

TO CONSERVE,  
PROTECT  
AND RESTORE  
CANADA'S  
FRESHWATER  
ECOSYSTEMS

**TROUT UNLIMITED CANADA**  
2012 ANNUAL REPORT

AND THEIR  
COLDWATER  
RESOURCES  
FOR CURRENT  
AND FUTURE  
GENERATIONS



## Acknowledgements

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Working to protect Canada's freshwater ecosystems and coldwater resources.

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## A message from TUC's CEO and Chairman of the Board

Whether it's  
on-the-ground habitat  
work, informing and  
educating young  
people, collaborating  
on fisheries policies  
and initiatives, or  
teaching groups about  
stream restoration,  
TUC makes a  
difference...  
*right across Canada.*



Jeff Surtees, Chief Executive Officer



Dave Byler, Chairman of the Board

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, management and staff of Trout Unlimited Canada, it is our pleasure to present our 2012 Annual Report, highlighting our activities and progress to our members, volunteers, supporters and partners across the country.

Trout Unlimited Canada is a registered Canadian not for profit organization. Our mission is to conserve, protect and restore Canada's freshwater ecosystems and their coldwater resources for current and future generations. All of the work we do is directed toward achieving this mission. Our work is guided by scientific research and fuelled by the unending passion of our volunteers and professional staff.

Our work includes stream restoration, scientific research and education. We have a small core group of highly trained staff and a network of volunteers across Canada operating through Trout Unlimited Canada's volunteer chapters from PEI to Vancouver Island.

The 2012 audited financial statements of Trout Unlimited Canada show revenue of \$2,165,905, down approximately fifteen percent from 2011. Our overall expenses (including project and dinner costs) for the year were \$2,349,467, up approximately ten percent over 2011. As we have always

### CEO Committees, Working Groups and Activities in 2012

- Director: Alberta Water Council
- Director: Alberta Conservation Association Director, Alberta Riparian
- Habitat Management Society (Cows and Fish Program)

# TROUT UNLIMITED CANADA'S VALUES AND GOALS

done, we accomplished a great deal with the funds that our donors entrusted to us.

Our annual return filed with the Canada Revenue Agency shows that in 2012 Trout Unlimited Canada spent 78% of our revenue (net of dinner costs) on our programs, 12% on administration and 10% on fundraising. You will find summarized financial statements later in this report and our full audited financial statements on our website at [www.tucanada.org](http://www.tucanada.org) under "Legal and Financial Information".

You can read about the work that was accomplished during 2012 later in this report. We continued to do physical, on the ground habitat work, including but not limited to working on our flagship projects in Nova Scotia (River Philip) Ontario (Bronte Creek and Duffins Creek), Alberta (Drywood Creek) and British Columbia (Nile Creek).

We continued to inform young people about storm drain pollution through our Yellow Fish Road™ education program and we taught several new groups of adults about stream restoration through our Aquatic Renewal suite of courses. The work we do at TUC is important and our capabilities are unique. Our board of directors and management are deeply committed to running an effective, efficient, transparent and accessible

organization. We are committed to growing the capabilities and capacity of the organization.

How can you help Trout Unlimited Canada achieve more? The easiest way to help us do more is by supporting our work with a tax-deductible donation. There is always more work that could be done each year. You can help by renewing your membership or by upgrading to a lifetime membership. To make an everlasting difference, consider naming Trout Unlimited Canada as a beneficiary under your will. You can help by forming a Trout Unlimited Canada chapter in your community or by getting involved with your existing chapter. You can help by volunteering. Come out and help with habitat work or with a fundraising event. Solid local chapters make Trout Unlimited Canada effective and different from other conservation organizations. Get informed. Learn more about the issues that affect the watershed you live on so you can be an effective ambassador for Trout Unlimited Canada and the work we do. We rely on our well-informed volunteers to be our eyes and ears across the country, alerting us to important issues as they arise.

We thank you taking the time to read this Annual Report and we thank you for your past and future support.

## OUR VALUES:

Trout Unlimited Canada values all members and their contributions equally. We believe in:

- being a thoughtful, knowledgeable and proactive voice on environmental issues;
- using scientific study on which to base our opinions;
- pursuing actions that bring results;
- building consensus;
- focusing on solutions.

## OUR GOALS:

- to conserve and protect Canada's freshwater fish and their ecosystems and restore their coldwater resources to a healthy and productive state;
- to develop and apply effective, science-based and measurable coldwater conservation solutions in the field;
- to inform the public about coldwater conservation issues and educate communities about their watersheds;
- to build and sustain a healthy organization.



**Jeff Surtees**

Chief Executive Officer  
and Corporate Counsel,  
Trout Unlimited Canada



**Dave Byler**

Chairman of the Board,  
Trout Unlimited Canada

# Canada Conservation Activities in 2012

Prepared by J. Imhof, B. Meagher and S. D'Amelio



TROUT UNLIMITED CANADA IS... The first brook trout in Bronte Creek, Lowville Park reach, in over 50 years...

**PROTECTING AND RESTORING** Canada's freshwater ecosystems and coldwater resources proved challenging in 2012. A shrinking focus on the environment including clean, cold water, a sluggish economy and major budget limitations for environmental and natural resource agencies, both nationally and across Canada, were just a few of the challenging factors. Per-

haps the biggest changes occurred in spring 2012 with the Federal Omnibus Bill, which effectively reduced and modified the scope of the Canadian Environmental Assessment, Federal Fisheries, Species at Risk and the Navigable Waters Acts. Despite these major changes, both TUC staff and chapters continued to contribute on-the-ground pro-

tection and restoration of Canada's watersheds, streams and fish communities. Perhaps the biggest challenge TUC faces as an organization is the belief that all the work TUC does is about fish. It is important to realize that trout are key indicators of a vibrant healthy ecosystem. If TUC focuses on creating healthy watersheds and rivers everyone benefits through healthy ground-

water resources, stable stream channels, and clean water for a range of activities. TUC uses trout as our icon of success.

In May 2012, TUC CEO, Jeff Surtees and National Biologist Jack Imhof visited TU USA in Arlington, VA to meet with their senior staff and discuss developing closer working relationships between both organizations. Jeff and Jack met with TU President and CEO Chris Wood, his senior policy and science staff, their conservation coordinators, fundraisers and marketing people. Everyone agreed to work together with a willingness to share information and materials between the two organizations.

