2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

It has been a privilege to serve my first year as President of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. I am continually learning and am immensely embody the Society's mission. This year, we were proud of the progress we have made in 2023 The Society's commitment to delivering worldclass programming with national reach and impact has remained unwavering. We continue to focus on promoting geographic literacy, environmental stewardship and the rich tapestry of Canada's landscapes and cultures.

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the June a novel public exhibition on the challenges and opportunities of deep ocean exploration, supported by dynamic new learning resources on ocean and freshwater developed by the team at Canadian Geographic Education. Those same resources were Conservation, Jonathan Baillie. showcased at dozens of ocean-themed events across the country, most notably at the Fifth International Marine Protected Areas Conference (IMPAC5), held in Vancouver in March.

Also in March, I was delighted to speak at the opening of EXPLORE, an exhibition of RCGS Fellow Chris Cran's intriguing portraits of explorers past and present at the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies in Banff. Events like these and our wellattended Can Geo Talks in Ottawa and Calgary help to introduce new audiences to the mission and values of the Society and prove that geography remains an invaluable lens through which to understand our country and ourselves.

pleased to designate eleven deserving individuals as Honorary Fellows: His Excellency Whit Fraser; the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada; His Excellency Alfredo Martínez Serrano, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain to Canada; the Honourable Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Labour and the Minister of Seniors; undersea explorer and film director James Cameron; marine archaeologist Mensun Bound; Montreal businessman and launch of PRESSURE: James Cameron Into the Abyss, philanthropist George Lengvari Jr.; Executive Director of Avatar Alliance, Maria Wilhelm; physician and former Minister of Mental Health and Addiction, Dr. Carolyn Bennett; former public relations executive Nona Heaslip; and CEO of On the Edge

Each year, the Society can choose to bestow

Honorary Fellowship upon certain individuals who

Finally, I am excited to continue discussions started this year on the Society's centennial, which is now just five short years away. I extend my sincere appreciation to all the Governors, Fellows, partners, contributors and donors who have shared their ideas for how we can celebrate this incredible milestone and use it as a springboard into a vibrant second century for the Society.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, congratulations to the entire RCGS staff for another excellent year.

Hon, Lois Mitchell,

CEO'S LETTER

Geographical Society watched in amazement as a giant crane eased the 22-ton, neon-green DEEPSEA CHALLENGER submersible off a flatbed truck and into the Alex Trebek Theatre at 50 Sussex Drive. It saw more than 15,000 people visit PRESSURE: James Cameron Into the Abyss and catapulted the Society into the national spotlight. Because of public demand, that exhibit has now been extended until Spring 2024.

EXPLORE series of portraits was wrapping up its Rockies in Banff, Alta. EXPLORE attracted some 5,000 people to view Cran's remarkable collection of portraits of RCGS Fellows, all of whom are notable explorers and some of whom have changed our understanding of the country and the world. Think Canada's physical and human geography and the need full house at Scotiabank Arena!

Meanwhile, we continue to deliver exceptional programming in support of our mission to make Canada better known. Canadian Geographic Education's membership has grown to 27,000 educators from every province and territory, and we have seen tremendous uptake of programs designed for the 21st century classroom, as well as professional development opportunities like the annual virtual

teacher conference. Traffic to cangeo.ca has grown by five per cent year-over-year since the launch of our new design in spring 2022, reflecting our concerted and ongoing efforts to secure the long-term sustainability of the Canadian Geographic brand in

I am especially proud of the Society's leading role in convening events and conversations of national significance. As an example, on Sept. 30, 2022, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, we revealed our interactive map of unmarked graves and burial sites associated with former Indian Residential Murray. And on July 18, we hosted an inspiring dialogue on mentorship and leadership, streamed live on CTV, between James Cameron and his lifelong friend and mentor, Dr. Joe MacInnis. That same day, we were honoured to celebrate Dr. MacInnis'

making a greater impact in support of our mission than at any other point in our history, and we are now in the run up to 2029 and the Society's 100th birthday. The process of imagining the future RCGS

John Geiger

AWARDS

To recognize outstanding achievement in the fields of geography, education, science and exploration, and for volunteering to assist the Society, the following awards were given in 2023 to individuals who have made a special impact.



