2024 Year in Review

Read on to discover some of the projects that your contributions have helped support through both local and national organizations across Canada.



We extend our sincerest thanks to each one of our donors for your generous support of TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF)! Thanks to your philanthropy, in 2024 TD FEF helped support **532** environmental projects across Canada, including new and existing initiatives. Your contributions directly helped to support the creation and preservation of outdoor classrooms and community gardens, and the revitalization of natural areas and urban green spaces. Through these efforts, community members were able to come together to connect with nature and learn more about waterways, wildlife habitats, and ecosystems.

The generosity of our donors reflects a commitment to supporting nature that spans more than 30 years. In that time, TD FEF has funded over 29,500 projects that have helped people engage with, learn about and care for the outdoors. We could not have done this without your support.

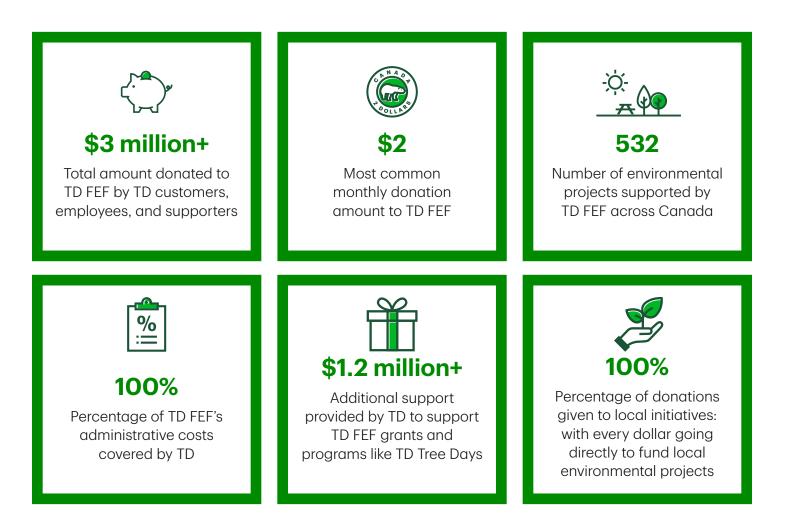
TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

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By the Numbers

Here's what we accomplished together in 2024

TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF) is committed to supporting the goals of The TD Ready <u>Commitment</u>, the Bank's corporate citizenship platform, which is targeting C\$1 billion by 2030 toward community giving. Here's how your contributions added up:



Contributing to Communities in 2024

We appreciate your contributions they help make a positive impact! Your 2024 donations to TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF) helped support 532 local and national projects. These initiatives are promoting environmental education and helping to enhance green spaces in communities across the country. In 2024, your donations helped make this possible:



Total grants \$4,280,105

532 Projects

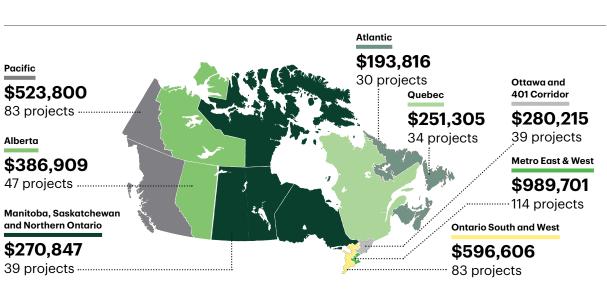
Grants by Region Total amount rounded to the nearest whole dollar.



Pacific

Alberta

\$786,907 63 projects



Your donations at Work: Environmental Education



Your donations helped fund **185** projects with **\$1,409,795** in grants.



Land-based Learning Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park Alberta Region

More than 1,300 students participated in learning activities about the relationship between the Blackfoot People and the land and water. Activities included berry picking and mint gathering hosted by an Indigenous Plant Guide, as well as learning about the ecology of controlled prairie grass burns.

Shoreline Clean-ups Ottawa Riverkeeper Quebec Region

Ottawa Riverkeeper's River School program delivered 10 in-class workshops to 224 students in Gatineau, covering topics such as the impact of plastic pollution and road salt in the Ottawa River watershed, which spans both Ontario and Quebec. The students put that knowledge into action with six shoreline clean-up events.



