



Fondation  
Hydro-Québec  
pour l'environnement

ANNUAL REPORT **2013**





## MESSAGE FROM MANAGEMENT

The Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement reflects Hydro-Québec's desire to help improve the environment and preserve Québec's natural heritage by supporting initiatives that protect and enhance natural areas.

In 2013, the Foundation contributed \$759,900 to 16 projects by nonprofit organizations or municipalities in seven of Québec's administrative regions. Since its inception in 2001, the Foundation has granted about \$11.8 million to 210 projects with an estimated total value of over \$38 million.

This report bears witness to the energy and determination of the organizations and communities whose environmental stewardship we have supported. It is truly an invitation to discover nature!

Some of our partners this year have taken us to spectacular and almost untouched landscapes at Pointe Verte in the Gaspé Peninsula and Parc régional des Grandes-Rivières in Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean. Others have shown us small gems of nature subsisting in urban settings, such as Granby's Lac Boivin, the Red Mill bog in Trois-Rivières, and even on a street corner like Parc du Bois-des-Pères and Domaine Saint-Paul in Montréal, or the Laterrière marsh in Saguenay.

All our partners are committed to their communities and passionate about their projects, and we are grateful to them for the opportunity to participate. We also would like to thank the experts on the advisory committee and the members of the Board of Directors for their invaluable contribution.

**/s/ Stella Leney**  
President

**/s/ Catherine Leconte**  
Executive Director

## CONTENTS

- 1 Message from Management
- 2 The Foundation
- 4 Geographical Distribution of Projects Supported by the Foundation in 2013
- 6 Lands and Forests
- 10 Rivers and Lakes
- 12 Wetlands
- 14 Awareness and Education
- 18 Review of Operations
- 22 Financial Statements
- 28 Board of Directors 2013

*Pitcher plants, insectivorous plants found in Québec peatlands*  
© Ducks Unlimited Canada

On the cover: *Pointe Verte, Percé*  
© Nature Conservancy of Canada

Other photo sources are provided at the end of the report.

# THE FOUNDATION

## 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

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

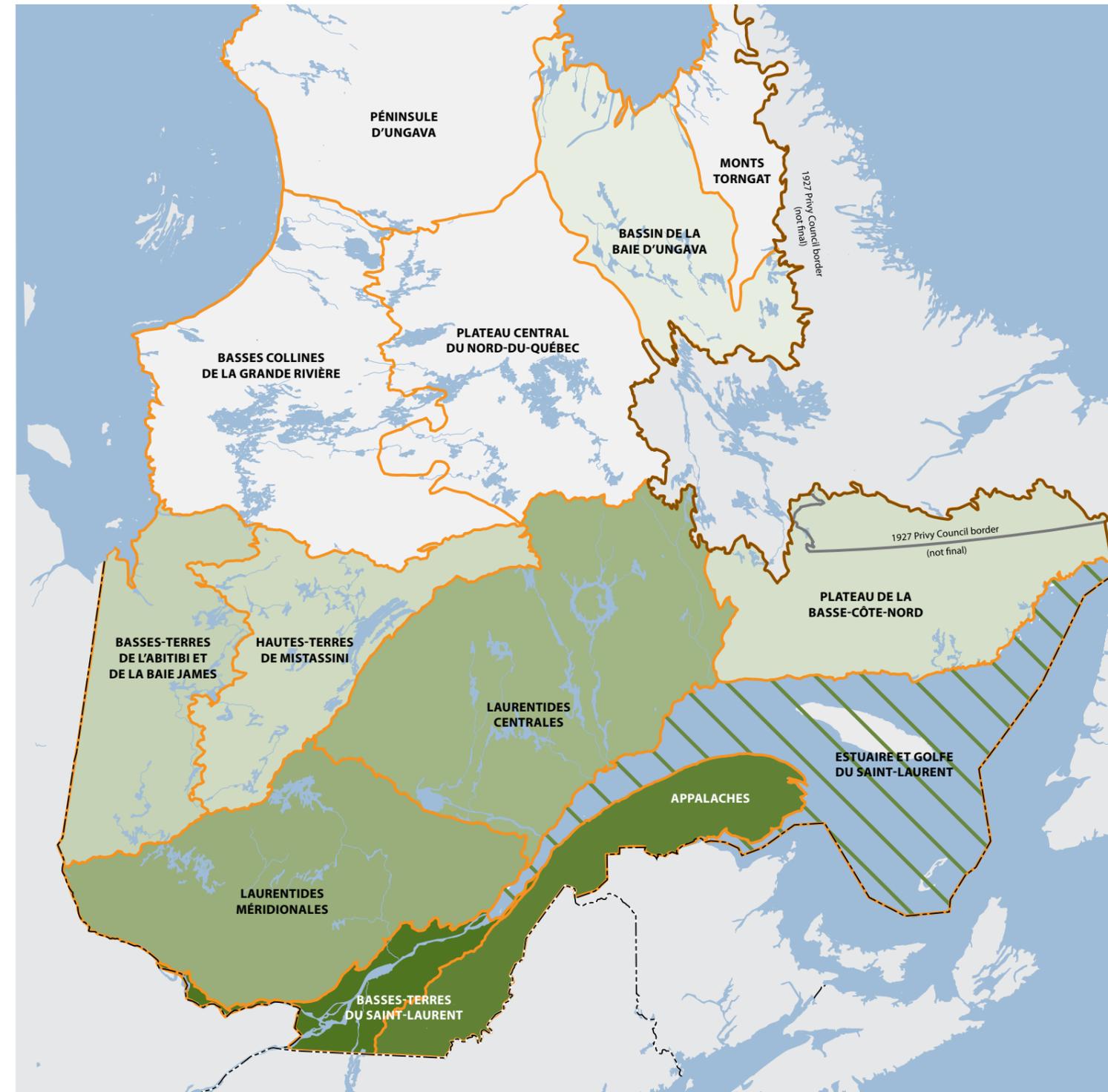
- Nonprofit organizations duly registered in Canada and able to show that their projects are not personal or for profit but serve community interests
- Projects that are in line with the Foundation's mission and principles and that contribute to the achievement of its objectives

These conditions apply to projects presented by municipalities, regional county municipalities (MRCs) and band councils.