TUC staff continued to maintain an active monitoring program on selected coldwater streams across Canada. Monitoring programs help TUC determine key issues plaguing some of our major coldwater resources and assist the development of plans to resolve issues and problems. The information gathered allows TUC to observe trends and changes within key watersheds and form decisions on program and project development. With increased climate variability and significantly less monitoring by government agencies this information is essential for all non-government organizations to manage the public good. Completed assessment and monitoring reports are posted on the TUC website under Science-Technical Publications.

Ongoing work by TUC chapters across Canada in 2012 continued to improve coldwater resources in British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. Chapter work focuses on protection and rehabilitation of native and naturalized trout populations and their habitats.

## National Biologist Committees, Working Groups and Activities in 2012

- DFO-CNGO: Co-chair, Collaborative on Fish Habitat Management
- Grand River Fisheries Management Plan Implementation Committee and Technical Committee
- Technical Committee: Cumulative Effects Monitoring in Rivers Workshop development—Grand River Conservation Authority and Canadian Water Network
- Partner with Brock University: WEPGN "Applying Resilience Analysis to a Trans-boundary River System: Developing Surrogates for Institutions and Governance"
- Collaborator: U of Guelph NSERC CREATE Program to develop innovative approaches to training on Cumulative Effects of Stressors to the Great Lakes
- Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon Restoration Technical Committee and Science Committee
- WWF: Canada Working Group on Environmental Flow Policy
- Technical Committee: Canada Wide Water Strategy Development Program with Canadian Water Resources Association
- Adjunct Professor at University of Guelph and University of Waterloo
- PhD Committees: University of Guelph; University of Waterloo
- Session Chair: Canadian Water Resources Association Annual Conference, Banff, AB
- Instructor: Provincial Electrofishing Course
- Session Chair: Latornel Conference, November 2012

## CHANGES TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND FISHERIES LEGISLATION

CHANGES to the Federal Fisheries Act (FFA) outlined in the spring 2012 Omnibus Bill changed the focus and narrowed the intent of the FFA. The Act now concentrates on fisheries of commercial, recreational and Aboriginal value rather than the broader community of fish and fish habitat. The Fish Habitat Policy no longer exists but will be replaced by new policies focusing on the new intent of the Act. In addition, the harmful alteration disruption or destruction of habitat provisions within the old habitat policy now center on activities that have serious or permanent harm to a fishery. By simple definition, where fish of commercial, recreational or Aboriginal value are harvested under a license. The Act came into force in early January 2013 but the policy and regulatory structure was not in place at that point. The changes to the intent and focus of the Act will create challenges for TUC and for DFO staff obligated to enforce the new provisions.

Throughout 2012 TUC provided formal and informal concerns, input and opinion to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and to his staff on the implications of the changes, the issue with the narrowing of intent, difficulty with the new wording and our concerns over the changes in where the Act will and will not apply now. Our formal and informal written concerns were posted on both our website and Facebook page.

TUC also worked with Atlantic Salmon Federation, Pacific Salmon Foundation, Ducks Unlimited Canada, the Canadian Wildlife Federation, National Watershed Stewardship Coalition and Wildlife Habitat Canada to submit concerns and issues to the Minister. In September 2012 TUC along with 12 other conservation non-government organizations met in Ottawa to develop a list of issues, concerns and advice to the DFO Minister and his staff in regard to the changes in the FFA.

TUC provided a formal in person submission to Environment Canada through the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development to create a National Conservation Plan. TUC's submission was consistent with messaging from sister organizations such as Pacific Salmon Foundation and Atlantic Salmon Federation. TUC was also invited by Environment Canada and Minister Peter Kent to join 22 other organizations in the newly created National Hunting and Angling Advisory Panel to provide input on environmental issues related to hunting and angling conservation in Canada.

## NATIONAL RESOURCE BOARD

THE NATIONAL RESOURCE BOARD (NRB) met twice in 2012 to discuss three policy development areas:

- small dam removal or modification;
- ecological flow needs of rivers;
- discussion on the concept of habitat banking.

The first two policy areas relate to issues that affect hundreds of thousands of kilometers of Canada's river systems. The third policy area relates to a new approach to compensation for proposed harm to the environment. In addition, the NRB provided input on the implications of the revised Federal Fisheries Act to fish and fish habitat protection along with TUC's input to Environment Canada on the proposed National Conservation Plan. The NRB urged TUC to take a strong and reasoned stance on our concerns about the overall direction of changes in Canada's environmental legislation and the importance of a clear National Conservation Plan with tangible actions.



Habitat restoration and enhancement along Duffins Creek, ON...



and many other Canadian rivers, creeks and streams...

## Canada Conservation Activities in 2012



First Nations river restoration training course in Fernie, B.C...



The first Aquatic Renewal Program workshop series session...

### SCIENCE AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

SPONSORED BY Teck Coal, Trout Unlimited Canada, in partnership with the Canadian Columbia River Inter-tribal Fisheries Commission hosted a major five day training course in Fernie, B.C. on river morphology and restoration. North American river restoration specialist Dr. Dave Rosgen from Colorado conducted the course. Teck Coal's generous sponsorship allowed the training of First Nations people, TUC staff, other NGOs as well as industry staff, consultants, Federal and Provincial staff. The course intended to create a professional community of practice, promoting sound science in the protection and restoration of our western rivers, their fish and habitat.

In 2012, TUC, in partnership with TU USA, launched a three year project to develop and use the TU USA/USFWS landscape conservation analysis program; the Conservation Success Index (CSI) to identify watershed sensitivity, large-scale habitat issues and rehabilitation potential for brook trout in eastern Canada. The first steps involved protocol training and testing on Lake Su-

perior watersheds. The intent is to develop protocols for all Great Lake watersheds and the Maritimes. Longer term goals involve applying the CSI to rehabilitation of west-slope cutthroat and bull trout.

TUC staff developed and piloted the first three modules of the Aquatic Renewal Program in 2012. The second module set is near completion thanks to an additional grant from the Canada-Ontario Agreement. The Aquatic Renewal workshop series is designed to formalize the theory, practice and application of watershed and stream assessment and rehabilitation, training a new generation of individuals, organizations and community groups to promote watershed, stream and stream corridor rehabilitation. The full set of six workshops is on track for completion in 2013.

TUC took an active part in the Canadian Water Resources Association/Canadian Geophysical Unions Annual Conference held in Banff, AB in June 2012. TUC organized and chaired a special session entitled, "New Approaches to Managing and Rehabilitating Rivers and their Corridors" to promote the use of the best available science

for managing functional streams and their habitat.

