

By making such gifts from U.S. donors tax deductible, AFoCLT has great potential to increase the pace and sustainability of land protection north of the border. It also can bring critical funding support to Canadian land trusts.



American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts

(AFoCLT)

Promoting conservation without borders

For more information or to sign your
land trust up for AFoCLT services,
please contact:

AFoCLT

c/o Bonnie Sutherland

Nova Scotia Nature Trust

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AFoCLT will operate on a cost-recovery basis, with annual fees paid by participating land trusts, and transaction fees payable either by the participating land trust or the donor. AFoCLT is currently seeking start-up funding and anticipates launching its first cross-border program by spring 2008.

Canada's wealth of spectacular landscapes draws admiring visitors from all over the world. People are attracted to Canada's array of natural resources, spectrum of outdoor activities, fascinating history, vibrant cities, and friendly people. Many who visit wish they could stay, and increasing numbers are investing in summer homes and second properties.



A large portion of non-Canadian landowners are from the United States. Private U.S. ownership is concentrated in Canada's most scenic, ecologically important areas along rivers, lakes, and coasts. In Nova Scotia, for example, as much as 25% of waterfront land in some counties is owned by U.S. residents.



Land trusts in Canada and U.S. landowners want to conserve the best of these important natural areas. But tax laws on both sides of the border currently present an almost insurmountable hurdle. The largest Canadian land trusts report that they all have potential conservation projects stymied by the financial burdens imposed by the Canadian tax system, and by lack of U.S. tax deductibility on gifts to a Canadian charity.



American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts (AFoCLT) was formed by a collaboration of conservationists on both sides of the border to facilitate preservation of these high priority natural areas. AFoCLT is a U.S.-based

non-profit that will partner with Canadian land trusts in their efforts to secure the future of some of Canada's signature landscapes.



U.S. residents will be able to donate cash, Canadian land, or a conservation easement over their land to AFoCLT and be eligible for the same tax benefits as would be available if the property was located south of the border. AFoCLT will seek special tax status in Canada so that donors of land, or interests in land, would not incur a capital gains tax on their gift.

