

Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation of Canada

2025 Annual General Meeting Package

Wednesday, October 29, 2025, starting at 6:00 PM PT / 7:00 PM MT

AGM Agenda:

1. Guest Speaker Presentation
2. Election of meeting chair
3. Attendance and quorum
4. Approval of AGM agenda
5. Approval of the minutes from 2024 AGM
6. Unfinished business from 2024 AGM
7. Directors' report on the financial statements of the Society
8. Directors' reports on activities and decisions
9. Election/appointment of directors
10. New business
11. Adjournment

Guest Speaker Presentation:

Pining for change: effects of fire and fire surrogates on whitebark pine ecology, growth, and regeneration in Glacier National Park, BC.

M.Sc. thesis, University of British Columbia

Jeremy Greenberg | Director at Large | Fire Vegetation Team | Revelstoke, BC

During the summer months, Jeremy dedicates his time to working among the pines in the majestic landscapes of Mt. Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks, where he works for Parks Canada's Fire & Vegetation Team. In the winter, Jeremy is immersed in academic pursuits. He completed an undergraduate degree in Natural Resource Conservation at the University of British Columbia in 2017 and is currently pursuing a Master of Science (MSc) degree at the same institution. His research focuses on investigating the role of fire in whitebark pine regeneration and growth release.

See folder for Jeremy presentation!

Meeting Chair Election:

- Jodie nominated as the chair by Nick Pochalio
- Michael Murray seconded nomination.

Quorum Check:

- Was quorum met? **YES** or NO
 - 22 people

Participants (22)



Find a participant

	Hailey (Co-host, me)	 
	Jodie (Host)	 
	Jeremy Greenberg	  
	Nick Pochailo, W... (Co-host)	Ask to unmute 
	WPEFC (Co-host)	 
	Kaden Ashdown	 
	Connor Fitzpatrick	 
	Corinna	 
	David Walker	 
	glenda	 
	Jason Brown	 
	Jen Atkins	 
	Kathryn Young	 
	Lindy Lin (ONA) (she/her)	 
	Mark Pokorski	 
	Matt Shields	 
	Michael Murray	 
	Mike Giesey	 
	moody	 
	Natalie Krause	 
	Natalie Stafi	 
	WPEFC	 

- Headcount: 22

Agenda Approval:

- Jeremy moved to approve the AGM agenda.
- Nick seconded the motion.

Minutes Approval:

- Connor Fitzpatrick moved to approve the 2024 minutes.
- Randy Moody seconded the motion.

Unfinished Business:

- No unfinished business from the 2024 AGM was addressed.

WPEFC Finances Report

Introduction by Kathryn Young (Director at Large / Finance Committee Member)

AGM Financial Report Introduction – Kathryn (Finance Committee)

Good evening everyone,

Over the past year, the Finance Committee, which includes myself, Robin (our Treasurer, who is unable to attend tonight), Nick (our Program Manager and Financial Lead), and Hailey (our Executive Director), has been meeting bi-monthly to stay up to date on all financial matters and ensure continued transparency and accountability.

This year, we've strengthened our financial systems and processes, improving how we track and project expenses, prepare operational budgets, and manage project funding. With Nick's leadership and the team's collective effort, we've made solid progress in streamlining our reporting and ensuring informed financial decision-making.

We're pleased to share that the organization continues to move toward greater financial stability and long-term sustainability. Nick will now present the 2024 financial overview and highlights.

Thank you to the Finance Committee and staff team for their diligence, collaboration, and commitment throughout the year.

