



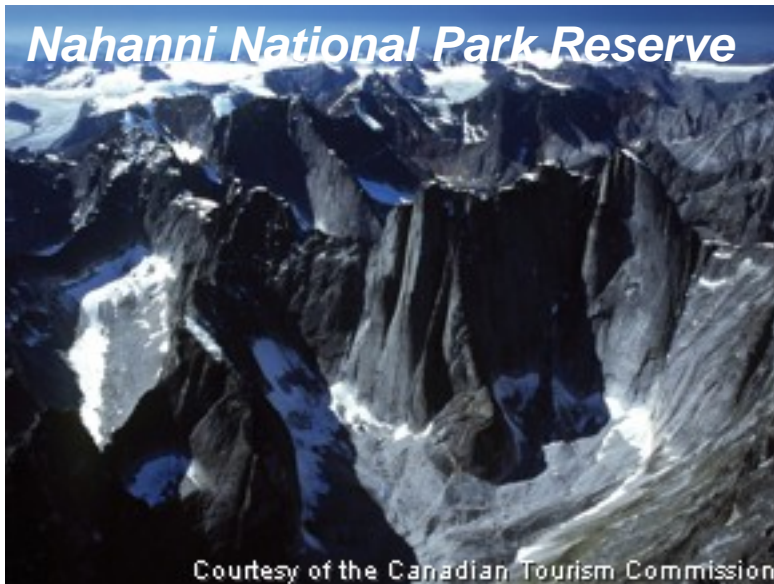
Working Together to Sustain Urban Biodiversity and Enrich the Quality of Life in Cities



*Global Partnership
Cities & Biodiversity
Curitiba, Brazil
Bonnie James*



Canadians take pride in their “nature nation”

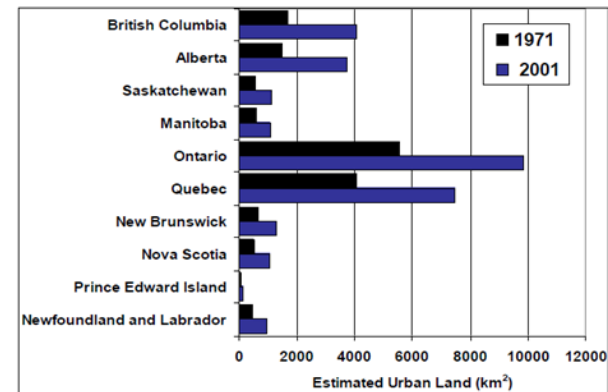


...with large relatively intact ecosystems.....

However, most Canadians Live in Cities ...



Expansion of Urban Land an Indicator of Change

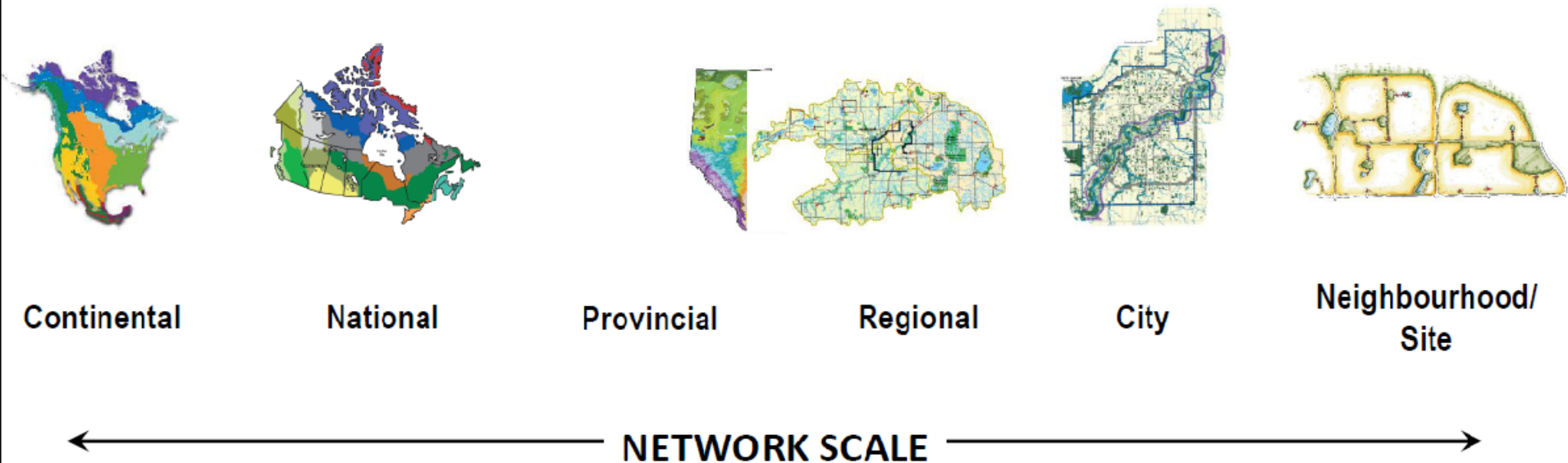


Over 80% of Canadians live in "urban areas" with more than 400 persons per square kilometer, and over 60% live in cities of more than 100,000 people