### NATIONAL FLAGSHIP PROGRAM

TUC NATIONAL FLAGSHIPS fall within the program framework of the National Conservation Agenda focusing on community engagement, education, youth activities, assessment and rehabilitation within a watershed context. The National Watershed Flagships are intended to demonstrate the importance of collaboration, connections, assessment and good science in the protection and rehabilitation of local watersheds. Individuals most affected by a local watershed should be the ones that are active in its perpetuation and improvement.

**Qualicum Bay/Nile Creek Watershed Renewal Program** entered Phase II in 2012, with the expansion of environmental and habitat assessment to Annie Creek, the third of the six small watersheds within this program. Assessment work continues on Nash and Thames Creeks. Groundwater studies continue through work by Vancouver Island University to model the groundwater characteristics that feed these small streams which in turn provide water to lo-



cal communities. Community awareness of their groundwater resources is essential if these small watersheds are to persist. In October 2012 a successful community meeting demonstrated strong support for the program.

Work was completed in 2012 on the first of a two part rehabilitation project on Thames Creek to improve fish movement through an old railway culvert. The second phase of the Thames Creek work and two projects on Nash Creek to improve habitat and migratory access for the salmon and trout of the area are scheduled for completion in 2013.

**Drywood/Yarrow Creek Watershed Renewal Program** continued to engage the local community, ranchers and other landowners. The program has focused on assessments of the fish community within the watershed, its status and problem locations as well as active on-the-ground work with local landowners. A number of cattle exclusion projects have been completed this past year as well as a number of additional shoreline assessments in partnership with the Cows and Fish Program. In June 2012 a successful tour of the watershed highlighting the work that had been completed to date took place. This tour solicited a landowner interested in implementing a project on his land to help restore watershed health.

**Bronte Creek Watershed Renewal Program** saw the completion of the major work on the demonstration project located in the City of Burlington's Lowville Park. The project's intent is the rebuilding of hydrological function by restoring the appropriate width, depth, riffle/pool sequencing of the stream returning ecological health and improved water quality to this reach of river. A total of seven riffles were installed and three pools were restored within the one kilometer reach of the park. Over 6,000 shrubs and trees planted along the shoreline to help narrow and shade the stream. Each Saturday throughout the summer TUC field staff was on hand to explain the work, introduce children to the stream and its inhabitants and encourage sustainable park use. Funding for this outreach came from our partners within TUC's Ted Knott Chapter. This stream section appears to be responding to the work done over the last two years. Last summer, on two separate occasions, young of the year and yearling brook trout were captured in the Park. The first time brook trout have been recorded

in the park in over than 55 years. Previous monitoring by TUC over the last five years and agencies over many years has failed to yield any evidence of brook trout within the Park. Additional work continues with landowners in other regions of the watershed. A new initiative is now underway in the upper portion of Bronte Creek at Courtcillfe Park located in the Village of Carlisle. This will be the site of the next major demonstration area within the Bronte Creek Restoration Program.

Located on the east side of Toronto, runs Duffins Creek, the site of TUC's newest flagship program. Initial program work involved the assessment of the watershed's environmental conditions, synthesis of information developed by the local Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, the development of a medium-term program for the watershed and tree plantings in two public parks. Funding for the assessment work and development of the plan was generously provided by Enbridge Gas Distribution. An official launch of the **Duffins Flagship Program** occurred in the spring 2012 and next



Drywood Creek, another TUC flagship Watershed Renewal Program in southern Alberta...



Educating children about the importance of our coldwater resource health...

## Canada Conservation Activities in 2012



Enbridge tree planting along Duffins Creek, Toronto, ON...



Population surveys on Bronte Creek, Burlington, ON...

steps involve acquiring a grant to implement the plan.

### REGIONAL ACTIVITIES: WESTERN CANADA

#### British Columbia

IN ADDITION TO the Qualicum Bay/Nile Creek Program, our new Kelowna based Okanagan Chapter is now working to protect and rehabilitate the Kettle River. The BC Outdoor Recreation Council identified the Kettle River one of British Columbia's most threatened rivers. Over-extraction of water for a number of recreational and agricultural uses as well as development within its watershed are the Kettle River's greatest threats. The chapter is trying to raise the profile of the river while working with local community groups to better manage the river and its fisheries.

The Rosgen training program on fluvial geomorphology and river restoration, conducted with the Canadian Columbia River Inter-tribal Fisheries Commission (CCRIFC) was intended to develop a community of practice on river work in the East Kootenays and the Elk River Watershed, another of

B.C.'s most endangered rivers. CCRIFC, TUC, Teck Coal and the University of Waterloo Research are developing a research collaboration to better understand the hydrodynamics of westslope cutthroat and bull trout spawning areas and habitats to better aid

the protection and rehabilitation efforts for these species.

#### Alberta

THOUGH THE MAJORITY of work in Alberta centered on the Drywood/Yarrow Creek Watershed Renewal Program, a great deal of local work also occurred. The primary focus of this local work continues to be the protection and restoration of native species and their habitats. Habitat restoration of existing non-native, naturalized populations remains a second level priority. The Quirk Creek

Brook Trout Suppression Study has now transitioned into the Stewardship License Project. This project encourages anglers to harvest brook trout from Quirk Creek along with several other streams where they threaten westslope cutthroat trout and bull

### Alberta Biologist Committees, Working Groups and Activities in 2012

- Nose Creek Watershed Group Technical Committee
- Board Member: Calgary River Valleys Committee
- Bow River Flow Project: Alternative flow modeling team
- Chair: Lakeland College, Wildlife & Fisheries Conservation Advisory Panel
- Lethbridge College: Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation Advisory Panel
- Westslope Cutthroat Trout Recovery Team Member
- Athabasca Rainbow Trout Recovery Team Member
- Banff Aquatics Advisory Committee (Fisheries issues in the National Parks)
- Canadian Water Resources Association: Students and Young Professionals Mentor
- Bow River Basin Council Member
- Bow River Basin Council Phase II Steering Committee Member
- Bow River Basin Council Watershed Stewardship Coordinating Committee (Erin)
- Co-Chair: Bow River Basin Council Monitoring and Modeling Committee
- Kananaskis Country Provincial Recreation Areas Management Plan Team
- Kananaskis Country Kids Camps
- Alberta Fisheries Round Table Meetings (local and provincial input on fisheries regulations)
- DFO/NGO Working Group

trout. The Stewardship License Project provides a special license to anglers that pass a fish identification test and completion of a supervised outing. Successful anglers may harvest all brook trout caught on specific waters. TUC helped develop the test and is delivering the program in partnership with the Alberta government. In addition, TUC has been working with Parks Canada to eradicate brook trout from sensitive waters in Banff National Park to allow for re-introduction of native westslope cutthroat trout.

