



Member of Parliament  
Pontiac-Kitigan Zibi  
Sophie Chatel

# *Green Guide for Members of Parliament: From Global to Local in the Outaouais*



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## Introduction – Message from the MP of Pontiac

Shortly after I was elected as the Member of Parliament for Pontiac, I launched the "For a Green and Prosperous Outaouais" initiative. This initiative aims to build bridges between our government's policies and programs and their local implementation. Every elected official has the power to mobilize and influence, turning international policies into concrete local actions. This process also provides valuable feedback to decision-makers, enriched with tangible examples and empirical data. In this way, this approach moves from global to local, then from local to global, illustrating the importance of a dynamic feedback loop in shaping public policy.

This initiative was born from my deep concern about climate change and my desire to take action alongside my community. I engaged in dialogue with elected officials from across the Outaouais, sustainable development organizations, farmers, entrepreneurs, community organizations, experts and engaged citizens. My goal was to understand how these actors, each committed to fighting climate change and advancing concrete solutions, perceived its impacts and envisioned a greener, more prosperous Outaouais. Together, we identified and implemented innovative and effective solutions tailored to our region.

There is something extraordinary about being elected by one's community. Each MP carries the voices of thousands of people. This means that every MP can amplify the work of environmental organizations and advocates, channeling the collective will of the community into meaningful action.

My initiative is built around eight key themes: (1) sustainable agriculture, (2) the digital economy and new technologies, (3) the green and circular economy, (4) sustainable forest management, (5) green, collective and active transportation, (6) sustainable tourism development, (7) housing strategy and (8) nature protection.

To bring this vision to life, I brought together exceptional people, innovative thinkers and strong community leaders, who share a commitment to tackling the challenges ahead. Through consultations and collaborative events, we harnessed local ingenuity and expertise to develop transformative solutions and direct our investments toward a shared goal. By coming together around essential themes like nature protection, we identified concrete actions and mobilized to implement them. Because it truly takes a village to build a better future.

Throughout this project, three key principles have shaped my approach:

**1. Bridging the federal and local levels:**

An essential role of an MP is to connect national policies with local realities. This means facilitating the communication of Canada's economic and ecological targets and ensuring their on-the-ground implementation. An MP can also help unlock federal funding for local environmental initiatives, such as installing electric vehicle charging stations, expanding bike path networks, and protecting natural spaces, helping these projects become reality.

**2. Empowering the community:**

A Member of Parliament has the unique ability to bring people together, engage key players, and rally collective action. When an initiative is backed by broad community support, an MP can play a vital role in fostering collaboration. Too often, environmental efforts remain siloed, limiting their impact. By breaking down those barriers, an MP can help ensure that action is more effective, coordinated, and far-reaching. In addition, an MP can guide community members toward funding opportunities and support their applications.

**3. Acting as an amplifier and connector:**

- Bringing together resources and efforts across all levels of government.
- Showcasing and supporting existing initiatives.
- Mobilizing the community to co-develop new solutions.
- Assisting with funding applications.

I encourage you to take similar steps in your communities to help build a greener and more prosperous Canada, one that not only our children and grandchildren can enjoy but also one they can actively preserve for generations to come. By launching your own initiative, you can mobilize your community, inspire concrete actions, and create a lasting impact.

Explore this guide to discover an overview of my approach and examples of projects developed with and for my community. I invite you to take up this challenge, foster local innovation, and contribute to a better future for all.

## Taking Action: Turning Our Discussions into Collective Action

Creating meaningful change requires a structured, collaborative approach. This process unfolds in six key steps, each designed to translate dialogue into concrete action. Below, we outline the first step and the important role you play in making it happen:

**1.Choosing a theme:** To drive collective action, start by identifying a theme that resonates with the community—whether it’s biodiversity conservation, the green economy, or sustainable transportation. The goal is to bring together stakeholders to share insights and develop concrete solutions.

**Role of the MP:** Select a theme or sector that aligns with government policies and programs, ensuring there are tangible opportunities for action. The chosen theme should engage stakeholders and serve as a foundation for meaningful community collaboration.

### **Key Steps:**

1. Analyze community needs, concerns, and challenges, considering both existing issues and potential opportunities.
2. Consult with stakeholders—residents, local organizations, community leaders, and experts—to gather diverse perspectives and identify priority themes.
3. Evaluate the feasibility of each theme, ensuring alignment with government policies and the potential for stakeholder engagement.
4. Finalize the theme selection and communicate it clearly to the community, emphasizing their role in shaping and implementing solutions.

## **Best Practice – Sophie’s Approach:**

To keep your initiative visible and accessible, create a dedicated website where the community can track progress, find resources, and stay informed. Assign a team member to oversee the project, ensuring its success through consistent coordination and follow-up.

## **Spotlight – Biodiversity Project:**

As an avid outdoor enthusiast, I am deeply committed to protecting Gatineau Park, Outaouais’ green spaces, and local biodiversity. When I learned that the international COP15 summit would take place in Montreal, I saw an opportunity to take action. Working with regional partners, we organized a COP15 event in the Outaouais region, ensuring that our community played an active role in advancing environmental goals at both the local and global levels.

## **2.Co-hosting an event:**

Partner with a regional organization to organize an event that fosters dialogue, identifies solutions, and strengthens collaboration. A list of environmental organizations across Canada can be found in **Appendix III**.

## **Role of the MP:**

- Organize a collaborative event to address local challenges and generate concrete actions aligned with federal policies.
- Engage key stakeholders, including citizens, experts, and organizations.
- Inspire participants by emphasizing their potential impact—from local to global—and highlighting the role of political representatives in supporting community-led initiatives.
- Facilitate discussions, encourage the exchange of innovative ideas, and ensure that all voices are heard.
- Take detailed notes to track proposed actions and follow up effectively.

