



Corridor appalachien
Appalachian Corridor

MISSION

To consolidate and leave in perpetuity a vast corridor of protected natural areas.

VISION

In response to the climate and ecological crises, we aim to promote global awareness of biodiversity and increase the number of protected areas, by setting the standard for conservation and ecological land-use planning.

LET'S PROTECT LIFE for all time

20,468 hectares
PROTECTED IN PERPETUITY

2025-2026
ANNUAL
REPORT



MESSAGE from the chair and the co-executive directors

Last year, Appalachian Corridor reached a milestone: 20,000 hectares protected in perpetuity in the Northern Green Mountains.

This year, the Appalachian Corridor team carried out 11 conservation projects with its affiliate members. Every project is a wonderful adventure with generous landowners who pour their heart and soul into protecting our natural heritage. We sincerely thank them. Every hectare that is protected provides security for future generations and is an outpouring of love for nature. Our team continues to tirelessly and enthusiastically carry out its mission.

Join us so that, together, we can feel proud to have protected the land and its biodiversity!

Our team is working on the collective goal of protecting 30% of land in Quebec and Canada by 2030. In collaboration with our 18 affiliate members and with the support of the provincial and federal governments, land donors, business owners, private foundations and private donors, as well as our conservation partners, we are protecting one hectare at a time, a little more each year, and are confident that we will succeed together! Protecting biodiversity is vital for humanity and it is urgent that more people realize this.

Caroline Bisson and Laurie Marchand
Co-Executive Directors (left and right in photo)

Marie-Josée Anclair
Chair, Board of Directors (middle in photo)

OUR FEATURED AFFILIATE MEMBERS

We carried out our conservation projects in close collaboration with our affiliate members. We particularly want to thank Conservation des vallons de la Serpentine (CVS), The Ruiter Valley Land Trust (RVLT), Fiducie foncière du mont Pinacle (FFMP) and Massawippi Conservation Trust (MCT).

Here are a few unique and wonderful projects: Hauts-Ruisseaux, Favreau 2, Cadotte, Bouchard, Ferme-Newell, Terre-des-Générations, Lac-Parker,

Foster, Choquette-Laporte, Projet 33 and Letellier. A great example is the FFMP, in collaboration with Appalachian Corridor. It had a landmark moment with the historic acquisition of nearly 50 hectares of woodland in Frelighsburg, now designated as the Hauts-Ruisseaux protected area. Located on the northern slope of Mount Pinacle, this property of great ecological value is within a core of priority habitats and strengthens the essential connectivity between the natural areas that are already protected. Made up of a rich mosaic of forests, streams, wetlands and marshes, it is home to remarkable biodiversity,

including several species in precarious situations. This conservation project is a great example of the power of partners collaborating and citizens rallying to preserve the territory for future generations, leaving an exceptional natural legacy.



PROTECTED AREAS in Appalachian Corridor's territory

SURFACE AREA
UNDER PRIVATE TENURE
20,468 hectares
UNDER PUBLIC TENURE
13,191 hectares
NUMBER OF
CONSERVATION PROJECTS
11

NEW PROTECTED
AREAS IN 2025-2026
536 hectares
CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE
OF PROTECTED AREAS
9.7 %
2030 TARGET OF
PROTECTED LAND
FOR QUEBEC AND
CANADA:
30 %

