This Annual Report Card provides highlights of our past year and reports on key milestones as we advance efforts to help support responsible stewardship of our ecosystems.

Our Board

We are grateful to the following individuals who, as our Directors, give generously of their time and expertise to advance LSC’s efforts:

- Rick Anderson, President and Chair of the Board
- David Westworth, Vice Chair
- Jim Gendron, Secretary Treasurer
- Darcie Acton
- Dr. Peter Boxall
- David A. Cheyne
- G. Burn Evans
- Bill Gummer
- Shirley Pickering
- Jason Unger
- Pamela Wight

This past year we welcomed two new members to our Board:

Dr. Peter Boxall, Professor of Environmental and Resource Economics in the Department of Rural Economy, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences at the University of Alberta, and Ms. Darcie Acton, a fund development professional who provides services and support to a variety of charitable and non-profit organizations in northern Alberta.

Our Committees

We are grateful to all the individuals who served on LSC committees. Our work would be incomplete without their commitment, advice and support.

Alberta Stewardship Network Advisory Committee

- Rick Anderson, Committee Chair
- Jim Craig, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Curt Horning, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
- Michelle McKinnon, Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development
- Ryan Parker, Community Steward
- Shirley Pickering, Watershed Stewardship Group Representative
- Tracy Scott, Ducks Unlimited Canada
- Kelsey Spicer-Rawe, Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society
- Donna Trotter, Watershed Stewardship Group Representative
- Jay White, Aquality

Watershed Stewardship Grant Review Committee

- Shirley Pickering, Committee Chair
- Dale Chrapko, Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development
- Jim Craig Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Jeff McCammon, Watershed Stewardship Group Representative
- Mike Murray, Bow River Basin Council
- Sharon Nelson, County of Grande Prairie
- Diana Rung, Watershed Stewardship Group Representative
- Kelsey Spicer-Rawe, Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society
- Doug Thrussell, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development
- Donna Trotter, Watershed Stewardship Group Representative

Our Staff

We may be small as far as organizations go, but our staff contribute in a big way, with everyone playing a key role in the successful development and implementation of our programs and projects. This exceptional team includes:

- Brian E. Ilnicki, Executive Director
- Jenna Curtis, Watershed Stewardship Grant Coordinator
- Kristina Dembinski, Communications Manager
- Dawn Doell, Conservation Land Registry Coordinator
- Amrita Grewal, Program Research Coordinator
- Michelle Riopel, Alberta Stewardship Network Program Coordinator
- Mary Swedberg, Office Administrator

Our Partners

LSC is grateful to our many partners and funders for their support, guidance and insight. We have been fortunate to establish relationships with groups and organizations that share our commitment to supporting healthy ecosystems through responsible land use practices. Without the support of our partners and funders, the work we do to engage, inform and enable people to become better stewards would not be possible.

In addition to our distinguished list of long-time partners, this year LSC also joined forces with Australia’s Natural Decisions Pty Ltd. to continue the testing and evaluation of the INFFER decision support tool in Alberta.

The success of the renewed Stewards in Motion regional events is directly attributed to the support and contributions LSC received from Alberta EcoTrust, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance, Brazeau County, Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance, County of Grande Prairie No. 1, City of Grande Prairie, Mistakes Institute for the Rockies and Mike Unrau Consulting.

“Enabling people and organizations to become better stewards.”

Learn more at www.landstewardship.org

Land Stewardship Centre
REPORT CARD
2012-2013

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Our Programs

As an organization, Land Stewardship Centre has never lost sight of the fact that connecting with land owners and land managers is our primary purpose. All of our core programs are focused on meeting our goals of raising awareness and encouraging actions that address land stewardship issues. Through our core programs we reinforce that commitment to engaging stewards. Here’s what we achieved through some of those core programs this past year.