### Key Steps:

1. Find a regional partner to help plan and execute the event successfully.
2. Define the event's objectives—set clear goals, select expert speakers, and establish a date and location.
3. Assess key community issues and gather ideas and solutions in advance.
4. Select participants based on their expertise and interest, ensuring the event complements, rather than duplicates, existing initiatives.
5. Summarize and prioritize key actions in collaboration with participants to guide next steps.

### Best Practice – Sophie's Approach:

Bringing the community together in person fosters direct engagement and demonstrates a genuine commitment to their concerns. Active listening and meaningful dialogue build trust and show determination to support impactful projects. It is also essential to ensure that federal policies and programs reflect and effectively respond to local realities.

For details on the facilitation method I used to help stakeholders identify key issues—and more importantly, solutions and opportunities—see **Appendix IV**.

### Spotlight – Biodiversity Project:

For our regional COP15, the Conseil régional de l'environnement et du développement durable de l'Outaouais (CREDDO) played a pivotal role as our main partner. The CREDDO team managed event logistics, with our support, including venue selection, catering, and participant invitations. They also played an essential role in shaping the content—developing the program, selecting speakers, defining objectives, and structuring workshop sessions to maximize impact.

### 3. Validating key issues and solutions:

Following the roundtable, schedule a post-event meeting with a select group of key experts who participated in the discussions. The goal is to refine the most promising ideas, transform them into actionable proposals, and align resources for collaboration on a concrete project.

### Role of the MP:

- Convene experts from different organizations to collaborate effectively.
- Ensure that proposals evolve into well-structured, actionable initiatives with expert input.
- Assess each proposal's potential impact on the community and determine how the federal government can support its implementation.

### Key Steps:

1. Select and invite key experts whose insights can strengthen the most promising ideas from the roundtable.
2. Schedule focused follow-up meetings to refine and validate proposals.
3. Analyze and discuss the proposed initiatives to assess feasibility and impact.
4. Enhance proposals with expert input, ensuring they are actionable and well-supported.

### Best Practice – Sophie's Approach:

Upon taking office, create and maintain a directory of experts and key community stakeholders, including their areas of expertise and contact information. Regularly update this directory to facilitate collaboration and proposal validation.

During this process, check for existing initiatives. If a similar project is already underway, use the opportunity to amplify its visibility and support the organization leading it rather than duplicating efforts.

### **Spotlight – Biodiversity Project:**

After our regional COP15, I invited the organizing team and event speakers for a post-mortem discussion. Together, we identified the most impactful proposal and collaborated on refining it into a concrete initiative.

#### **4. Public consultation on key issues and solutions:**

Use a virtual citizen participation platform to extend the conversation to those who could not attend the event. This approach deepens the understanding of key issues, refines proposed solutions, and identifies the stakeholders best positioned to drive implementation.

#### **Role of the MP:**

- Mobilize the community around collective action and facilitate communication between stakeholders.
- Encourage the pooling of resources, knowledge, and efforts to strengthen impact.
- Highlight ongoing regional initiatives and ensure alignment with existing work.
- Support and contribute, where possible, to the success of collaborative initiatives.

#### **Key Steps:**

1. Refine concrete proposals based on expert consultations.
2. Publish proposals on a citizen engagement platform, allowing for votes and comments.
3. Actively promote the platform to ensure broad community participation.
4. Gather the most supported proposals to mobilize action.
5. Identify the levers (resources, partnerships, funding) needed for implementation.
6. Establish a working group to move forward with concrete actions, participating directly when relevant to ensure success.

### **Best Practice – Sophie’s Approach:**

Collaborate with a local public consultation firm to ensure broad and inclusive participation. This enhances engagement and strengthens the legitimacy of the proposed actions.

For more details on my experience using the Cocoriko platform for public consultations, see **Appendix II.**

### **Spotlight – Biodiversity Project:**

Through my Cocoriko public consultation platform, a community-led biodiversity protection project emerged as the most-supported initiative under the nature protection theme. This strong public backing provided clear direction for mobilization and next steps

#### **5. Empower the community to take action and support local initiative:**

Once the most promising local project proposals have been identified, the next step is to equip the community with tools, connections, and support to turn ideas into tangible, high-impact actions.

#### **Role of the MP:**

- Demonstrate ongoing support by facilitating connections, organizing meetings, and identifying funding opportunities at the federal level.
- Stay informed on project progress and anticipate potential political or logistical challenges, offering solutions when needed.
- Act as a champion for local initiatives by sharing updates through official platforms, reinforcing community pride and engagement.

## Key Steps:

1. Actively support the project team by:
  - o Organizing meetings to connect stakeholders and foster collaboration.
  - o Participating in planning meetings and community events where appropriate.
  - o Helping refine the project's action plan when needed.
  - o Publicly demonstrating support via social media and public statements.
  - o Identifying and guiding the team toward potential funding sources.
2. Monitor progress by:
  - o Requesting regular updates and tracking milestones.
  - o Identifying potential roadblocks and collaborating on solutions.
  - o Helping manage political or administrative challenges.
3. Promote and celebrate community-driven projects by:
  - o Sharing progress updates through your website, social media, and newsletters.
  - o Highlighting successes to inspire further community action and engagement.

### Best Practice – Sophie's Approach:

Building strong relationships with the project team, elected representatives, and key stakeholders is essential to a project's success. Open communication and trust facilitate effective problem-solving and ensure a unified message to the community.

### Spotlight – Biodiversity Project:

I played a key role in organizing and participating in meetings, actively contributing to the development of the project and the proposed governance model.

I worked to get the necessary support from elected officials by organizing meetings and participating in presentations to mayors' councils. In addition, I mobilized organizations in my network to strengthen this support.

By following up as needed, I contributed to the success of the funding approval.

In addition, I helped promote the project and regularly communicated its progress to the community, using various platforms to help keep people informed and engaged.