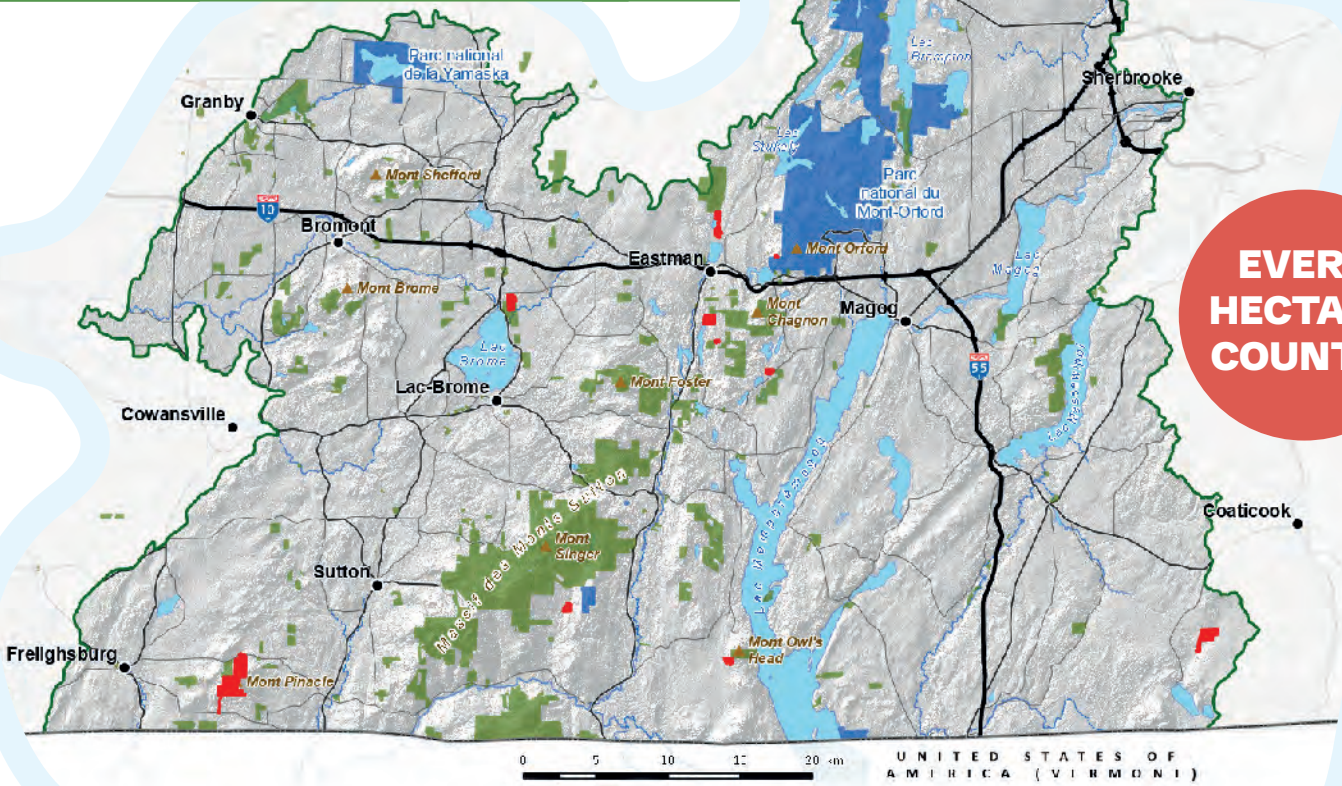
New protected
(private tenure) 2025-2026

Protected area (private tenure)

Protected area (public tenure)

Appalachian Corridor's
territory of action

EVERY
HECTARE
COUNTS!



PROTECTING
*natural areas
in perpetuity*

Our conservation team carried out 11 conservation projects with our affiliate members. Together, they represent an additional **536.2 hectares** of protected areas.

- 1 project for Appalachian Corridor
- 1 project for the municipality of Eastman
- 9 projects for our affiliate members (CVS (4), RVT (2), FFMP (2), MCT (1))



On September 26, 2025, at the Fondation estrienne en Environnement gala, Appalachian Corridor was awarded the **grand prize for environmental excellence** for protecting Forêt Brière in perpetuity!