...and the footprint of those cities is increasing...

Biodiversity Planning is taking place at a Variety of Scales

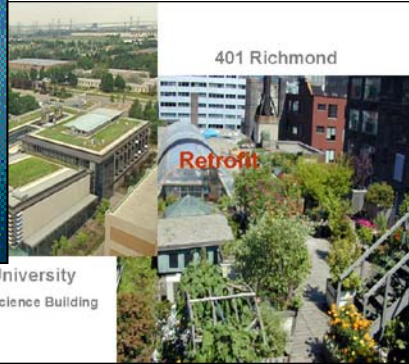
- Connecting plans from the continental to the local level creates ecological networks important for biodiversity conservation and adaptation to a changing climate
- Promotes systems thinking, facilitates intergovernmental collaboration



Signs of Leadership & Innovation in Canadian Cities



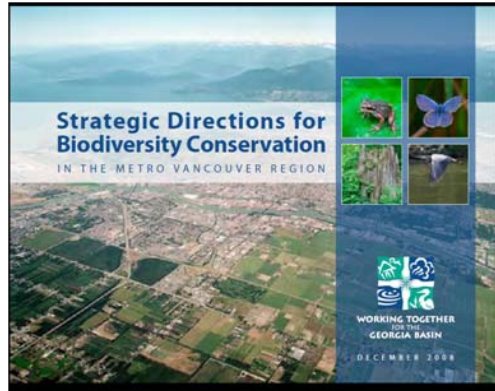
Toronto



York University
Computer Science Building



Montreal



CITY of EDMONTON
BIODIVERSITY REPORT | 2008



Edmonton

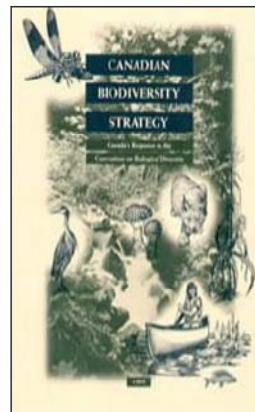
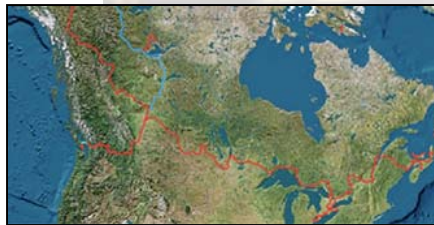


Guelph Pollination Park

Vancouver

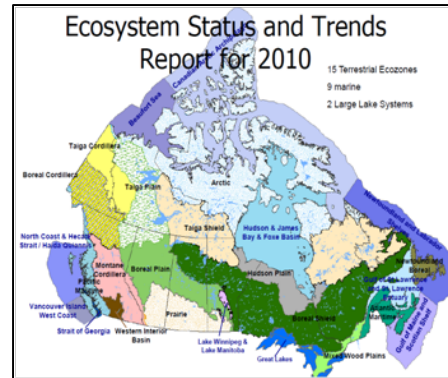
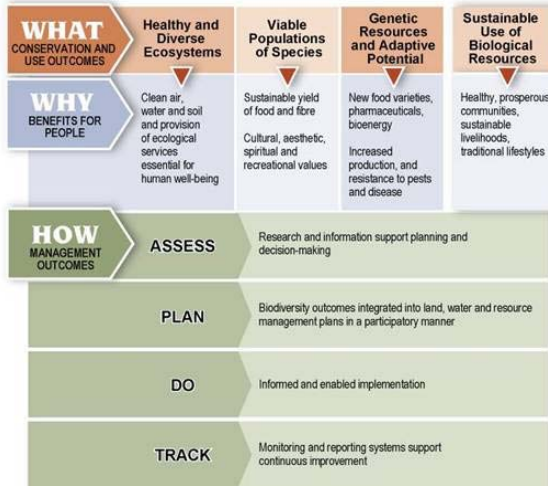
Building On Each Other's Strengths

- National Governments
- Provincial/Territorial Governments
- Local Governments
- Business
- ENGO
- Academia



A Prerequisite for Mainstreaming biodiversity at the local level.....

