 19 years since my first project, my ideas and feelings have evolved and it is now for the wildlife that I want to do more. I was amazed when I discovered that this second piece of land had ecological value and could contribute to the local conservation strategy!

If you love your land, big or small, don't be shy. Contact Appalachian Corridor and explore all the options with them for **your project**. »

GERTRUDE LECLERC and RÉJEAN LABONVILLE | Bolton Est

2016 – Donation of a conservation easement of 15 hectares
2022 – Sale and donation of 30.66 hectares

« Over time, nature taught us that life evolves and we had to make decisions about the future of this second parcel of land that we loved, but was becoming difficult to maintain. It would have been a good place for development. **We have a lot of respect and love for this forest. Consequently, the idea of leaving it in the hands of contractors displeased us a lot.** With the assistance of Conservation des vallons de la Serpentine (CVS) and Appalachian Corridor, we began the process of protecting this forest in perpetuity. We are pleased to have helped protect the environment, for future generations. »



RENÉ CLOUTIER | Bromont

2018 – Donation of a 5.6 hectares conservation easement
2022 – Donation of a 3.9 hectares conservation easement

« My motivations behind these two conservation projects are quite simple: to give back to nature and show people that they can make a difference. I don't usually like to expose myself, but **if through this testimony I can inspire even one other person to do the same, then it's mission accomplished.**

There is something very inspiring about contributing so concretely to a project that is bigger than yourself and that will last long after you are gone. It's a bit like giving a legacy to future generations, but in your lifetime.

I am very happy to leave this permanent mark behind. I sincerely hope that this gift will inspire others and that this awareness of nature's fundamental place in our lives will be passed on! »

To all these landowners, people involved, volunteers and supporters of conservation, a big thank you!



3 MAJOR PROJECTS FOR A TOTAL OF 263 HECTARES IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS

STUKELY-SUD : 224 HECTARES PROTECTED FOREVER

A large property, rich in wetlands and forests, is now protected in perpetuity thanks to a process that spanned more than a decade between Appalachian Corridor and the seller, Mr. David Ross. The Association de conservation de la nature de Stukely-Sud (ACNSS) helped initiate discussions with the landowner over 10 years ago.



Wetland rich in biodiversity on the Ross-MapleCross property

« We will always have fond memories of our three children growing up and thriving in the vast, pristine natural environment that the property provides », say David and his wife, Betty Ross. « **It's very precious to know that this place will stay this way.** »

Mr. Ross, who has owned the property since the 1950s, helped make the project a reality by donating 25% of the property's market value through the Ecological Gifts Program.

For this project, Appalachian Corridor also joined forces with two new partners: the MapleCross Foundation and Ducks Unlimited Canada. The Government of Canada and the Government of Quebec also played an essential role in financing the transaction.

FITCH BAY: THE FLUET FAMILY PROTECTS IN PERPETUITY 18.5 HECTARES OF PRECIOUS NATURAL HABITATS

Appalachian Corridor and the Memphrémagog Wetland Foundation announced the protection in perpetuity of a land parcel on the shores of Lake Memphremagog. This project was made possible by a major ecological donation from the Fluet family, who have owned the site for nearly 70 years.

« We decided that it was time for this land passed down to us from our father to be preserved in its natural state and remain undeveloped. **This is the best way to honor the memory of our parents and our attachment to nature** » share the sisters and their brother.



Celebration of the realization of the project with the Fluet family and the actors of the project.



Ely Stream Wetland (top photo)
Announcement of the protection of Ely Stream in perpetuity (bottom photo)

LAKE BROMPTON : AN UNPRECEDENTED CITIZEN MOBILIZATION ALLOWS THE PROTECTION OF 20 HECTARES

Appalachian Corridor is carrying out its first conservation project in perpetuity in the Lake Brompton area, in the municipality of Racine, in the Eastern Townships. This acquisition project was made possible thanks to the participation of the provincial and federal governments, and complemented by an exemplary citizen mobilization. This mobilization was supported by the Association pour la protection du Lac Brompton as well as committed citizens who gave the necessary impetus to complete this large-scale transaction of \$1.1M.