ACQUIRING
AND SHARING
*knowledge about
the territory's ecology*

Our knowledge acquisition team crisscrossed the region to learn more about local biodiversity and add to our store of scientific knowledge. Their activities included:

- Conducting **13 ecological surveys** on as many properties
- Taking **inventory** of dragonflies, bumblebees and moths
- Monitoring the effectiveness of **wildlife structures** set up in Sutton
- Monitoring **Peregrine Falcon** nesting sites on several rock faces
- Monitoring **Bicknell's Thrush** populations at the Round Top in the Sutton mountains
- Monitoring **Chimney Swifts**
- Studying the **connectivity** and natural areas of Lac-Brome
- **Collaborating** with the MELCCFP as part of the Réseau de suivi de la biodiversité du Québec to monitor biodiversity in the context of climate change in the province





PROMOTING conservation of natural areas and influence land-use planning

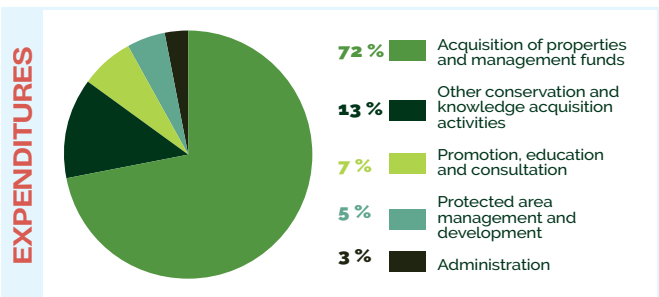
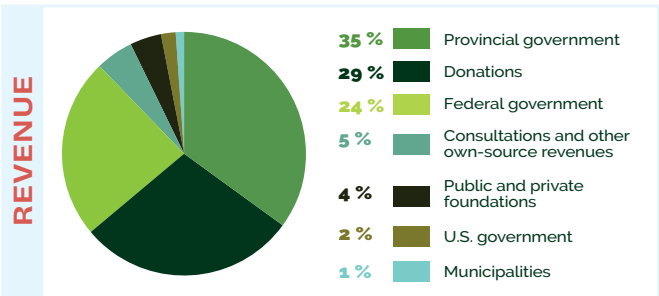
Our work with municipalities provides a comprehensive overview of land-use planning and fosters greater collaboration:

- Held two *Rendez-Vous des montagnes Vertes* events that were a huge success, with around 60 people attending each.
- Gave a talk at the Association québécoise d'urbanisme (AQU) symposium, in partnership with the Val-Saint-François regional county municipality (RCM).
- Had an article published in the AQU's magazine in September 2025.
- Gave a lecture in a master's program in notarial law at UQAM on the role municipal clerks play in protecting natural areas.
- Met with candidates running for federal and municipal office.
- Conducted an analysis of the ecological connectivity of two priority sectors for the Ville de Sherbrooke.
- Creation of additional resources on the website ecologicalconnectivity.com, including *Mettre en œuvre la conservation du réseau écologique à l'échelle municipale : enjeux et pistes de réflexion*, in collaboration with Ms. Lachaire, an urban planner.
- Worked with the Val Saint-François RCM (the first in Quebec to incorporate, into its land-use plan, the new government guidelines on land-use planning as concerns ecological connectivity) and with some municipalities in the Green Mountains.
- Gave a talk with the **First Light** organization on models for collaborating with Indigenous communities.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

An operating budget of 8.03M\$



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SUPPORTING the community's strengths in conservation

Our affiliate members and conservation partners are working with us to create a diverse and effective network of interested parties across different sectors and areas of biodiversity protection. This networking made it possible to take a number of actions:

1 hands-on day held and 1 webinar on conservation options given.

Supported our affiliate members and built up their capacity:

- 10 annual general meetings attended
- 12 annual meetings held with our affiliate members to identify their top priorities for annual planning purposes
- 2nd edition of the annual strategic meeting with the affiliate members held, with networking (29 participants from 16 organizations) to strengthen the network's ties and capacity
- 2 training sessions given on patrolling, orientation and GPS (to volunteers and affiliate members) and 2 training session given on connectivity and the PIVOT carbon credit project
- 2 communities of practice presented by the affiliate members to inform and support one another
- 3 informal newsletters sent to inform affiliate members of upcoming events and relevant news
- 3 meetings of the Information Sharing and Collaboration (ISC) committee to identify a sharing and collaboration tool for the affiliate members
- 1 accountability tool for the affiliate members, created with Accélérer la conservation dans le Sud du Québec (ACSQ) funding

Attended meetings of the Quebec Ecological Corridors Initiative (QECI) and the Coalition des Montréalaises to advance connectivity at the provincial and regional levels.