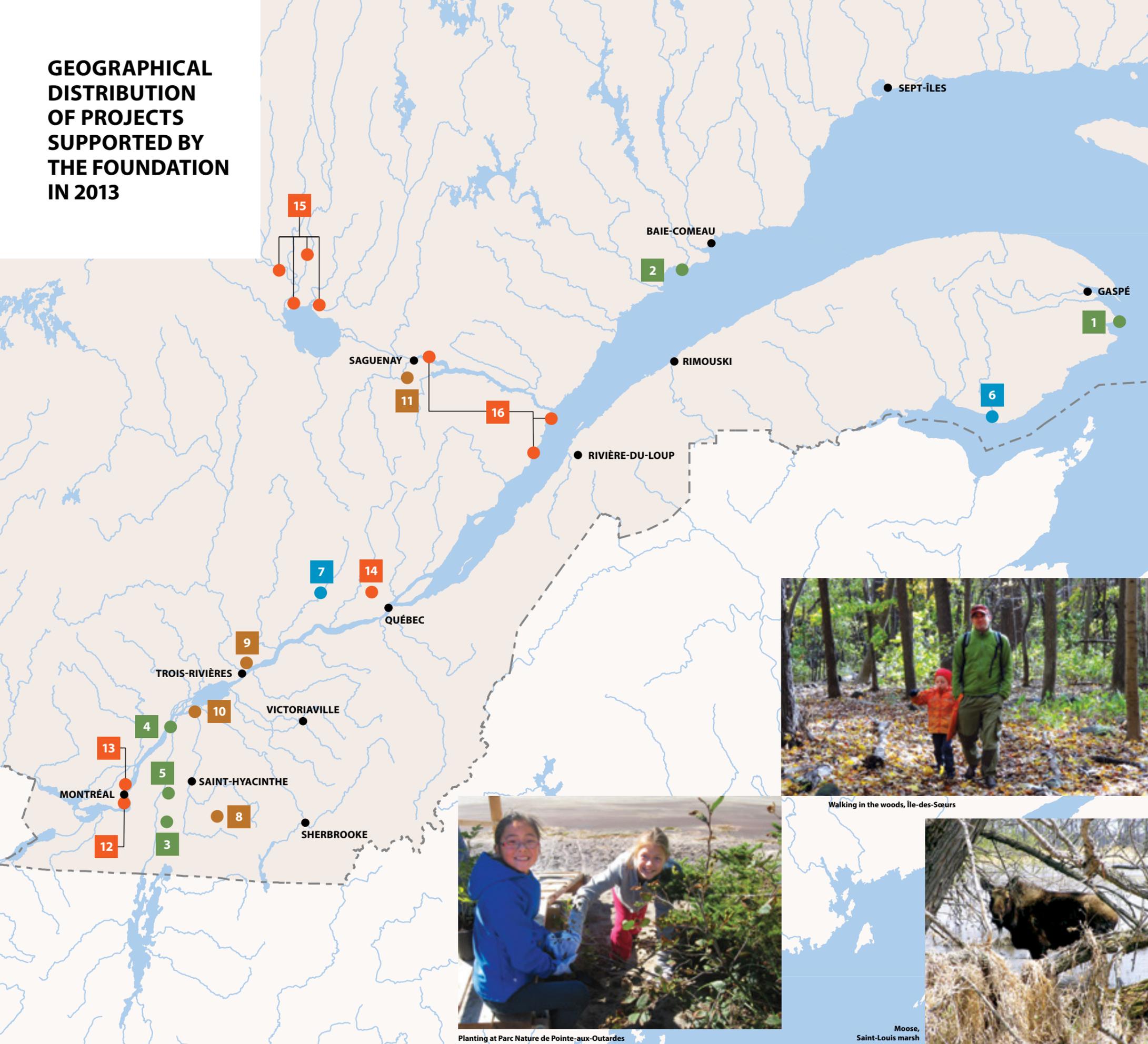
## Breakdown of the foundation's contributions (2001–2013)<sup>1</sup>

Basses-terres du Saint-Laurent	\$4,816,685
Appalaches	\$2,623,412
Estuaire et golfe du Saint-Laurent	\$1,959,421
Laurentides méridionales	\$1,094,399
Laurentides centrales	\$966,502
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

1. According to the Ecological Reference Framework of the Québec government.



# GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE FOUNDATION IN 2013



## Lands and Forests

1. Protection and enhancement of Pointe Verte
2. Protection, restoration and enhancement of the beach area of Parc Nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes
3. From fallow land to forest: restoration of the main entrance to Mont Saint-Grégoire
4. Enhancement of Parc régional des Grèves
5. Reconfiguration of access and reception areas at Gault Nature Reserve

## Rivers and Lakes

6. Enhancement of the Réserve aquatique de l'Estuaire-de-la-Rivière-Bonaventure
7. Development of the Parc riverain de la Sainte-Anne

