

## 2024 ILCN GLOBAL CONGRESS QUEBEC, CANADA, 16-18 OCTOBER 2024 **RELATIONSHIPS FOR A RESILIENT WORLD**

The International Land Conservation Network (ILCN), a program of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, is now organizing its fourth Global Congress. The gathering will be held in October 2024 outside of Quebec City, Canada.

The Global Congress will engage senior civic and private sector conservation practitioners as well as public policy experts and academics from six continents. It will bring the world to Quebec and highlight Quebec and Canada's conservation achievements for the world. One of the key focuses of the conference will be the importance of building meaningful relations on the land with Indigenous communities and supporting Indigenous-led conservation initiatives across Canada.

In the tradition of earlier ILCN Global Congresses held in 2015 in Berlin, Germany, in 2018 in Santiago, Chile, and in 2021 in Barcelona, Spain and online, Congress participants will recognize exceptional leaders who have made lasting contributions to regional land conservation efforts. Past recipients of the Conservation Visionary Award include: the European Community for its leadership in creating the European Land Conservation Network; public and civic organizations in Chile for the establishment of the 11-million-hectare *Ruta de los Parques* corridor of protected lands; and the public, private, civic and academic institutions in Catalonia, Spain that have, over the past half-century, protected about a third of the region's territory.

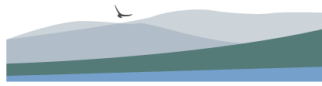
### **About the Congress**

There is a growing understanding around the world that halting catastrophic biodiversity loss, securing functioning ecosystems, and ensuring quality of life and livelihoods for communities through nature-based solutions to climate change will take unprecedented partnership and collaboration across sectors, borders, and barriers. In December 2022, countries from across the world came together to agree upon a global target to protect 30 per cent of Earth's lands and waters by 2030 (30x30), an immense call to action. Rising to this challenge requires increased capacity at every scale and across all sectors of society.

Non-profit and non-governmental organizations and initiatives advancing voluntary, long-term, and effective land conservation on privately owned or managed lands will play a key role in complementing Indigenous-led and government-led land protection efforts to reach the 30x30 goal. Whether working at the local, regional, or national scales, these organizations – land trusts, conservancies, and other conservation organizations on almost every continent – bring remarkable dedication, experience, and expertise to the table. The International Land Conservation Network (ILCN) serves this community of practice by fostering knowledge exchange and leveraging global expertise to build capacity for more effective, trusted, and enduring land conservation.

The ILCN's triennial Global Congress brings together experts and practitioners in person for peer-to-peer learning and to sustain and nurture meaningful relationships amongst our participants. The convenings serve as an invaluable opportunity for inspiration, reflection, and capacity-building through workshops on key themes and issues in conservation finance; land stewardship and management; law and policy; organization and governance; and large landscape conservation.

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Reports and information on previous Global Congresses can be found [here](#).

## Canada 2024

The ILCN will mark its 10th anniversary by co-hosting the 2024 Global Congress with the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC). Canada is a leader in private and civic land conservation globally, with non-governmental organizations and Indigenous communities helping to lead a growing community that protects hundreds of millions of hectares of ecologically significant lands across the nation.

Canada is also at the forefront of a movement to advance Indigenous-led conservation in the spirit of reconciliation. There is a contentious history and practice of colonial conservation models in Canada, one that is being healed through amplifying traditional Indigenous knowledge and science. The conservation through reconciliation approach recognizes the importance of the Indigenous-led conservation movement and is driven by the imperative for cultural respect, equality in value and practice of diverse conservation systems, and strengthening collective efforts by rooting conservation in reciprocity and mutual care.

The Congress is not just an important opportunity for the global private and civic land conservation community to learn from unique experience in Canada and its leadership in some of the most challenging issues facing conservation today. It also presents an opportunity to bring that learning to nations around the world – to collaborate effectively across the Indigenous, private, public, civic, and academic sectors so that individuals and organizations are better equipped and enabled to contribute their unique voices, knowledge, and talent to achieving the 30x30 target.

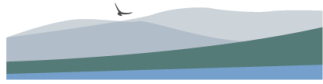
## Congress Theme: Relationships for a Resilient World

Relationships – between people, and between people and nature – are at once the base of the challenges facing conservation and the basis of their most promising solutions. Yet efforts to build capacity in conservation more often focus on technical skills or financial acumen than the relationship-building that undergirds and sustains land conservation and stewardship. Achieving voluntary, durable, and effective land conservation and stewardship at the scale required to address the social and environmental challenges we face now and in the future hinges on forging, strengthening, and nurturing meaningful relationships that transform conservation practice and unlock the door to a resilient, thriving world.

The 2024 Global Congress program will have an overarching theme of “Relationships for a Resilient World.” Congress plenaries, workshops and speakers will highlight how areas of primary importance – from securing sustainable financing for conservation to achieving long-term stewardship of conserved areas – depend upon acting collaboratively and relating ethically.

- Advance a whole of society approach, across sectors, engaging public agencies, private interests, non-profit/NGO organizations, Indigenous communities, academic institutions, and religious groups; in particular, explore how respectful NGOs can assist Indigenous-led initiative during land and water conservation project planning and implementation efforts
- Build through case studies and discussions a better community-of-practice understanding of how regional conservation and climate change partnerships (so called RCCPs) can bring together a broad spectrum of conservation organizations to achieve ambitious regional funding and land stewardship objectives

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INTERNATIONAL  
LAND CONSERVATION  
NETWORK

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- Recognize the achievements of the Canadian private and civic conservation community of practice on an international stage
- Equip private and civic land conservation organizations with the ideas, tools, and innovative practices they need to support 30x30 and address challenges associated with climate change; in particular, facilitate the ability of private and civic conservation initiatives to be registered with the World Conservation Monitoring Center (WCMC) and potentially identifiable in the IUCN's Protected Planet database, and
- Help build productive and lasting relationships among Congress participants and between practitioners from around the world, leading to continued knowledge exchange, sharing of expertise, and sense of global community.

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