The newly created "Ely Stream Protected Area", formerly owned by the Mariannahill Missionary congregation, is adjacent to the proposed expansion of the Parc national du Mont-Orford, and is located within a core habitat area of nearly 3,000 ha.

DISCOVER THE NEW HIKING TRAILS AT MOUNT FOSTER

It is with great pride that Appalachian Corridor inaugurated, in September, a new network of hiking trails entirely developed with the greatest care on Mount Foster. **Appalachian Corridor is pleased to offer the surrounding communities this privileged and free access to a protected site of high ecological value.**

The new 4.5-km trail network is of low difficulty. It offers access to the Mount Foster Tower (also known as the Scout Tower) at the top of the

mountain, as well as a **360° view of the Green Mountains.**

The inauguration of the Mount Foster Protected Area walking trails concludes Appalachian Corridor's project to acquire a large portion of Mount Foster for conservation purposes and fulfills its promise to make this iconic site accessible to communities in the region.

For full details on the new trail:
corridorappalachien.ca/en/mont-foster

N.B. For conservation reasons dogs are not allowed on the trails, even on a leash.



VIEW FROM THE TOWER ON MOUNT FOSTER



HIGHWAY 10 – ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIVITY PLAN

In September, Appalachian Corridor launched its Highway 10 – Ecological Connectivity Plan, which identifies the optimal installations needed for wildlife crossings in order to restore the ecological connectivity of the natural environments located on both sides of the highway 10, between km-74 (Granby) and km-121 (Magog).



The mayors of the municipalities of Bromont, Eastman, West Bolton, Saint-Étienne-de-Bolton, Orford, Magog, Canton de Shefford, Brome Lake, North Hatley, Stukely-Sud and Austin, among others, accompanied the conservation organization for the Plan's launch.

The plan suggests 4 types of modifications in 7 priority areas, the most used by wildlife. **A)** Optimization of existing infrastructure. **B)** Installation of 7 crossings for large wildlife. **C)** The installation of 7 crossings for small/medium-sized wildlife. **D)** To guide animals to these safe crossing locations, fencing would be installed on the targeted portion of the highway.

Did you know?

- Each year, there are **more than 300 collisions** with large (ex. White-Tail Deer) and medium-sized (ex. raccoon) wildlife on this section of the highway.
- Each collision with a White-Tailed Deer **costs taxpayers approximately \$8,000**. This number increases to **\$38,000 for a Moose**.

Science helping WOOD TURTLES

The wood turtle population of the Sutton river has experienced a significant decline. In order to characterize the habitats used by the species and to identify the threats to its survival, a telemetric study has been conducted for 2 years now!

WHAT IS TELEMETRY? Telemetry consists in locating turtles by means of transmitters installed on their shells.

With the knowledge acquired on their movements and the habitats they use, experts will be better equipped to propose concrete actions to protect and restore this population of turtles.

- 22 turtles have been found** since the beginning of the study.
- 13 of them are mature enough** to be equipped with a transmitter.
- 3 individuals with transmitters were lost during the study.** Hay mowing, predation and a lack of fat reserves for hibernation are the causes of these deaths.
- 700 hours in 2021 and 2022** have been dedicated to this study by our biologists.



This study is conducted with the scientific collaboration of the Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs.



A passageway was recently built at Exit 115 in Magog (rest area). Less than a month after the culvert was completed, a bobcat, a very shy and discreet animal, used the structure!

There are several reasons why mayors support the Plan:

- Highway 10 acts as a barrier on the territory and road ecology is a powerful solution;
- Ecological connectivity is clearly identified as an adaptation strategy to climate change;
- The area where the highway is located (Northern Green Mountains Natural Area) is of major importance for all of North America;
- Highway users would benefit from improved road safety since adapted facilities would considerably reduce the number of wildlife-vehicle collisions;
- The approach is based on 10 years of scientific research;
- The improvements required to implement the Plan would be integrated into the regular maintenance and repair schedule;
- Many lives, both human and animal, would be spared.