### 6. Integrated reporting:

Documenting the process of linking local initiatives to federal policies is essential for inspiring collaboration, guiding action, and ensuring coordination across all levels of government.

### Role of the MP:

- Raise awareness and mobilize the community through local and social media.
- Highlight the community's achievements and how they contribute to Canada's broader goals, fostering a sense of shared purpose.

### Key Steps:

1. Create a writing plan that aligns with the purpose and vision of the report.
2. Craft the report to engage and inspire citizens, emphasizing the impact of collaboration with their elected representative.
3. Participate in the report's design, ensuring it is visually engaging and easy to navigate.
4. Distribute and promote the report, ensuring it reaches both colleagues and the community.

### Best Practice – Sophie's Approach:

Collaborate with a team member, writing coach, and graphic designer to ensure the report is both well-written and visually compelling, making it easier to engage a wide audience.

### Spotlight – Biodiversity Project:

This guide reflects my journey and highlights key initiatives carried out in partnership with the community. I hope it inspires you to implement a similar approach in your region.

## Outaouais in Action: Success Stories for a Green and Prosperous Future

As Members of Parliament, it is important to exercise a positive influence role and to rigorously monitor the actions proposed by the community. We are an integral part of the solutions and have the power to act in a tangible way to promote the realization of promising and meaningful projects, from local to global and from global to local, both for ourselves and for the people we represent. Here are two concrete examples:

### **Kidjimaninan "our canoe": A regional initiative for biodiversity protection and collaboration in the Outaouais led by Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg**

In preparation for COP15 in Montreal, I organized a regional COP15 in November 2022 with the support of CREDDO (Conseil régional de l'environnement et du développement durable de l'Outaouais). This led to an innovative project, driven by the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg community in partnership with a variety of local actors. The project's main goal is to create a regional roadmap to meet the biodiversity targets set by COP15.

This initiative focuses on building local capacity, fostering collaboration between Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners, and ensuring political and financial support. By engaging elected officials, government representatives, Indigenous communities, environmental organizations, industries, and citizens, the project aims to promote conservation and strengthen Kitigan Zibi's leadership in the region.

The deliverables of this project include community engagement, a regional portrait of species and natural spaces, and a roadmap that will guide future actions. Once finalized, this plan will empower the region to implement the proposed measures. Expected outcomes include contributing to the COP15 goals, strengthening relationships between territories and conservation stakeholders, and increasing awareness of Indigenous cultures

My role in this project has been central in several strategic areas, including securing funding, acting as an intermediary, facilitating networking, and ensuring the project's promotion. To secure necessary funding, I actively sought federal grants and kept relevant ministers updated on the project's progress. As an intermediary, I participated in discussions, met with local elected officials to listen to their concerns, and promoted the project to influence policies and programs. I also helped foster collaboration by connecting local actors and facilitating exchanges. Finally, I worked to highlight the key players and their initiatives to unify the community and gain the support of government authorities.

For more details on this project, I invite you to consult **Appendix I**.

## Legal protection of Gatineau Park

In my leadership role, I spearheaded a coordinated effort to strengthen the legal protection of Gatineau Park, which, despite its ecological and regional significance, is not currently designated as a legally protected area. The project aims to amend the National Capital Act to officially recognize the park as a protected area, ensuring its long-term preservation.

This initiative contributes to Canada's climate goals by working toward the protection of 30% of the land and preserving biodiversity by 2030, while also supporting the local economy and improving community well-being.

In collaboration with key stakeholders, I deepened my understanding of the issue, explored protection options, identified barriers, and proposed solutions. I also worked with my political colleagues to secure their support and develop a unified strategy for the project's success.

In the summer of 2024, I had the privilege of working with Independent Senator Rosa Galvez on drafting Bill S-289. Throughout the process, I consulted with Indigenous communities, federal and provincial elected officials, municipal representatives from cities around Gatineau Park, environmental organizations, and the National Capital Commission. The bill was tabled in the Senate in October 2024, but due to the prorogation of Parliament in January 2025 and the subsequent election called in March 2025, it was put on hold. Once the new parliamentary session began, the bill was reintroduced in the Senate in June 2025 by Senator Galvez and is now titled Bill S-229.

For more details on this project, I invite you to consult **Appendix I**.

## Conclusion – Message from the MP of Pontiac

In conclusion, this initiative has been a transformative journey, showcasing the immense power of local action in tackling global challenges like climate change. By collaborating with the community, local elected officials, and experts, we have crafted concrete, innovative solutions that lay the foundation for a more sustainable and prosperous future for everyone.

My inclusive and collaborative approach maximizes the impact of our efforts, drawing on the collective knowledge and resources of all involved. The core principles that have guided me throughout this process are: acting as the bridge between federal and local governments, empowering the community, and serving as a connector to bring people together in the pursuit of shared solutions.

Through sharing my experiences and successes in this guide, I hope to inspire other elected officials and communities to take action and launch similar initiatives in their own regions. Together, we have the power to create a greener, more prosperous Canada—one that preserves our planet for future generations.

I encourage you to get involved, mobilize your community, and take meaningful action toward a better future. Let's work together to make a difference.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about my approach, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Sophie

## **APPENDIX I – Project Sheet**

### **Kidjimaninan "our canoe": A biodiversity protection initiative in the Outaouais led by Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg**

In preparation for the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) in Montreal, I organized a regional COP15 with the support of CREDDO (Conseil régional de l'environnement et du développement durable de l'Outaouais) to define local actions that align with our international biodiversity commitments. From this initiative emerged an innovative conservation project led by the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg community, in collaboration with key regional partners. This project is designed to protect nature in the Outaouais while fostering long-term benefits for both present and future generations.

