



**Fondation  
Hydro-Québec  
pour l'environnement**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT 2012**



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Broad beech fern, Mont Saint-Hilaire  
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Cover: Shagbark hickory, Mont Saint-Hilaire  
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Other photo sources are provided at the end of the report.

## MESSAGE FROM MANAGEMENT

### MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT

The Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement reflects Hydro-Québec's desire to help local communities improve their environment by supporting initiatives for the restoration and long-term protection of natural areas.

It has been my privilege to be part of the Foundation's creation in 2001 and to chair the Board of Directors since then. As I was recently elected Chair of the World Energy Council, I must now pass the torch. Stella Leney, who has been with the Foundation since its inception, will replace me as President. She has played a key role in the Foundation's success, and I am confident that she will pursue the Foundation's mission successfully and ensure its continued existence for many years to come.

I would like to thank all those who have supported me during my tenure as President. The Foundation's success is the result of teamwork, and every member of the team deserves to take credit.

Marie-José Nadeau

### MESSAGE FROM MANAGEMENT

By supporting the environmental initiatives of organizations and local groups, the Foundation helps to preserve Québec's natural heritage. In 2012, the Foundation contributed \$757,000 to 17 new projects organized by nonprofit organizations or municipalities in 12 of Québec's administrative regions.

This year, our partners invested considerably in lands and forests projects intended to channel visitor traffic and eliminate undesirable use. The objective was to prevent deterioration of frequently visited sites. Adhering to the principle that people are more likely to protect what they know, some of our partners also developed interpretation trails to help visitors understand the ecosystems they experienced. Achieving a harmonious balance between access to and protection of sites open to the public was also a major concern for wetland management organizations.

Since its inception in 2001, the Foundation has granted about \$11 million to 194 projects with an estimated total value over \$37 million. We extend our thanks to the project proponents and the many volunteers who support them: their work is invaluable. We are also grateful to the experts on the advisory committee and the members of the Board of Directors for their outstanding collaboration.

We especially acknowledge the dedication of Patrick Plante and Agathe Simard, who left the Board of Directors this year, and extend a welcome to their successors, Chantal D'Auteuil and Myriam Truchon. And finally, we owe a special debt of gratitude to Marie-José Nadeau for her tremendous contribution to the Foundation during her 12 years as President.

Stella Leney  
President

Catherine Leconte  
Executive Director



**BREAKDOWN OF THE FOUNDATION'S CONTRIBUTIONS (2001–2012)<sup>1</sup>**

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Basses-terres du Saint-Laurent                 | \$4,438,133 |
| Appalaches                                     | \$2,371,513 |
| Estuaire et golfe du Saint-Laurent             | \$1,959,421 |
| Laurentides méridionales                       | \$1,080,661 |
| Laurentides centrales                          | \$889,301   |
| Basses-terres de l'Abitibi et de la baie James | \$115,750   |
| Hautes-terres de Mistassini                    | \$98,481    |
| Plateau de la Basse-Côte-Nord                  | \$73,385    |
| Bassin de la baie d'Ungava                     | \$34,300    |

<sup>1</sup> According to the Ecological Reference Framework of the Québec government

**MISSION**

The Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to help Québec communities develop a sense of ownership of their environment, enjoy it responsibly and pass on this natural heritage to future generations.

**OBJECTIVES**

The Foundation funds tangible initiatives in local communities across Québec, whose environmental and social benefits serve community interests. The projects it supports are the result of collaboration at the local level and have the following aims:

- To protect, restore and enhance natural areas
- To educate target publics about local environmental issues

These objectives go hand in hand: an environmental protection or rehabilitation project will have no enduring effect if the people who have an impact on the site do not feel concerned. Similarly, the message of an awareness-raising or educational activity will go unheeded if it does not give people a way to take action.

Educating the public about general environmental issues is not part of the Foundation's mission. The Foundation supports projects that are likely to have direct, positive impacts on specific natural areas. Educational projects satisfy this criterion if they focus on changing the behavior of clearly defined target groups with respect to the natural areas they use.

**PRINCIPLES**

- Support local initiatives that reflect the desire of communities to steward their environment
- Focus on joint projects that have the active support of a number of partners
- Fund initiatives with positive and tangible environmental and social impacts

**CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION<sup>1</sup>**

Within the limits of the funding allocated each year by Hydro-Québec, the following are eligible for a grant from the Foundation:

- Charitable or nonprofit organizations duly registered in Canada and able to show that their projects are not personal or for profit but serve community interests
- Projects that are in line with the Foundation's mission and principles and that contribute to the achievement of its objectives

<sup>1</sup> These conditions apply to projects presented by municipalities, regional county municipalities (MRCs) and band councils.



## GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE FOUNDATION IN 2012

### LANDS AND FORESTS

1. Protection and enhancement of the mouth of the Rivière Mitis
2. Forest and wetland enhancement in Parc des Buck
3. Protection of the Saint-Hippolyte escarpment
4. Urban biodiversity restoration and enhancement (phases 4 and 5)
5. Access management for two nature reserves in the Montréal green belt
6. Restoration and enhancement of protected natural areas on Mont Saint-Hilaire
7. Development of interpretation trails around Lac Saint-François-Xavier
8. Restoration and enhancement of a woodlot adjoining Grand lac Saint-François

### RIVERS AND LAKES

9. Protection and enhancement of a migratory staging area on the Rivière Châteauguay
10. Ecosystem enhancement in Parc régional des Grandes-Coulées
11. Restoration and enhancement of two lakes in the Rivière du Nord watershed

### WETLANDS

12. Protection and enhancement of Marais Saint-Eugène
13. Enhancement of the Marécage des Scots
14. Protection and enhancement of a wetland in Parc régional de la Rivière-du-Nord

### AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

15. River awareness rally
16. Protection of bird habitats on lakes in Rouyn-Noranda
17. Discovering stream biodiversity: awareness of the Rivières Beauport, Saint-Charles and Montmorency



