



ANNUAL REPORT

April 1 2025 - March 31 2026

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we gather for our Annual General Meeting I always find that I'm blown away how quickly another year has passed. This is a moment for us to pause, reflect, and celebrate what we have achieved together—and this past year is no exception. Thanks to the commitment of our supporters, the leadership of our Board, and the dedication of our staff, CPAWS Yukon continues to advance lasting conservation grounded in collaboration, storytelling, and respect for Indigenous stewardship.

Last year when we came together at this time, we were able to celebrate the announcement that Chasàn Chuà had been designated as a territorial park. Over this past year, we have remained engaged with the steering committee making comments on the final boundaries and management plan. The CPAWS team has also continued to amplify calls for a public review of the Eagle Mine heap leach disaster, and many of you attended one of our events advocating for the protection of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and the Porcupine Caribou herd.

This year has also been a year of transition for us here at CPAWS. We said a fond farewell to Judith, Randi, and Dakota, and we welcomed Aelyia and Julia to the team. These changes to our team bring both challenge and opportunity. Challenge as we carefully balance our capacity to honor our commitments, and opportunity to create space for us to reassess our priorities, strengthen organizational systems, develop emerging leaders, and bring fresh perspectives to our work.

I want to extend my sincere gratitude to our staff team. Their expertise, creativity, and resilience drive our success. They navigate complex files, tight timelines, and evolving political contexts with professionalism and integrity. I am equally grateful to our Board of Directors, whose governance, strategic oversight, and steadfast commitment provide both direction and accountability.

To our donors, volunteers, and members: thank you. Your financial contributions, time, and advocacy amplify our impact. Because of your support, CPAWS Yukon remains an independent and credible voice for conservation in this territory. You enable us to respond when it matters most and to sustain long-term efforts that protect wild spaces and the species that depend on them.

As we look ahead, our resolve remains strong. The challenges facing northern ecosystems—climate change, biodiversity loss, and increasing development pressures—are significant. Yet so too is the opportunity. The Yukon continues to demonstrate that thoughtful planning and collaborative leadership can yield global examples of conservation success. CPAWS Yukon will continue to bring forward evidence-based solutions, foster partnerships, and champion ambitious conservation goals that reflect the values of Yukoners. Together, we are ensuring that the Yukon's wild landscapes endure. Not only as places of ecological richness, but as living foundations for culture, community, and future generations.

Thank you for walking with us.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Chris Pinkerton". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Chris Pinkerton
Executive Director, CPAWS Yukon

OUR 2025-2026 TEAM

Staff

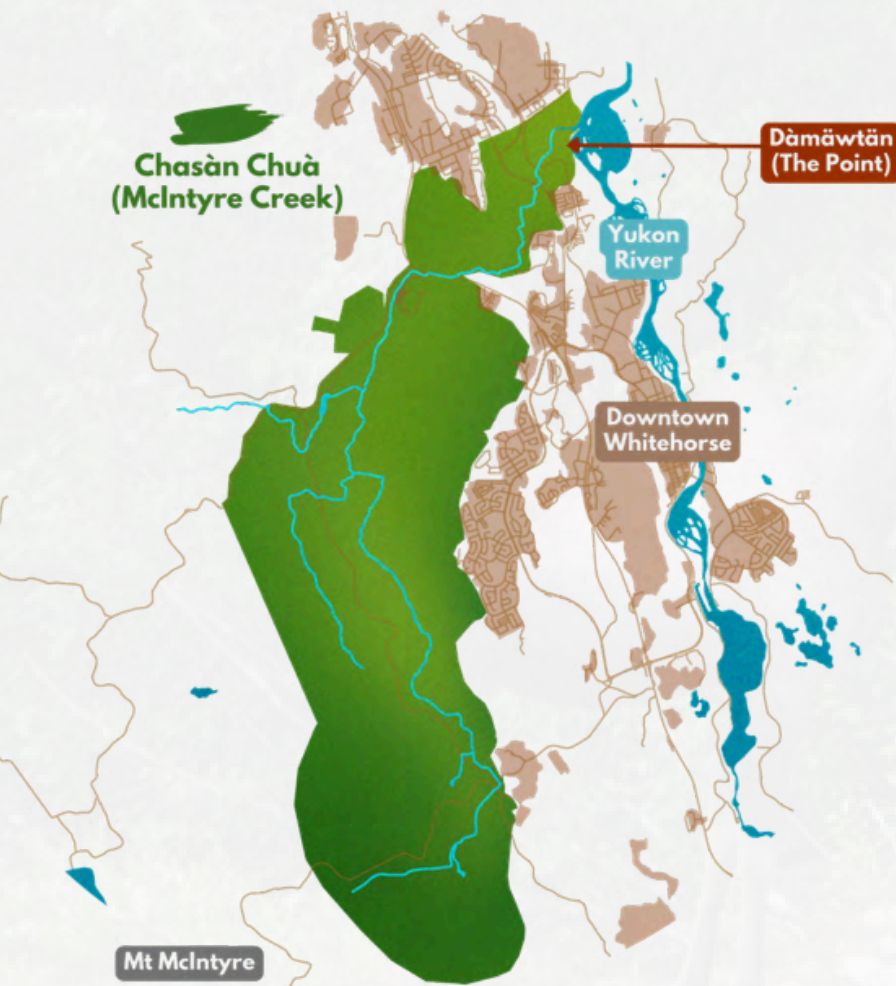
Chris Pinkerton, Executive Director
Aelyia Brick, Operations Manager
Joti Røsholt, Outreach Manager
Nicole Schafenacker, Community Outreach Coordinator
Adil Darvesh, Communications Manager
Paula Gomez Villalba, Communications Coordinator
Randi Newton, Conservation Manager
Dakotah Tomah, Conservation Coordinator
Malkolm Boothroyd, Campaign Coordinator
Laurence Fox, Conservation Coordinator
Tali Pukier, Conservation Intern