Plans are in development, and in some cases implemented, for several stream rehabilitation projects. Work was conducted on Policeman Creek in Canmore to rebuild pool habitats for resident trout species. This small groundwater fed tributary of the Bow River lacks important over-wintering habitat for a variety of fish species. Construction of five pools and multiple riparian plantings now provide low water refuge and habitat in winter and summer. Two major projects were developed for the Bow River in Calgary to improve both

instream and riparian habitats. The first project, Mallard Point, is in the planning phase, with the construction phase scheduled for 2014. This project, in conjunction with Alberta Parks proposes to improve the flow structure and habitat on a side channel of the Bow River within Fish Creek Provincial Park to restore trout reproduction areas, protect a major wildlife habitat refuge and restore overall channel stability to the Bow River's main stem and the Mallard Point side channel.

Assessment work continued on several streams and lakes in 2012 including ongoing fish population and spawning assessments on rehabilitation work completed on Bill Griffiths Creek in 2008 and 2009. Technical reports on assessment work were also completed for Nose Creek, Policeman Creek, and Bill Griffiths Creek. A report by environmental consultants, recommending next steps is due in early 2013 for reconnecting an old abandoned channel on the Crowsnest River.

TUC, supported by Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development,

conducted its annual Fish Rescue on various irrigation canals throughout Southern Alberta. This ongoing project has several intents:

- rescuing fish stranded in irrigation canals,
- public education regarding fish populations and species,
- long term collection of information to determine the need for fish exclusion devices on irrigation intakes.

TUC conservation staff completed several outreach and stewardship programs focussing on fish and fish habitat. These included outings with a high school science class (with Friends of Fish Creek), participants of a First Nations environmental youth camp (with the First Nations Technical Services Advisory Group) participation in the Great Canadian Shoreline Clean-up along Waiparous Creek with the British Petroleum retirees and the Ghost Watershed Alliance.



Tree planting along Duffins Creek, Toronto, ON...



Creating cover structure on Policeman Creek...

## Canada Conservation Activities in 2012



Mallard Point on the Bow River, Calgary, AB...



TUC staff and volunteers during the 2012 Alberta Fish Rescue in southern Alberta...

TUC continues to focus on planning and advisory work that leads to sound decision-making and sound on the ground work including:

- input to the Bow River and Red Deer River Regulation Reviews,
- Bow River Flow Modeling Study,
- Athabasca Rainbow Trout Recovery Plan,
- and numerous other committees and advisory panels.

TUC staff also met with DFO Regional staff to discuss implications of changes in

the Federal Fisheries Act and opportunities for Creative Sentencing. Creative Sentencing is a unique program that directs Fisheries Act of Canada fines towards specific projects.

### CHAPTER ACTIVITY

BOW RIVER CHAPTER has been working with TUC National on the Mallard Point Project. The chapter also continues to maintain their lease of Legacy Island and is working towards improving the boat launch.

Bow Headwaters Chapter continued to work with TUC National on the Police-

man Creek and Bill Griffiths Creek projects in the Canmore area.

In Edmonton, the Northern Lights Fly Tyers/TUC Edmonton Chapter completed another season on their Arctic grayling project. The chapter is working with the Province to evaluate the distribution and abundance of this species in the Pem-

binia River system and to identify opportunities for restoration work. The Edmonton Chapter is also continuing their long-standing project on Muir Lake, a popular local trout fishery. In addition the chapter hosted an educational conclave and weed pull in 2012.

Winding Waters Chapter completed a fencing project along a local creek to protect the system from cattle erosion.

Central Alberta Chapter updated historic habitat projects on Stauffer Creek. Additionally, the Red Deer-based chapter is looking at identifying additional projects within the region to benefit local populations of naturalized trout.

In southern Alberta, Oldman Chapter continues to maintain their two leases along the Crowsnest River.

### Saskatchewan

ONE OF TUC's newest chapters is the Regina based Doug Cressman Chapter, named in honor of former TUC CEO, the late Doug Cressman. Currently, the chapter is focusing their conservation efforts in southern Saskatchewan.

### Alberta Watershed Partners in 2012

- Elbow River Watershed Partnership and Technical Committee
- Pincher Creek Watershed Group
- Athabasca Watershed Group
- Jumpingpound/Horse Creek/Big Hill Creek (Tri-Creek) Watershed Group
- Drywood-Yarrow Conservation Partnership
- Ghost Watershed Alliance
- Oldman Watershed Council
- Highwood/Sheep Watershed Group



Bow Headwaters Chapter in action on Policeman Creek near Canmore, AB...



Central Alberta Chapter updating habitat structures on Stauffer Creek...

## EASTERN CANADA

A BROAD RANGE of activities took place in 2012 in Eastern Canada including rehabilitation work, assessment and monitoring, collaborative projects and educational activities. The summer of 2012 proved one of the hottest in recent memory challenging the sustainability of many small and large watersheds throughout Eastern Canada.

### Ontario

IN EARLY 2012, TUC hired a Provincial Office Manager to provide logistics and support to the conservation programs in Ontario.

Large scale construction work was completed in Lowville Park on Bronte Creek in the spring of 2012. The remaining two riffles and one pool were completed. Throughout the season additional channel narrowing was accomplished to help train the river into a narrower more functional cross-section. In addition, over 3,300 shrubs and trees were planted to rebuild a vibrant and active shoreline corridor through the Park. As noted earlier, there are signs that the stream is beginning to heal with the discovery on two separate occasions of brook trout in

the Park. The first such sightings in 55 years! In addition to this positive news, TUC received the Niagara Escarpment Achievement Award in recognition of exceptional and creative design in harmony within the Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Reserve and the Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act for our work in Lowville Park. A new partnership was developed on Bronte Creek in 2012 with the Carlisle Community Association. This partnership will see the next major demonstration project on Bronte Creek occur in and around the City of Hamilton's Village of Carlisle. Design work began in 2012 for this project.

Work continued on narrowing Marden Creek and planting trees and shrubs to create a new flood plain within the dam removal site at the Ignatius Jesuit Centre north of Guelph. Assessment and monitoring of the rehabilitated areas continued on Marden Creek in 2012. A small dam bypass was identified as a potential project to reduce Marden Creek water temperatures. This project will be studied, designed and prepared in 2013.

Environmental education was front and center once again in 2012 including three Family Fun Day events to engage children and their parents through fun educational activities designed to help them explore their local watershed. TUC worked with the Ted Knott Chapter to host "TUC on Location", a weekly program in Lowville Park on Bronte Creek. This activity shows children the animals found in Bronte Creek and explains the shape and character of healthy streams.