Presented by Nick

WPEFC Finance Team:

- Nick Pochailo, Program Manager
- Hailey Moran, Executive Director
- Robin Gutsell, Treasurer
- Kathryn Young, Director
- Bookkeeper – AccuTech Business Services
- Accounting – KPMG

❖ Finance Activities

- Streamlining of financial processes and improvement of financial tracking system
- 5-year financial review (2018-2023)
- Assessment of overhead and admin funds

- Operational budgeting
- Prep of year-end and tax reporting
- Bi-monthly finance meetings

❖ Accomplishments

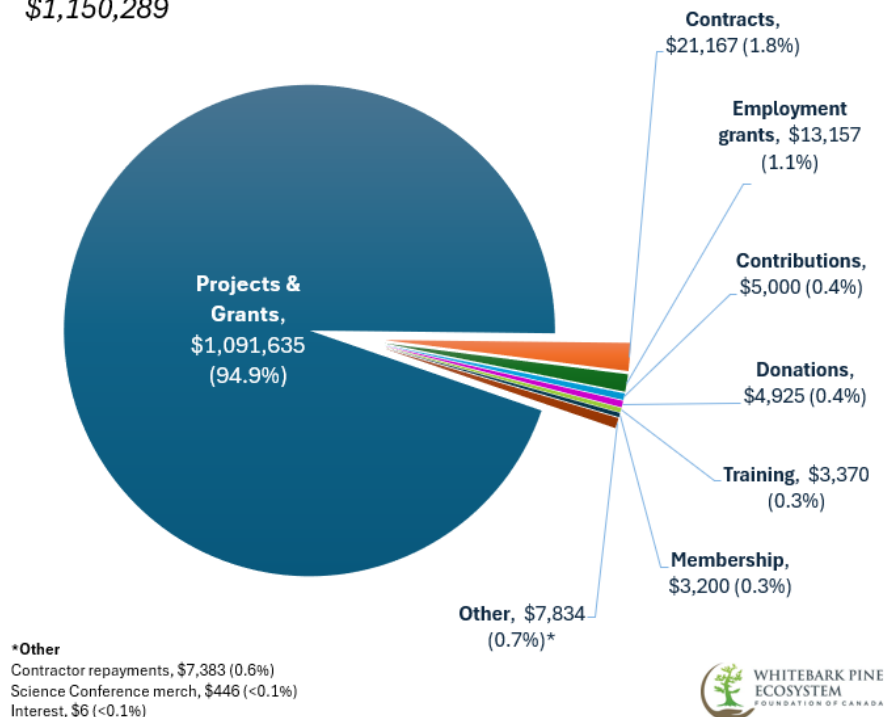
- Finalized assessment of 2018-2023 finances,
- Creation of admin/overhead fund
- New system for tracking project finances
- New operational budget
- Improved accuracy of financial records
- Early completion of year-end and tax reporting

❖ Financial performance

- Surpassed \$1 million in total revenues
- Highest total revenue and grant funding in WPEFC history (!)
- Highest ever closing cash balance @ YE
- ~88% of expenses paid by projects
- FYE 2024 admin balance: \$118k (most OH er received in 1 yr)
- Net income of \$15,623

WPEFC 2024 Revenue

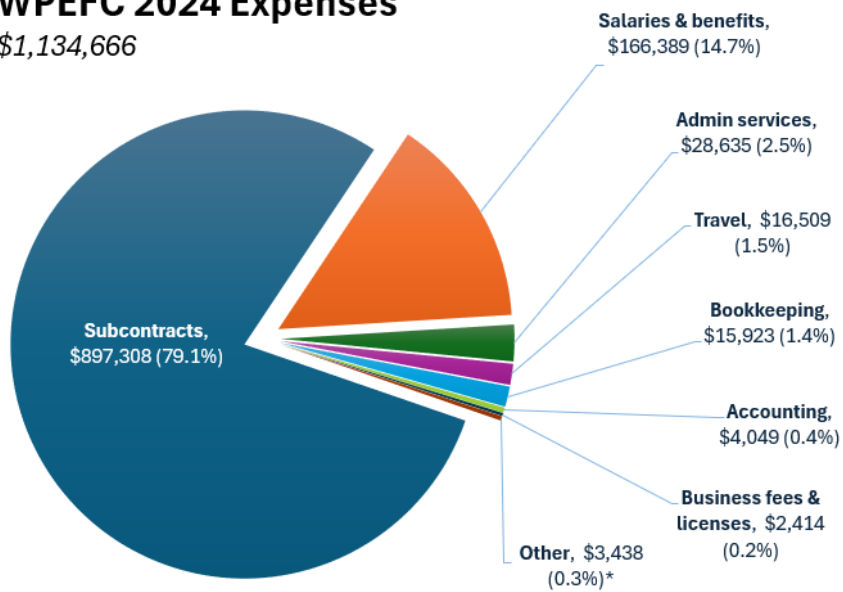
\$1,150,289



Revenue

WPEFC 2024 Expenses

\$1,134,666



*Other (all <0.1%)

