



American Friends of  
Canadian Conservation

## **DONATING SECURITIES to SUPPORT CONSERVATION IN CANADA including stocks, bonds, and mutual fund shares**

### Background

American Friends of Canadian Conservation (AFCC) was created to support protection of Canada's natural and cultural heritage. It facilitates charitable gifts from US taxpayers who are passionate about Canada's irreplaceable ecological, scenic, recreational, economic, and social treasures embodied in the country's landscapes.

Contributions to AFCC are tax-deductible in the US because the organization is a US 501(c)(3) charity. Donors can request that AFCC use their contribution to make a grant to a specific, qualified Canadian conservation partner organization. In that way, AFCC operates much like a Donor Advised Fund.

### Steps in a Donation of Securities

Contributing appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual fund shares is a savvy way to support your favorite nonprofit because the market value of the securities is tax deductible but not subject to US capital gains taxes, which would have been due if you sold the securities.

This fact sheet explains the simple steps involved in donating securities to AFCC and recommending a grant to a Canadian conservation organization.

1. Review the partners page on AFCCs' website (<https://conservecanada.org>) to verify that the Canadian organization you wish to support is an approved AFCC "grantee." If not, encourage the organization to apply to AFCC to become eligible to receive a grant based on your recommendation.
2. Talk to your accountant about the US and/or Canadian tax benefits associated with your proposed donation.
3. Consult with your broker to determine which securities to donate, and how many shares to achieve your giving goal.
4. Put your broker in touch with AFCCs' account representative at RBC

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5. Complete the Grant Recommendation form that is part of this fact sheet and send it to AFCC by mail or email ([caitlin.strasser@conservecanada.org](mailto:caitlin.strasser@conservecanada.org)).

Donated shares are normally transferred to AFCCs' brokerage account within two business days. Shares of mutual funds and bonds generally take a little longer.

## After Your Donation is Received

How does AFCC use your contribution to support conservation in Canada?

1. As soon as your donated securities arrive in AFCCs' brokerage account, the shares will be sold at their current market value.
2. Your grant recommendation will be on the agenda for the next monthly meeting of AFCCs' board of directors.
3. Upon acceptance of the recommendation and approval of the grant, AFCC will promptly send a check or wire transfer, in US funds, to the organization whose work you want to support.

## Documentation for US Tax Purposes

As a US charity, AFCC carefully follows all procedures required by the Internal Revenue Service at each step in the process.

1. AFCC thoroughly screens potential Canadian partners to ensure that their tax status, operations, governance, and finances qualify them for grants.
2. The language in your grant recommendation makes clear that AFCCs' board has sole authority to decide how to use the donated funds so your gift is not a "pass through," which is prohibited.
3. You will receive a Gift Acknowledgement Letter from AFCC that contains the information and wording required by the IRS for such letters. The Letter is your receipt and should be kept with other tax-related paperwork.
4. Your broker will provide you with the value of the securities you contributed, as of the date of the donation. That value may be more, or less, than AFCC received when it sold the securities.

Undoubtedly the grantee will send you a letter to thank you for your generous donation of securities to AFCC, and your grant recommendation in favor of that organization. That expression of gratitude is an important part of the process because it confirms that your gift is supporting conservation in your favorite part of Canada. But it is not relevant for tax or accounting purposes.

## Contact Us with Questions

Please reach out to Caitlin Strasser, AFCCs' administrator, if you have questions or concerns about any of the above. Phone 360-378-7305 or [caitlin.strasser@conservecanada.org](mailto:caitlin.strasser@conservecanada.org).

AFCC achieves its conservation mission, in part, by increasing funding for our partners' excellent work on behalf of Canada's wild places. Thank you helping us accomplish that goal.

## Donating Securities Form

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Donor name(s)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Telephone number*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email*

Dear American Friends of Canadian Conservation (AFCC),  
I am donating \_\_\_\_\_ shares of \_\_\_\_\_ to **American Friends of Canadian Conservation (AFCC)**, with an approximate value of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ USD to support your Cross-Border Conservation Program. I request that AFCC consider my grant recommendation in favor of the following organization:

*Organization name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Address:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Contact Person:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Telephone number:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Email:* \_\_\_\_\_

**Purpose of Funding:**

Where Most Needed Other: Please Specify Purpose/Project: \_\_\_\_\_

I/we understand that AFCC can make a grant only to an organization that meets all grantee eligibility criteria, is approved by and in good standing with the American Friends. I also understand that the board of American Friends has absolute discretion and exclusive power to decide whether or not to follow my recommendation, and that, as required by the Internal Revenue Service, AFCC will not accept contributions earmarked for or directed to a specific Canadian organization. I would like to stipulate that any additional donations I make in the future follow this same grant recommendation unless I notify AFCC of a change of my intent. If AFCC decides to make a grant according to my request, it has my permission to forward my name and contact information, and the amount of my gift, to the recipient organization.

If AFCC decides to make a grant according to my recommendation, I understand that AFCC will automatically retain a portion of the grant to operate its programs according to this schedule: \$30 flat fee for gifts between \$200 - \$500; 6% of the amount of the gift between \$501 - \$10,000; 4% of the amount between \$10,001 - \$100,000; 2% for amounts over \$100,000.

I would like to make an additional gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ USD to AFCC to support its cross border conservation initiatives.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_