Appalachian Corridor intends to have this plan recognized by the government as a priority and demands that it be adopted by the ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité durable, so that recommendations contained therein can be implemented over the next 15 years.

FREE VIDEOCONFERENCE

HIGHWAY 10 – ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIVITY PLAN : WHY AND HOW?

Thursday Dec. 1st | Noon to 1pm

WANT TO HEAR MORE ABOUT THIS PLAN?

Attend this conference to understand what the Highway 10 – Ecological Connectivity Plan actually proposes and why it would be so beneficial for connectivity, wildlife, as well as the safety of the many users of Highway 10.

Experts from Appalachian Corridor, who have been working on this project for the past 10 years, will be on hand to explain what the Plan proposes and why it is so important to take action.

The conference will be given in French.

Register today!

corridorappalachien.ca/conferences





APPALACHIAN CORRIDOR NAMED COMPANY OF THE YEAR AT THE BROME-MISSISQUOI EXCELLENCE GALA

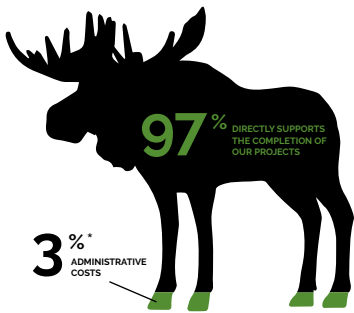


Appalachian Corridor won three awards at the 12th Brome-Missisquoi Excellence Gala, including the prestigious trophy for Business of the Year. Dynamism, innovations and the organization's gains in environmental conservation on a regional scale were also highlighted with the Innovation and Sustainable Development awards.

We're ending the year on a high note with all of these conservation, science, knowledge, and Mount Foster trail accomplishments! Does this news speak to you?

MAKE YOUR ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION!

Did you know that only 3% of all donations in Canada are directed to the environment? While its challenges are more pressing than ever and despite the unprecedented crisis we are in, the environment remains one of the least supported philanthropic causes in Canada. Help us reverse this trend and protect our region's natural environments... forever! Every contribution can have an impact. To give, does good and makes a difference!



*From our 2021-2022 audited financial statements.

THANKS TO OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

The Government of Canada: Natural Heritage Conservation Program managed through the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Community Designated Priority Sites (CDPS) and Summer Jobs Canada. The Government of Quebec: Projet de partenariat pour les milieux naturels (PPMN) managed through the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Action-Climat Quebec Program, support measures from the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP), the Programme de soutien à la mise à niveau et à l'amélioration des sentiers et des sites de pratique d'activités de plein air (PSSPA), and the Fonds d'appui au rayonnement des régions (FARR Estrie). Fondation de la faune du Québec, MapleCross Foundation, NMBCA/U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, ECHO Foundation, Hydro-Québec, Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, Protection des oiseaux Québec (POQ), Brome-Missisquoi MRC, Wildlife Habitat Canada, Rando Québec, ÉcoCanada, New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC), Lake Champlain Basin Program, Learning Through Trees Canada, l'Équipe de rétablissement des chauves-souris du Québec, the municipalities of Eastman, Bolton Est, West Bolton, Saint-Étienne-de-Bolton and Austin, as well as many private donors.

SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN OF \$200,000 TO PROTECT THE NATURAL AREAS OF OUR REGION FOREVER!

Every dollar you invest in Appalachian Corridor gets us closer to our target of protecting 500 additional hectares of natural areas every year.

Name

Address

City

Province

Postal code

Telephone

Email

I make a single donation of:

- ☐ \$ 50
- ☐ \$ 100
- ☐ \$ 250
- ☐ \$ 500
- ☐ Autre \$

- ☐ I want my name and the amount of my donation public.
- ☐ I want my name only made public.
- ☐ I want to remain anonymous.

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- ☐ Mastercard
- ☐ American Express
- ☐ Payment by cheque (enclosed)

Cardholder

Card number

Expiration date

CSC (3 digits on the back of the card)

Signature