Board of Directors

Jill Pangman, Chair
Heather Swystun, Vice Chair
Barb Buyck, Treasurer
Sandy Johnston, Director
Jim Boyde, Director
Nicole Percival, Director
Loreena Dobson, Director



CONSERVATION



Chasàn Chùà became a territorial park! This year, a joint announcement between Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, the City of Whitehorse, and Yukon government officially designated the Chasàn Chùà area as Chasàn Chùà Territorial Park. Covering approximately 36 square kilometres, the park extends from the confluence of the Yukon River and Chasàn Chùà (McIntyre Creek) near Dàmäwtän (The Point), and along the creek until the City of Whitehorse municipal boundary. The ecological region would connect to the Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) area.

This success is the product of decades of advocacy from many supporters and groups such as the Friends of McIntyre Creek, Yukon Conservation Society, CPAWS Yukon, and many more. It's a testament to how many people are impacted by the area and how your strong advocacy can make a tangible difference for the future of green spaces.

Care for the Creek promotes learning about this important wildlife corridor and repairing the damage of decades of improper use. This year, we hosted a botanical drawing workshop with the talented Misha Donohoe and a walk Along the Water with Jennifer Mireau. Both events had amazing turnouts with participants sharing stories, knowledge, and good company.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the process over the decades, from speaking at City Hall, showing off your "I love Chasàn Chùà" stickers, and attending Care for the Creek events throughout the last few years.

The announcement of Chasàn Chùà Territorial Park was a very exciting day, however there is still much work to be done. A management plan for the park will need developed by Yukon Parks, overseen by a new Yukon government, which was elected this year.

In October, the Yukon underwent a territorial election with numerous important topics on everyone's mind.

Nature protection was one of the major points of concern for many Yukoners; illustrated by polling numbers that CPAWS commissioned earlier in the year. With over 79% of respondents supporting Yukon government's commitments to advance conservation initiatives, it was clear that the incoming government would need to have a strong plan for the environment.

CPAWS Yukon, along with the Yukon Conservation Society, organized an All-Party Forum for the Environment. This forum was an opportunity for each major party in the Yukon to speak about their environmental platforms and address concerns from various organizations and Yukoners. The forum was also an opportunity for CPAWS Yukon to continue fostering relationships with other environmental organizations such as the Yukon Conservation Society, To Swim and Speak with Salmon, For Their Future Yukon, Reconnection Vision, and the Wildlife Conservation Society – Canada.

It was clear from the approximately 150 Yukoners who showed up, and the dozens who watched online, that the next Yukon government would have lots of work to do to address regional planning, mining, and protecting wildlife such as caribou.



As the year continued, our attention shifted to politics outside of the territory. The U.S. administration, once again, sought to barrel forward with their oil and gas leasing program in the Arctic Refuge. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management opened applications for land tract nominations in the Refuge, including in the calving grounds of the Porcupine Caribou Herd. The sale raised a dismal 0.2 percent of the USD \$1.8 billion the U.S. administration had previously projected the leasing program would generate. While we are pleased to see the lack of interest by industry in the Coastal Plains, we are still concerned for the future of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and Arctic Refuge and will continue to advocate strongly for its permanent protection.