Misc expenses, \$646

Telephone, \$555

Internet, \$495

POS fees, \$418

Advertising & promotions, \$343

Interest & bank charges, \$307

Insurance, \$218

CRA interest, \$179

Supplies & materials, \$122

Postage, \$91

Events & meetings, \$65



Expenses

Balance Sheet

WHITEBARK PINE ECOSYSTEM FOUNDATION OF CANADA

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2024, with comparative information for 2023

	2024	2023
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 182,469	\$ 88,518
Accounts receivable	36,209	71,041
Goods and services taxes receivable	19,351	34,815
Inventories	33,829	271,836
	<u>\$ 271,858</u>	<u>\$ 466,210</u>

Liabilities

Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 83,196	\$ 55,164
Deferred revenue	138,899	233,745
	<u>222,095</u>	<u>288,909</u>
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	49,763	177,301
	<u>\$ 271,858</u>	<u>\$ 466,210</u>



Financial Report continued:

- Joanne moved to accept the 2024 financial statement.
- Jeremy seconded the motion.

Presidents Report & BC Report:

President's Report – Restoration and Annual Review (British Columbia)

Presented by Randy Moody, President, Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation of Canada

This past year marked another strong step forward for whitebark and limber pine recovery efforts in British Columbia. Through collaboration with partners, volunteers, and restoration practitioners, we made significant progress in planting, cone collection, site maintenance, monitoring, and outreach. These collective efforts continue to expand and strengthen the network of healthy, genetically diverse whitebark pine populations across the province.

Highlights from 2025:

Seedling Planting:

- Planted or assisted in planting 103,000 seedlings across 14 locations in BC.

Cone Collections:

- Collected cones from 16 populations, including 3 first-time collection sites.
- Approximately 12,000 cones collected; seed processing is currently underway.

Brushing and Site Maintenance:

- Conducted brushing over ~25 hectares at three locations to reduce competition and improve seedling survival.

Monitoring:

- Carried out monitoring at nine sites, with most showing survival rates above 80% — an encouraging sign of restoration success.

Training and Capacity Building:

- Hosted a training course in Manning Park, building regional expertise in restoration practices.

Outreach and Engagement:

- Conducted community outreach in Kimberley and Valemount, reaching approximately 80 individuals and fostering public awareness of whitebark and limber pine conservation.

Vice-Presidents Report:

Vice- President's Report – Restoration and Annual Review (Alberta)

Presented by Jodie Krakowski, Vice-President, Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation of Canada

2025 was an outstanding year for whitebark and limber pine recovery in Alberta. Through collaboration with government, Indigenous partners, NGOs, industry, and dedicated volunteers, we advanced restoration, protection, and capacity-building efforts across the province. From large-scale seed collection and genetic conservation to on-the-ground planting and community engagement, these efforts are laying the foundation for resilient five-needle pine ecosystems for generations to come.

Seed Collection & Genetic Conservation

- Installed 2,950 cone cages on approximately 12,000 cones from 105 trees.
- Surveyed 193 plus/elite trees, identifying 18 new plus trees.
- Collected and grafted scion from 18 elite trees for the provincial seed orchard.
- 23 limber pine trees underwent genetic testing (whitebark pine testing pending).

Restoration & Planting

- 15,097 disease-resistant seedlings planted across five sites, restoring 27.9 hectares.
- 152 elite limber pine orchard grafts established with support from Waterton Lakes National Park and volunteers.
- ~20 hectares protected from grazing through implementation of best management practices (BMPs).