RT. HON. VINCENT MASSEY MEDAL Awarded to Dr. Ellsworth LeDrew, geographer, climatologist and remote sensing specialist. Dr. LeDrew has made major contributions to the understanding of the changing climate in the Arctic and has spearheaded an Arctic data management system that is available to both scientists



GOLD MEDAL Presented to James Cameron, Canadian filmmaker (awarded in 2010); awarded to Chief Wilton Littlechild, a Canadian lawyer and former Grand Chief of the Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations and Member



CHARLES CAMSELL MEDAL Awarded to **Anthony Hendrie**, for his generous contributions to and ongoing support of the Society and its programs, and to **Mary Jane Starr** for her leadership in geographic education, support of programs and mentorship of the Canadian Geographic LAWRENCE J. BURPEE MEDAL Awarded to David McKay, Presiden



SIR CHRISTOPHER ONDAATJE MEDAL FOR EXPLORATION

Awarded to Ray Zahab, Canadian longdistance runner and public speaker, and

and CEO of RBC, and to Paul Nicklen,

Canadian photographer, filmmake



MARTIN BERGMANN MEDAL FOR EXCELLENCE IN ARCTIC LEADERSHIP Awarded to **Dr. Jackie Dawson**, professor in Human and Policy Dimensions of Climate Change at the University of Ottawa.



CAPT. JOSEPH-ELZÉAR BERNIER MEDAL Awarded to Loreena McKennitt, Canadian singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist and to **Alfred McLaren**, retired Captain of the US Navy and former President of the Explorers Club. LOUIE KAMOOKAK MEDAL

Awarded to Roy MacGregor, author, columnist



ALEX TREBEK MEDAL FOR GEOGRAPHIC LITERACY Awarded to Esri Canada K-12 Education Group (Jean Tong, Arabelle Sauvé, Susie Saliola, and Angela Alexander), an education and research group that develops teaching and learning resources to promote spatial understanding at all levels of Canadian education.



GILLES GAGNIER MEDAL FOR INNOVATION IN GEOGRAPHIC EDUCATION Awarded to Wade Leonard, a geograph and science teacher who developed and nplemented the curriculum for "Introduction" to Spatial Technologies" using drone technology in the 'Above and Beyond' course.

indscape to deliver on the Society's mission at the

nighest possible level. Based on the list of executive

Committee unanimously chose an excellent candidate

whose nomination will be presented to the College of

Fellows for election at the Annual General Meeting. The

abilities and demonstrated commitment to advance the

ission of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society.

University (Reimagining a northern housing system: A

Major of the University of Quebec (Cartographie éco-

géomorphologique côtière au Nunavik : Vers des plans

and Justine Ammendolia of Dalhousie University (Let's

clear the air: Examining the prevalence of atmospheric

plastics around Sable Island, Nova Scotia). Finally, the

Winkler from Prospect, N.S. (Exploring the geography of

Independent Research Grant was awarded to Nicolas

[losing] coastal access in Nova Scotia)

de gestion des risques environnementaux mieux adaptés)

case study of the partnership between the K'asho Got'ine

Housing Society and Housing Northwest Territories), Julie

amended candidate has the requisite experience

abilities and experience Governors should bring to the

Board, drawn up in 2020 as a guide to Board renewal, the

COLLEGE OF FELLOWS

The College of Fellows is the voting body of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. The Annual General Meeting is a meeting of this body, at which Canada better known to Canadians and to the the Fellows receive and approve reports by the President, Treasurer and Auditors. On this occasion, the Fellows also elect the Officers, Governors and Fellows of the Society.

In light of these essential responsibilities, the College of Fellows should be composed

of individuals both interested in the Society and willing to contribute to its mandate "to make world." Only Fellows of the Society may bring forward nominations for the College of Fellows In 2023, the Fellows Committee is pleased to recommend 62 individuals for election to the College of Fellows.