In addition to specific rehabilitation projects, assessment and monitoring activities on other coldwater streams continued in 2012 with the hiring of six summer students by the Ontario office. Over the course of the 2012, these TUC summer students tackled a number of challenges including education, monitoring, assessment, restoration and marketing. During the course of their work the students traveled a total of 15,761 km, studied 25 small watersheds and completed 232 site visits to examine local issues. The students also collected data including 6,723 stream depths measured during habitat as-

## Canada Conservation Activities in 2012



Streamside invertebrate identification, a component of the Aquatic Renewal Program...



Going all 'trout' at Bronte Creek Family Fun Days...

assessment, 36,208 invertebrates picked and sampled, 1,466,208 temperature readings recorded and 212 crayfish caught and released during the "TUC on Location" events on Bronte Creek. Summer students also supported volunteer activities and events during which volunteers contributed 495 hours educating over 970 children through a variety of environmental activities.

TUC provided input to the Ontario government on the implications of the changes to the Federal Fisheries Act to Provincial policy, regulation and management of fisheries and fish habitat. Due to the Federal changes to the Fisheries Act, Ontario and other provincial governments are uncertain of the potential new obligations they face for proper management of their fisheries and habitat, a

tion Workshop series.

### CHAPTER ACTIVITY

TWO NEW Ontario chapters, Durham East and Niagara joined TUC in 2012. Durham East Chapter, located east of Toronto, monitors watersheds such as Duffins Creek, Bowmanville Creek and others. Niagara Chapter is concentrating on 12 Mile Creek, the last remaining coldwater stream on the Niagara Peninsula. This chapter has partnered with Niagara College, providing real world project experience to students, while providing chapter members with technical support and background material for upcoming projects.

Due to their rehabilitation efforts near Markdale, Happy Trout Chapter enjoyed conservation success. Brook trout populations are returning to a local stream as habitat improves dramatically.

Greg Clark Chapter in conjunction with the Orangeville Community and Town have been very successful in their Orangeville Coldwater Conservation Challenge (C3) program to begin restoration of the degraded coldwater systems in the Town of Orangeville. The Town hired a consultant

### Ontario Biologist Committees, Working Groups and Activities in 2012

- Atlantic Salmon Habitat Committee
- Atlantic Salmon Science Team
- Bronte Creek Watershed Renewal Steering Committee
- Lowville Park Restoration Sub-Committee (Bronte Creek)
- Grand River Tailwater Implementation Committee
- Grand River Fisheries Management Implementation Committee
- Halton Fisheries Management Planning Committee
- Halton Migratory Fish Working Group
- Credit River Fisheries Management Plan Implementation
- Grand River: Large Cover Placement project
- Credit River Barrier Committee
- Zone 14 Fisheries Management Planning Committee
- Zone 20 Fisheries Management Planning Committee

to work with the chapter proposing major restoration work on Mill Creek, a small tributary of the Credit River that flows through the middle of town. In response to the disheartening news from the Credit Valley Conservation Authority that brook trout populations within the Credit River are disappearing rapidly, the chapter has initiated the development of a strategic plan to identify and mitigate issues impacting brook trout within their watershed.

Speed Valley Chapter has been active with ongoing work to restore Marden Creek through plantings and on the ground work.

Middle Grand Chapter helped the Grand River Conservation Authority with the maintenance and re-naturalization of an old restored tributary at the Apps Mill Nature Centre. This small stream, Rest Acres Creek, needed a face lift and a further re-naturalization after initial work with the old chapter back in the early 1990s.

Ted Knott Chapter is developing a major rehabilitation plan for a portion of Bronte Creek to complement the work already being done as part of the Bronte Creek

Watershed Renewal Program. The chapter also supports the "TUC on Location" activity in Lowville Park in the summer. Ted Knott Chapter is also actively working on Mill Creek, a small coldwater tributary of the Grand River near Cayuga. The chapter had a number of workdays to restore instream habitat, identify new spring sources and repair shoreline habitat in preparation for the reintroduction of brook trout to the most southerly coldwater stream within the Grand River Watershed.

### Quebec

THE CHATEAUGUAY CHAPTER, formed in 2012, is focused on its namesake river that flows out of Adirondack National Park in the southwest corner of Quebec. In its upper reaches, the Chateauguay is reminiscent of the famous Ausable River near Lake Placid, New York. The Chateauguay's tributaries contain resident brook trout and the main river is home to a population of naturalized brown trout. The river is heavily affected by previous land use activities and intensive agriculture. The chapter is working on an assessment plan to determine the key prob-

lems with the stream and is also working towards a community outreach program.

### Nova Scotia

THE TUSKET RIVER CHAPTER is working actively to develop a special trout management area on the Tusket River with Nova Scotia Inland Fisheries as part of their Big Meadow Brook project. The chapter developed a creel survey in conjunction with TUC National, to demonstrate the need for the special management area to protect and rebuild native brook trout populations. Year one of the creel survey proved successful. After the 2013 creel survey, the intent is to establish the special trout management area in 2014. In addition to the work on the Tusket, the chapter president and TUC National have been working with the province to establish improved policy and regulations around invasive species, including non-native game fish such as smallmouth bass and chain pickerel. The chapter is also continuing its successful River Watch Training Program for the province.



Young work crews installing cover structures at Camp Sidrabene on Bronte Creek, ON...



High school students creating riffles on Bronte Creek in Burlington, ON... and everything in between!

# Financial Statements

## Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2012

	General Fund 2012	Project Fund 2012	December 31 2012	December 31 2011	January 1 2011
<b>Current assets</b>					
Cash	\$ —	\$ 570	\$ 570	\$ 32,721	\$ 595
Accounts receivable	1,915	60,000	61,915	76,738	196,933
GST receivable	50,842	—	50,842	11,011	9,427
Prepaid expenses	9,078	—	9,078	15,766	14,677
Inventory	55,776	—	55,776	77,058	80,028
Due from project fund	46,814	—	46,814	28,075	61,839
	<b>164,425</b>	<b>60,570</b>	<b>224,995</b>	<b>241,369</b>	<b>363,499</b>
<b>Capital assets</b>					
	44,000	298,000	342,000	351,170	378,342
	<b>208,425</b>	<b>358,570</b>	<b>566,995</b>	<b>592,539</b>	<b>741,841</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Cheques issued in excess of deposits	15,147	—	15,147	—	99,390
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	170,047	—	170,047	194,635	257,444
Operating loan	110,000	—	110,000	—	20,000
Due to general fund	—	46,814	46,814	28,075	61,839
	<b>295,194</b>	<b>46,814</b>	<b>342,008</b>	<b>222,710</b>	<b>438,673</b>
Deferred contributions	—	—	—	—	2,500
	<b>295,194</b>	<b>46,814</b>	<b>342,008</b>	<b>222,710</b>	<b>441,173</b>
<b>Fund Balances</b>					
Gapen's Pool land contributions	—	228,000	228,000	228,000	228,000
Unrestricted	(86,769)	—	(86,769)	141,829	72,668
Internally restricted	—	83,756	83,756	—	—
	(86,769)	311,756	224,987	369,829	300,668
	<b>\$ 208,425</b>	<b>\$ 358,570</b>	<b>\$ 566,995</b>	<b>\$ 592,539</b>	<b>\$ 741,841</b>