Surveying & Planning

- Completed surveys at six new sites covering 446.5 hectares, with reconnaissance for five more (planned 2026).
- Monitored 4,500 seedlings across 170 plots on 61.4 hectares of previously planted sites.
- Finalized the Alberta Spatial Restoration Toolkit, encompassing ~4.3 million hectares (excluding the Crown of the Continent).
- Completed spatial restoration plans for 5.3 million hectares of whitebark and limber pine habitat.

Training & Knowledge Sharing

- Hosted GOA webinar on the Alberta Five-Needle Pine Recovery Program with 200+ attendees.
- Delivered a two-day field training session with 12 participants.
- Co-hosted a workshop on grazing BMPs with 21 participants.
- Shared information and progress at four events with Stoney Îyârhe Nakoda Nation and Piikani Nation.

Outreach & Collaboration

- Engaged nearly 300 individuals through field outreach, including landowners, GOA staff, industry, Junior Forest Rangers, and community organizations such as the Alberta Wilderness Association and Crowsnest Pass Quad Squad.
- Supported group transect training and recognized contributions from Luiz and Emily (LLYK) for completing challenging field transects through Banff.

Membership Report

**Presented by Michael Murray, Membership Coordinator,
Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation of Canada**

Total members: 57

By type:

- Institutional – 2Nutcracker – 19
- Student – 6
- Whitebark – 24

- Grizzly (no new in 2025) – 6
- Recurring in November – 4

A 2026 Whitebark Conference or Community Gathering would provide an excellent opportunity to engage members more deeply and consider integrating membership dues into conference registration to help boost participation. Membership numbers increased in 2023, and the upcoming WPEF Conference in California presents a valuable chance to strengthen connections with nearby communities and

Operational Report

**Presented by Hailey Moran, Executive Director
Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation of Canada**

Over the past year, WPEFC has achieved significant operational and strategic milestones, strengthening organizational capacity, funding diversification, staff structure and support, and on-the-ground restoration efforts. The transition toward a governance-focused Board continues to advance, supported by increased staff capacity, stable funding, and strong partnerships.

Funding & Grant Development

- WPEFC has secured and advanced several major funding opportunities, including the 2BT extension through 2031, EcoTrust Alberta's Environmental Impact Grant, and the WLRS Monitoring Contract, which broadens our revenue base, representing diversification, a key goal for WPEFC moving forward to increase stability and independence. We also received FRIAA approval in Alberta on behalf of West Fraser, with several new grant proposals and letters of intent in the works.

Organizational Development & Operational Improvements

- Completed a full IT transition, migrating the email domain and website hosting internally and moving operations to Google Workspace.
- Charitable donations to WPEFC are now available through partnership with BC Conservation Foundation (BCCF).
- Improved Operational Budget Framework to guide decision-making and improve financial transparency.
- Secured employee benefits through Pacific Blue Cross.
- Completed Employee Handbook and continued refinement of Board Policies and Procedures.
- Conducted a Strategic Planning Session, producing an updated Strategic Plan and Strategic Calendar.
- Strengthened communications and outreach, increasing social media following and improving the quality and frequency of content.

Staff Leadership and Impact

- WPEFC continues to grow its impact through a dedicated team of three staff members and a strong network of contractors. The team is working hard to deliver results and position the organization to respond to emerging needs in 2026, supported by funding that ensures continued impact and progress.

- 2025 Staff Team includes: Executive Director, Program Manager, and the Alberta Project Assistant.

Contractor Leadership and Impact

Thanks to partnerships with Bulkley Valley Research Centre and Whitebark Consulting we have planted thousands of seedlings and cones across new regions of BC beyond the scope of our Project Managers currently operating in BC and Alberta, accompanied by support of Nick, our Program Manager in the Arrow Slocan region. Stay tuned for our Annual Report to come in December 2025 for a full scope of statistics and impacts from WPEFC and all our partners!

Future Outlook

WPEFC will continue to strengthen communications and engagement with partners, members, and the greater community and expand opportunities for collaboration and network engagement. Conference/Gathering

In 2026, the organization will also focus on expanding donor engagement, diversifying funding sources, and leveraging staff and organizational strengths to advance the strategic plan. These initiatives aim to build on current momentum, enhance impact, and ensure long-term financial sustainability.