Nature Play Childreach Centre

Ontario South and West Region

Hiring two facilitators to oversee three weekly nature-based playgroups meant that 538 children and 438 parents regularly met to play and learn outdoors. Grant funds were also directed to Indigenous storyteller visits and supplies such as nets, buckets, and books—all of which supported opportunities to connect to the natural world. "It's a wonderful place to interact with friends and breathe the fresh air. All the group leaders are very knowledgeable, and we have learned so much. My son looks forward to going every week and constantly asks when we are going back."

- Holly L., parent



Interactive Dune Education Biodiversity Conservancy International Ottawa 401 Corridor Region

Biodiversity Conservancy International (BCI), based in Ottawa, conducted its on-site, interactive education program at the Pinhey Sand Dunes to promote the conservation of this rare and recently restored prehistoric inland sand dune habitat in Canada's Capital. BCI has hosted

more than 15 workshops, engaging approximately 1,000 participants from schools, youth organizations, and the public.

Your donations at Work: Parks & Green Spaces



Your donations helped fund **154** green spaces with **\$1,463,042** in grants.

Improving Water Clarity Red River Basin Commission

Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Northern Ontario Region

To help restore the ecological balance of a portion of one of North America's largest coastal freshwater marshes, biodegradable baffle structures were built in a marshy area of a local lake that receives up to 50% of the flow of the Red River.



The baffle structures help trap river sediment, and provide shelter, reducing water depth and enhancing conditions for native plant growth in the marsh.



Joining Art and Community Ociciwan Contemporary Art Collective Alberta Region

Edmonton's Butterfly and Medicine Garden, known as kamâmak nihtâwikihcikan, received funding for workshops and other community events. Drawn by plants indigenous to the Americas, more than 500 people visited this green space, which was inspired by a late Mi'kmag artist.

Elder talks, hide-tanning tutorials, planting parties, and plant-themed beading workshops were attended by 120 people.

Connecting to Nature Be the Change Earth Alliance *Pacific Region*

More than 750 young people cleared 400 kg of waste from local green spaces during five clean-up events. The organization also piloted three Climate Joy and Imagination workshops where students self-reported a 29% connection to nature before the workshop, with their level of connection rising to 76% after the workshop.



Removing Invasive Plants CANOPÉE Le réseau des bois de Laval *Quebec Region*

In order to help preserve the biodiversity of the Sainte-Dorothée Forest, 110 buckthorns, an invasive species, were cut down. In addition, the team distributed leaflets to the residents neighbouring the forest and offered an information session to volunteers, who then helped plant 30 native shrubs and set up 23 wildlife shelters using cut buckthorn branches to complete the project. "The work was well coordinated and efficient. What could be better for a citizen of Laval than to discover an organization that takes care of our woodlands"

- Jacques M., volunteer

Your donations at Work: Parks & Green Spaces (continued)



Garden Caretaking The Sierra Club of Canada

Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Northern Ontario Region

A public waterfront trail in Winnipeg gained a 600-square-foot wildflower garden filled with native prairie plants, providing pollinator-friendly food and habitat. Funding for garden caretakers helped ensure the garden continued to thrive all season.

Active Stewardship Federation of Ontario Naturalists

Ottawa 401 Corridor Region

Ontario Nature worked with an elementary school class of 29 children to remove invasive garlic mustard plants from Lost Bay Nature Reserve, a local protected area in the Frontenac Arch. The students took part in a hike to find salamanders in an area where garlic mustard was removed in the past—a concrete way to show the positive effects of stewardship efforts.





Planting Native Trees Northwood Care Halifax Atlantic Region

As part of the Bedford Campus Biome Project, six native Acadian tree species were planted to help increase biodiversity and provide shade, along with 12 native flowering shrubs to create food and habitat for pollinators. This local park also serves as a community gathering space.

Restoring Urban Wildlife Habitat City of Coquitlam Pacific Region

One hundred and forty community volunteers of all ages came together to plant 82 trees and 552 shrubs aimed at expanding wildlife habitat and helping to outcompete invasive plant species.



Your donations at Work: Community Gardens



Your donations helped fund **52** gardens with **\$447,719** in grants.

Intergenerational Learning Fort McKay Metis Nation

Alberta Region

Youth and community members collaborated to update a community garden with smooth pathways and additional seating to help make it more accessible for Elders who use mobility aids. New native plantings provide pollinatorfriendly food as well as opportunities for sharing traditional knowledge. "This collaboration strengthened connections between generations while instilling a deeper appreciation for nature and traditional knowledge."