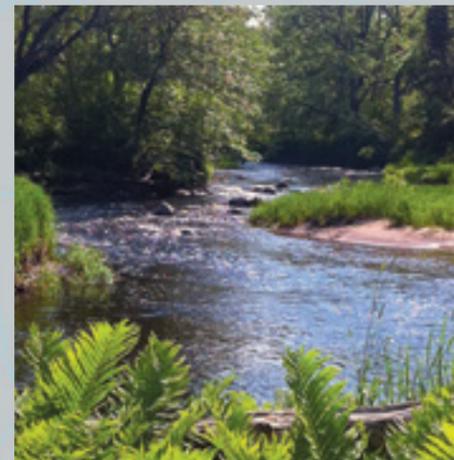
Trail restoration, Mont Saint-Hilaire



Great blue heron, Saint-Eugène marsh



River awareness rally marker, Laval



Rivière Noire, Parc régional des Grandes-Coulées

## LANDS AND FORESTS



Interpretation panel, Parc des Buck, Îles-de-la-Madeleine

| Project  | Area (ha)       | Proponent   | Expected Total Cost (\$) | Foundation's Contribution (\$) |
|--|-----------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE MOUTH OF THE RIVIÈRE MITIS                 | 15              | Les Amis des Jardins de Métis   | 103,100                  | 64,000                         |
| FOREST AND WETLAND ENHANCEMENT IN PARC DES BUCK                              | 20              | Municipality of Îles-de-la-Madeleine                                    | 27,500                   | 25,000                         |
| PROTECTION OF THE SAINT-HIPPOLYTE ESCARPMENT                                 | 40              | Comité régional pour la protection des falaises (CRPF)                  | 328,300                  | 22,000                         |
| URBAN BIODIVERSITY RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT (PHASES 4 AND 5)              | 19              | Ville de Montréal   | 460,000                  | 108,000                        |
| ACCESS MANAGEMENT FOR TWO NATURE RESERVES IN THE MONTRÉAL GREEN BELT         | 27.3            | Nature Conservancy of Canada (Green Belt)                               | 42,200                   | 41,000                         |
| RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS ON MONT SAINT-HILAIRE | 1,127           | Mont Saint-Hilaire Nature Centre  | 139,100                  | 49,000                         |
| DEVELOPMENT OF INTERPRETATION TRAILS AROUND LAC SAINT-FRANÇOIS-XAVIER        | 126             | Municipality of Wentworth-Nord  | 171,700                  | 81,700                         |
| RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF A WOODLOT ADJOINING GRAND LAC SAINT-FRANÇOIS  | 10              | Association des riverains du Chemin du Barrage Grand lac Saint-François | 47,000                   | 23,500                         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>1,507.3*</b> |   | <b>1,318,900</b>         | <b>414,200</b>                 |

\* Includes the forests in the Parc régional des Grandes-Coulées project (121.25 ha) in the Rivers and Lakes class, as well as forests in the Saint-Eugène marsh project (1.75 ha) in the Wetlands class.



Mouth of the Rivière Mitis

The mission of Les Amis des Jardins de Métis, founded in 1995, is not only to preserve the well-known Reford Gardens (Les Jardins de Métis) and their collections of rare and indigenous native plants but also to protect the kilometre of shoreline bordering this historic site, located where the Rivière Mitis flows into the Fleuve Saint-Laurent (St. Lawrence River). In 2010, the organization began a project to **protect and enhance the mouth of the Mitis**, an area that it wants to turn into a regional park with support from the MRC of La Mitis. This project, which will benefit both the local public and tourists, has a two-pronged objective: to facilitate access to the two rivers while protecting shoreline ecosystems by channeling visitor traffic. Deterioration at the river mouth is worsening because of the combined effects of erosion and irresponsible practices by some users. The current phase essentially involves developing a walking trail to control access to the riverbanks and installing facilities to eliminate motor vehicle traffic.

Parc des Buck, covering 20 ha on the Île du Cap aux Meules, encompasses several forest-dominated ecosystems. Little do the local residents know that this woodland plays a major role in replenishing the island's groundwater and protecting it from saltwater infiltration. The park's central location and easy access—along with its hiking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing trails—make it a very popular place for an outing. The municipality of Îles-de-la-Madeleine therefore launched a project to **enhance the forests and wetlands in Parc des Buck** by providing the local public with interpretation trails highlighting the different biophysical environments in the park and the importance of its forest cover. Panels erected along the trails explain the role of forest ecosystems, the behavior of the species they harbor and what nature lovers should do to protect them.

The Comité régional pour la protection des falaises (CRPF) was created in March 2003 by a group of citizens from Prévost, Piedmont and Saint-Hippolyte. Its objective is to protect the ecological integrity of the escarpments in those three municipalities. The escarpments are home to 26 of the 27 raptor species in Québec. Their landscapes are among the most spectacular in the lower Laurentians, and there is strong pressure from real-estate development. Moreover, the rock outcroppings are very popular with outdoor enthusiasts and are threatened by abusive, uncontrolled use. To help **protect the Saint-Hippolyte escarpment**, the CRPF purchased a 40-ha property in the centre of the formation. This property—which is highly valuable in terms of both ecology and landscape—contains a 100-metre-high section of the escarpment, at the foot of which a creek empties into a marsh.



Moose, a species present in the Saint-Hippolyte area

## LANDS AND FORESTS



European buckthorn seedling uprooted by hand, Mont Royal ecoterritory

For the fourth consecutive summer, the Ville de Montréal mobilized some 30 graduating high school students from various cultural communities for its **urban biodiversity restoration and enhancement project** in the Mont Royal ecoterritory, Île-de-la-Visitation nature park and Bois-de-Liesse nature park. The fifth and final phase of the project is scheduled for the summer of 2013. In 2012, the young people cut about 550,000 stalks and suckers of European buckthorn (a noxious weed) and replaced them with 1,550 native plants. Supervised by biologists, they learned to identify the plants while developing good work methods and, in some cases, acquiring an interest in an environmental career. Originally brought from Europe as a decorative plant, European buckthorn is a highly invasive shrub that poses a serious threat to woodland biodiversity in the Montréal area.