WPEFC Seed Orchard Summary

Seed Orchard Report

2025 Work Completed

- Irrigation system winterized; pump drained and stored
- Pressure gauges and filter removed for storage
- Pump performance poor — may need service or replacement
- Trailer stored at Kalamalka Seed Orchard
- Full survey of grafts and rootstock completed (vigor, survival, brush needs, photos)

Highlights

- Elkhart Orchard in good condition; low brush and no debris
- 159 live trees — 80% good to medium vigor
- Strong establishment of original trees
- 2023 plantings: ~70% survival; only ~6 expected to thrive
- 383 live rootstock; 154 (40%) graftable — field grafting could be considered in 2026

Key Observations

- Minimal brush competition (some grass, low-vigor willow/aspen)
- One healthy tree mysteriously uprooted
- Pocket gopher activity minimal (one loss)
- Orchard sign missing (possibly stolen) - Will be replaced in 2026
- Irrigation must continue until full site occupation

2026 Action Items

- Volunteer Work Party in June 2026!
- Onboard and support new Seed Orchard Coordinator, new to WPEFC!

- Continue establishment with healthy grafts and rootstock
- Maintain fertilization, pruning, and brush control
- Improve irrigation consistency
- Continue to fill out Elkhart Seed Orchard

SOWG promo

Board Report

Elections were held for the Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation of Canada (WPEFC) Board of Directors. We are pleased to welcome two new Directors-at-Large and a new Secretary to the Board. See their bios on our website!

- Connor Fitzpatrick – Secretary
- Lindy Lin – Director-at-Large
- Corinna Strauss – Director-at-Large

We also congratulate Jeremy Greenberg, who was re-elected as Director-at-Large for another term. Thank you to our incredible Board of Directors!

Get Involved!

Call to WPEFC Members:

You don't need to be a Director to make a difference! We're inviting members to lend their skills and energy by joining one of our committees.

We are currently seeking support for the following:

- 2026 Conference Committee
- Communications Committee
- Fundraising Committee

If you're interested in contributing, please reach out to any Board member or email us at info@whitebarkpine.ca

2025 Board of Directors



President / Chair	Randy Moody	
Vice-President / Co-Chair	Jodie Krakowski	
Treasurer	Robin Gutsell	
Membership Coordinator	Michael Murray	
Secretary	Connor Fitzpatrick	<i>elected 2025</i>
Director-at-Large	Jeremy Greenberg	<i>re-elected 2025</i>
Director-at-Large	Natalie Stafl	
Director-at-Large	Kathryn Young	
Director-at-Large	David Walker	
Director-at-Large	Lindy Lin	<i>elected 2025</i>
Director-at-Large	Corinna Stauss	<i>elected 2025</i>

Contact Us & Stay Engaged!

- whitebarkpine.ca
- info@whitebarkpine.ca
- [@whitebarkfound_canada](https://www.instagram.com/whitebarkfound_canada)
- www.linkedin.com/in/wpefc/
- www.facebook.com/WPEFC/

Huge thanks to our partners and supporters

- Bulkley Valley Research Centre
- Okanagan Nation Alliance
- Natural Resources Canada
- Columbia Basin Trust
- EcoTrust Alberta
- Environment Climate Change Canada
- Parks Canada Agency
- Waterton Biosphere Region
- Alberta Innovates
- ECO Canada
- Province of British Columbia
- Government of Alberta
- Kootenay Conservation Program
- Nature Conservancy of Canada
- Moody Tree
- Alberta Wilderness Association
- Crowsnest Pass Quad Squad
- West Fraser
- BC Ministry of Forests
- USDA Forest Service
- BC Ministry of Water Land and Resource Stewardship
- Arboriculture Canada

- Whitebark Consulting – Adrian Leslie
- Panorama Mountain, Baldy Mountain & CMH Heli ski
- And of course, all our hard-working staff and contractors!

Questions, Comments, Suggestions

Meeting Adjournment:

- Corinna moved to close the meeting.
- David seconded the motion.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm PT | 8:29 pm MT