## Wetlands

8. Enhancement of natural habitats at Lac Boivin
9. Protection and enhancement of the Red Mill bog
10. Enhancement of Saint-Louis marsh
11. Protection and enhancement of Laterrière marsh

## Awareness and Education

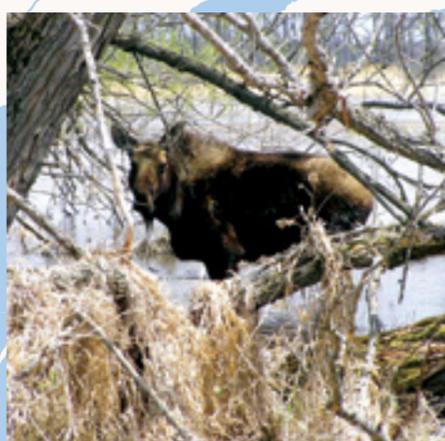
12. Enhancement and conservation awareness – Natural areas at the southern tip of Île-des-Sœurs
13. Discovering the Parc du Bois-des-Pères
14. Awareness about responsible water management for the Rivière Saint-Charles
15. Discovery and protection of wildlife habitats in Parc régional des Grandes-Rivières
16. Awareness about IBAs in Saguenay–Saint-Laurent



Walking in the woods, Île-des-Sœurs



Planting at Parc Nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes



Moose, Saint-Louis marsh



Rivière Bonaventure estuary

## LANDS AND FORESTS



Pointe Verte, Percé

Project	Area (ha)	Proponent	Expected Total Cost (\$)	Foundation's Contribution (\$)
Protection and enhancement of Pointe Verte	28.1	Nature Conservancy of Canada – Québec Region	585,000	110,000
Protection, restoration and enhancement of the beach area of Parc Nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes	100	Comité ZIP de la rive nord de l'estuaire	47,875	33,200
From fallow land to forest: restoration of the main entrance to Mont Saint-Grégoire	2.4	Centre d'interprétation du milieu écologique du Haut-Richelieu	72,050	52,000
Enhancement of Parc régional des Grèves	68.2	Nature-Action Québec	42,768	25,000
Reconfiguration of access and reception areas at Gault Nature Reserve	2.4	Centre de la Nature du mont Saint-Hilaire	61,475	30,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>384.9*</b>		<b>809,168</b>	<b>250,200</b>

\* Includes lands and forests affected by the Rivière Sainte-Anne project (3.8 ha) in the Rivers and Lakes class and forests in Wetlands class projects: Lac Boivin (150 ha) and Red Mill bog (30 ha).



Beach area, Parc Nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes

### Protection and enhancement of Pointe Verte

At the eastern end of the Gaspé Peninsula, the south part of Pointe Saint-Pierre—known as Pointe Verte—contains one of the region's few still-intact coastal forests. Nature Conservancy of Canada acquired a 30-ha property there. The Malbaie bay shoreline provides a splendid view of Percé Rock, which is about ten kilometres due south as the crow flies. In addition to the very valuable old-growth forest ecosystem, the site contains 1.5 km of natural banks and conglomerate cliffs, as well as many small bays. This jewel of Québec's natural heritage was designated an Important Bird Area (IBA) because of the large concentrations of gregarious bird species that can be seen there, including Barrow's goldeneye and harlequin duck, both of which are considered vulnerable. Nature Conservancy of Canada intends to open the site to the public, and will be developing a conservation and enhancement plan to that end.

### Protection, restoration and enhancement of the beach area of Parc Nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes

Parc Nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes occupies the entire western tip of the Manicouagan Peninsula. Located in the Manicouagan-Uapishka Biosphere Reserve, this unique interpretation site contains seven ecosystems, one of which is a 491-ha marsh, and is home to some 170 plant species and 220 bird species. The park's uses include ecology, education, science, culture, recreation and tourism. A beach attracts many visitors who, over the years, have created pockets of erosion along the access trail that crosses the coastal pine forest. In partnership with the Corporation du Parc Nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes, the Comité ZIP de la rive nord de l'estuaire redeveloped the trail, including a boardwalk section to reduce trampling in the forest, and built two stairways to the beach to counter erosion. Children from Les Dunes elementary school helped close three unauthorized paths by planting a vegetation barrier. Three interpretation panels describing the bank erosion problem were also erected.



Contrecoeur woods



Tree planting, Mont Saint-Grégoire



Hiker at Gault Nature Reserve, Mont Saint-Hilaire

### From fallow land to forest: restoration of the main entrance to Mont Saint-Grégoire

Forest covers 273 ha of Mont Saint-Grégoire and is essential to the Richelieu plain's biodiversity. Since 1981, the Centre d'interprétation du milieu écologique du Haut-Richelieu (CIME Haut-Richelieu) has endeavored to keep Mont Saint-Grégoire—one of the Monteregian hills—in as natural a state as possible. The Centre's mission is also to provide natural science education and foster environmental and conservation awareness among adults and children. The De la friche à la forêt (from fallow land to forest) project is located in a former orchard near the CIME reception and education facility, in an area of about 4 ha where old apple trees had to be removed. The project consists in planting trees along the forest edge to expand its area and, in a section deliberately left uncultivated, developing a discovery trail to inform visitors about the environmental importance of this type of natural environment, which has become rare in this heavily farmed region. Fallow lands are prime habitats for pollinating insects, small mammals, snakes and birds that live in open areas, including some at-risk species. Eventually, the forest will naturally take over, resulting in a net gain in area for the Mont Saint-Grégoire forest.