ADVANCEMENT

From breathtaking expeditions to the tops of Canada's tallest mountains to groundbreaking research about wildlife populations, donations from our supporters ensure that the Royal Canadian Geographical Society can fund expedition and research grants that enhance our appreciation and understanding of the physical, environmental, and cultural geography of Canada — and that's just the tip of the iceberg. Over the past five years, the RCGS has experienced year-over-year growth in the number of Canadian donors that want to support Canadian Geographic storytellers as they peer at fossils in the Ottawa Valley to understand past climate change, or race across Nunavut with a traditional Inuit dog team. FY22-23 saw support for the Society's editorial work grow in the form of one-time and monthly donations, allowing us to send more writers and photographers into the field to report stories that inform, inspire, and engage readers in important conversations about our country.

Our donors, partners, members and Fellows are also supporting the growth of Canadian Geographic Education as they develop new classroom-based programs, curriculum-linked resources and lesson plans that help students put current events into context, pursue new lines of geographical inquiry, and prepare for exciting careers in a wide variety of fields.

Once again in 2023, the Society received critical funding in the form of major gift donations that support our transition to a data-driven organization. And, we are thrilled by the continued growth of our Giving Tuesday campaign, annual appeals, and Polar Plunge peer-to-peer fundraising event, all of which support the Society's most in-demand programming.

REBEK INITIATIVE

In 2022/2023, the Trebek Initiative awarded 13 grants and distributed over \$500,000 in funding. Among the recipients were Yvonne Drebert, a filmmaker who is using ROVs to reveal the impacts of invasive guagga mussels on the Great Lakes; Zenon Czenze, a scientist studying the direct effects of global heating and heatwaves on temperate zone bats: and Brian Timmer, a researcher

who is exploring 50 years of change to critical nearshore habitat in the Salish Sea. Additionally, we launched our five-part grantee development program, which includes mentorship placements, networking events, opportunities to present grant work both virtually and in person, and access to our impact storytelling fund and coaching resources



HONORARY OFFICERS

PATRON

VICE-PATRONS

Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Roberta Bondar, O.C., O.Ont. C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., O.Q., C.D. Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada Arthur E. Collin

Sir Christopher Ondaatje, O.C., C.B.E. Lord Martin Rees, O.M. Hon. Margaret M. Thom, O.N.W.T.

HONORARY PRESIDENT Chief Perry Bellegarde, S.O.M.

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS Pierre Camu, O.C. Wade Davis, C.M. Joseph MacInnis, C.M., O.Ont. Denis A. St-Onge, O.C.

EXPLORERS-IN-RESIDENCE Emily Choy, Jill Heinerth, George Kourounis, Mylène Paquette, Mario Rigby, Adam Shoalts (Westaway Explorer-in-Residence), Ray Zahab

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PRESIDENT Hon. Lois Mitchell, C.M., A.O.E., Calgary

VICE-PRESIDENTS Joseph Frey, C.D., Toronto Connie Wyatt Anderson, The Pas, Man.

SECRETARY Carl Gauthier, M.M.M., C.D., Ottawa

TREASURER Jim Carter, CPA, Lethbridge, Alta.

Gavin Fitch, K.C., Calgary

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Andrew Pritchard, Ottawa GOVERNORS Janis Field, Toronto Mark Gallop, Trois-Ruisseaux, N.B. Nellie Kusugak, O.Nu., Rankin Inlet Akaash Maharaj, Ottawa Kathryn McCain, Toronto Christopher P. McCreery, M.V.O., Halifax Antoine Normandin, Ottawa

COUNSEL

SOCIETY COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEES

ADVANCEMENT Ted Meighen (INTERIM CHAIR), Janis Field, Louise Levitt, Kathryn McCain, Andrya Schulte, Steve Thomas

AUDIT COMMITTEE Jim Carter, Gavin Fitch

John Iacozza (CHAIR), Dianne Draper, Alison Gill, Christopher McCreery, Wayne Pollard

CAN GEO EDUCATION Paul VanZant (CHAIR), Michel Emery, Steve Dagar, Tesa Fiddler (INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES) Ewan Geddes, Christy Harrick, Jack Headley, Paula Huddy-Zubkowski, Rakshin Kandola, Jennifer Leduc, Anne Mansfield (post-secondary education REPRESENTATIVE), Kelley McClinchey (CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF GEOGRAPHERS REPRESENTATIVE), Tyrone Power, Gabrielle Rogers, Sandy Welbergen, Connie Wyatt Anderson (RCGS

CGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Bruce Amos, Nicolas Jimenez, Carman Joynt, Doug Patriquin COMPENSATION COMMITTEE Hon. Lois Mitchell (CHAIR), Joseph Frey, Connie Wyatt

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE The Hon. Lois Mitchell (CHAIR), Jim Carter, Joseph Frey, Carl Gauthier, Connie Wyatt Anderson

EXPEDITIONS Zac Robinson (CHAIR), TA Loeffler (VICE-CHAIR), John Pollack (PAST CHAIR), Jean Marie Beaulieu, Jill Heinerth, Priidu Juurand, Helen Sovdat

FELLOWS COMMITTEE Joseph Frey (CHAIR), Antoine Normandin (VICE-CHAIR), Brad Faught, John Pollack, Lisa Tomas, Connie Wyatt Anderson NOMINATING COMMITTEE Brian Hodgson (CHAIR), Brad Faught, Carl Gauthier, Janis Field

FINANCE COMMITTEE Jim Carter (CHAIR), Bruce Amos, Allen Clarke, Mark Gallop, Nicolas Jimenez, Carman Joynt

POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE Vacant (CHAIR), Jim Carter, Gavin Fitch, Joseph Frey, Brian Hodgson, John Iacozza, Hon. Lois Mitchell, Lynn Moorman, Zac Robinson, Paul VanZant

RESEARCH GRANTS Lynn Moorman (CHAIR), Pat Maher (VICE-CHAIR), Michelle Chaput, Janis Dale, Christine Duverger-Harrison, Leslie Gratton, Greg Halset

OTHER COMMITTEES

BY-LAWS Gavin Fitch (CHAIR), Christopher McCreery, Andrew Pritchard (EX-OFFICIO)

Anderson, Carl Gauthier, Jim Carter

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE Akaash Marahaj (снаів), Janis Field, Connie Wyatt Anderson

RCGS & CGE LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND PRESIDENT John Geiger, C.M.

vice-president, operations and publisher Nathalie Cuerrier VICE-PRESIDENT, PHILANTHROPY Sarah Legault

development associate Norman Osman VICE-PRESIDENT, FACILITIES Mike Elstor

BUILDING CARETAKER Mike Marshall SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

VICE-PRESIDENT, LEARNING AND RECONCILIATION Charlene Bearhead DIRECTOR, SOCIETY PROGRAMS Sandy Couto NATIONAL DIRECTOR, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT Aran O'Carroll

national director, travel and partnerships Catherine Lawton director, special projects Meredith Brown VICE-PRESIDENT, STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND EXECUTIVE PRODU CANADIAN GEOGRAPHIC FILMS TIM JOYCE

VICE PRESIDENT, COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING Rosemary Thompson DIRECTOR, DIGITAL AND VIDEO Andrew Lovesey VIDEO CONTENT PRODUCER Daniel Arian

SOCIAL MEDIA SPECIALIST Kendra Thompson

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE Jean Mignault ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, FINANCE Samuel St Jacques accounts payable/accounts receivable clerk Lydia Blackman John Hovland

PROJECT MANAGER Danica Mohns PROJECT COORDINATOR Keegan Hoban EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT Sandra Smith ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Darlene Pelletier

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND EDUCATION Michelle Chaput MANAGER, EDUCATION PROGRAMS Sara Black editor and social media specialist Tanya Kirnishni

EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR Eric Nadeau, Mitchell Taylor EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Alexandra Pope

MANAGING EDITOR Sarah Brown SENIOR EDITOR Michela Rosano Associate Editor Abi Hayward ASSISTANT EDITOR Thomas Lundy DIGITAL CONTENT EDITOR Madigan Cotterill

DIRECTOR, BRAND AND CREATIVE Javier Frutos CARTOGRAPHER Chris Brackley GRAPHIC DESIGNERS Christy Hutton, Edward Swan, Iza Valle

PHOTOGRAPHERS-IN-RESIDENCE Scott Forsyth, Daisy Gilardini, Michelle Valberg

On May 24, 2023, staff of the Royal Canadian was a suitably awe-inspiring kickoff to a summer that a post-print world.