**Statement of Operations**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2012**

	General Fund	Project Fund	2012	2011
<b>Revenue</b>				
Dinner donations	\$ 1,152,272	\$ —	\$ 1,152,272	\$ 1,088,252
Donation and grant income	589,439	393,557	982,996	1,402,721
Memberships	30,419	—	30,419	29,570
Interest and other	218	—	218	7,211
	<b>1,772,348</b>	<b>393,557</b>	<b>2,165,905</b>	<b>2,527,754</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Resource expenditures	859,861	865,589	1,725,450	1,831,337
Dinner expenses	624,017	—	624,017	616,756
Excess (deficiency) before other expenditures	288,470	(472,032)	(183,562)	79,661
<b>Other expenditures</b>				
Loss on sale of capital assets	—	—	—	10,500
Forgiveness of Bow River Chapter payable	(38,720)	—	(38,720)	—
	(38,720)	—	(38,720)	10,500
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 327,190</b>	<b>\$ (472,032)</b>	<b>\$ (144,842)</b>	<b>\$ 69,161</b>

These financial statements do not reflect the substantial donations made to chapters and councils across the country or the gifts in kind made by our donors.

A complete copy of TUC's audited financial statements and the auditor's report can be found at [www.tucanada.org](http://www.tucanada.org) or will be sent upon request by calling 1 (800) 909-6040.

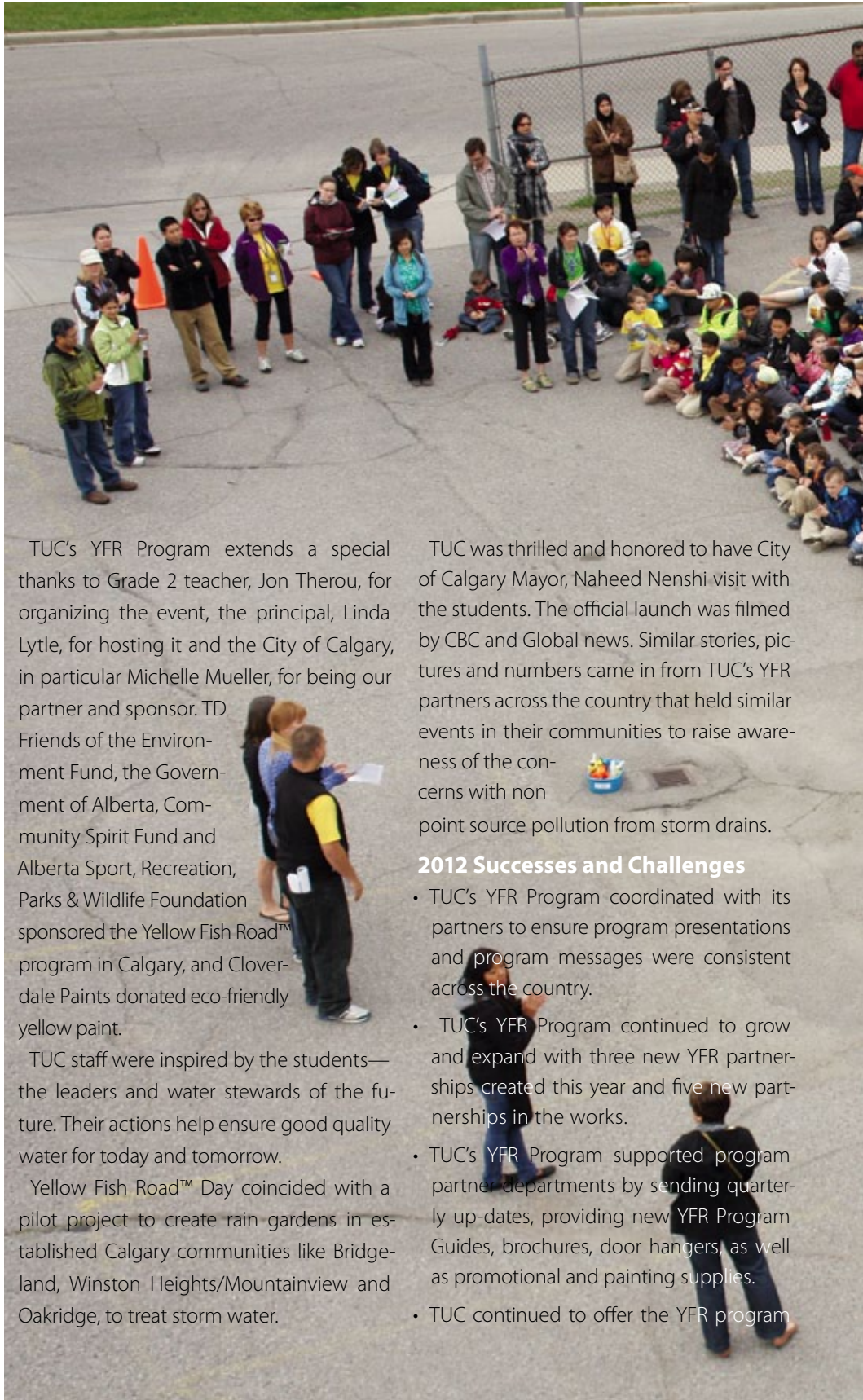
## The Yellow Fish Road™ Program

SINCE ITS INCEPTION, Trout Unlimited Canada's Yellow Fish Road™ (YFR) program remains successful due to its ease of implementation, community based action, high visibility and layering effect. By implementing the YFR program in neighborhoods across the province and the country, small changes can have a positive impact on the entire watershed.