As the Porcupine Caribou Herd garnered lots of attention this past year, the Fortymile Herd will be at the forefront of the next one. In early May, the Dawson Regional Planning Commission released the highly anticipated Final Recommended Dawson Regional Land Use Plan. As we gear up for the new year, the Dawson Regional Land Use Plan will be a high priority for our advocacy work.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

A large part of our success over the last year came from the community outreach programs that our team put together. We had one of our busiest years in recent memory, organizing two separate community canoe trips, numerous public walks and talks, art unveilings, and our always fun holiday open house.

Our biggest project of the year was a canoe trip with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun in the Stewart Watershed, and one with Ross River Dena Council along Tu DesDes (Pelly River).

These kinds of community trips provide a unique opportunity for participants to experience the land in an important way, bridging the gap between knowing and understanding what these landscapes look like, feel like, smell like, and need for their current and future health.

Joti and Nicole from our Outreach Team collaborated with the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun to put together an 8-day trip travelling along the Stewart River passing the confluences of the Nadaleen and Beaver rivers and with views of Ddhaw Cho (Ortell Mountain). Together with filmmaker Bethany Paquette, the group experienced the ebbs and flows of being on the river together sharing stories of ancestors past, and hopes for the future.



At the same time, Laurence Fox and Chris Pinkerton worked alongside Ross River Dena Council to organize a slightly different river trip. Travelling from the community of Tū Łídlini(Ross River) to Faro, Laurence and Chris helped our guide, Jane Vincent, create a family-friendly paddle skills and on-the-land experience. Numerous youth joined the trip, providing an opportunity to connect to the land and water with all the support they would need.

Organizing these kinds of trips is a product of close relationships that we seek to build and foster. Community visits give us the opportunity to build these relationships and hear directly from citizens about how we can best work together, through a lens of Reconciliation, equity, and honesty.



Healthy and intact ecosystems connect us emotionally, culturally, and physically. Drastic change, like from a wildfire for example, can have lasting impacts on the land and on our minds. The Superbloom Anthology sought to explore climate resilience in the North through art and storytelling. Together with Dechinta Centre for Research and Learning, our Outreach Coordinator, Nicole Schafenacker and artist Krystle Silverfox, put together an anthology and art display showcasing those emotions.

Displayed at the Yukon Arts Centre, Superbloom exhibit was a way to connect and find common threads amongst all of us being impacted by our changing world.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our work over the year. We couldn't have done any of it without you showing up, speaking out, and ensuring that nature can thrive in the Yukon.

Raise Your Voice!

Navigating and getting involved in the mining review process



For those of you living in the Yukon, the impacts of mining and development is hard to miss. From the roads we travel to explore, to the abandoned wells littered around the Copper Belt in Whitehorse.

But how do these projects get approved? Navigating the regulatory process in the Yukon can be a challenge due to the numerous steps involved.

Tali Pukier, Conservation Intern, spent her summer putting together a helpful guide for all of us as we pay close attention to the numerous projects in the territory. This guide dives into where to access information, at all stages of a project's lifetime, as well as how and when you can share your opinion about proposed and active mining!



Step 1 Impact Assessment

Submit a comment through YESAB during a two week window



Step 2 Water License

Submit a comment through Waterline or attend a public hearing.



Step 3 Land Use Permit

Stay up to date on permits through the Mining Land Use Registry.



Step 4 Monitoring and Inspection

Check in on mining operations through their monitoring and inspection reports.

This handy guide, also in an easy-to-follow brochure, is available at our office and online at cpawsyukon.org/mining-process.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for events, workshops, and rallies. Here are a few highlights from the year.



Against The Odds Book Tour with Drew Ann Wake, chronicles the legal career of Thomas R. Berger, highlighting his work advocating for Indigenous rights. Drew Ann joined us at the CPAWS office as well as in Dawson City and at the Northern Tutchone May Gathering to read excerpts from her book and share stories from her time travelling to communities and the Supreme Court of Canada. .

Join the Herd, an evening for the Porcupine Caribou Herd was hosted at the Yukon Arts Centre in collaboration with The Caribou Art Project. This project brings together contributions from ten artists and features 30 life-sized caribou in an immersive soundscape. We joined their opening to share updates about the Arctic Refuge with guest speakers from Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation.



