

# A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY: Protecting Shared Landscapes using Cross-Border Conservation



**American Friends of  
Canadian Conservation**

**American Friends of Canadian Conservation (AFCC)** exists to encourage and enable US taxpayers to contribute to conservation outcomes in Canada. Through its bi-national tax status, AFCC creates the conditions that allow US taxpayers to support a wide variety of Canadian conservation organizations, through donations of cash, securities, or ecologically-sensitive land, and receive charitable tax deductions against US income while also mitigating capital gains taxes in Canada. **AFCC is the only such organization that supports all Canadian conservation entities.** Working hand-in-hand with Canadian conservation organizations, we help preserve extraordinary landscapes—coastlines, forests, islands, and lakes—that offer profound ecological, economic, and cultural benefits that transcend boundaries.



Garganuta Islands Archipelago, Lake Superior Ontario, protected in 2012

## THE URGENCY:

Canada's natural treasures are at a tipping point. From Nova Scotia to British Columbia, beloved wilderness areas face unprecedented threats from development as demographic changes shift property ownership. Remarkably, U.S. taxpayers own a significant portion of these critical conservation lands, including:

- **25% of Nova Scotia's iconic coastline**
- **Up to 80% of properties in Ontario's ecologically vital Georgian Bay**
- **30% of private land in British Columbia's stunning Southern Gulf Islands**

Time is running out. As the Baby Boomer generation prepares to pass properties to heirs, the risk of these lands being developed skyrockets. Many families don't have the resources or knowledge to navigate cross-border conservation. That's where AFCC steps in, helping landowners achieve both their financial and conservation goals.

## OUR IMPACT

Since 2011, AFCC has become a driving force in land conservation, collaborating with Canadian partners to directly preserve over 4,000 acres of high-priority habitats across six provinces, with a market value of over \$20 million. In addition, we've received and granted more than \$11 million in cash support to our Canadian partners. Examples of land we've helped protect include:

- **Rare barachois lagoons along four miles of Bras d'Or Lake's pristine shoreline in Nova Scotia**
- **Entire islands in the UNESCO Biosphere of Georgian Bay, Lake Huron, safeguarding critical habitats**
- **Over 1,200 acres of globally significant wetlands in Manitoba's Delta Marsh, a crucial breeding ground for migratory birds**

These lands are not just beautiful—they are critical to the survival of wildlife, clean water, and natural spaces cherished by people throughout North America.

## WHY AFCC?

- AFCC's general support program allows US taxpayers to make tax-deductible financial contributions to their favorite Canadian conservation organization, increasing the ability of our Canadian partners to attract support and increase the impact of their work across the country.
- AFCC has unique tax standing in both Canada and the US that position it to enable land donations that Canadian organizations cannot do alone.
- No other organization facilitates cross-border conservation in partnership with all conservation organizations in Canada.

## A CLOSING WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY

Supporting AFCC allows us to continue to apply our innovative model for the benefit of Canada's most cherished landscapes.

Every delay could mean the loss of another vital stretch of coastline or forest to irreversible development. But together, we can change that. **Every \$1 invested in AFCC protects over \$80 in land value.** Your support enables us to act swiftly, securing land before it's sold, subdivided, and developed.



Cable Head East, Eppig-Flower Natural Area, protected in 2021

## JOIN US IN PRESERVING OUR SHARED LEGACY

Canada's landscapes—its rugged coastlines, pristine lakes, and lush forests—are part of our shared heritage. Protecting them is not just a Canadian priority; it's a responsibility we share as North Americans. By supporting AFCC, you're ensuring that future generations can experience the natural wonders we treasure today.

The window is closing, but with your help, we can protect these iconic places. Now is the time to act. Let's preserve the lands that unite us, before they are lost forever.

### WANT TO LEARN MORE? CONTACT US



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