### Enhancement of Parc régional des Grèves

In 2009, the town of Contrecoeur and Nature-Action Québec purchased part of the Contrecoeur woodland, one of the few intact forests remaining along the Fleuve Saint-Laurent [St. Lawrence River] between Longueuil and Sorel-Tracy. The Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement contributed as a financial partner to the acquisition of this environmentally valuable 65-ha property, which was subsequently incorporated into the Parc régional des Grèves. The intermunicipal park is 290 ha in area and is already crisscrossed by over 20 km of trails used by outdoor enthusiasts, school groups, scouts and youngsters from a nearby summer camp. Following the acquisition, a conservation and enhancement plan was developed. This project consists in implementing part of the plan by creating tools to increase awareness of the park's ecosystems and major biodiversity protection issues, and provide information on how to enjoy recreational activities while preserving the natural environment.

### Reconfiguration of access and reception areas at Gault Nature Reserve

Mont Saint-Hilaire, an island of great natural biodiversity in a highly urbanized and agricultural area, has been recognized as a UNESCO biosphere reserve. At its centre, McGill University's Gault Nature Reserve protects nearly 1,000 ha of natural primeval forest. Part of the reserve is open to the public. In ten years, visitor traffic has risen from 145,000 to over 220,000 people, necessitating a restructuring of the access and reception areas to channel arriving visitors, reduce their impact on the natural environment, and encourage them to behave in ways compatible with the reserve's conservation objective. Informal trails will be closed by tree planting, and signage will be revamped so that all users, once they have passed through the ticket booth and paid their entrance fee, will use a single route to reach the trailhead. A staging area for groups and families will also be developed beside the parking lot. It will be fenced to delimit the gathering area and prevent trampling.

## RIVERS AND LAKES



Rivière Bonaventure estuary

Project	Number of Rivers and Lakes	Proponent	Expected Total Cost (\$)	Foundation's Contribution (\$)
Enhancement of the Réserve aquatique de l'Estuaire-de-la-Rivière-Bonaventure	1 river	Bioparc de la Gaspésie	289,540	120,000
Development of the Parc riverain de la Sainte-Anne*	1 river	CAPSA	128,904	82,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 rivers or lakes</b>		<b>418,444</b>	<b>202,200</b>

\* This project also affects a land environment located on the Rivière Sainte-Anne: its area (3.8 ha) is counted in the Lands and Forests class. Also, a wetland section (20.2 ha) is included in the Wetlands class.



Rivière Sainte-Anne, Saint-Raymond

### Enhancement of the Réserve aquatique de l'Estuaire-de-la-Rivière-Bonaventure

An aquatic reserve is a protected area dedicated to conserving biodiversity in freshwater or saltwater, as well as in adjacent natural environments. The Bonaventure estuary was the first aquatic reserve in Québec's network of protected areas. Officially constituted in 2009 with an area of 180 ha, the reserve is subject to pressure from human activities, such as the presence of garbage and campfires, and the trampling and deterioration of plant cover. The Bioparc de la Gaspésie, a wild animal park next to the reserve, wants to help protect this unique, rich natural environment by opening it to the local public and tourists visiting the Baie-des-Chaleurs region. The reserve enhancement project will cultivate environmentally responsible behavior among visitors, with a full educational program including boat excursions guided by naturalists, activities for discovering the aquatic ecosystem and interpretation panels. A reception and education area will be developed on the sand spit commonly known as Île aux Pirates, and floating docks will be installed during the summer.

### Development of the Parc riverain de la Sainte-Anne

The municipality of Saint-Raymond owns riverside lots along the Sainte-Anne that encompass a marsh, ponds, shrub swamps and coniferous and mixed forests. The town has decided to create a conservation park in a 24-ha stretch along the river. The Sainte-Anne is a popular river for swimming, fishing and canoeing, owing to the weak current and the topography. CAPSA (a local watershed protection group) took charge of this riverside park development project that will control user access to the Sainte-Anne and promote awareness of the need to treat the natural environments along the river with respect. Information panels set up at the two reception areas, located at the Saint-Hubert Street parking lot and beside the Jacques-Cartier/Portneuf bicycle path, inform visitors about authorized uses of the site. A 1-km trail, part of which is a boardwalk, provides access. Along the trail, interpretation panels and three observation platforms invite users to enjoy the astonishing diversity of the natural environments in the area and to help protect them. A rest area has been developed on the beach; in the summer, three floating docks can be used for fishing and for launching light watercraft.

## WETLANDS



Walking at Lac Boivin marsh



Blue flag, Red Mill bog



Observation tower, Saint-Louis marsh



Field trip to Laterrière marsh, Saguenay

Project	Area (ha)	Proponent	Expected Total Cost (\$)	Foundation's Contribution (\$)
Enhancement of natural habitats at Lac Boivin	150	Centre d'interprétation de la nature du lac Boivin	54,990	39,400
Protection and enhancement of Red Mill bog	41.7	Nature-Action Québec	177,800	70,000
Enhancement of Saint-Louis marsh	117	Société d'aménagement de la baie Lavallière inc.	75,300	54,600
Protection and enhancement of Laterrière marsh	2.8	EURÉKO!	45,658	16,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>331.7*</b>		<b>353,748</b>	<b>180,500</b>

\* Includes wetlands affected by the Rivière Sainte-Anne project (20.2 ha) in the Rivers and Lakes class.