The Réserve naturelle du Chemin-Saint-Georges, on Mont Rigaud, features a deciduous forest that is over 80 years old and is part of an extensive woodland whose preservation is of the utmost importance: the Vaudreuil-Soulanges green corridor. The Réserve naturelle de la Forêt-de-Senneville, beside the Morgan Arboretum in the West Island of Montréal, is part of the island's largest woodland (about 300 ha) and contains a wide diversity of natural habitats, including a hundred-year-old forest. To halt deterioration of these much-visited forests, Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) has implemented a project that will allow **access management for two nature reserves in the Montréal green belt**. NCC plans to install selective barriers that will allow pedestrians to pass but will block access to ATVs and bicycles. The organization also plans to deploy interpretation panels along the main trail in each reserve and distribute flyers to the residents in neighboring municipalities. The objective is to build user and public awareness of the importance of these woodlands and their resources and to encourage responsible use.



Trail in the Réserve naturelle du Chemin-Saint-Georges, Rigaud



Young participants in the biodiversity restoration and enhancement project, Montréal

## LANDS AND FORESTS



Planting at Grand lac Saint-François,  
Saint-Joseph-de-Coleraine



Interpretation panel,  
Mont Saint-Hilaire

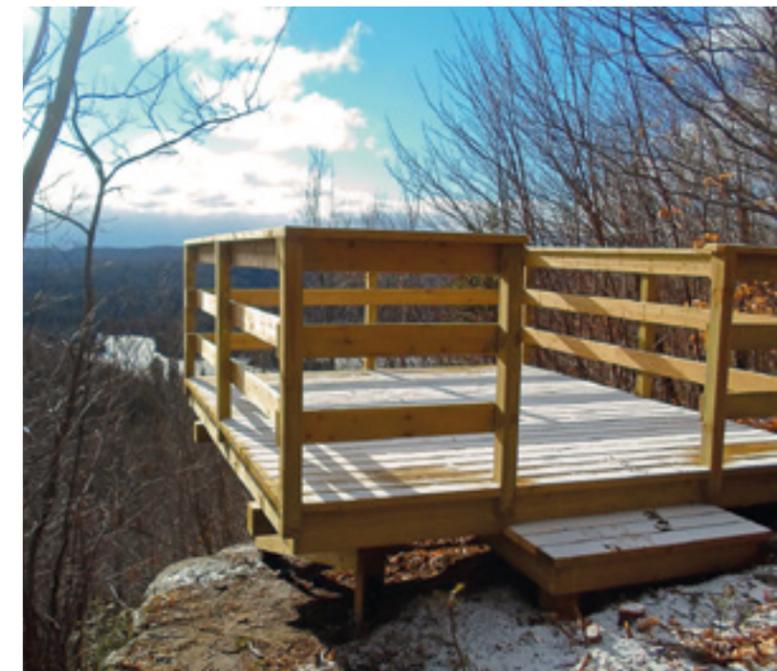
Mont Saint-Hilaire, in the Montérégie region, is an island of green and biodiversity in a heavily urbanized area. At the heart of this UNESCO Biosphere Reserve is the Gault Nature Reserve, a McGill University property that preserves nearly 1,000 ha of natural environment. The Mont Saint-Hilaire Nature Centre manages a 24-km network of hiking trails in the Gault Reserve that attracts 200,000 visitors per year. Visitor traffic in the reserve has doubled in ten years, putting tremendous pressure on the ecosystems. The project to **restore and enhance protected natural areas on Mont Saint-Hilaire** involves restoring a trail by installing two small bridges and developing a “discovery area” with a roofed shelter and plantings of native trees and shrubs to provide a site for hosting groups and day camps and to prevent trampling at the trailheads. To educate people about the wildlife and plants in the reserve and the research done on the mountain, 30 interpretation and awareness panels have been deployed along the trail leading to the highest peak.

In 2009, the municipality of Wentworth-Nord acquired about 100 hectares of “orphaned” lots around Lac Saint-François-Xavier. In 2011, an additional 26 hectares were donated by a private property owner for the purpose of creating a nature park. These municipal lands encircle most of the southwestern and northwestern parts of the lake and are adjacent to the Pays-d'en-Haut regional park, which is traversed by the Aerobic Corridor, a multipurpose trail frequented by many walkers, cyclists and skiers. To enhance and preserve this ecologically valuable area, the municipality has begun **developing interpretation trails around Lac Saint-François-Xavier**. The main trail is connected at either end to the Aerobic Corridor to form a loop. The project also includes construction of wooden boardwalks through wetlands and an observation platform at the top of a mountain, reforestation of some areas damaged by ATVs, and installation of about ten interpretation panels along the trail to educate users about nature conservation issues.

Residents living on the shore of Grand lac Saint-François were awakened to the fragility of their lake by two episodes of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae blooms). The **restoration and enhancement of a woodlot adjoining Grand lac Saint-François** was the solution chosen by the Association des riverains du Chemin du Barrage to educate residents, lakeside property owners, school groups and visitors about local environmental problems and ways to protect the lake water, wildlife and plants. On a 10-ha community property managed by the municipality of Saint-Joseph-de-Coleraine, over a thousand trees were planted by volunteers in an area that had been clearcut. The species planted reflected the composition of the preindustrial forest, and the reforested woodlot will be used to educate visitors about sound reforestation techniques and practices for shoreline protection and restoration. The project also provides for development of observation areas and thematic trails with panels describing local wildlife and plants and the special features of the site.



Dead tree left on the ground for forest regeneration,  
Mont Saint-Hilaire



Observation platform,  
Wentworth-Nord



Turtle tracks, Parc régional des Grandes-Coulées



Restoration activities, Lantier



| Project   | Number of Rivers and Lakes | Proponent   | Expected Total Cost (\$) | Foundation's Contribution (\$) |
|---|----------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF A MIGRATORY STAGING AREA ON THE RIVIÈRE CHÂTEAUGUAY | 1 river                    | Regroupement QuébecOiseaux  | 137,900                  | 50,000                         |
| ECOSYSTEM ENHANCEMENT IN PARC RÉGIONAL DES GRANDES-COULÉES*                       | 1 river                    | Groupe de concertation des bassins versants de la zone Bécancour (GROBEC) | 99,000                   | 49,800                         |
| RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF TWO LAKES IN THE RIVIÈRE DU NORD WATERSHED**       | 2 lakes                    | Agence de bassin versant de la rivière du Nord (Abrinord)                 | 53,000                   | 26,000                         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>4 rivers or lakes</b>   |   | <b>289,900</b>           | <b>125,800</b>                 |

\* This project also involves land (121.25 ha) along the Rivière Noire that is included in the Lands and Forests class, as well as a wetland (108.5 ha) included in the Wetlands class.

