

Establish a new Habitat Infrastructure Renewal Fund

Canada was one of the first countries in the world to introduce national initiatives for nature conservation by government and non-profit organizations. This history of conservation has led to legacy conservation projects developed in partnership between government and non-profits. Many of these projects have involved conservation infrastructure. While the federal government has made significant investments in infrastructure renewal for Parks Canada and the Canadian Wildlife Service, only modest funding has been made available to non-profit conservation organizations which share the same history of intervention on the landscape to secure conservation gains. The Green Budget Coalition recommends the creation of a fund that would help not-for-profit conservancies who have made interventions on the landscape to advance ecological outcomes and protect natural spaces to reinvest in the conservation infrastructure that has made these gains for nature possible.

Recommended Investment:
\$150 million over four years [ECCC, PC]

Contact

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Establishing an endowment fund (The Canada Conservation Investment Fund) to strengthen the private land conservation sector

Across the country, local and regional land trusts protect hundreds of thousands of hectares of the most endangered landscapes, particularly in southern Canada where nature loss is most acute. Establishing a Canada Conservation Endowment Fund program will provide the necessary infrastructure and funding for land trusts to support a growing sector, diversity, capacity, job creation and retention, land stewardship, and expansion of Canada’s private land conservation programs. Federal funding to expand protected areas is critical to nature conservation, and to uphold the designation of “permanent” protection, perpetual stewardship is imperative.

A Canada Conservation Investment Fund will help ensure the long-term care of Canada’s network of privately conserved areas. The structure of the Fund could be modelled on the successful Canada Cultural Investment Fund.

Recommended Investment:
\$150 million over ten years for an endowment fund that will create a long-term funding stream to strengthen the capacity of local and regional land trusts to care for natural spaces in perpetuity. [ECCC]

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