On June 8, 2012 Trout Unlimited Canada's Yellow Fish Road™ conservation education program celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This special day was made possible through the support and funding from TUC's YFR sponsors. The anniversary day coincided with the beginning of **Rivers to Oceans Week**, providing an opportunity to better understand the connection to fresh and salt water environments, watersheds and what can be done to protect and maintain healthy watersheds for people and wildlife.

Initiatives like this help TUC's YFR program achieve its goals by protecting and improving water quality in local watersheds for not only people but fish, wildlife, and plants too. In Calgary, over 700 K-Grade 9 students from Langevin Science School, along with teachers and parents, painted their Bridgeland community yellow, with 'Yellow Fish' symbols. 75 groups painted more than 300 storm drains and distributed over 2,400 door hangers.

Excitement filled the air as students accepted the challenge of making a difference in their watershed. When asked about the experience afterwards, the students used words such as "fun", "cool", "awesome" and "great". Most importantly, students believed they were helping the fish community by improving their habitat. One student was cited to say, "If the fish could talk, they would say thank you."



TUC's YFR Program extends a special thanks to Grade 2 teacher, Jon Therou, for organizing the event, the principal, Linda Lytle, for hosting it and the City of Calgary, in particular Michelle Mueller, for being our partner and sponsor. TD Friends of the Environment Fund, the Government of Alberta, Community Spirit Fund and Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks & Wildlife Foundation sponsored the Yellow Fish Road™ program in Calgary, and Cloverdale Paints donated eco-friendly yellow paint.

TUC staff were inspired by the students—the leaders and water stewards of the future. Their actions help ensure good quality water for today and tomorrow.

Yellow Fish Road™ Day coincided with a pilot project to create rain gardens in established Calgary communities like Bridgeland, Winston Heights/Mountainview and Oakridge, to treat storm water.

TUC was thrilled and honored to have City of Calgary Mayor, Naheed Nenshi visit with the students. The official launch was filmed by CBC and Global news. Similar stories, pictures and numbers came in from TUC's YFR partners across the country that held similar events in their communities to raise awareness of the concerns with non point source pollution from storm drains.

### 2012 Successes and Challenges

- TUC's YFR Program coordinated with its partners to ensure program presentations and program messages were consistent across the country.
- TUC's YFR Program continued to grow and expand with three new YFR partnerships created this year and five new partnerships in the works.
- TUC's YFR Program supported program partner departments by sending quarterly up-dates, providing new YFR Program Guides, brochures, door hangers, as well as promotional and painting supplies.
- TUC continued to offer the YFR program



Some of the 700 Langevin School students involved in National Yellow Fish Road™ Day, Calgary, AB

## The Yellow Fish Road™ Program



Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi with Langevin Science School principal, Linda Lytle, and student painters during National Yellow Fish Road™ Day.

(stencils and door hangers, and in some cases paint supplies) free to any community group, organization or school throughout Canada upon request.

- The completion of the action component of the program is a testament of the commitment and passion of volunteers to protect our freshwater ecosystems.

TUC's 44 Yellow Fish Road™ partners across the country are the lifeblood of the YFR program. The Yellow Fish Road™ program relies on partnerships to deliver on TUC's important conservation message of

how people can improve water quality through individual action. TUC YFR partners offer the first line of defense in water protection. Only through the strength of these YFR partnerships can TUC ensure the creation of an ethic of care for our fresh water ecosystems across the country. Our Yellow Fish Road™ partners

consist of municipalities, conservation authorities, nature centers, community service groups and environmental organizations.

Trout Unlimited Canada and the YFR program are extremely thankful to have the sponsorship and support of all their sponsors for this valuable environmental education program. TUC recognizes a common goal protecting water and ecosystems within watersheds across Canada. The YFR program messages of watershed stewardship and pollution prevention are a reminder to some and new information to many.

The Yellow Fish Road™ program depends entirely upon financial contributions for all supplies, and the 1.5 full-time staff salaries required to operate the program. TUC's YFR Program looks forward to continued working relationships on this long term project to build awareness, knowledge, and values of how to ensure safe and secure water resources. TUC gratefully acknowledges national financial support from the RBC Blue Water Project™; provincial support from the Government of Alberta Community Spirit Program and Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks & Wildlife Foundation; and Cloverdale Paint and TD Friends of the Environment Foundation for support within the City of Calgary.

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## Yellow Fish Road™ 2012 Partners

### British Columbia:

Allan Brook Nature Centre-Vernon (NEW)  
'Eco Matters' Earth Week-Summerland  
City of Kelowna

### Alberta:

Calgary Area Girl Guides  
City of Brooks  
City of Calgary (partner/sponsor)  
City of Lethbridge  
City of Red Deer  
Crowsnest Pass (NEW)  
Edmonton Area Girl Guides  
Fort McMurray Environment Week  
St. Albert

### Saskatchewan:

Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation (Moose Jaw)  
Meewasin Valley Authority (Saskatoon)  
Saskatoon Area Girl Guides

### Ontario:

Bay Area Restoration Council  
City of Burlington  
City of Cambridge  
City of Guelph  
City of Kitchener  
City of Mississauga  
City of Waterloo  
City of Windsor  
Conservation Halton– Halton Region  
Durham SustainAbility–Scugog Connections  
Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority  
Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (NEW)

Haldimand Stewardship Council  
Kettle Creek Conservation Authority  
Lower Trent Conservation Authority  
Maitland Valley Conservation Authority  
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority  
Niagara Valley Conservation Authority  
Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority  
Otanabee Conservation Authority (NEW)  
Quinte Conservation  
Saugeen Conservation  
Severn Sound Environmental Association  
St. Clair Region Conservation Authority  
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority  
Town of Oakville  
Woolrich Township

### Quebec:

Groupe d'éducation et d'écovigilance de l'eau or G3E (Quebec City)

### Yukon:

Yukon Conservation Authority



**Government  
of Alberta** ■



*Alberta* ■



## TUC Fundraising Events in 2012



Premier Allison Redford in Calgary, the Honorable Jim Prentice and Olympian Marnie McBean in Toronto helped make 2012 the year of the celebrity at TUC's fundraising events.

composed primarily of anglers who come together for fun and fundraising.

The Hon. Jim Prentice, PC, QC, Senior Executive Vice-President and Vice Chairman, CIBC, led the 2012 Toronto National Conservation Banquet and Auction team. The 2012 dinner was our most successful ever, raising over \$440,000 from 500

TROUT UNLIMITED CANADA (TUC) wishes to thank the active conservationists who showed their support of TUC's programs and projects through their active bidding on live and silent auctions and purchase of raffle tickets at our dinners and other special events. In 2012 their efforts helped raise over \$1.71 M, resulting in a net contribution of over \$1.12 M in support of TUC's programs at the national, provincial and chapter levels.

