

21 Finalists Announced for 2024 Land Awards

BC leaders in sustainable, equitable, and socially just land use to be honoured June 13

Vancouver, BC / xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Skwxwú7mesh, and səlilwətaʔ territories (May 6, 2024)

Twenty-one projects leading the way in sustainable, equitable, and socially just land use and real estate are finalists for the [2024 Land Awards](#).

The [Real Estate Foundation of BC](#) (REFBC) will reveal the winners in five project categories, as well as the recipients of the Land Champion and Emerging Leader awards, at the [2024 Land Awards Gala](#) on June 13 in Vancouver.

Established in 2010, the biennial awards program recognizes outstanding projects and leaders that protect the lands and waters we love and create sustainable, inclusive, and resilient communities.

“We’re excited to celebrate remarkable leaders and organizations forging better relationships between lands, waters, and people,” said [Mark Gifford](#), CEO of REFBC. “By sharing success stories from across BC, we hope to build bridges and inspire lasting change.”

The 2024 Land Awards finalists are listed below, by project category.

Land Use and Conservation

- **Lílwat Forestry Ventures**
Qwelqwelústen/Mount Meager Landslide Restoration
- **Nadleh Whut’en First Nation, Stelat’en First Nation & Society for Ecosystem Restoration in Northern BC**
Yun Ghunli (Defenders of the Land)
- **Nature-Based Solutions Foundation**
IPCA Conservation Financing for Endangered Ecosystems
- **W̱SÁNEĆ School Board**
ᐢᐢᐢᐢᐢᐢ Revitalization Project

Fresh Water

- **Comox Valley Project Watershed Society**
Kus-kus-sum: Unpave Paradise

- **Kingfisher Interpretive Centre Society**
Conservation Through Education
- **Living Lakes Canada**
Columbia Basin Water Monitoring Framework
- **Nature Trust of BC**
Enhancing Estuary Resilience: An Innovative Approach to Sustaining Fish and Fish Habitat in a Changing Climate
- **Watershed Watch Salmon Society**
Connected Waters: Working Together for a Resilient Floodplain

Built Environment

- **BC Transit**
Victoria handyDART Centre
- **Climate Caucus**
Managing Natural Assets: Handbook for Local Governments
- **Kambo Energy Group**
Empower Me
- **NUQO Modular & Squamish Nation**
Eskékwí7ch t'l'a Sp'ákw'us Place
- **Pembina Institute, BC Non-Profit Housing Association, City of Vancouver & Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation**
Reframed Initiative and Lab

Food Sovereignty

- **Nawalakw**
Nawalakw Community Farm
- **Rivershed Society of BC**
s̓c̓e:ʔxʷəy̓əm/Salmon River – Foodlands Corridor Restoration Program
- **Salish Sea Regenerative Farm Society**
Salish Sea Regenerative Farm

Real Estate

- **BC Northern Real Estate Board**
Water and Land Sustainability Issues Webinar Series

- **Greater Vancouver Realtors**
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Campaign
- **Musqueam Indian Band & Musqueam Capital Corporation**
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- **Real Estate Institute of BC**
Advancing Excellence Initiative

Nominations for project awards are judged by committees composed of community leaders and subject-matter experts. To evaluate projects, judges considered innovation, impact, collaboration, and engagement; sustainability, equity, and social justice; Indigenous self-determination and reconciliation; and climate mitigation and adaptation.

The winners of the individual awards are selected by a panel of past chairs of REFBC's Board of Governors. The **Land Champion** award recognizes a person who has made exemplary and lasting contributions to land use, conservation, freshwater or food systems, community planning, or real estate practices in BC. The **Emerging Leader** award goes to a person or small group (age 35 or younger) who inspires and empowers others and has demonstrated early successes and the capacity to make wider change.

The 2024 Land Awards Gala will take place at Arras Banquet & Event Space. Featured guests include emcee **Angela Sterritt Lu Algaxit Ts'im Xsblist**, author of *Unbroken*; poet 'Cúagilákv **Jess Housty**, author of *Crushed Wild Mint*; and artist **K.C. Hall**.

Join the conversation: [#LandAwards @REFBC](#)

Learn more: landawards.com

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About Us

The Real Estate Foundation of BC (REFBC) is a philanthropic organization working to advance sustainable, equitable, and socially just land use across BC. We fund projects, connect people, and share knowledge.

Learn more: refbc.ca