



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Canada's stewards to meet in Calgary

From July 8-11, 2009, Calgary will play host to the 4<sup>th</sup> national stewardship and conservation conference. Held every three years, this is *the* national conference where Canada's stewards meet to discuss emerging issues and develop solutions for the best possible stewardship of Canada's environment.

These conferences attract participants from a wide range of backgrounds from across Canada and beyond, including community groups, Aboriginal groups, researchers, educators, land managers, non-profit conservation and stewardship organizations, industry, and all levels of government.

*Strengthening Stewardship...investing at every step*: Stewardship and Conservation in Canada 2009 will be held at the MacEwan Conference & Event Centre in the University of Calgary, Alberta.

The conference program includes panel discussions, case study and poster presentations on: human health and the environment, climate change, biofuels and food security, watershed management, species at risk, grassland protection, wetland restoration, economic instruments to encourage stewardship, stewardship innovations, and the value and durability of stewardship solutions. Conference participants will together chart a roadmap for supporting, recognizing and integrating environmental stewardship into the way we live and do business in Canada and beyond.

Keynotes at the conference include Preston Manning, former Member of Canadian Parliament and author of *Think Big* describing his use of the tools and institutions of democracy to change Canada's national agenda, Monte Hummel, President Emeritus of World Wildlife Fund Canada, Hon. Ted Morton, Minister of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development and Hon. Rob Renner, Minister of Alberta Environment, Don Ruzicka, and Dr. David Swann.

"If we want our next generation to care for the environment, we have to show them why it is important to care for it", says Don Ruzicka, an organic farmer from east-central Alberta and keynote speaker at the conference. Don is presenting on environmental stewardship in agriculture, along with Dr. David Swann who is addressing human health on this topic.

In advance of the conference, organizers are also inviting members of the public, non-profit organizations, government and industry to comment on the *State of Stewardship in Canada* report. Formal responses to the report will be made at the conference by industry, government and non-government organization. This specially-prepared report reviews current policy, strategies and tools that support conservation and stewardship of the environment in Canada. Comments received on-line at [www.stewardship2009.ca](http://www.stewardship2009.ca) will also guide development of the Strategic Stewardship Road Map; the published declaration that will be carried forward from the conference.

Conference sponsors include: Land Stewardship Centre of Canada, Alberta Government, Alberta Real Estate Foundation, Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia, Suncor Energy Foundation, Government of Canada, Wildlife Habitat Canada, Valuing Nature: Stewardship & Conservation in Canada 2006, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Alberta Land Trust Alliance, Strathcona County, Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, ConocoPhillips, Aquality Environmental Consulting Limited, Alberta Beef Producers and Conservation Ontario.

Additional information available at: [www.stewardship2009.ca](http://www.stewardship2009.ca)

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