

Alberta Land Trust Alliance Workshop

March 27 - 28, 2008
Nisku, Alberta

Presented by Dave Walker
Executive Director, Canadian Land Trust Alliance





Evolution of Canadian Land Trust Alliance (CLTA)

National Stewardship Conference,
Victoria, B.C., Spring 2003

The idea for a national land trust coalition grew out of an informal meeting of land trust practitioners.

Chaffey's Locks, Ontario, Fall 2004

Attended by land trust representatives from every region of Canada. Consensus was reached to create and incorporate a national land trust coalition. A National Steering Committee was formed.

Kelowna, B.C., Spring 2005

Agreement was reached on a governance framework including:

- members and Board will be co-terminus (i.e., Board members would be the voting members of the new organization)
- Board membership would consist of the following:
 - one member elected by the board from each of five regions of Canada (B.C., Prairies, Ontario, Quebec and Atlantic), one Board member from each of the Nature Conservancy of Canada and Ducks Unlimited Canada and two Board members elected at large



Barrie, Ontario, Fall 2005

- continued work to refine By-Law #1

Canmore, Alberta, Spring 2006

- motion to adopt By-law # 1 and proceed with incorporation

April 3, 2006 - CLTA - ADOCC was incorporated

Cornerbrook, Newfoundland, July 5, 2006

- newly elected Board of Directors of the CLTA held its first Board meeting under the direction of Chair Jim Smith



Governance

By-Law #1

- The Board has a maximum membership of 11
- The Governance Committee will seek nominations from “recognized representatives” from each of five regions and two national organizations
 - Atlantic
 - Quebec
 - Ontario
 - Prairies and North
 - British Columbia and the Yukon
 - Ducks Unlimited - Canada
 - Nature Conservancy of Canada

Governance

By-Law #1 (con't)

- The Board has followed the policy that, where a provincial land trust alliance exists in a region that alliance will be the “recognized representative”. The nominee is to represent all associate members and supporters in that region.
- The remaining four Board positions will be filled by individuals that bring an identified skill set to the organization. Three of the four positions are currently filled.
 - Brent Burns, CLTA Treasurer - A C.A. and former treasurer of the Canadian Red Cross
 - Karen Cooper - A tax lawyer with Carter’s Professional Corporation and well respected for her knowledge in governance issues for non profit organizations
 - Jay Espy - Former President of the U.S. Land Trust Alliance and currently Executive Director of the Sewell Foundation



Members & Supporters

- Charter Members - Individuals members of the CLTA Board of Directors. These are the voting members of the organization.
- Associate Members - Not for profit organizations that as all or part of their mission, actively work to conserve land by undertaking or assisting in land acquisition or conservation agreements, or by engaging in stewardship of such land or conservation agreements. Associate members can include Provincial and regional land trust alliances.
- Supporters - Government, public agencies, quasi-governmental organizations, non-government organizations and corporations, allied professionals and individuals that have an interest in the land trust movement.

Membership Policies

- As a condition of membership all Associate Members must provide written confirmation of the organization's acceptance/adoption of the 2005 Canadian Land Trust Standards and Practices as the ethical and technical guidelines for the responsible operation of a land trust and their organization must commit to making continual progress toward the implementation of these standards and practices.
- As per the Canadian Corporations Act, each Associate Member must be individually enrolled.
- The CLTA also requires that a membership fee be paid annually by each Associate Member and Supporter. Associate Member fees are based on the organizations operating budget and range from \$75 to \$1,000 annually. The membership fees provide about 5% of the total CLTA annual budget.

Mission

The mission of the Canadian Land Trust Alliance (CLTA) is to strengthen the land trust movement in Canada through education and training and promote voluntary conservation of private lands.

Member Programs

2005 Canadian Land Trust Standards and Practices

To develop and work with member groups to implement the *2005 Canadian Land Trust Standards and Practices* to ensure the continued confidence of funders, donors and regulatory bodies.

- Worked with the land trust community to “Canadianize” the US Land Trust Alliance (US LTA) Standards and Practices
- Completed the first technical update in June 2007
- Developed the publication *Assessing Your Organization Using the 2005 Canadian Land Trust Standards and Practices*
- Signed an MOU with the US LTA for the use of their intellectual property including the Standards and Practices and all supporting documents including their educational curriculum in support of the Standards and Practices
- About to launch a members only website with documents, templates and publications to support the implementation of the *2005 Canadian Land Trust Standards and Practices*

Member Programs (con't)

Conferences and Workshops

- Developed the successful 2007 National Land Trust Conference
- Planning the second annual National Conference, *Work That Endures - Power to the People Keeping Places Alive*, September 25 - 27, Quebec City
- Working with Provincial Alliances in supporting provincial workshops/conferences

Member Programs (con't)

American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts

- Agreement with this US charity to provide administrative services in helping this organization accept donations from US residents in support of Canadian Land Trusts

Member Programs (con't)

NCC - Government of Canada Natural Areas Conservation Program

- The CLTA does not administer this program but CLTA Associate members are qualified recipients



Outreach

- About to launch a quarterly email newsletter for CLTA Associate Members and Supporters
- Maintain a website at www.clta.ca
- Represent the interests and increase the profile of the members of the CLTA with policy and decision makers
- Currently working on behalf of member land trusts in representing our members with Parks Canada, Environment Canada and in discussions regarding the new National Trust initiative



CLTA Board and Organizational Development

- Building strength of the CLTA Board with individuals that have the skill sets and connections required to help the organization and associate members meet their objectives
- Starting to build a committee structure
 - Governance
 - Fund Development
 - Education
 - Communications
 - Government Relations
- Continue to build membership in the organization
- 2008 budget about \$250,000

Current Stats

46 Associate Members representing:

- # of acres held in fee simple 580,000
- # of acres held in conservation agreement 2,625,000
- Total operating budgets \$118,000,000
- # of members and donors 215,000
- # of volunteers 26,000
- Total staff 921

Canadian Land Trust Alliance

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