#### **Objectives and goals:**

- Strengthen Indigenous-led conservation efforts.
- Promote collaboration between Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners.
- Develop a regional roadmap to achieve the COP15 biodiversity targets.
- Ensure readiness for roadmap implementation, including co-managed projects led by Kitigan Zibi.

#### **Key Deliverables:**

1. Community and stakeholder engagement and public awareness.
2. Regional portrait and diagnosis of species and natural areas.
3. Roadmap for conservation and restoration actions across the Outaouais.

#### **Role of the Member of Parliament:**

- **Securing Funding:** Identify federal grants, advocate for ministerial support, and monitor project progress. Through continuous engagement with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), I helped secure \$2 million in funding (2023–2026) to advance this initiative.
- **Acting as an Intermediary:** Bridge local and federal priorities, ensuring that municipal concerns are heard at the national level. Several Outaouais MRCs passed resolutions in support of the project following presentations at mayors' councils.
- **Facilitating Networking:** Mobilize stakeholders, encourage collaboration, and streamline resource-sharing. Following our regional COP15, I assembled a key working group and organized strategic meetings to launch the initiative.
- **Promoting the Project:** Showcase the contributions of Indigenous leaders and local partners through social media, local media, and direct outreach to build momentum and community support.

#### **Key partners:**

Elected officials, civil servants, Indigenous communities, environmental organizations, industries, schools, health and social services institutions, and citizens.

### **Impacts and Expected Results:**

- a)** Advance the first three objectives of the Kunming-Montreal Agreement (COP15).
  
- b)** Enhance territorial collaboration and ecosystem-based planning while fostering cross-cultural connections.
  
- c)** Strengthen Kitigan Zibi's leadership in biodiversity conservation by developing community expertise.
  
- d)** Align conservation efforts with regional priorities, respecting the rights and cultural heritage of the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg Nation.
  
- e)** Support Indigenous knowledge-sharing for land protection and stewardship.
  
- f)** Provide clear conservation guidelines for governments and industries in ecologically sensitive areas.

### **Legal Protection of Gatineau Park: Bill S-289 and Bill S-229**

Gatineau Park is a natural treasure that plays a vital role in both outdoor recreation and biodiversity conservation. However, despite its ecological and regional significance, it lacks formal legal protection. Between 2005 and 2013, thirteen legislative attempts to secure its status were unsuccessful. Recognizing this long-standing issue, the Outaouais caucus committed in 2021 to strengthening its protection by amending the National Capital Act.

Since 2022, I have been working closely with key stakeholders, including the National Capital Region Caucus, the National Capital Commission (NCC), the Ministers of Public Services and Procurement Canada, and Environment and Climate Change Canada, as well as engaged community members. Our goal is to place Gatineau Park under a legal framework that aligns with Canada's commitment to protecting 30% of land by 2030.

In the summer of 2024, I had the honour of working with independent Senator Rosa Galvez to draft [Bill S-289](#), which was tabled in the Senate in October 2024. However, due to the prorogation of Parliament on January 6, 2025, and the subsequent election called in March 2025, it was put on hold. Once the new parliamentary session began, the bill was reintroduced in the Senate in June 2025 by Senator Galvez and is now titled [Bill S-229](#).

#### **Objective:**

To amend the National Capital Act and formally recognize Gatineau Park as a protected area, ensuring its long-term preservation for current and future generations.

**Deliverable:** A legislative amendment to:

- Grant Gatineau Park official park status.
- Define its legal boundaries.
- Strengthen protections for its ecological integrity.
- Enhance the authority of the NCC over conservation efforts and biodiversity management.

**Role of the Member of Parliament:**

- **Leadership:** Conduct research, identify key stakeholders, coordinate with colleagues, explore options, and propose a strategic path forward. **Since August 2022, I have actively engaged in discussions to determine the most effective legal mechanisms to protect the park.**
- **Policy Advocacy:** Build consensus among political colleagues, address concerns, and secure legislative support. **The National Capital Region Caucus unanimously agreed on the need for stronger protections. With ministerial backing and support from the Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, we have positioned this amendment as a legislative priority. Additionally, I obtained a letter of support from the Kitigan Zibi Band Council, reinforcing the Indigenous community's commitment to this initiative.**
- **Community Mobilization:** Engage local stakeholders through petitions, resolutions, and direct advocacy to demonstrate public and municipal support. **In collaboration with CPAWS, I tabled five petitions in the House of Commons, amassing 4,553 signatures as of May 2024. Furthermore, in November 2023, the City of Gatineau passed a resolution in support of protecting Gatineau Park.**

**Key partners:**

Ministers, caucus members, local elected officials, environmental organizations, the National Capital Commission (NCC), the Indigenous community, the City of Gatineau, and citizens

**Impacts and Expected Results:**

- a) Strengthening Gatineau Park's legal protection is a key pillar of Canada's 2030 climate strategy.
- b) Implementing concrete conservation measures will help slow and reverse biodiversity loss in the region.
- c) Protecting the park's ecosystems will contribute to community well-being, create stable green jobs, and enhance climate resilience.