Green Acreages Guide
Since its launch in early 2012, more than 425 Green Acreages Guide workbooks (almost half of the original print run) have been sold and distributed. As the only resource of its kind in Alberta, news of the Guide is spreading. It appeared in two major magazines this past year, including a mention in the “new and noteworthy” section of the October 2012 issue of Canadian Horse Journal, and a full page article in Volume 4, Issue 1 of Curb magazine, a publication of the City-Region Studies Centre at the University of Alberta. The Alberta Real Estate Foundation, a partner in the Green Acreages Guide program, also developed and distributed an ad promoting the Guide to Realtors and rural property owners, which appeared on websites and in various publications across the province. In addition, over 3500 copies of the introductory booklet, the Green Acreages Guide Primer, were distributed to acreage and recreational property owners through municipalities and stewardship groups across Alberta. The Primer is available at no charge (requests for quantities of 10 or more are subject to shipping charges) and the Workbook is sold at a cost recovery price of $29.95 + GST (shipping included). Email info@landstewardship.org to order your copies today.

Alberta Stewardship Network (ASN)
As part of our continued commitment to support the needs and advance the efforts of the stewardship community, the Alberta Stewardship Network program continued to focus on implementing recommendations from the 2011 Needs Assessment of Alberta’s Stewards. This included scheduled production and distribution of Grassroots News – Inspiring Alberta’s Stewards, and extensive planning and delivery of enhanced, regional Stewards in Motion networking and collaboration events which focused on connecting with municipalities to advance grassroots change.

Watershed Stewardship Grants
The Watershed Stewardship Grant (WSG) Committee reviewed 32 applications from grassroots stewardship groups across the province. Of the 32 submitted proposals, 23 projects within 10 different watersheds received funding. Funding requests for eligible projects totalled $212,252. The total grant funding available was $135,000, all of which was approved for allocation to the selected successful applicants. Total project value, based on in-kind and additional financial support, was estimated to be $754,000 representing a leveraging ratio of greater than five-to-one. The complete 2011 WSG Program Report is available online at www.landstewardship.org/watershed-stewardship-grant-program/.

Green Communities Guide
Conservation Land Registry
Conservation Easement Registry
It’s been business as usual with these three core programs. Originally published in 2009, we continue to receive requests for and distribute copies of the popular Green Communities Guide. Every year we update and expand the databases for both the Conservation Land and Easement Registries (CLR and CER), but this past year, we incorporated enhanced administrative features into CLR, resulting in improved client relations and account management features.

Learn more about Land Stewardship Centre at www.landstewardship.org.

Our Projects

LSC continues to be engaged in important project-based initiatives, several of which involve exploring public policy approaches that will ultimately offer landowners and land managers opportunities to be compensated for the public good realized through the protection and rehabilitation of natural assets on their lands.

INFFER
In 2012, LSC began working with Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development to utilize INFFER as a decision support tool to assist the Bow River Phosphorous Management Plan (BRPMP) Steering Committee in developing a phosphorous management plan. During the course of the project LSC will integrate a variety of information sources into the INFFER framework in order to clearly identify the targeted asset, assess the potential impact of specific programs, estimate the adoption of programming by landowners and land managers, document short and long-term costs for each proposed scenario, and estimate risks. The primary outcome from this detailed assessment will be the development of a baseline Benefit/Cost Index that will be used to compare a variety of program options (scenarios) to assist the Steering Committee, and ultimately policy makers, to prioritize and allocate limited financial and human resources in a cost effective manner.

Stewards in Motion
Building on the framework, history and success of past Stewards in Motion events, an enhanced program was launched in 2012. LSC, in partnership with local municipalities and local Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils (WPACs) hosted two new Stewards in Motion events in Drayton Valley and Grande Prairie. More than 80 people, representing local municipalities, grassroots watershed stewardship groups and WPACs, attended the two events to discuss relevant local stewardship issues, connect with others who play a stewardship role in the community, access current information and expertise on stewardship, and gain insight into stewardship work taking place locally.

WSG Project Mapping
In addition to significant enhancements to the administration, delivery and reporting components of the Watershed Stewardship Grant (WSG) Program, LSC completed a comprehensive GIS analysis and mapping of all WSG projects from 2006-2012. Data collected through this process (projects by year, by geography i.e. watersheds, municipalities and land-use framework regions, etc.) was used to assess and document the expansion of the program throughout north and central Alberta. The WSG project maps are available at landstewardship.org.