### Enhancement of natural habitats at Lac Boivin

On the outskirts of Granby, the Centre d'interprétation de la nature du lac Boivin has managed a municipal park of about 450 ha since 1980. The park contains woodlots, swamps, a lake and riparian strips. The area has been internationally acknowledged as an Important Bird Area (IBA) as it is a migration staging area for 260 bird species. The project to enhance natural habitats at Lac Boivin will improve signage to channel the 175,000 visitors who use the site's four trails every year and help them discover natural habitats and the species that live in them. Two series of 15 interchangeable panels will be displayed along the trails, and alternated every six months; they will be supplemented by four educational lighted displays in the reception building.

### Protection and enhancement of the Red Mill bog

At the Trois-Rivières city limits, in the Sainte-Marthe-du-Cap sector, the Red Mill bog covers about 500 ha and contains jack pine stands with sphagnum moss that are considered "exceptional forest ecosystems" by the Québec Ministère des Ressources naturelles, as well as many plant species likely to be designated threatened or vulnerable, including showy lady's-slipper and Virginia chain fern. This bog is one of the biodiverse ecoterritories that the city of Trois-Rivières wants to protect by purchasing properties through the Fondation Trois-Rivières pour un développement durable. Nature-Action Québec was asked by the city to implement a project to protect and enhance the Red Mill bog. A 42-ha property was acquired in the middle of the bog and light access structures (culvert and boardwalk) were installed on the periphery on land belonging to the foundation. Various materials (interpretation panels and a brochure) were developed so that the public could learn to appreciate the unique ecological features of the bog without harming it.

### Enhancement of Saint-Louis marsh

Saint-Louis marsh is in Baie de Lavallière, a huge public property of over 600 ha where the Société d'aménagement de la baie Lavallière organizes educational and recreational activities so that schoolchildren and the general public can discover wetland plants and animals. The organization manages a reception building called the "Maison du marais" [Marsh House] and a 1.3-km trail that are open year-round. The marsh enhancement project consisted in building a 10-metre tower so visitors can view the marsh from a different angle without disturbing it. This structure will also be very useful in the naturalists' interpretation program at the reception centre.

### Protection and enhancement of Laterrière marsh

Marsh discovery activities, creation of an informative calendar distributed to residents, construction of nest boxes—these are the ways in which elementary school students in Jolis-Prés and Notre-Dame have played an active role in the project to protect and enhance Laterrière marsh. This small wetland belongs to the city of Saguenay. Biodiversity there is surprisingly rich, but housing developments nearby are exerting heavy pressure on it. EURÉKO!, an environmental protection and management organization (previously known as the Comité de l'environnement de Chicoutimi), enlisted the wetland's main users, local children, in an awareness project to prevent trampling, vandalism and dumping. Development on the property has included a fence erected to prevent ATV access to the site; improvement of the boardwalk along the edge of the marsh; construction of stairs and three observation platforms; and installation of a welcome sign and three information panels about animals, plants and the environmental role of the marsh.

## AWARENESS AND EDUCATION



Painted turtle



On a nature trail, Île-des-Sœurs



Sumacs, Parc du Bois-des-Pères, Montréal

Project	Proponent	Expected Total Cost (\$)	Foundation's Contribution (\$)
Enhancement and conservation awareness – Natural areas at the southern tip of Île-des-Sœurs	Nature-Action Québec	66,502	49,500
Discovering the Parc du Bois-des-Pères	Services horticoles, Les Pousses urbaines	31,155	25,000
Awareness about responsible water management for the Rivière Saint-Charles	Association pour la protection de l'environnement du lac Saint-Charles et des Marais du Nord	50,008	25,000
Discovery and protection of wildlife habitats in Parc régional des Grandes-Rivières	Société de gestion environnementale	25,650	10,500
Awareness about IBAs in Saguenay–Saint-Laurent	Nature Québec	24,000	17,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>197,315</b>	<b>127,000</b>

### Enhancement and conservation awareness – Natural areas at the southern tip of Île-des-Sœurs

The southern tip of Île-des-Sœurs has nearly 50 ha of natural areas. To maintain their ecology and sustainability, the borough of Verdun asked Nature-Action Québec to look after maintenance, development, ecosystem monitoring and user awareness. The enhancement and conservation awareness project focuses on Domaine Saint-Paul, a 26-ha shelter forest, classified by the Québec Ministère des Ressources naturelles as an “exceptional forest ecosystem” because it is home to many at-risk plant and animal species. Having observed that the lack of natural egg-laying sites causes turtles to approach trails, Nature-Action Québec will develop a safe egg-laying site with protective grilles for the nests. Interpretation panels along the trails will give new insight to the many users discovering the island's natural areas. A panoply of materials and activities (photo contest, lectures, educational field workshops, columns in local media and information flyers distributed to residents) will encourage citizens to play an active role in protecting nature.



Interpretation panel

### Discovering the Parc du Bois-des-Pères

The Parc du Bois-des-Pères is a 6-ha island of biodiversity adjacent to the Maisonneuve-Rosemont hospital. The city of Montréal purchased this woodland from the Franciscan Friars in 1986, then rezoned the land in 2001 as a park. It is one of the rare small woodlands on the island of Montréal that still contain original plant species. An enclave in a highly urbanized area, the park is subjected to high anthropogenic pressure and has been redeveloped numerous times since 2005. An organization called Les Pousses urbaines wants to rally the neighborhood to undertake long-term improvement and stewardship of the woodland. Its project invites the public to learn about Parc du Bois-des-Pères in an attractive, safe context. Young and old will follow a trail through the woods and discover the species around them through educational panels and games. A smart-phone app will enable the route to be followed on the Internet so that everyone can find additional information about their own observations... and add to it! A teacher's kit will be available to area schools to help them prepare educational woodland outings and activities.