Attended meetings of the Community-Nominated Priority Places (CNPP) agreement partners to strengthen collaboration between the organizations to protect species at risk.

Created a video showing the benefits of the CNPP partners' collaboration.

Was an active member of the Staying Connected Initiative, including attending the retreat held for the North American partners.

Collaborated with the ACSQ group to ensure sound governance of the conservation funds.





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STEWARDING AND ENHANCING *protected areas*

The protected area management team, along with **21 active volunteers**, patrolled the trails and protected areas to protect and preserve the ecological integrity of the natural environments.

- **86 properties were monitored, representing approximately 3,600 hectares of privately owned protected areas on our territory.**
- **25 km of trails on Mount Singer and Mount Foster were developed, maintained and enhanced.**

- **Several impactful projects were carried out, including:**

Installing emergency markers on the trail network at Mount Singer.

Organizing a community volunteer work day on Mount Foster.

Implementing an ecological integrity monitoring program for certain targeted protected areas.

- **Volunteers dedicated more than 150 hours to the protected areas and trail systems.**



INFORMING AND EDUCATING *about the importance of natural heritage*

The communications and philanthropy team has been busy promoting our organization:

- **2 editions** of our bulletin distributed to over **30,000 households** across our territory
- **6 electronic newsletters**, sent to nearly 2,500 subscribers
- Mentions in more than **50 print media articles**
- More than **25 TV and radio interviews** given

TALKS, EDUCATIONAL AND HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES

- **8 talks** given
- **10 hands-on activities** in nature

**Nearly 1,500 people took part
in these events!**



THANK YOU to our board of directors

Marie-José AUCLAIR, Chair
Michèle TURCOTTE, Vice-Chair
Peter McAUSLAN, Treasurer
Linda GHANIMÉ, Secretary
Michel BOIVIN, Board Member
Jean-François GIRARD, Board Member
Pierre DUMONT, Board Member
Adèle HÉBERT, Affiliate Member Delegate
Danielle DANSEREAU, Affiliate Member Delegate

Affiliate MEMBERS

- Mount Echo Conservation Association
- Conservation des vallons de la Serpentine
- Conservation Espace Nature Shefford
- Conservation Lac Brome
- Massawippi Conservation Trust
- The Ruiter Valley Land Trust
- Alderbrooke Marsh Land Trust
- Fiducie foncière mont Pinnacle
- Brome Lake Land Foundation
- Memphremagog Nature Foundation
- Fondation du lac des Sittelles
- Société de conservation du corridor naturel de la rivière au Saumon
- Les Sentiers de l'Estrie
- Memphremagog Conservation Inc.
- Parc d'environnement naturel de Sutton
- Partenaire du patrimoine naturel
- Société de conservation du Mont Brome
- Société de protection foncière du Lac Montjoie

National PARTNER

CONSERVATION
DE LA NATURE
CANADA



NATURE
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THANK YOU to our financial and other partners

Government of Québec: Accélération de la conservation dans le Sud du Québec (ACSQ) program managed through the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs (MELCCFP) and Ministère de l'emploi et de la solidarité sociale. Government of Canada: Environment and Climate Change Canada, Community-Nominated Priority Places (CNPP), the Canada Nature Fund managed through Nature Action Québec and the Canada Summer Jobs program. Fondation de la faune du Québec, the U.S. government: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service through the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (NMBCA) program. Bird Protection Québec (BPC), ECO Canada, Aventure Écotourisme Québec with 1% for the Planet, Roses of Hope Foundation, Fonds étudiants solidarité travail du Québec, Nature-allié, the municipalities of Austin, Eastman, Saint-Étienne-de-Bolton and Bolton-Ouest, as well as many private donors. Geneviève Guilbault, François Bonnardel, Maïté Blanchette-Vézina and Isabelle Charest.

THANK YOU!
Your support has never been more vital!



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