

Corvus Centre for Conservation Policy

VISION

Public policy actively supports biodiversity

MISSION

Work to ensure biodiversity is promoted through evidence-based land use, resource management, and financial decision making

The Corvus Centre for Conservation Policy will be a not-for-profit, charitable organization established to promote the maintenance, protection, and restoration of biodiversity by:

- **supporting decision makers** working on behalf of nature;
- creating, gathering, and disseminating the **science and information** needed to improve conservation policy;
- designing and **evaluating conservation policy**; and
- facilitating the pragmatic **application of research** into the policy process.

Conservation Themes

The Corvus Centre’s policy work will focus on four conservation themes, with an emphasis on a key issue within each.

Land Use and Biodiversity	Natural Infrastructure	Nature and Climate Change	Biodiversity and Finance
<i>Key issue:</i>	<i>Key Issue:</i>	<i>Key issue:</i>	<i>Key Issue:</i>
<i>Land use decision-making is the primary vector for biodiversity loss (and protection), but we struggle to link the science, the policy, and the decisions</i>	<i>Ecosystems are increasingly recognized as providing vital infrastructure services, but how natural assets should be valued, catalogued, and protected is unclear</i>	<i>Climate change is the paramount environmental issue of our time, and biodiverse landscapes will play a vital role in addressing it, but our practical knowledge regarding what that role will be is lacking</i>	<i>The finance industry is moving forward to require biodiversity-related disclosures, but we lack usable, valid ways to measure biodiversity in this context</i>

Project Approaches

The Corvus Centre will undertake its work on a project-by-project basis. While each project will tie to the Conservation Themes, it will take one of the following two approaches:

Applied and Applying Research

Projects that focus on undertaking applied research or on actively incorporating science and evidence into decision making in support of biodiversity

Program Facilitation

Projects that focus on providing capacity, training, or expertise, or otherwise improving the ability of decision makers to deliver programs in support of biodiversity



Knowledge Mobilization

An essential function of the Centre will be to actively inform and catalyze the policy discussion around biodiversity conservation, working to both 'bring in' background knowledge and to 'send out' information.

Conservation Policy Dissemination

Developing and delivering presentations, webinars, blogs, papers, opinion pieces, and newsletters on an on-going basis to catalyze and maintain an on-going dialogue around conservation policy

Conservation Policy Intelligence

Undertaking and supporting polling, surveys, and data analysis that provides background intelligence in support of conservation policy

Target Partners

The Corvus Centre will seek to work with the decision-making entities with the greatest impact on the conservation of biodiversity, which means targeting the following:

Local Government	Environmental NGOs	Provincial Government	Federal Government
<i>Councils, staff, and boards of local governments who are involved in decision-making that affects biodiversity</i>	<i>Conservation-oriented NGOs looking to better understand policy context, manage conservation programs, or better apply science and evidence</i>	<i>Provincial agencies and their staff seeking to better understand and improve decision-making with regard to biodiversity conservation</i>	<i>Federal agencies and their staff seeking to better understand and improve decision-making with regard to biodiversity conservation</i>

NB: The Corvus Centre recognizes that working with these Target Partners means also working with the variety of academic, consultancy, industry, First Nation, community, and other partners who assist the Target Partners in conceiving and implementing their decisions.



Organizational Structure

The Corvus Centre will be overseen by a trim Board and anchored by a small staff that executes its work via a dispersed model of capacity, allowing it to match capacity to opportunity.

Board	Staff	Research & Program Advisors	Contractors	Implementation Partners
<i>A governance Board of 3 to 7 people</i>	<i>Small staff complement</i>	<i>Advisory body to support project development</i>	<i>Individual contracts on a project basis</i>	<i>Network of 'implementation partners'</i>

Fitting the Pieces Together

The following diagram shows how the pieces fit together. A given activity would need to draw a connecting line through at least one piece in each column.