In preparation for our on-the-land canoe trips with Ross River Dena Council and the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun, CPAWS staff hosted multiple canoe skill days in Whitehorse and Mayo. These training opportunities were part of our plan to ensure water safety, comfort for participants, and opportunities to get outside and experience landscapes in a different way.

Our Life of the Boreal and Care for the Creek community events were a huge success. This year we hosted a plant pressing workshop, sensory walk through Chasàn Chùà, botanical drawing workshop and more. These events have been an amazing way to connect with people, place, and the landscapes that we hold so dear.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

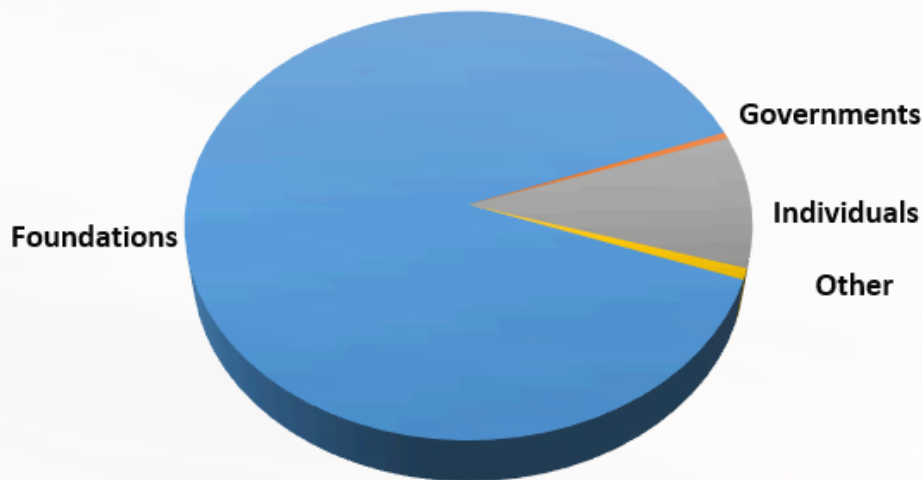
Thank you to everyone who supports our work! Your donations help us advocate for people, plants, wildlife, and a healthy future!

CJ Foundation - Consecon Foundation - Canada Summer Jobs (Government of Canada) - MakeWay Foundation - Patagonia.org Impact Fund - National Audubon Society - The Conservation Alliance - Weston Foundation - Wilburforce Foundation - Wyss Foundation

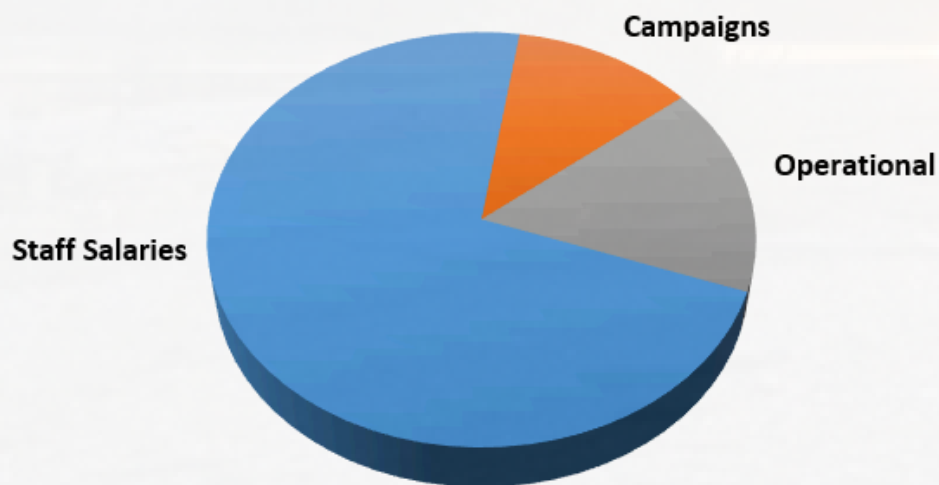
And a heartfelt thank you to many anonymous donors, one-time, and monthly donors, and all of you who support our work!

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2025-26 Revenues \$1,249,469



2025-26 Expenses \$1,032,476



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

ASSETS	
Cash	519,133
Prepaid Expenses	2,268
Marketable Securities	332,539
Accounts Receivable	174,858
Property, Plant, and Equipment	602,018
Total Assets	\$1,630,816

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	73,322
Deferred Revenue	43,475
Internally Restricted Fund – Reserve Fund	664,775
Capital Assets	602,018
Other Net Assets	247,226
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$1,630,816

LEARN MORE



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