Working Together for Change: National governments can contribute to local efforts in a variety of ways....



National Goals and Targets

Scientific & Technical Support

Education & Outreach



Stewardship
Funding

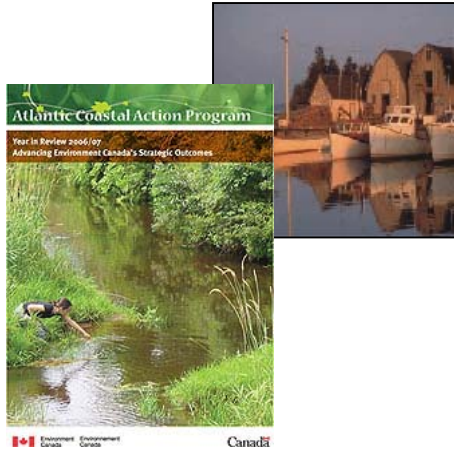


Dialogue & Partnerships



Place-Based Approaches

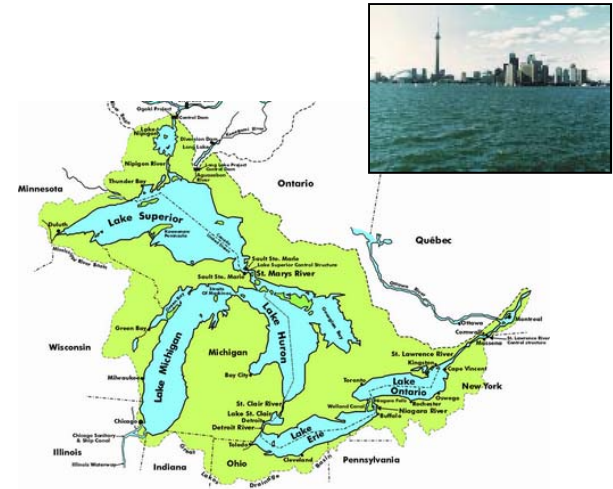
Developing eco-regional approaches can help to connect partners and achieve consensus on priorities



Atlantic Coastal Action Program

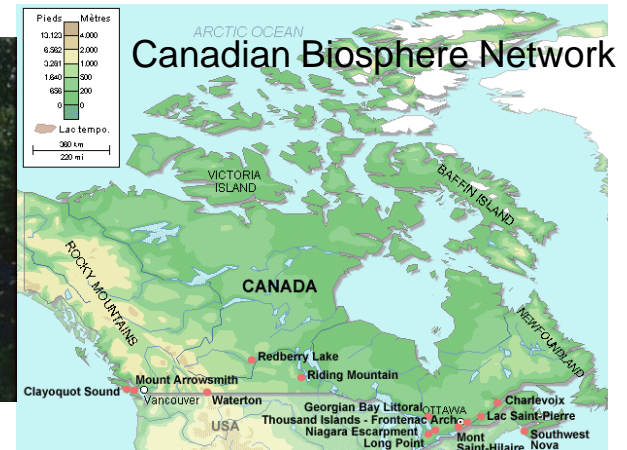
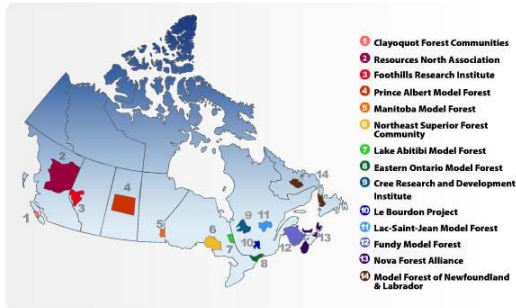


Saint Lawrence Plan



Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem Initiative

CANADIAN MODEL FORESTS



.... They can also help to connect people and communities to biodiversity

- The Trans Canada Trail provides city dwellers with access to natural areas with thriving ecosystems
- Today 80 percent of Canadians are within 30 minutes of completed sections of the Trail
- When complete, the Trail will link close to 1000 communities and over 33 million Canadians
- Provides great opportunity for kids and parents to explore nature together



Thank you!

Biodiversity is
life.



For further information:

Canadian Biodiversity Information Network:

<http://www.cbin.ec.gc.ca/2010/default.cfm?lang=eng>