## APPENDIX II – Cocoriko Virtual Public Consultation Platform

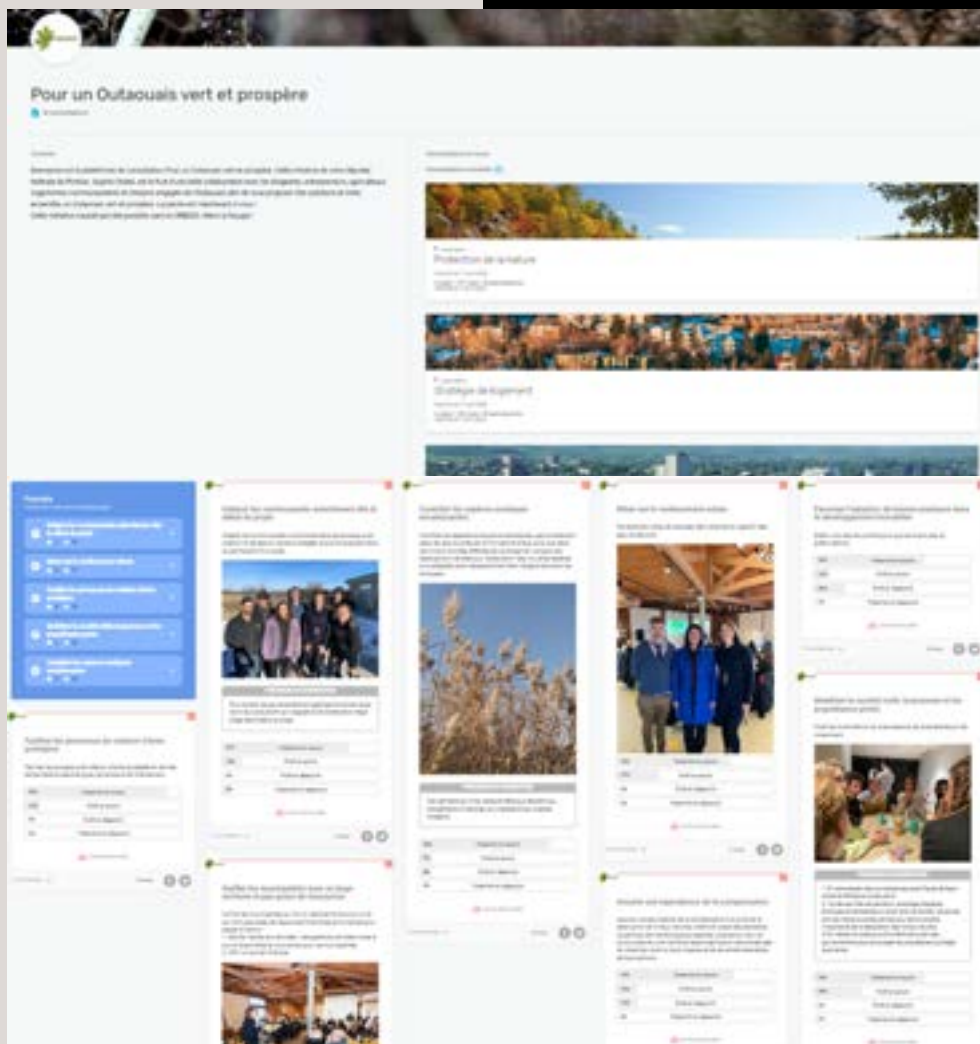
To broaden citizen engagement and ensure that everyone had a voice, I leveraged the Cocoriko virtual participation platform. This allowed me to connect with residents who couldn't attend in-person events, fostering a more inclusive and comprehensive consultation process.

Through this platform, I was able to deepen my understanding of key issues, identify preferred solutions, and determine which stakeholders should be involved in their implementation. Most importantly, it enabled all Outaouais residents to weigh in on the best proposals and actively shape our region's future.

To explore the proposals that emerged from this initiative, visit:

<https://outaouaisvert.cocoriko.org/?lng=en-CA>

Here's a preview of the Cocoriko platform:



## APPENDIX III – National directory of environmental and sustainable development organizations

This directory provides a list of organizations across Canada dedicated to environmental protection and sustainable development, categorized by province, territory, and national scope. While not exhaustive, this resource serves as a starting point for identifying potential partners to support and collaborate on your future projects.

### Quebec

- National Coalition of Regional Councils of The environment: A network dedicated to environmental protection and sustainable development through regional environmental councils (CREs). (See: [About Us](#))
- Quebec Centre for Sustainable Development: Supporting businesses and organizations in integrating sustainability principles to enhance economic, social, and environmental performance for over 30 years. (See: [About Us](#).)
- Équiterre: Engaging in education, awareness, research, and advocacy to drive social and environmental change through community-based projects and policy recommendations. (See: [About Us](#))
- Foundation for Environment and Sustainable Development: A non-profit organization supporting local environmental and sustainable development initiatives through collaboration and funding. (See: [About Us](#).)

- Nature Québec: A national non-profit organization dedicated to conserving natural environments and promoting the sustainable use of resources since 1981. (See: [About Us](#).)
- Environment Network: The largest group of environmental specialists in Quebec, acting as a catalyst for the green economy and promoting sustainable environmental solutions. (See: [About Us](#))

### Ontario

- Conservation Ontario: Represents Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities, which focus on watershed management, conservation, and responsible land use to balance environmental, economic, and human needs. (See: [About Us](#).)
- Ontario Clean Air Alliance: Successfully led Ontario's coal phase-out campaign and now advocates for a 100% renewable energy future through conservation, efficiency, and green energy initiatives. (See: [About Us](#).)
- Ontario Sustainable Energy Association: A key advocate for transforming Ontario's energy sector toward a more sustainable, decentralized, and community-based energy economy. (See: [About Us](#).)
- Regenesis: A student-led, community-based environmental organization that empowers young people to address environmental and social issues through advocacy and local projects. (See: [About Us](#).)

