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
- Dr. Peter Boxall
- David A. Cheyne
- G. Burn Evans
- Bill Gummer
- Shirley Pickering
- Jason Unger
- Pamela Wight

This past year we said thank you and goodbye to long-time Chair and founding member of LSC, Gordon Kerr, who retired from the Board of Directors. Gordon’s steadfast commitment and contributions will leave a lasting legacy for not only LSC but also the many other conservation and sustainability initiatives and organizations across Alberta and Canada which Gordon has been a part of.

We also express our appreciation for the work and dedication of departing Director Denise Verreault. For nine years, Denise’s environmental sciences expertise and First Nations perspective contributed greatly to the success of LSC as we developed new programs and initiatives for a variety of ecosystems within Alberta.

Our Committees
Our work would be incomplete without and we are grateful for the commitment, advice and support of the following individuals who served on these LSC committees.

Alberta Stewardship Network Advisory Committee
- Rick Anderson, Chair
- Jim Craig
- Curt Horning
- Michelle McInnon
- Ryan Parker
- Shirley Pickering
- Tracy Scott
- Kelsey Spicer-Rawe
- Donna Trottier
- Jay White

Watershed Stewardship Grant Review Committee
- Shirley Pickering, Chair
- Jim Craig
- Dale Chrapko
- Jeff McCammon
- Mike Murray
- Sharon Nelson
- Diana Rung
- Kelsey Spicer-Rawe
- Doug Thrussell
- Donna Trottier

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

This year we welcomed Mary Swedberg to the LSC family as our Office Administrator. With years of experience to her credit, Mary has been quick to put her efficiency, keen sense of organization, records and account management skills to work for LSC. Since her arrival, Mary’s efforts have focused on establishing new and enhanced administrative support functions, ensuring our account management and office continues to run smoothly.

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.

“Enabling people and organizations to become better stewards.”
Learn more at www.landstewardship.org

Land Stewardship Centre
REPORT CARD
2011-2012

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 Programs
All of our core programs are focused on meeting our goals of raising awareness and encouraging action on land stewardship issues. Here’s how things rolled with our programs this past year.

Conservation Land Registry
Version 2.0 of the online Conservation Land Registry (CLR) was launched in October. This new and improved version offers CLR clients an enhanced online search capacity and account management experience, and provides LSC staff with improved administrative functions to better serve clients’ needs. Additional enhancements are planned for the coming year.

Conservation Easement Registry
In partnership with the Alberta Land Use Secretariat, the Conservation Easement Registry (CER) was launched in February. The CER is the only up-to-date and centralized source for Conservation Easements in Alberta, providing users with a quick and easy-to-use tool to assist with land use and conservation planning, delivery and reporting.

Green Communities Guide
Originally published in 2009, LSC continues to receive regular requests for electronic and hard copies of the Green Communities Guide (GCG). The GCG is also being used as a guide and textbook for students in the Urban Conservation and Stewardship course at Lakeland College in Vermilion. LSC plans to review the GCG in the coming year in anticipation of the development of a new and enhanced edition.

Green Acreages Guide
The latest addition to LSC’s suite of core programs, the much anticipated Green Acreages Guide Workbook was launched at the 2012 Agricultural Service Board Conference in late January. Response to the print edition has been extremely positive with more than 30% of initial copies of the Workbook already distributed. The Workbook is being sold at a cost recovery price of $29.95 + GST. Email info@landstewardship.org to order your copy today.

Alberta Stewardship Network (ASN)
ASN efforts are concentrated on engagement and outreach, enhancing project funding opportunities and improving access to online information and resources for grassroots stewardship groups. This past year marked the first full year for ASN as an integrated program of LSC. Following up on the key outcomes from our 2011 Needs Assessment of Alberta’s Stewards, ASN has developed an enhanced web presence including the launch of our online Resources for Stewards page and our quarterly e-newsletter Grassroots News – Inspiring Alberta’s Stewards.

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/.

Our Projects
In addition to our core programs, LSC staff have been engaged in several 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
The Investment Framework for Environmental Resources (INFFER) is a decision making tool for assessing and prioritizing projects to address diverse environmental issues. The main goal of INFFER is to achieve the highest value for environmental and natural resource outcomes that is possible with the available resources. Land Stewardship Centre (LSC) and our partners are working together to bring awareness and knowledge of INFFER to Alberta, and in particular, to key decision makers, land-use planners and program developers, in an effort to grow the capacity for implementing an asset-based approach to natural resource management.

Ecosystem Services Program Review
Working with the Alberta Land Institute at the University of Alberta, LSC assisted in the review of past ecosystem services (ES) programs that have been implemented within Alberta, and specifically the white or settled zone, over the past 25 years. The intent of this project was to clearly illustrate the variety, size and scope of past and current ES programming for the purpose of identifying future opportunities for developing research and policy advice.

Stewardship Directory
This searchable, web-based Directory provides community groups, organizations, businesses and government programs involved in stewardship with an online presence, and the ability to find and connect with each other to share their experiences and lessons learned in stewardship and natural resource management. Users will have a personal login, the ability to create organizational profiles, and manage their account information within the directory database. The new site was launched in April 2012. Check out the Stewardship Directory at www.stewardshipdirectory.com.

Transfer of Development Credits (TDC)
In addition to our ongoing participation on the Beaver Hills Initiative (BHI) TDC Project Team, LSC was engaged to lead landowner focus group sessions in an effort to better understand rural landowner perceptions of a TDC program in the BHI program area. 32 landowners contributed input at three focus groups in communities within the Beaver Hills area. A summary of the landowner focus group report will be made available on the BHI website http://www.beaverhills.ab.ca/ in the coming months.

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