The Calgary National Conservation Banquet and Auction continued to lead the way as the continent's most successful coldwater conservation fundraiser. Led by Gord Ritchie, Vice Chairman of RBC Capital Markets, Calgary grossed just over \$1M with a net of \$750,000. The support offered by the Calgary business community to Trout Unlimited Canada's conservation efforts is unparalleled in North America.

A strong effort by the Edmonton Dinner Committee resulted in its 27<sup>th</sup> annual National Conservation Banquet and Auction generating a 15% gross increase over previous years. The Edmonton Dinner Committee has maintained a core of key volunteers since its inception. Their loyalty and com-

mitment has kept the dinner a constant success over the years.

In November, the Bow River Chapter held their 21<sup>st</sup> annual Fall Splash Banquet and Volunteer Celebration. This event raises revenues for the Chapter's projects as well as supporting Trout Unlimited Canada's projects and programs. Affectionately called the "plaid shirt" dinner, it is a terrific fun-filled evening for an audience

of guests who came to support the concept of "Fresh Water—Clean Future" for all of us. Olympic rowing gold medalist Marnie McBean did an outstanding job as the host for the evening, keeping everything on track and running smooth.

Trout Unlimited Canada's special events are essential fuel to the organization's ability to carry out its projects and programs. Every angler in Canada and each TUC member



Together with spectacular merchandise and outstanding sponsor support, TUC dinners raised over \$1.7 million for conservation in 2012.

owes a big “Thank You” to all those who donate merchandise, trips, art and much more to our events as well as to the hundreds anglers and non-anglers alike who attend and spend their money in a fun-filled evening of auctions and raffles for conservation.

### NEW SPONSORSHIP INITIATIVE

THE 2010 TORONTO Trout Unlimited Conservation Banquet and Auction marked the initial launch of TUC’s four tier event sponsorship. This program continued once again for 2012.

Interested sponsors are offered the choice of participating at four different sponsorship levels: Platinum (\$10,000), Gold (\$7,000), Silver (\$5,000) and Bronze (\$2,500).

#### Platinum sponsorship included:

- complementary premier seating for 20 (two tables),
- exclusive Gala Sponsorship, including naming rights to the Gala dinner,
- corporate name/logo prominently displayed, including on every page of the dinner program,
- large logo in dinner program on sponsor recognition page plus full page full colour advertisement,
- logo and recognition as title sponsor in A/V presentation,
- 20 passes to VIP Reception,
- inclusion in all media promoting the dinner, such as radio and print,
- name and linked logo recognition on the Trout Unlimited Canada website.

#### Gold level sponsorship included:

- premiere seating for 10,
- naming rights to the VIP reception,

- 10 passes to VIP Reception,
- company logo on every page of the dinner program (side margin), large logo in dinner program on sponsor recognition page, and full page full colour advertisement in dinner program,
- name and linked logo recognition on Trout Unlimited Canada website,

#### Silver level sponsors were provided with:

- premiere seating for 10,
- medium logo in dinner program on sponsor recognition page,
- half-page full colour advertisement in dinner program,
- logo and recognition as a Silver Sponsor in A/V presentation,
- 10 passes to VIP Reception,
- name and linked logo recognition on Trout Unlimited Canada website.

#### Bronze level sponsorship provided:

- table seating for 10,
- small logo in dinner program on sponsor recognition page,
- recognition in A/V presentation as a Bronze Sponsor,
- two passes to the VIP Reception,
- name recognition on Trout Unlimited Canada website.

Trout Unlimited Canada would like to recognize and pass along our heartfelt thanks to the following key Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze sponsors. Without their support and dedication, cold water conservation and fundraising events such as the 2012 Toronto National Conservation Banquet and Auction would not be possible.

#### PLATINUM:

- CIBC (Presenting Sponsor)

#### GOLD:

- Aecon
- Enbridge

#### SILVER:

- Accenture
- Barrick
- Cannereactor Inc.
- Capital Power
- Delloite
- Ford
- lamgold Corporation
- Ipsos Reid
- James Richardson and Sons LTD
- Loblaw's
- Nalcor Energy
- Nexen
- Triovest

#### BRONZE:

- Aird & Berlis LLP
- Bombardier Inc.
- Bruce Power
- Canadian National Sportsman’s Shows
- Concentric Energy Advisors
- CR Wall
- Crispin Porter & Bogusky
- Ernst & Young LLP
- Fillion Wakley Thorup Angeletti LLP
- Glaholt LLP
- GE Canada
- KTI Limited
- KUBRA
- Lakeside Performance Gas Services Ltd.
- Link-Line Contractors Ltd.
- McCarthy Tétrault
- McInnes Cooper
- MET Utilities Management Ltd.
- Ontario Excavac Inc.
- RBC Capital Markets
- RB Somerville
- Roto-Mill Inc.
- Stage Vision
- S/W & Associates

Every angler and TUC member in Canada owes a big “Thank You” to those who donate so much to our events as well as to the hundreds anglers and non-anglers alike who attend in support of coldwater conservation.

## 2012 Donors

### \$100,000 +

The Byler Foundation  
RBC Blue Water Project

### \$50,000 to \$99,999

Eagle Point Lodge  
Shaw Communications  
Mel Benson

### \$10,000 to \$49,999

Accenture  
Aecon Infrastructure Group  
Anchor B Ranch  
Andes Drifters, Patagonia Argentina  
Barrick Gold  
Bell  
Birks  
Black Fly Lodge  
Calgary Herald  
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Birchcliff Energy Ltd.  
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Canadian National Sportsmen's Shows  
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Springbrook Manufacturing  
StageVision Inc.  
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The Post Hotel  
Tinhorn Creek Vineyards  
Venture Communications  
www.canmore.com  
Jack Fuller  
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### \$1000 to \$4999

Aeonian Capital Corporation  
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## Trout Unlimited Canada Chapters



Our chapters provide much of the on-the-ground work that epitomizes TUC's dedication to the conservation and renewal of Canada's coldwater resources.

TROUT UNLIMITED CANADA'S chapters provide much of the on the ground work that epitomizes TUC's dedication to the conservation and renewal of Canada's coldwater resources through proactive conservation

based projects supported by corporations, landowners, foundations, governments and conservation minded individuals.

To see the complete chapter details please visit the TUC website at [tucanada.org](http://tucanada.org).

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Bow Headwaters  
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