## Nova Scotia

- Ecology Action Centre: A member-based environmental charity leading initiatives on biodiversity protection, climate change, and environmental justice since 1971. (See: [About Us](#))
- Nova Scotia Environmental Network: A non-profit organization founded in 1991, bringing together over 40 environmental groups working to protect Nova Scotia's natural environment and build a sustainable future. (See: [About Us](#)).
- Nova Scotia Nature Trust: Dedicated to protecting and conserving Nova Scotia's natural landscapes, using a science-driven approach to safeguard the province's most unique and threatened ecosystems. (See: [About Us](#))

## New Brunswick

- Conservation Council of New Brunswick: Works to raise awareness of environmental challenges and promote solutions through research, education, and advocacy. Engages government decision-makers to implement policies that protect air, water, and land. (See: [About Us](#))
- Nature NB: A charitable organization committed to celebrating, conserving, and protecting New Brunswick's natural heritage through education, networking, and collaboration. (See: [About Us](#))
- New Brunswick Environmental Network: A communications network connecting 100+ non-profit environmental organizations to enhance cooperation among environmental groups, government, and other sectors. Provides learning opportunities and supports the growth of the environmental movement. (See: [About Us](#))

## Manitoba

- Climate Change Connection: A charitable non-governmental organization dedicated to educating Manitobans about climate change and encouraging greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions at both individual and community levels. Actively expands its network to support climate solutions. (See: [About Us](#))
- Manitoba Eco-Network: A non-profit organization promoting positive environmental action through advocacy, capacity building, and governance. Acts as a bridge between environmental groups, the public, and government. (See: [About Us](#))
- Manitoba Sustainable Energy Association: Promotes the use and production of renewable, sustainable, and environmentally friendly energy sources across the province. (See: [About Us](#))

## British Columbia

- Ancient Forest Alliance: A registered charitable organization dedicated to protecting BC's endangered old-growth forests while advocating for a sustainable, value-added second-growth forest industry. Since its founding in 2010, AFA has become BC's leading voice for legislative action to end old-growth logging. (See: [About Us](#))
- Georgia Strait Alliance: Rooted in environmental justice, this organization mobilizes communities to protect the Salish Sea and advocates for a future where both marine life and local communities thrive in balance with nature. (See: [About Us](#))
- Raincoast Conservation Foundation: A team of scientists and conservationists working to safeguard BC's coastal ecosystems through research, advocacy, and policy influence. They study coastal species, provide science-based insights to policymakers, and drive action to protect wildlife and habitats. (See: [About Us](#))

## Prince Edward Island

- Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association: A non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to managing the Bedeque Bay Watershed and surrounding areas. Governed by a board of directors that represents the local community, BBEMA works to preserve and protect the ecological health of the bay and its watershed. (See: [About Us](#))
- Environmental Coalition of PEI: A community-based action group formed in 1989 to advocate for environmental sustainability and conservation on Prince Edward Island. ECO-PEI focuses on education, advocacy, and community involvement to protect the environment. (See: [About Us](#))
- Island Nature Trust: A non-government, not-for-profit organization working to protect and manage natural areas on Prince Edward Island. They acquire land to be held in trust for future generations and partner with government and private landowners to build a connected network of protected areas. (See: [About Us](#))

## Saskatchewan

- Saskatchewan Environmental Society: SES promotes environmental sustainability through public education, policy development, and community events. Serving as the voice for the environment, they encourage individuals to live sustainably and protect the environment for future generations. (See: [About Us](#))
- Saskatchewan Waste Reduction Council: Dedicated to helping Saskatchewan residents reduce waste, SWRC leads the charge in identifying solutions and opportunities to tackle the underlying causes of waste. They advocate for community-driven action and environmental responsibility. (See: [About Us](#))

## Alberta

- Alberta Council for Environmental Education: ACEE takes a collaborative approach to engage educators, partners, and communities to drive systems change and nurture the next generation of environmental stewards. Their commitment to empowering Alberta's youth, promoting innovative sustainability solutions, and championing environmental education through advocacy is central to creating a more equitable and sustainable future. (See: [About Us](#))
- Alberta Ecotrust: Alberta Ecotrust fosters collaboration across sectors to address the province's environmental challenges. By uniting individuals from industry, government, and the nonprofit sector, they channel Alberta's entrepreneurial spirit to secure a healthier society and natural environment. (See: [About Us](#))
- Alberta Environmental Network: The AEN connects environmental groups and Albertans dedicated to preserving and protecting the province's environment. As a non-profit, non-partisan organization, it supports collaboration across the environmental community throughout Alberta. (See: [About Us](#))

## Newfoundland and Labrador

- Conservation Corps Newfoundland and Labrador: A non-profit organization dedicated to providing youth with training and employment opportunities in environmental and cultural heritage conservation. Their programs foster hands-on experience while helping to conserve the natural and cultural heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador. (See: [About Us](#))
- Energy Research & Innovation Newfoundland & Labrador: This organization is committed to the sustainable development of the province's offshore energy resources. They focus on understanding and mitigating the environmental risks associated with the offshore ecosystem while promoting energy solutions that are safe, responsible, and environmentally respectful. Their efforts include reducing greenhouse gas emissions, researching ice and iceberg behavior, developing ice management techniques, and conducting environmental monitoring. (See: [About Us](#))
- Newfoundland & Labrador Environment Network: A non-profit, non-governmental organization that focuses on environmental education and awareness. NLEN addresses pressing issues such as sustainable development, biodiversity conservation, and climate change through collaborative efforts and community engagement. (See: [About Us](#))

## Yukon

- Yukon Conservation Society: Founded in 1968, the Yukon Conservation Society (YCS) is a grassroots non-profit organization committed to environmental policy and education in the North. With over 250 current members and many dedicated volunteers, YCS has earned a respected position as a leader in promoting environmental conservation and sustainable development in the Yukon. (See: [About Us](#))
- Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council: A non-profit Indigenous grassroots organization, the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council (YRITWC) represents 73 First Nations and Tribes. The council is dedicated to the protection and preservation of the Yukon River Watershed. By providing technical assistance, facilitating collaboration among First Nations and Tribes, conducting research, and offering education and awareness programs, the YRITWC works to safeguard the health of the watershed and its Indigenous communities. (See: [About Us](#))