Model of Rivière Saint-Charles watershed



Semipalmated sandpipers



Rivière Mistassibi,  
MRC de Maria-Chapdelaine

### **Awareness about responsible water management for the Rivière Saint-Charles**

Lac Saint-Charles, the Rivière Saint-Charles and adjacent wetlands and shorelines are subject to heavy pressure from residential development. Founded in 1980 by lakeside property owners who were concerned about the quality of their lake, the Association pour la protection de l'environnement du lac Saint-Charles et des Marais du Nord took advantage of its new offices in the Rivière-Saint-Charles linear park's reception building to educate the public about environmental management of the water in the river. The park's many users can see how the watershed operates on a 3D model. Six 90-second video clips shown on-site and on the Association's Web site illustrate the water cycle, the impacts of human activity on water quality and ways to minimize those impacts. Interpretation panels on these issues were installed in the building, as well as outside near the Lac Saint-Charles dam.

### **Discovery and protection of wildlife habitats in Parc régional des Grandes-Rivières**

The Parc régional des Grandes-Rivières, dedicated to the conservation of natural, cultural and historical heritage in the MRC of Maria-Chapdelaine, has 14 sites spread over more than 100 km<sup>2</sup>. Since 2000, the Société de gestion environnementale (SGE) has been responsible for park development. The wildlife habitat discovery and protection project for Parc régional des Grandes-Rivières will provide interpretation trails for the local public and tourists to help them understand the natural environment in four areas where human pressure (off-trail trampling and ATV traffic) is particularly destructive: Rivière-Mistassibi – Eaux-Vives section, Rivière-Mistassini – Association-des-Sportifs section, Lac-Saint-Jean – Pointe-Racine-Vauvert section and Rivière-Pérignonka – Musée section. In addition to interpretation panels set up along the trails, educational guides will be available at the trailheads and on the SGE Web site. Visitors will learn about the various plant and animal habitat components and how to be environmentally responsible in natural settings.

### **Awareness about IBAs in Saguenay–Saint-Laurent**

To date, over 11,000 Important Bird Areas (IBAs) have been catalogued worldwide as part of an international initiative to count, monitor and protect essential sites for birds. Québec has 96 IBAs, most of which have sections open to the public. Deterioration caused by heavy tourist traffic and disturbance of the birds can have an impact on the birds' survival. The IBA designation does not carry any legal status and site protection depends on voluntary conservation; acknowledgment by the local public and visitors of the importance of the IBAs is thus a first step towards preservation of these essential habitats. This is the objective of Nature Québec's IBA awareness project in Saguenay–Saint-Laurent. An interpretation panel will be produced for each of the three sites concerned: the Marais-de-Saint-Fulgence IBA on the north shore of the Rivière Saguenay, the Batture-aux-Alouettes-et-embouchure-du-Saguenay IBA in Baie-Sainte-Catherine and the Baie-des-Rochers IBA in Saint-Siméon, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence estuary. An event organized for the inauguration of the panels at each site will consolidate ties with the local communities and encourage them to become Caretakers of Québec IBAs.

## REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

Since its inception in 2001, the Foundation has granted \$11.78 million in funding to 210 projects with an estimated total value of \$38.26 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 below show the projects funded by the Foundation in each project class since 2001, with the area and type of environment.



Young northern saw-whet owls, Saint-Louis marsh



Schoolgirl with birdhouse, Laterrière marsh



Planting, Parc Nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes

### Grant distribution by class

Project categories	Number of Projects in 2013	Number of Projects since 2001	Amounts Granted to Partners (\$) in 2013	Amounts Granted to Partners (\$) since 2001
Lands and forests	5	57	250,200	4,299,493
Rivers and lakes	2	51	202,200	2,687,177
Wetlands	4	54	180,500	3,201,533
Awareness and education	5	48	127,000	1,594,132
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>759,900*</b>	<b>11,782,335</b>

\* The amount of \$789,900 appearing in the financial statements includes funding for a project to be carried out in 2014 for which the grant agreement was signed before December 31, 2013.



### Protection, restoration and enhancement of lands and forests

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

Period	Area (ha)
2013	384.90
<b>Total since 2001</b>	<b>9,155.75*</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
2013	2	0	2
<b>Total since 2001</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>136*</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)
2013	331.71
<b>Total since 2001</b>	<b>8,452.44*</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.

### Awareness and education

#### Natural Environments Targeted by Foundation Partners' Projects

Period	Number of Projects*	Projects Related to Lands and Forests	Projects Related to Rivers and Lakes	Projects Related to Wetlands
2013	5	3	2	0
<b>Total since 2001</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20</b>

\* A project may involve several types of environment.

Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow



White trillium

### 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 2013, 24 threatened or vulnerable species and 38 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 58 of the 116 plant and animal species designated threatened or vulnerable under this Act (as at May 9, 2013).

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.

### Number of Threatened or Vulnerable Species Targeted by Foundation-Funded Projects since 2001\*

Extirpated community	1
Threatened or vulnerable species	58
Species likely to be designated threatened or vulnerable	151

\* 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.

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. Act adopted by the Québec government in 1989.