- Deanna S., Community Services Manager



Sharing Seeds Pickering Public Library Metro East Region

By purchasing and distributing 7,500 seed packages featuring 150 different types of seeds, and offering workshops about topics like sustainable seed saving, the Seed Library reached over 560 community members interested in plants and gardening.

Nourishing Community Municipalité du Petit-Saguenay Quebec Region

Nearly 100 volunteers worked together to create a "food forest" of trees, shrubs, and edible plants. The project focused on education and intergenerational exchange, with signs identifying fruits, flowers, and herbs on site. Participants were taught about planting and



maintaining the site while also tasting the edible plants growing there.



A Relaxing Retreat Hutton House

Ontario South and West Region

An organization that works with 1,200 adults with disabilities added a Helping Garden. Created with recycled building materials, this accessible garden features plants selected to foster a calming environment for reflection.

Your donations at Work: Citizen Science



Your donations helped fund **44** initiatives with **\$322,482** in grants.

Monitoring Wildlife High Park Nature Centre

Metro East and West Region

A variety of citizen science projects drew more than 200 participants to engage in 700 hours of nature education and stewardship opportunities in Toronto's High Park. Projects included observing diverse bee species through the Wild Bee Club and



counting bird populations for the global Great Backyard Bird Count.



Tracking Moths The Friends of Pinery Park

Ontario South and West Region

A provincial park is now home to a new moth monitoring station. Designed to naturally attract moths at night, the "moth station" provides an opportunity for visitors to see moths up close and contribute information to a scientific database that tracks moth populations and behaviours.

Observing Loons Birds Canada

Quebec Region

The Canadian Lakes Loon Survey delivered by Birds Canada in partnership with Québec Oiseaux engaged 116 citizen scientist volunteers to observe Common Loons and their chicks in Quebec, gathering valuable data about the population and the environmental issues they face. "This enriching experience allowed me to learn more about loons and contemplate their environment."

- Volunteer

Checking Water Quality A Rocha Canada Pacific Region

More than 340 people learned how to survey local creeks and gather data that helps the City of Surrey grow community awareness about the health of waterways. Through six on-the-ground surveys, participants tested water quality, and monitored aquatic life, including salmon.



Your donations at Work: **Schools**



Your donations helped fund initiatives with \$497.634



Growing Food at School Port Elgin Regional School Atlantic Region

One hundred elementary students spent an hour every school day on gardening projects where they planned, planted, harvested, and preserved the produce that grew in their greenhouse and outdoor garden—a particularly important asset in a rural community that does not have a grocery store.

Hands-on Learning **Charlie Lake Elementary** Pacific Region

At the Charlie Lake Community Garden, 27 sixth grade students constructed two raised garden beds, planted sunflowers to support bees and planted and harvested a variety of vegetables. Hands-on learning activities focused on agricultural practices and the natural world, including donning bee suits to get a closer look at the existing on-site beehive.



Gear for Gardening Angrignon School

Quebec Region

Students and staff from a local school and hospital worked together to build a community garden that included indoor areen houses, solar liahts, and gardening supplies. The program taught students how food and plants grow, while aiming to develop social skills such as leadership, teamwork, and patience. Spending time outdoors was also intended to support the participants' mental health.¹

"Tending to the garden with some children as part of their therapeutic process was a positive experience! I could observe the calming effect of being in contact with soil and plants, and the care they gave to the garden."

- Marilena C., psychologist



Building Outdoor Classrooms Buena Vista Elementary School

Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Northern Ontario Region

Two new outdoor classrooms were constructed for a Saskatoon school with a nature-based learning philosophy. Planting 10 trees and 27 shrubs, and using pea gravel paths and large boulders, created zones for learning time and physical activity for the school's 350 students.

1 https://www.apa.org/monitor/2020/04/nurtured-nature https://cpa.ca/psychology-works-fact-sheet-benefits-of-nature-exposure/ https://mcpress.mayoclinic.org/mental-health/the-mental-health-benefits-of-nature-spending-time-outdoors-to-refresh-your-mind/ https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/news/hsph-in-the-news/time-spent-in-nature-can-boost-physical-and-mental-well-being/