## Northwest Territories

- Ecology North: Established in 1971, Ecology North is a charitable, non-profit organization based in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. The organization is dedicated to supporting sound environmental decision-making at individual, community, and regional levels. Ecology North focuses on five key priorities: climate change, environmental education, water conservation, waste reduction, and local food production. A core theme across all programs is the promotion of environmental, social, and community well-being. (See: [About Us](#))
- Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board: The Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB) collaborates with the Gwich'in people, governments, and stakeholders in line with the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement to protect, conserve, and manage renewable resources in the Gwich'in Settlement Area. The GRRB uses the best available traditional knowledge and scientific research to inform its work, ensuring that all efforts are carried out in a respectful, transparent, and inclusive manner. (See: [About Us](#))

## Nunavut

- Nunavut Climate Change Centre (N3C): The Nunavut Climate Change Centre (N3C) is an online resource hub created to offer current, relevant climate change information for Nunavummiut. Developed by the Government of Nunavut's Department of Environment, the platform aims to provide accessible and region-specific knowledge to help communities adapt to climate change. (See: [About Us](#))

## Pan-Canadian Organizations

- Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC): The Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) is a leader in land conservation, dedicated to protecting Canada's most precious natural resources. As a private, not-for-profit organization, NCC collaborates with individuals, businesses, foundations, Indigenous communities, other non-profits, and governments to preserve Canada's natural habitats. (See: [About Us](#))
- Environmental Defence Canada: Environmental Defence is one of Canada's foremost environmental advocacy organizations. They work with governments, industries, and individuals to defend clean water, a safe climate, and healthy communities. (See: [About Us](#))
- Evergreen: Evergreen is a national non-profit that transforms public spaces in urban areas to foster healthier futures for both people and the planet. (See: [About Us](#))
- David Suzuki Foundation: Established in 1990, the David Suzuki Foundation is a bilingual, pan-Canadian non-profit organization. Grounded in research, the Foundation advocates for public policies that protect the environment and shape a sustainable future for Canada. It regularly collaborates with non-profits, community organizations, governments, businesses, and citizens. (See: [About Us](#))
- Greenpeace Canada: Greenpeace is an international, non-violent network that works to protect the environment, biodiversity, and promote peace. Its movement of committed citizens is dedicated to building a sustainable and equitable world. (See: [About Us](#))

- International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI Canada): ICLEI Canada partners with a variety of stakeholders from government, industry, academia, and non-profits to help create more sustainable, low-carbon, energy-efficient, and climate-resilient communities. (See: [About Us](#))
- Earth Day Canada: Earth Day Canada is a charitable organization that helps individuals, municipalities, and organizations reduce their environmental impact. Known for organizing large-scale awareness campaigns every April 22, Earth Day Canada also runs programs addressing waste management, greening, food waste reduction, and sustainable mobility. (See: [About Us](#))
- Pembina Institute: The Pembina Institute works to solve energy challenges by reducing the harmful impacts of fossil fuels and supporting the transition to clean, safe energy systems. They offer expertise to industry and government leaders and advocate for science-based policy, regulation, and environmental protection. (See: [About Us](#))
- Pollution Probe: For over five decades, Pollution Probe has been at the forefront of environmental progress. Their work with governments, industries, and the public aims to achieve cleaner air and water and a healthier planet. (See: [About Us](#))
- Sierra Club Canada: The Sierra Club Canada Foundation advocates for the protection and preservation of the environment, encouraging individuals to become stewards of the Earth in their communities. (See: [About Us](#))
- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS Canada): The Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) is the only charity in Canada solely focused on protecting public lands, inland waters, and oceans. CPAWS is committed to addressing the biodiversity and climate crises by working with Indigenous communities and other partners to safeguard nature. (See: [About Us](#))

## **APPENDIX IV – Method for facilitating round tables**

**Subject:** Conference - From Global to Local: Implementing the Global Biodiversity Framework in the Outaouais Region

### **Context**

The 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity will take place in Montreal from December 7 to 19, 2022. This global summit will see governments from around the world agreeing on new targets to guide actions for protecting and restoring nature through 2040. The draft post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework outlines 21 action goals for 2030, including:

- Conservation of at least 30% of the world's terrestrial and marine areas.
- Restoration of at least 20% of degraded freshwater, marine, and terrestrial ecosystems.
- Nature's contribution to global climate change mitigation of at least 10 gigatonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year.

Achieving these international targets, as well as the biodiversity goals of Quebec and Canada, is closely tied to mobilizing all stakeholders. On the eve of this event, it is an essential moment to convene biodiversity conservation stakeholders in the Outaouais region to ensure coordination and collaboration at the regional level. Additionally, this is an opportunity to consult on measures that governments could introduce to support regional biodiversity conservation efforts.

### **Objectives of the conference**

#### **1. Mobilizing Regional Stakeholders to Achieve Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework Goals**

- Encourage municipalities, MRCs, and other conservation stakeholders to act on the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework's objectives.
- Promote regional biodiversity conservation initiatives.
- Identify priority actions needed in the Outaouais to achieve these goals.

#### **2. Promoting Nature-Based Climate Solutions**

- Review existing nature-based climate solutions in the region.
- Promote regional initiatives for nature-based climate solutions.
- Encourage municipalities and MRCs to implement such solutions.

#### **3. Identifying Government Measures to Support Conservation Efforts**

- Discuss the measures governments should adopt to facilitate conservation stakeholders' efforts in the Outaouais.

### **Conduct of the discussion workshops**

#### **Objectives**

- Identify priority actions in the Outaouais to help achieve international biodiversity targets.
- Determine the support measures governments should put in place to assist conservation stakeholders in the Outaouais.