At the same time, a major exhibition of Chris Cran's two-month run at the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Schools alongside Special Interlocutor Kimberly about it: two major exhibits in two different regions of remarkable career with a cocktail reception attended Canada, both inspiring interest in and knowledge of by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and family. to protect the planet, attracting an audience equal to a lt is a remarkable time for the Society. We are

is only just beginning!

Chief Executive Officer



The Nominating Committee approved a call to Fellows for nominations and met on September 6 and October 3, 2023. As is the usual practice during the meetings, th Committee reviewed the Society's specific leadership and governance needs and carefully assessed new and

strengthening of the Board of Governors as it navigates a challenging national and international non-profit

RESEARCH

In 2023, the Research Grants Committee awarded six applicants with \$30,000 in funding. The James Bourque Northern Doctoral Scholarship was awarded to Tabatha Rahman of Laval University (ice-wedge distribution development, and influence on landscape evolution in the Barrens of the Hudson Bay Lowlands, northern Manitoba) and the James Maxwell Human Geography Scholarship was awarded to Sarah-Anne Thompson of the University of Guelph (Kitchen table methodologies Exploring how infrastructure deficits shape communit based research activities in the Canadian Arctic). Additionally, the Committee awarded graduate research

grants to three students: Abigale Coad of Memorial

EXPEDITIONS GRANTS

In 2023, the Expedition Grants Committee supported eight grantees with \$50,000 in funding. The Expedition of the Year grant went to Samuel Lalande-Markon, who sought to complete the first human-powered crossing of Quebec via cycling and skis. Major grants were also awarded to Kathleen Graham (Return to Close to the Edge), Nathalie

RCGS SPEAKERS

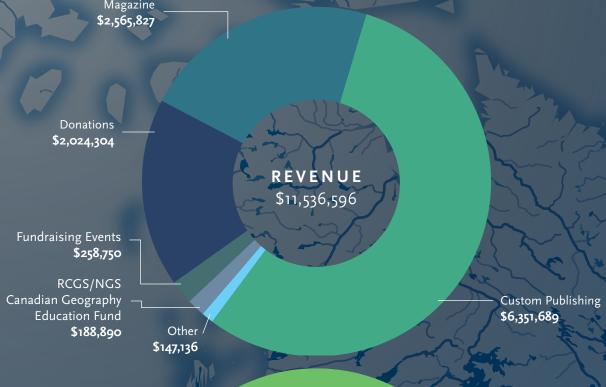
In 2022/2023, we began laying the foundation for RCGS Speakers, an internal speakers bureau representing the best and the brightest in the fields of geography, science and storytelling. We onboarded 12 talented speakers from across the country who provide diverse perspectives and a wealth of expertise across disciplines. They touch on themes of climate change, reconciliation, leadership,

Lasselin (Impact Manicouagan), Shira Biner (Exploratory Climbing Coronation Glacier), David Greene (Akilineq Canoe Expedition), Matteo Agnoloni (The Waddingt Loop), Kayla Martin (The Oliver Mowat) and Marie-France L'Ecuyer (Project Uapishka).

resiliency, environmental justice, adventure, and diversity and inclusion. Not only does RCGS Speakers provide a platform for brilliant storytellers within our network, but with a portion of revenue being reinvested back into Society programs, we're also developing the next generation of Canadian and Indigenous geographers, scientists and storytellers.

JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023

Full audited financial statements will be available at rcgs.org after the Annual General Meeting of the College of Fellows





\$127,341













EDITORIAL

Canadian Geographic continues its 93-year tradition of producing high-quality, independent, fact-checked journalism on the people, cultures, lands, water and wildlife of Canada, accompanied by spectacular photography and detailed original cartography. Topics covered in depth in our 2023 issues ranged from new threats to the iconic loon

to aquaculture on the East Coast to our enduring fascination with the long-extinct woolly mammoth We continue to make improvements to cangeo.ca to achieve our organizational goals and enhance the user experience and have seen traffic to the site increase by five per cent year over year.