\*\* This project also involves a wetland on the edge of Lac Ludger; its area (1.6 ha) is included in the Wetlands class.

The Ville de Sainte-Martine owns land on both sides of the Rivière Châteauguay. These lands, open to the public, are especially good for birdwatching because the shallow water and silty bottom make them a staging area in late summer for a wide variety of shorebirds and aquatic birds (plovers, sandpipers, godwits, yellowlegs, etc.). The site is also frequented by many users of the region's nearby bicycle trail. The Regroupement QuébecOiseaux, which represents birdwatching clubs and societies in Québec, designed a project to **protect and enhance a migratory staging area on the Rivière Châteauguay** after observing that the disturbance caused by anglers and other users of the site had a worrisome impact on the birds. The creation of a 200-metre-long vegetation screen at the entrance to the site will keep visitors away from the banks and take them to a lookout set back from the river, where they can observe birds without disturbing them. The project includes installation of wood duck nest boxes and interpretation panels on birds and riparian ecosystems, with explanations about their fragility and the importance of preserving them.

Officially opened to the public at the end of 2011, the Parc régional des Grandes-Coulées is located in a peatland in the Rivière Bécancour watershed. Most of the area in the region is privately owned, so the MRC of L'Érable converted some of its municipal lots into a park to give its citizens access to natural areas that are characteristic of the region (treed swamps, alder stands, bogs and various types of forest). The municipality designated the Groupe de concertation des bassins versants de la zone Bécancour (GROBEC) to build the necessary facilities to channel the influx of new users in an especially sensitive section of the park, the "Forêt Ancienne". Covering 900 ha, this section is bisected by the Rivière Noire, a tributary of the Rivière Bécancour, and contains a wide variety of ecosystems and a number of vulnerable or threatened species (wood turtle, butternut, bloodroot, wild leek, Canada lily). The **ecosystem enhancement in Parc régional des Grandes-Coulées** project aims mainly to encourage users to remain on marked trails and limit off-trail trampling. Bridges were therefore built to connect and loop the two trails that already ran along both sides of the river for about ten kilometres. New trail sections were added (some of them as boardwalks), an observation platform was built on the edge of the peatland, and signs and interpretation panels were posted to protect wood turtle habitats and plant species of interest by indicating the fragile areas and educating visitors about ecosystem dynamics. Visitors will also receive an information brochure about the code of ethics for users.

The Rivière du Nord watershed is experiencing a population explosion, and the impacts on water resources are felt all the more because there is little public access to surrounding water bodies. Abrinord, an organization responsible for coordinating the introduction of integrated water management in this watershed, consulted local municipal, economic and community representatives. The result was a list of environmental measures and remedial work deemed necessary to protect, enhance and restore the rivers and lakes in the region. The **restoration and enhancement of two lakes in the Rivière du Nord watershed** project consists in implementing the proposals made by two municipalities: Sainte-Anne-des-Lacs was interested in planting the shore of Île Benoît, a municipal recreational island in Lac Marois, while the community of Lantier wanted to install a boardwalk and interpretation panels to enhance an ecologically valuable wetland on municipal property on Lac Ludger. The objective: to use this site to promote awareness and education about wetlands and the plant and animal species that live there.

Rivière Châteauguay, Sainte-Martine

## WETLANDS



Wood frog



Observation screen,  
Parc régional de la Rivière-du-Nord



Least bittern

| Project  | Area (ha)      | Proponent  | Expected Total Cost (\$) | Foundation's Contribution (\$) |
|--|----------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF MARAIS SAINT-EUGÈNE                              | 34             | Comité ZIP du lac Saint-Pierre                               | 142,400                  | 39,300                         |
| ENHANCEMENT OF THE MARÉCAGE DES SCOTS  | 210            | MRC of Haut-Saint-François                                   | 136,200                  | 43,000                         |
| PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF A WETLAND IN PARC RÉGIONAL DE LA RIVIÈRE-DU-NORD | 3              | Régie intermunicipale du parc régional de la Rivière-du-Nord | 50,100                   | 30,000                         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>378.88*</b> |  | <b>328,700</b>           | <b>112,300</b>                 |

\* Includes wetlands targeted by projects in the Lands and Forests class at Grand lac Saint-François (1 ha), Parc des Buck (4 ha) and Lac Saint-François-Xavier (16.78 ha), as well as those targeted by projects in the Rivers and Lakes class, at Lac Ludger (1.6 ha) and along the Rivière Noire (108.5 ha).

Located in urban Trois-Rivières near Lac Saint-Pierre, the 34-ha Saint-Eugène marsh is a spawning ground for yellow perch and a designated Waterfowl Gathering Area where many bird species at risk can be observed, including the least bittern and bald eagle. The marsh is a favorite spot for many hikers, birdwatchers and anglers. Repeated visitor traffic, shoreline trampling, the introduction of invasive plant species and trash dumping compromise the ecological integrity of this fragile area. The Comité ZIP du lac Saint-Pierre has undertaken the **protection and enhancement of Marais Saint-Eugène** project, designed primarily to channel users and educate them in order to limit trampling, disturbance of wildlife and damage to the environment. The project includes installation of an observation platform at either end of the marsh, interpretation panels on each platform and at every site entrance, as well as preparation and distribution of a user guide and an educational brochure on birds and plant life. Another part of the project, mostly funded by neighboring property owners, involves building a structure to facilitate fish movement and water circulation and ensure the longevity of the marsh.

The MRC of Haut-Saint-François expects to receive many visitors to its planned regional park in Scots swamp in the municipality of Hampden. This land is adjacent to the Franceville section of Parc national du Mont-Mégantic, where major enhancements (campground, welcome centre, network of walking trails) were built in 2011. With the **enhancement of the Marécage des Scots** project, the MRC wants to protect the swamp, its surroundings and its wildlife habitats by channeling visitors and educating new users about sound practices that will minimize their impact on ecosystems. The plan is to develop a 3-km trail with three rest stops and some twenty interpretation and awareness panels about the future park's three ecosystems: the forest, Ruisseau McCleod and the swamp itself. This trail will meet up with the existing multipurpose trail in Mont-Mégantic park.