## Discussion topics

The following topics align with the targets of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and were selected based on their relevance to regional action:

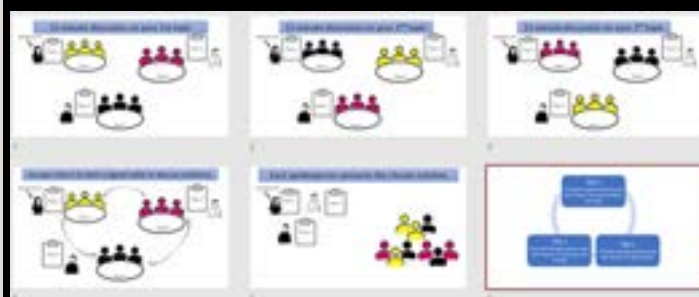
1. TARGET 2 - Ensure the restoration of at least 20% of degraded freshwater, marine and terrestrial ecosystems, focusing on priority ecosystems and ensuring connectivity.
2. TARGET 3 - Ensure the conservation of at least 30% of terrestrial and marine areas, with particular emphasis on areas of importance for biodiversity and its benefits to people. This includes establishing ecologically representative and well-connected protected areas.
3. TARGET 4 - Implement active management measures to recover and conserve the genetic diversity of wild and domesticated species, including ex situ conservation, and manage human-wildlife interactions to minimize conflict.
4. TARGET 8 - Minimize the impact of climate change on biodiversity by contributing to climate mitigation and adaptation through ecosystem-based approaches. This should contribute at least 10 GtCO<sub>2</sub> per year to global mitigation efforts, ensuring these actions do not negatively impact biodiversity.

## Facilitation technique

Facilitation tool: Philips

### Description :

- The group is divided into 4 sub-groups.
- There are 4 stations, each dedicated to one specific topic, with a facilitator at each station.
- At the agreed signal, sub-groups rotate from one station to the next.
- After visiting all four stations, each sub-group returns to its original station and collaborates with the facilitator to select 3 to 5 key ideas to present back to the larger group in plenary.



### Questions for participants in sub-groups

1. What actions should be prioritized in the Outaouais to contribute to achieving this target?
2. What obstacles must be overcome to facilitate the implementation of these actions?
3. What measures should governments take to support us in achieving this target?

### If the discussion stalls, use these prompts to restart the conversation:

- What initiatives are already being implemented in your community?
- What initiatives from other parts of the world could inspire us?
- What kind of support would help you better integrate biodiversity values into policies, regulations, and territorial planning at the MRC or municipal level?

## Relevant information to stimulate discussions during the workshops

### STATION 1 - RESTORING 20% OF DEGRADED ECOSYSTEMS

#### Topic of discussion

TARGET 2 - Restore at least 20% of degraded ecosystems, ensuring connectivity and focusing on priority ecosystems.

#### Key questions from facilitators

- What actions should be prioritized in the Outaouais to achieve this target?
- What government measures are necessary to support the achievement of this target?

#### Food for thought

- What initiatives are currently being implemented in your community?
- Which ecosystems should be restored as a priority?
- What projects could be introduced in your municipality or MRC to promote ecosystem restoration and ensure ecological connectivity?
- What obstacles need to be addressed to facilitate the implementation of these actions?
- What support would you need to carry out these actions in your municipality or MRC?
- Are there initiatives elsewhere in Canada or globally that could inspire us?
- What kind of support would help integrate biodiversity values into policies, regulations, and territorial planning at the MRC or municipal level?

### STATION 2 - CONSERVING 30% OF LAND AND MARINE AREAS

#### Topic of discussion

TARGET 3 - Conserve at least 30% of terrestrial and marine areas, particularly those essential for biodiversity and human benefits, through well-connected protected areas and other conservation measures.

#### Key questions from facilitators

- What actions should be prioritized in the Outaouais to achieve this target?
- What measures should governments put in place to support this target?

#### Food for thought

- What initiatives are already in place in your community?
- Which terrestrial areas should be prioritized for conservation?
- How can conservation efforts be expanded to private land?
- What projects in your municipality or MRC would help meet this conservation target?
- How can we ensure ecological connectivity between conservation areas?
- What obstacles need to be overcome to implement these actions?
- What support would you need to carry out these actions in your municipality or MRC?
- Are there examples of initiatives from Canada or internationally that could inspire us?
- What kind of support is needed to integrate biodiversity values into policies, regulations, and territorial planning?

## STATION 3 - IMPLEMENTING ACTIVE MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR SPECIES AND GENETIC DIVERSITY

### Topic of discussion

TARGET 4 - Implement active management measures to recover and conserve the genetic diversity of species, including through ex situ conservation, while managing human-wildlife interactions to reduce conflict

### Key questions from facilitators

- What actions should be prioritized in the Outaouais to achieve this target?
- What measures should governments adopt to facilitate these actions?

### Food for thought

- What initiatives are already underway in your community?
- What measures could help conserve species at risk on both public and private lands?
- How can biodiversity be integrated into new development projects?
- What projects could be introduced in your municipality or MRC to help achieve this target?
- What obstacles need to be addressed for the successful implementation of these actions?
- What support would help carry out concrete actions in your municipality or MRC?
- Are there initiatives from other regions of Canada or the world that could serve as inspiration?
- How can biodiversity values be integrated into policies, regulations, and territorial planning at the MRC or municipal level?

## STATION 4 - Improving Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

### Topic of discussion

TARGET 8. Minimize the impact of climate change on biodiversity, contribute to mitigation and adaptation through ecosystem-based approaches, and ensure that all climate measures do not negatively impact biodiversity.

### Key questions from facilitators

- What actions should be prioritized in the Outaouais to achieve this target?
- What measures should governments put in place to support this target?

### Food for thought

- What initiatives are already implemented in your community?
- Which terrestrial areas should be prioritized for conservation?
- How can conservation efforts be promoted on private lands?
- What projects should be introduced in your municipality or MRC to help achieve this target?
- How can ecological connectivity be maintained in conservation areas?
- What obstacles must be removed to ensure the success of these actions?
- What support is needed to carry out these actions effectively in your municipality or MRC?
- Are there international or national initiatives that could inspire us?
- What support would help integrate biodiversity values into policies, regulations, and territorial planning at the MRC or municipal level?