TRAVEL PARTNERSHIPS

Canadian Geographic Adventures, a designated offering small-group, guided travel experiences, was successfully launched in April 2022. Over the last 18 months, guests have explored nine Canadian provinces and territories and four international destinations, accompanied by RCGS Travel Ambassadors. Outstanding experiences included cultural learning and immersion with the Klahoose Nation in B.C.'s Desolation Sound at Klahoose Wilderness Resort, small ship expedition cruising in Haida Gwaii and the Great the luxurious Queen Elizabeth as part of Cunard's Bear Rainforest with Maple Leaf Adventures, and picture-perfect moments in the High Arctic and Newfoundland with Adventure Canada, Great Canadian Trails and Ocean Quest Adventures. Adventurous guests rafted the Firth and Nahanni Rivers with Nahanni River Adventures and rode into the breathtaking Allenby Pass with Banff Trail Riders, while eager birders checked whooping cranes and semipalmated sandpipers off their lists on excursions in Saskatchewan and the Bay of Fundy with Eagle-Eye Tours. Farther afield, Exodus Travels led experiences in Peru, Egypt, Morocco and Kenya focused on culture, history and photography. The Canadian Geographic Adventures lineup for 2024 boasts a wide range of travel opportunities across Canada and around the

world, with RCGS Ambassadors strategically placed collection of outstanding Canadian travel operators to provide expert insight into the regions travelled. Each guest receives a Canadian Geographic welcome package, and a portion of every booking is provided to the Royal Canadian Geographical Society to further our impactful programming.

> Cunard was announced as the official luxury cruise partner of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society at the 2022 College of Fellows Annual Dinner. This summer, RCGS Speakers were welcomed on board Insights enrichment program for the Alaska season. Voyages started and finished in Vancouver and transited north up the B.C. coast to explore the fjords and glaciers of this spectacular region. RCGS Speakers shared stories of adventure, exploration, science, and the wonders of the natural world. The summer 2024 Alaska RCGS Speakers series commences June 11 and operates through to September 19, 2024.

Aligned in the mandate to make Canada better known to Canadians and to the world, Canadian Geographic continues to work alongside Destination Canada to further research and share national progress in regenerative tourism practices.

CANADIAN GEOGRAPHIC EDUCATION

Canadian Geographic Education's membership has surpassed 27,000 educators from across Canada, and our newsletters and programs are more popular than ever before, proving that geographic education and access to top-tier resources that support geographic literacy remain important to Canadian educators.

Canadian Geographic Challenge

On June 5, 2023, the 28th year of the Canadian Geographic Challenge concluded with a fun and xciting virtual National Final, hosted by RCGS Fellow Christian Stenner and broadcast from the Alex Trebek Theatre at 50 Sussex. Congratulations to Grade 10 student Pavlos Constas from London Central Secondary School, who won first place in the Challenge. In the senior-level division, Xavier Spano, Matthew Stasiw, Brayden Zhang and Julian Bal, accompanied by team leaders Janet Ruest and Paul VanZant, participated in the 19th International Geography Olympiad in Bandung, Indonesia in August 2023, bringing home one silver and two bronze medals.

Annual Summer Conference for Educators

The theme of our third annual virtual conference was Why geography matters: Lessons from a changing planet. This was the most attended out of the three conferences since the program's inauguration in 2021. Keynote speakers were George Kourounis, who spoke about driving students' sense of wonder about the world around them, and Mario Rigby, who used his experience walking across Africa to inspire educators to go farther in their learning journeys. Educators participated from all grade levels (Pre-kindergarten, K-12 and post-secondary), and from all 13 provinces and territories. On average, attendees scored their experience as a 9/10.

Programs

Three of our most popular programs included #ExploreCan, the Cross Canada Virtual Road Trip, and Adopt a Ship. These programs connected thousands of elementary and secondary students from across Canada with experts in geography and cultural and environmental heritage, conservation and eco-action, and maritime science and careers.

The success of these programs has spawned their renewal as well as a new student engagement program called Marine Month, which aims to make the maritime industry better known to students with an interest in all things marine.