The Parc régional de la Rivière-du-Nord, which follows the river for 9 km from highway 15 to route 117, is one of the rare places in the lower Laurentians that gives the public access to water. Easily accessible, it receives about 100,000 visitors each year, subjecting the astonishingly rich biodiversity of this natural area to intense pressure. The **protection and enhancement of a wetland in Parc régional de la Rivière-du-Nord** project concerns an area located at the south end, within the Saint-Jérôme city limits and very close to the park's main entrance. This area contains 3.1 ha of shrub swamp and two small islands about 1 ha in area, where no fewer than 72 herbaceous and woody plant species have been counted. This part of the park is at the end of a dead-end trail and consequently suffers substantial damage from intensive trampling by visitors. Extending the trail with a boardwalk along the southern edge of the marsh will create a loop trail along which interpretation panels will educate users about wetland fragility.



Marécage des Scots,  
MRC of Haut-Saint-François

**AWARENESS  
AND EDUCATION**



Information booth, Lac Osisko

| Project  | Proponent  | Expected Total Cost (\$) | Foundation's Contribution (\$) |
|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| RIVER AWARENESS RALLY  | Centre d'interprétation de l'eau (C.I.EAU)                             | 245,400                  | 34,500                         |
| PROTECTION OF BIRD HABITATS ON LAKES IN ROUYN-NORANDA  | Conseil régional de l'environnement de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue (CREAT) | 66,800                   | 30,200                         |
| DISCOVERING STREAM BIODIVERSITY: AWARENESS OF THE RIVIÈRES BEAUPORT, SAINT-CHARLES AND MONTMORENCY | Education and Water Monitoring Action Group (EWAG)                     | 111,500                  | 40,000                         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |  | <b>423,700</b>           | <b>104,700</b>                 |



The Rivière des Mille Îles is the Québec river used the most for drinking water and for wastewater treatment. The **river awareness rally** (Rallye des rivières) is an interpretation rally with 13 markers set along the river in the municipalities of Laval, Saint-Eustache, Boisbriand, Rosemère, Lorraine and Terrebonne. It consists of four circuits that can be traveled by bicycle, motorcycle or car, with themes intended to arouse curiosity and interest and encourage residents to become directly involved in protecting the river. Each marker describes a particular feature of the local environment, suggests personal action that may have a positive influence on the aquatic environment, and asks a question that participants can answer and collect in a guidebook provided by the Centre d'interprétation de l'eau de Laval (C.I.EAU). In this way, C.I.EAU hopes to create a veritable environmental brigade whose members will take positive action to protect the Rivière des Mille Îles. At the end of the rally, after the results are checked, each participant is invited to sign a letter confirming their awareness and their commitment to become a "guardian of the river." To formalize the commitment, the participant is awarded a certificate and their name is inscribed on the permanent "wall of guardians" at the C.I.EAU entrance.



Aquatic invertebrate interpretation, Québec

Anglers, swimmers and boaters frequently enjoy the lakes in Rouyn-Noranda. The lakeshores are also very popular with hikers and cyclists. The lakes are frequented by many migratory birds: red-necked grebe, ring-billed gull, common tern, black tern, common loon, great blue heron, ring-necked duck, common goldeneye, common merganser, etc. In fact, the only known sightings of red-necked grebes nesting in Québec have been on these lakes. The Société du loisir ornithologique de l'Abitibi, Édouard and Dufault, which has compiled a detailed inventory of lakes Noranda, Osisko, Édouard and Dufault, has noted that human disturbance of nesting birds affects their breeding success. The **protection of bird habitats on the lakes in Rouyn-Noranda** project provides for installation of four nesting platforms, two signs and two buoys to mark habitats to avoid, as well as four interpretation panels on the bird species present and on the harmful effects of human disturbance. Awareness activities (information booth, brochure, articles in local periodicals) will also be conducted to encourage lake users and lakeside property owners to adopt bird-friendly behavior.

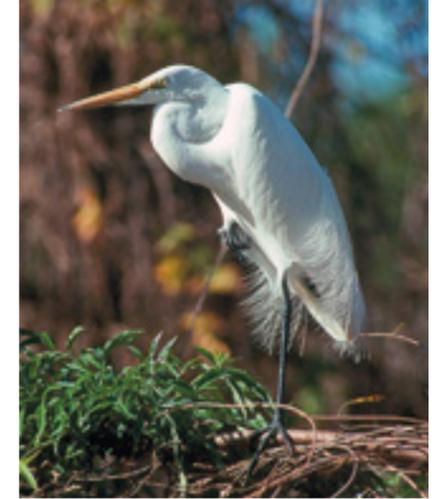
Founded in 1989, the Education and Water Monitoring Action Group (EWAG) develops water monitoring programs as well as knowledge acquisition tools and materials that are mainly aimed at schools and teachers. Its award-winning educational tools combine excellent, understandable scientific information with activities to enable the target public to participate in actual local interventions. EWAG wants to develop a new program about urban rivers for cycle 2 and 3 elementary students and for school daycare centres and day camps. New technology, such as an iPad application, observation under a microscope, fishing and role-playing, is used in games that encourage 9- to 12-year-olds to discover a river near them and help preserve it. The **discovering stream biodiversity: awareness of the Rivières Beauport, Saint-Charles and Montmorency** project will develop this program and test it with 2,650 youngsters who will learn about riparian ecosystem restoration and enhancement at five sites along the three rivers in the urban agglomeration of Québec.

## REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

Since its inception in 2001, the Foundation has granted \$11.1 million in funding to 194 projects with an estimated total value of \$37.4 million.

The framework for reviewing grant applications submitted to us has always reflected our desire to support initiatives that have substantial impacts on the conservation of Québec's natural heritage.

The tables opposite show the projects funded by the Foundation in each project class, with the area and type of environment.