Four-toed salamander

### Foundation's contribution to the protection of plant and animal species in 2013

#### THREATENED OR VULNERABLE SPECIES

##### Plants

SPECIES	STATUS	PARTNERS
northern maidenhair fern	vulnerable to harvest	11
wild leek	vulnerable	9, 11
puttyroot	threatened	11
green dragon	threatened	5
Canada wild ginger	vulnerable to harvest	11
two-leaved toothwort	vulnerable to harvest	9
false mermaid weed	vulnerable	9
Canada lily	vulnerable to harvest	9
ostrich fern	vulnerable to harvest	4, 9
downy rattlesnake-plantain	vulnerable	11
bloodroot	vulnerable to harvest	9
white trillium	vulnerable to harvest	9
large-flowered bellwort	vulnerable to harvest	11

##### Birds

SPECIES	STATUS	PARTNERS
golden eagle	vulnerable	1, 3
harlequin duck	vulnerable	2, 6, 7
anatum peregrine falcon	vulnerable	3, 6, 7, 9, 11
Barrow's goldeneye	vulnerable	2, 3, 6, 7
horned grebe	threatened	7
least bittern	vulnerable	1, 5, 9
red-headed woodpecker	threatened	2
pipit plover	threatened	3
bald eagle	vulnerable	2, 3, 7
yellow rail	threatened	3, 7

##### Reptile

SPECIES	STATUS	PARTNER
wood turtle	vulnerable	1

NUMBER OF SPECIES: 24

#### Definitions

Threatened: species whose extirpation is feared  
Vulnerable: species whose survival is precarious, but for which extirpation is not expected  
Vulnerable to harvest: species subject to harvest pressure owing to its commercial value



Pickerel frog

#### Partners in 2013

1. Centre d'interprétation de la nature du lac Boivin
2. Bioparc de la Gaspésie
3. Comité ZIP de la rive nord de l'estuaire
4. Nature-Action Québec (Red Mill bog)
5. Ducks Unlimited Canada
6. Nature Conservancy of Canada – Québec Region
7. Nature Québec
8. Société de gestion environnementale
9. Nature-Action Québec (Île-des-Sœurs)
10. Centre de la Nature du mont Saint-Hilaire
11. Centre d'interprétation du milieu écologique du Haut-Richelieu
12. Nature-Action Québec (Parc régional des Grèves)
13. Services horticoles, Les Pousses urbaines

#### SPECIES LIKELY TO BE DESIGNATED THREATENED OR VULNERABLE

##### Plants

SPECIES	PARTNERS
Canada garlic	9
bulbous bittercress	8
cut-leaved toothwort	9
Appalachian sedge	10, 11
burreed sedge	9
northern long sedge	11
oval-headed sedge	11
shagbark hickory	9, 10, 11
eastern spring beauty	9
showy lady's-slipper	4
bare-stemmed tick-trefoil	10, 11
Walter's barnyard grass	5
downy wildrye	9
licorice bedstraw	11
pale false mannagrass	5
Shreve's iris	5
butternut	9, 10, 11, 12, 13
green arrow arum	5
common pokeweed, var. <i>americana</i>	10
Virginia chain fern	4

##### Birds

SPECIES	PARTNERS
rufa red knot	3, 7
Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow	3, 7
whip-poor-will	10
common nighthawk	1, 3
short-eared owl	3, 6, 7, 10
olive-sided flycatcher	1, 3
Canada warbler	3
rusty blackbird	3
sedge wren	5

##### Mammals

SPECIES	PARTNERS
southern bog lemming	8
silver-haired bat	1, 9
hoary bat	1, 9

##### Reptiles

SPECIES	PARTNERS
ringneck snake	11
Dekay's brown snake	9
milksnake	10, 11
smooth greensnake	4

##### Amphibians

SPECIES	PARTNERS
pickerel frog	10
four-toed salamander	11

NUMBER OF SPECIES: 38

# 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 26, 2014

## Independent auditors' report

### To the Directors

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2013, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets, and cash flows for the year then ended, 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 Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations 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 audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing 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 making those risk assessments, 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, 2013, and the results of its operations, the changes in its net assets, and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

**/s/ KPMG LLP\***

Montréal, Québec  
March 26, 2014

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

## Statements of financial position

In Canadian dollars	As at December 31, 2013	As at December 31, 2012
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash	1,554,219	217,234
Interest receivable	867	200
Contributions receivable from Hydro-Québec	37,400	1,045,071
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>1,592,486</b>	<b>1,262,505</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	14,990	25,668
<b>Net assets</b>		
Subject to internal restrictions for environmental projects	942,503	987,099
Unrestricted	634,993	249,738
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>1,577,496</b>	<b>1,236,837</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,592,486</b>	<b>1,262,505</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	2013	2012
<b>Revenue</b>		
Contributions from a special fund	1,120,491	1,130,502
Donation	78,589	–
Interest income	8,070	6,463
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>1,207,150</b>	<b>1,136,965</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Environmental projects		
Approved during the year	411,294	239,365
Approved during previous years	413,702	763,270
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>824,996</b>	<b>1,002,635</b>
General overhead and project management	41,495	42,554
<b>Total</b>	<b>866,491</b>	<b>1,045,189</b>
<b>Excess of revenue over expenditure</b>	<b>340,659</b>	<b>91,776</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	Subject to internal restrictions for environmental projects	Unrestricted	2013 Total	2012 Total
<b>Balance, beginning of year</b>	987,099	249,738	1,236,837	1,145,061
Excess of revenue over expenditure	(824,996)	1,165,655	340,659	91,776
Internal restrictions for environmental projects approved in 2013	789,900	(789,900)	–	–
Transfer to unrestricted net assets	(9,500)	9,500	–	–
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>942,503</b>	<b>634,993</b>	<b>1,577,496</b>	<b>1,236,837</b>