Giant Floor Maps

The demand for giant floor maps is ever-increasing, Released this year were the Ocean, Freshwater, and Us and Great Canadian Electricity Giant Floor Maps. pment are the following maps: Canada's National Capital Commission, Parks Canada, the Royal Canadian Air Force, and Biinaagami: Our shared responsibility to the Great Lakes.

The extension of the PRESSURE: James Cameron Into the Abyss exhibit at 50 Sussex provided the perfect opportunity to host classes from the National Capital Region as part of our GeoSchool program. Hundreds of students engaged with the Ocean, Freshwater, and Us giant floor map and augmented reality experience, and passed through the exhibit, learning about the importance of a strong and respectful commitment to protect Canadian waters.

Conferences

Nothing compares to word-of-mouth marketing and in-person events to spur excitement about Can Geo Education's programs and resources. Our staff had the pleasure of presenting at a number of conferences this past year, notably IMPAC5 (International Marine Protected Areas Congress), COP15 (UN Biodiversity Conference), OAGEE (Ontario Association of Geographic and Environmental Education), NIERNG (National Indigenous Education and Reconciliation Network Gathering), NHEM (National History Educators' Meeting), and the NTC (National Trust

The staff of Can Geo Education extend sincere thanks to the members of the Executive Committee, all sponsors, donors, and partners, and educator members from across the country for their continued support.



















BASECAMP (FORMERLY CUSTOM PUBLISHING)

As the Society prepares to celebrate its centennial and imagines its next 100 years, FY22-23 saw the introduction of a new identity for our custom publishing efforts. BASECAMP builds upon our proven tradition of engaging a diversity of funders and partnerships to support meaningful work

DEPARTMENT OF CANADIAN HERITAGE — MULTIPLE PROJECTS

CGE worked with the Department of Canadian itage on a number of projects, including:

- King Charles and Canada, which marked the May 6 Coronation of King Charles III through feature stories in Canadian on, educational lesson plans, and three GeoMinutes.
- Placing the Pandemic in Perspective, which collected and shared Canadians' experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic and explored how those experiences were shaped by place.
- Canada Commemorates 2022, once again celebrating all of Canadian Heritage's Anniversaries of Significance across our education, publishing and video streams.

VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA AND CANADIAN HERITAGE — RCAF 100

For nearly a century, the Royal Canadian Air Force has epitomized courage, sacrifice and service. This two-year project builds momentum around 2024 as a once-in-aifetime opportunity to celebrate the RCAF. Project components include a feature-length documentary film, a commemorative website, a giant floor map, lesson plans, and six

MULTIPLE PARTNERS — LIVE NET ZERO Live Net Zero is a new program aimed at helping Canadian households reduce their greenhouse gas emissions through home upgrades and practical lifestyle changes. With \$825,000 in funding from Shell, Scotiabank and Hydro One, the first year of the program followed five Canadian families as they navigated a series of challenges, ultimately reducing their annual GHG emissions by 40.2 per cent. The program secured \$925,000 and recruited eight families for its second year, launched this

MULTIPLE PARTNERS — **BIINAAGAMI: OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY TO THE GREAT LAKES** The Society continued to collaborate with a number of organizations on a program to engage and educate Canadians about the importance of the Great Lakes and encourage advocacy on their behalf. nsored by RBC and Mark Pathy, FRCGS, and guided by Indigenous ways of knowing, Biinaagami had a public launch in September 2022 featuring a prototype of a giant floor map that employs captivating augmented reality to reveal the Great Lakes watershed like never before.

CANADIAN OCEAN LITERACY COALITION — OCEAN, FRESHWATER, AND US With funding of \$359,150 from Fisheries and Oceans Canada, we worked with Ocean Networks Canada and the Canadian Ocean Literacy Coalition to produce and circulate giant floor maps with built-in augmented reality to strategic partners and Canadian schools. In spring 2023, we successfully transposed the map into a first-of-its-kind interactive digital experience. Heading into FY23-24, we were pleased to secure a \$541,600, three-year extension of this project.

MULTIPLE PARTNERS — NETWORK OF NATURE

With funding of \$450,000 over three years from individual donors and TD Bank, and supported by a growing community of likeminded organizations, the Network of Nature maintains a database of locally-appropriate plant species and nurseries specializing in native plants. In the fall of 2022, the Network of Nature, in partnership with Green Communities Canada, launched a project to plant dense, fast-growing "mini-forests" in urban and suburban areas across Canada with a goal of strengthening local biodiversity and implementing nature-based climate change solutions.