Great egret

### GRANT DISTRIBUTION BY CLASS

|                         | Number of Projects in 2012 | Number of Projects Since 2001 | Amounts Granted in 2012 (\$) | Amounts Granted Since 2001 (\$) |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| LANDS AND FORESTS       | 8                          | 52                            | 414,200                      | 4,057,293                       |
| RIVERS AND LAKES        | 3                          | 49                            | 125,800                      | 2,497,455                       |
| WETLANDS                | 3                          | 50                            | 112,300                      | 3,038,533                       |
| AWARENESS AND EDUCATION | 3                          | 43                            | 104,700                      | 1,467,664                       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>            | <b>17</b>                  | <b>194</b>                    | <b>757,000</b>               | <b>11,060,945</b>               |

#### PROTECTION, RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS

##### Area of Lands and Forests Targeted by the Projects

| Period                  | Area* (ha)      |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 2012                    | 1,507.30        |
| <b>Total since 2001</b> | <b>8,939.74</b> |

\* In some areas, several projects have been funded by the Foundation. In these cases, the areas concerned have been included in the table only once.

#### PROTECTION, RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF RIVERS AND LAKES

##### Number of Rivers and Lakes Targeted by the Projects

| Period                  | Number of Rivers | Number of Lakes | Total Number of Rivers and Lakes* |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2012                    | 2                | 2               | 4                                 |
| <b>Total since 2001</b> | <b>70</b>        | <b>64</b>       | <b>134</b>                        |

\* Some rivers and lakes have benefited from several projects funded by the Foundation. These cases have been included in the table only once.

#### PROTECTION, RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF WETLANDS

##### Area of Wetlands Targeted by the Projects

| Period                  | Area* (ha)      |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 2012                    | 378.88          |
| <b>Total since 2001</b> | <b>8,120.73</b> |

\* For some wetlands, several projects have been funded by the Foundation. In these cases, the areas concerned have been included in the table only once.

#### AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

##### Natural Environments Targeted by Education and Awareness Projects

| Period                  | Number of Projects* | Projects Related to Lands and Forests | Projects Related to Rivers and Lakes | Projects Related to Wetlands |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2012                    | 3                   | 0                                     | 3                                    | 0                            |
| <b>Total since 2001</b> | <b>43</b>           | <b>13</b>                             | <b>23</b>                            | <b>20</b>                    |

\* A project may involve several types of environment.



Cutting buckthorn shoots, Mont Royal ecoterritory

## NUMBER OF THREATENED OR VULNERABLE SPECIES TARGETED BY FOUNDATION-FUNDED PROJECTS 2001\*

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Extirpated community                                     | 1   |
| Threatened or vulnerable species                         | 56  |
| Species likely to be designated threatened or vulnerable | 138 |

\* Each species is counted only once although some have benefited from several projects. Species status reflects the designation in effect when the project involving it was accepted by the Foundation.



Butternut

## PROTECTION OF THREATENED AND VULNERABLE SPECIES OR SPECIES LIKELY TO BE SO DESIGNATED

In 1996, the Québec government adopted a biodiversity strategy and action plan, thus confirming its adherence to the principles and objectives of the United Nations *Convention on Biological Diversity*.<sup>1</sup>

The Foundation supports this action plan by compiling the data supplied by partners on the species and ecosystems targeted by their projects.

In 2012, 11 threatened or vulnerable species and 21 species likely to be so designated, according to the classification in the *Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species*,<sup>2</sup> benefited from projects supported by the Foundation.

Since 2001, the Foundation has contributed to the protection of 56 of the 107 plant and animal species designated threatened or vulnerable under this Act (as at August 8, 2012).

In addition, from 2003 to 2005, the Foundation supported a project to bring striped bass back to the Fleuve Saint-Laurent (St. Lawrence River). This fish, extirpated in Québec in the mid-1960s, was reintroduced using stocks from the Miramichi River.

1 Adopted in June 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, the *Convention on Biological Diversity* was ratified in December 1993 by some 30 countries, and over 160 more have ratified it since then. This international agreement gives equal importance to the sustainable use of resources and to conservation. It covers the entire living world, not just wild plants and animals.  
2 Adopted by the Québec government in 1989, the *Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species* provides for a designation process in which a threatened species is one whose extirpation is feared, and a vulnerable species is one whose survival is precarious, but for which extirpation is not expected.



Peregrine falcon



Wood turtle

## FOUNDATION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROTECTION OF PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES IN 2012

| THREATENED OR VULNERABLE SPECIES |            |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| SPECIES                          | STATUS     | PARTNERS * |
| <b>Plants</b>                    |            |            |
| wild leek                        | Vulnerable | 3, 8       |
| mayapple                         | Threatened | 8          |
| <b>Birds</b>                     |            |            |
| harlequin duck                   | Vulnerable | 5          |
| anatum peregrine falcon          | Vulnerable | 4, 5, 7    |
| Barrow's goldeneye               | Vulnerable | 5          |
| least bittern                    | Vulnerable | 2          |
| bald eagle                       | Vulnerable | 2          |
| Caspian tern                     | Threatened | 7          |
| <b>Fish</b>                      |            |            |
| American shad                    | Vulnerable | 5          |
| bridle shiner                    | Vulnerable | 2          |
| <b>Reptiles</b>                  |            |            |
| wood turtle                      | Vulnerable | 3          |

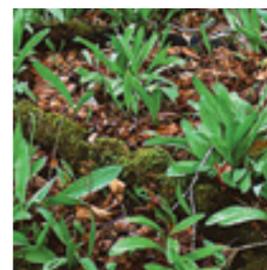
NUMBER OF SPECIES: 11

### Definition

Threatened: threatened species (extirpation feared).  
Vulnerable: vulnerable species (at risk, extirpation not expected).