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

## Statements of cash flows

Years ended December 31

In Canadian dollars	2013	2012
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Excess of revenue over expenditure	340,659	91,776
Change in non-cash working capital items		
Interest receivable	(667)	752
Contributions receivable from Hydro-Québec	1,007,671	(1,001,564)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(10,678)	(12,097)
<b>Net change in cash</b>	<b>1,336,985</b>	<b>(921,133)</b>
<b>Cash, beginning of year</b>	<b>217,234</b>	<b>1,138,367</b>
<b>Cash, end of year</b>	<b>1,554,219</b>	<b>217,234</b>

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

## Notes to financial statements

Years ended December 31, 2013 and 2012

The Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement (the "Foundation") was constituted on January 19, 2001, under Part III of the Québec *Companies Act* and commenced operations 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. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations in Part III of the *CPA Canada Handbook*.

#### a) REVENUE RECOGNITION

The Foundation uses the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Unrestricted contributions and donations 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 financial liabilities at fair value on initial recognition. It subsequently measures all financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

Financial assets and financial 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.

## 2. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### Interest rate risk

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

### Credit risk

The Foundation's cash is held by financial institutions with high-quality credit ratings. As a result, the Foundation considers that these counterparties' risk of non-performance is negligible.

### 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.

## 3. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, the Foundation received a contribution of \$1 million (\$1 million in 2012) from the \$9-million (\$10-million in 2012) special fund reserved for the Foundation by Hydro-Québec and annual interest income of \$120,491 (\$130,502 in 2012) earned on these amounts.

The Foundation incurred administrative overhead expenses totaling \$16,047 (\$17,108 in 2012) 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 2013

### Stella Leney

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

### Michel Bérubé

Manager – Environment  
Direction – Ingénierie de production  
Hydro-Québec Équipement et services partagés

### André Besner

Manager – Environment and Sustainable Development  
Hydro-Québec

### Armand Couture

President – Société Bédelmar Ltée

### 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



Rivière Mistassibi, MRC of Maria-Chapdelaine

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).

Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement  
2<sup>e</sup> étage  
75, boul. René-Lévesque Ouest  
Montréal (Québec)  
H2Z 1A4  
Telephone: 514 289-5384  
Fax: 514 289-2840

Legal Deposit – 2nd quarter 2014  
Library and Archives Canada  
Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec  
ISSN 1708-0045  
ISBN 978-2-550-69856-2  
ISBN 978-2-550-69857-9 (PDF)  
2014G004A – 2013E1654

*Ce document est également publié en français.*  
This is a translation of the original French text.

The photographs in this report are the sole property of the organizations and professional photographers listed below, or of the Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement. None of these photographs may be reproduced without the owner's consent.

[Page 4] *Planting at Parc Nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes*: Comité ZIP de la rive nord de l'estuaire.

[Page 5] *Walking in the woods, Île-des-Sœurs*: Émie Labrecque. *Moose, Saint-Louis marsh*: Paul Messier. *Rivière Bonaventure estuary*: Christian Fraser.

[Page 6] *Pointe Verte*: Mike Dembeck.

[Page 7] *Beach area, Parc Nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes*: Parc Nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes.

[Page 8] *Tree planting, Mont Saint-Grégoire*: CIME Haut-Richelieu. *Contrecoeur woods*: Nature-Action Québec.

[Page 9] *Hiker at Gault Nature Reserve*: Centre de la Nature du mont Saint-Hilaire.

[Page 10] Watermark: *Hikers, Parc riverain de la Sainte-Anne*: Martine Hamel. *Rivière Bonaventure estuary*: Photopleinciel.

[Page 11] *Rivière Sainte-Anne*: Martine Hamel.

[Page 12] *Blue flag, Red Mill bog*: Nature-Action Québec. *Observation tower, Saint-Louis marsh*: Paul Messier. *Walking at Lac Boivin marsh*: Denis Landry.

[Page 13] *Field trip to Laterrière marsh*: EURÉKO!

[Page 14] *Painted turtle*: Pablo Fernandez. *On a nature trail, Île-des-Sœurs*: Émie Labrecque.

[Page 15] *Sumacs, Parc du Bois-des-Pères*: Martine Hamel. *Interpretation panel: Services horticoles, Les Pousses urbaines*: Watermark: *Cardinal*: Jean Caumartin.

[Page 16] *Model of Rivière Saint-Charles watershed*: APEL.

[Page 17] *Semipalmated sandpipers*: Charles-Antoine Drolet. *Rivière Mistassibi*: Société de gestion environnementale.

[Page 18] *Northern saw-whet owls, Saint-Louis marsh*: Marc Cournoyer. *Schoolgirl with birdhouse, Laterrière marsh*: EURÉKO! Watermark: *Magnolia warbler, Saint-Louis marsh*: Francine Ouellet.

[Page 19] *Planting, Parc Nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes*: Comité ZIP de la rive nord de l'estuaire.

[Page 20] *Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow*: Alain Hogue. *White trillium*: Martine Hamel.

[Page 21] *Four-toed salamander*: Martin Ouellet. *Pickrel frog*: Gilles Delisle.

[Page 29 or inside back cover] *Rivière Mistassibi*: Société de gestion environnementale.

[WWW.HYDROQUEBEC.COM/FONDATION-ENVIRONNEMENT](http://WWW.HYDROQUEBEC.COM/FONDATION-ENVIRONNEMENT)