CANADIAN GEOGRAPHIC FILMS

2022-2023 was another successful year for Can Geo Films. Our team documented key events at 50 Sussex as well as generated a number of new GeoMinutes celebrating significant Canadian people, places and events. Of note, a special series of Minutes was created to support the May 2023 Coronation of King Charles III.

Returning Home, which profiles Orange Shirt Day founder Phyllis Webstad, continued to tour film festivals both north and south of the border, garnering high praise and recognition.

Principal photography commenced for our next feature documentary, which supports our partnership with the Royal Canadian Air Force on the occasion of their centennial in 2024. Called Wings of Honour, the film will be narrated by none other than Canada's Moon-bound astronaut, Ellesmere Island in February 2024.

Guardians of the Land, an Indigenous-led documentary that will explore how Indigenous Guardians are caring for lands and waters across Canada, once again gained key financial support from the Donner Foundation. It also secured the amazing talents of Jennifer Podemski and her production company Red Cloud Studios to lead the project.

Also in development is a series with White Pine Pictures titled The Last of the Explorers. Each episode will follow intrepid adventurers as they explore our world, pushing their limits and pursuing answers to the biggest questions of our time.

Lastly, planning discussions continued with key Indigenous partners in Grise Fiord, Nunavut for a documentary featuring Explorer-in-Residence Ray Zahab's winter expedition by dogsled across

SOCIAL MEDIA

f Can Geo Can Geo Travel CanGeoEdu RCGS.SGRC

@CanGeo @CanGeo_Travel @CanGeoEdu @RCGS_SGRC

@cangeo @cangeotravel @cangeoedu @rcgs_sgrc

canadiangeographic

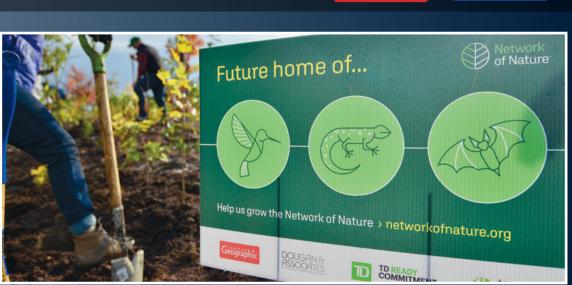
CONTACT

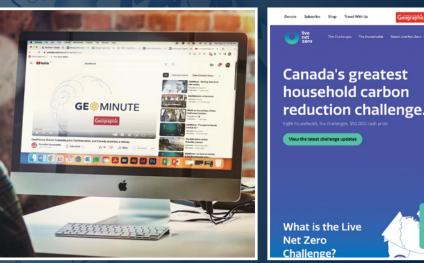
The Royal Canadian Geographical Society 50 Sussex Drive Ottawa, Ontario K1M 2K1 613-745-4629 | fax: 613-744-0947

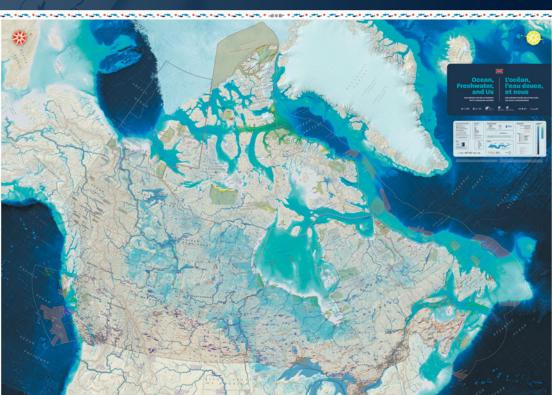
rcgs@rcgs.org











In addition to our custom publishing work, the Society continued to foster strategic partnerships with Parks Canada, the Royal Canadian Navy, the RCMP, the Canadian Marine Careers Foundation, Nikon, VIA Rail, CPAC, the Métis Nation — Saskatchewan, the Inuit Circumpolar Council and others.