### \* Partners in 2012

- MRC of Haut-Saint-François
- Comité ZIP du lac Saint-Pierre
- Groupe de concertation des bassins versants de la zone Bécancour (GROBEC)
- Comité régional pour la protection des falaises (CRPF)
- Les Amis des Jardins de Métis
- Régie intermunicipale du parc régional de la Rivière-du-Nord
- Regroupement QuébecOiseaux
- Ville de Montréal
- Nature Conservancy of Canada (Montréal)
- Mont Saint-Hilaire Nature Centre



Wild leek

| SPECIES LIKELY TO BE DESIGNATED THREATENED OR VULNERABLE |            |
|--|------------|
| SPECIES  | PARTNERS * |
| <b>Plants</b>  |            |
| soft agrimony  | 6          |
| Canada garlic  | 8          |
| reflexed rockcross                                       | 4          |
| hairy-stem New York aster                                | 5          |
| bur-reed sedge   | 8          |
| oval-headed sedge  | 8          |
| shagbark hickory   | 8, 9       |
| swamp white oak  | 8          |
| bare-stemmed tick-trefoil                                | 10         |
| Clinton's woodfern                                       | 9          |
| spurred gentian  | 5          |
| purple twayblade   | 9          |
| butternut  | 3, 8, 9    |
| American bladdernut                                      | 8          |
| <b>Birds</b>   |            |
| Canada warbler   | 1          |
| chimney swift  | 7, 8       |
| <b>Fish</b>  |            |
| American eel   | 5          |
| brassy minnow  | 2          |
| <b>Reptiles</b>  |            |
| ringneck snake   | 8          |
| milksnake  | 10         |
| <b>Amphibians</b>  |            |
| pickerel frog  | 10         |

NUMBER OF SPECIES: 21



Pickerel frog

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### MANAGEMENT'S REPORT

The financial statements of the Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement as well as all information contained in this report fall under the responsibility of Management and are approved by the Board of Directors. This responsibility involves choosing the appropriate accounting policies that comply with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

To fulfill its responsibilities, Management maintains a control system designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the protection of assets, the accounting of transactions and the reliability of the financial statements.

The Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement acknowledges its responsibility in managing its affairs in accordance with the governing legislation.

The financial statements of the Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement have been audited by independent auditors KPMG LLP in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Canada. The auditors' report discusses the nature and extent of this audit and expresses their opinion.

**/s/ Catherine Leconte**

Executive Director

Montréal, March 27, 2013

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

#### To the Directors

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement, which comprise the statements of financial position as at December 31, 2012, December 31, 2011, and January 1, 2011, the statements of operations, changes in net assets, and cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2012, and December 31, 2011, and notes containing a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

The Foundation's Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations in Canada and for such internal control as Management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### *Auditors' Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting standards. These standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing these risks, we consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate to the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by Management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we obtained during our audit is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### *Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement as at December 31, 2012, December 31, 2011, and January 1, 2011, and the results of its operations, the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with the Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations in Canada.

**/s/ KPMG LLP\***

Montréal, Québec  
March 27, 2013

\* CPA auditor, CA public accountancy permit No. A119245

## STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

| In Canadian dollars                             | As at<br>December 31, 2012 | As at<br>December 31, 2011 | As at<br>January 1, 2011 |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                                   |                            |                            |                          |
| Cash  | 217,234                    | 1,138,367                  | 2,096,877                |
| Interest receivable                             | 200                        | 952                        | 1,992                    |
| Contribution receivable from Hydro-Québec       | 1,045,071                  | 43,507                     | 38,440                   |
|   | <b>1,262,505</b>           | <b>1,182,826</b>           | <b>2,137,309</b>         |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                              |                            |                            |                          |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities        | 25,668                     | 37,765                     | 68,142                   |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                               |                            |                            |                          |
| Internally restricted to environmental projects | 987,099                    | 1,263,029                  | 1,723,247                |
| Unrestricted                                    | 249,738                    | (117,968)                  | 345,920                  |
|   | <b>1,236,837</b>           | <b>1,145,061</b>           | <b>2,069,167</b>         |
|   | <b>1,262,505</b>           | <b>1,182,826</b>           | <b>2,137,309</b>         |

The attached notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

On behalf of the Board,

**/s/ Stella Leney**  
President

**/s/ Armand Couture**  
Director

## STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

Years ended December 31

| In Canadian dollars  | 2012             | 2011             |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| <b>REVENUE</b>   |                  |                  |
| Contributions from a special fund                                    | 1,130,502        | 130,009          |
| Interest income  | 6,463            | 16,785           |
|  | <b>1,136,965</b> | <b>146,794</b>   |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>   |                  |                  |
| Environmental projects   |                  |                  |
| Approved during the year   | 239,365          | 237,440          |
| Approved during previous years                                       | 763,270          | 776,856          |
|  | <b>1,002,635</b> | <b>1,014,296</b> |
| General overhead and project management                              | 42,554           | 56,604           |
|  | <b>1,045,189</b> | <b>1,070,900</b> |
| <b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE (EXPENDITURE OVER REVENUE)</b> | <b>91,776</b>    | <b>(924,106)</b> |

The attached notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Years ended December 31

| In Canadian dollars  | Internally restricted<br>to environmental<br>projects | Unrestricted   | 2012<br>Total    | 2011<br>Total    |
|--|---|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>  | 1,263,029   | (117,968)      | 1,145,061        | 2,069,167        |
| Excess of revenue over expenditure<br>(expenditure over revenue)                 | (763,270)   | 855,046        | 91,776           | (924,106)        |
| Internally restricted with respect to<br>environmental projects approved in 2012 | 517,635   | (517,635)      | –                | –                |
| Transfer to unrestricted net assets  | (30,295)  | 30,295         | –                | –                |
| <b>BALANCE AT END OF YEAR</b>  | <b>987,099</b>  | <b>249,738</b> | <b>1,236,837</b> | <b>1,145,061</b> |

The attached notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Years ended December 31

| In Canadian dollars   | 2012             | 2011             |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| <b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>                                   |                  |                  |
| Excess of revenue over expenditure (expenditure over revenue) | 91,776           | (924,106)        |
| Change in non-cash working capital items                      |                  |                  |
| Interest receivable   | 752              | 1,040            |
| Contributions receivable from Hydro-Québec                    | (1,001,564)      | (5,067)          |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities                      | (12,097)         | (30,377)         |
| <b>NET CHANGE IN CASH</b>                                     | <b>(921,133)</b> | <b>(958,510)</b> |
| <b>CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>                              | <b>1,138,367</b> | <b>2,096,877</b> |
| <b>CASH AT END OF YEAR</b>                                    | <b>217,234</b>   | <b>1,138,367</b> |

The attached notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, and January 1, 2011

The Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement (the "Foundation") was constituted on January 19, 2001, under Division III of the Québec *Companies Act* and started its activities on that date.

Its mission is to contribute to the long-term enhancement and protection of the environment; to promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of fauna, flora and natural habitats; and to support local needs for stewardship of the environment. Its Board of Directors is composed of six Hydro-Québec officers and four outside directors. The Foundation is a nonprofit organization that is exempt from taxes within the meaning of the *Income Tax Act*.

### 1. ADOPTION OF NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

These financial statements have been prepared for the Foundation in accordance with Part III of the *Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants Handbook (CICA Handbook)* "Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations in Canada". These are the first financial statements prepared according to these standards.

In compliance with Section 1501 "First-Time Adoption by Not-for-Profit Organizations", the accounting policies described in note 2 were used consistently for all years shown in these financial statements.

The adoption of these standards had no impact on the Foundation's financial statements as at the transition date, January 1, 2011.

### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### a) REVENUE RECOGNITION

The Foundation uses the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when they are received and as receivables if the amount can be reasonably estimated and payment is reasonably assured. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the fiscal year in which the related expenditures are incurred.

Revenue from the Hydro-Québec special fund consists of contributions from the fund and interest paid on the fund. Interest income is recognized when earned.

#### b) EXPENDITURE RECOGNITION

Expenditures related to environmental projects are recorded when the expenditures are incurred by the organizations and approved by the Foundation.

#### c) FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Foundation measures financial assets and liabilities at fair value on initial recognition. It subsequently measures all financial assets and liabilities at amortized cost.

Financial assets and liabilities measured at amortized cost include cash, interest receivable, contributions receivable from Hydro-Québec and accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost are tested for impairment if there is any evidence of a potential impairment loss. The amount of the decline in value is recognized in the results as an impairment loss. A previously recognized loss can be reversed. Such reversal is recognized in income in the year in which the reversal occurs.

### 3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Because of its financial assets and liabilities, the Foundation is exposed to the following risk:

#### a) INTEREST RATE RISK

Cash bears interest at a variable rate; consequently, fluctuations in interest rates will have an impact on the Foundation's interest income.

#### b) FAIR VALUE

The carrying value of interest receivable, contributions receivable from Hydro-Québec and accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximates their fair value due to their short-term maturities.

### 4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, the Foundation received a contribution of \$1 million (nil in 2011) from the \$10-million special fund reserved for the Foundation by Hydro-Québec and annual interest income of \$130,502 (\$130,009 in 2011) earned on these amounts.

The Foundation incurred administrative overhead expenses totaling \$17,108 (\$30,200 in 2011) in relation to Hydro-Québec. Services provided by the various administrative units of Hydro-Québec for the benefit of the Foundation are billed on the basis of actual costs under agreements between the Foundation and these units.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012

### MARIE-JOSÉ NADEAU

President, Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement  
Executive Vice-President – Corporate Affairs and Secretary General  
Hydro-Québec

### STELLA LENEY

Board Secretary, Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement  
General Manager – Environment and Corporate Affairs  
Hydro-Québec

### ANDRÉ BESNER

Manager – Environment and Sustainable Development  
Hydro-Québec

### ARMAND COUTURE

President – Société Bédelmar Itée

### CHANTAL D'AUTEUIL

General Director – Association des biologistes du Québec

### MARTIN DOUCET

Regional Manager – Manicouagan and Director – Production  
Hydro-Québec Production

### FRANCINE ÉMOND

Director

### CLAUDE GRONDIN

Director – Wildlife Initiatives  
Fondation de la faune du Québec

### LOUISE PELLETIER

Director – Development Projects and Nuclear Power Generation  
Hydro-Québec Production

### MYRIAM TRUCHON

Director – Regional Affairs and Communities  
Hydro-Québec

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[Page 4] Trail restoration: Mont Saint-Hilaire Nature Centre.

[Page 5] Great blue heron: Comité ZIP du lac Saint-Pierre. Rivière Noire: Groupe de concertation des bassins versants de la zone Bécancour. River awareness rally marker: Centre d'interprétation de l'eau – Olivier Lalonde.

[Page 6] Interpretation panel, Parc des Buck: Benoît Boudreau for the municipality of Îles-de-la-Madeleine. Rivière Mitis: Alexandre Reford for Les Jardins de Métis.

[Page 7] Moose: Thomas Drasdauskis, Bowron Recreation, for Nature Conservancy of Canada.

[Page 8] European buckthorn seedlings uprooted by hand: Martine Hamel. Trail in the Réserve naturelle du Chemin-Saint-Georges: Carine Deland for Nature Conservancy of Canada. Young participants in the biodiversity restoration and enhancement project: Martine Hamel.

[Page 10] Planting at Grand lac Saint-François: Donald Carter. Interpretation panel: Martine Hamel. Dead tree: Mont Saint-Hilaire Nature Centre.

[Page 11] Observation platform: Joël Badertscher.

[Page 12] Turtle tracks: Steve Garneau for the Parc régional des Grandes-Coulées. Restoration activities: Sébastien Lévesque. Rivière Châteauguay: Simon Bédard for Regroupement QuébecOiseaux.

[Page 14] Wood frog: Martine Hamel. Observation screen: Martine Hamel. Least bittern: Arold Lavoie (CIC). Marécage des Scots: Sylvain Lamontagne for the MRC of Haut-Saint-François.

[Page 16] Information booth, Lac Osisko: Conseil régional de l'environnement de l'Abitibi-Temiscamingue. Aquatic invertebrate interpretation: EWAG – Nathalie Piedboeuf.

[Page 19] Great egret: Nature Conservancy of Canada. Cutting buckthorn shoots: Martine Hamel.

[Page 20] Butternut: Nature-Action Québec. Peregrine falcon: UQROP.

[Page 21] Wood turtle: Jeffrey Macdonald. Wild leek: Gilles Delisles. Pickerel frog: Jeffrey Macdonald.

[Page 29 or inside back cover] Trail, Wentworth-Nord: Joël Badertscher.

For more detailed information on the mission, priorities and operations of the Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement or on the projects it supports, please visit: [www.hydroquebec.com/fondation-environnement](http://www.hydroquebec.com/fondation-environnement).

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