



The Nature Québec Charter for the

OECM: CONSERVATION DONE DIFFERENTLY **COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE**

March 2025

Introduction

To help kick start the process of recognizing Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECMs) in continental Québec, the Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte aux Changements Climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs mandated Nature Québec to bring together partners who have the desire or the capacity to recognize OECMs or to support groups and individuals who are seeking such recognition. To this end, a decision was made to set up a community of practice to encourage stakeholders to share experiences and expertise.

Objectives and composition

The *OECM: Conservation Done Differently* community of practice will bring together key stakeholders from many social spheres, such as Indigenous organizations and nations, conservation organizations, municipalities and Regional County Municipalities and others whose practices support biodiversity conservation on both public and private land.

Community of practice activities will include:

- case study presentations;
- Question and Answer (Q&A) sessions;
- field trips;
- sharing resource materials.

Other kinds of activities may be organized depending on the needs and interests indicated in the [survey](#), or in response to concerns that may be expressed during the meetings.

Community of practice meetings will seek to:

- foster a common understanding of the OECM concept throughout Québec;
- improve the knowledge base necessary for the submission of comprehensive, far-reaching and relevant proposals;
- mobilize key stakeholders and target audiences around OECMs and biodiversity conservation more broadly.

More specifically, community of practice activities will enable to:

- share successes, challenges and achievements;
- discover and share resources and tools;
- ask for and offer advice.

Schedule of meetings

Nature Québec will organize and run the community of practice, but it will revolve around interaction among you, the members. Occasionally, outside participants or experts will be invited to lead certain activities.

The number and frequency of meetings will be adjusted depending on how many people sign up for the community of practice to ensure real opportunities for exchange between participants. Nevertheless, we are aiming for monthly meetings, from April to December 2025, except for the summer period.

Meetings will usually last an hour and a half, but the allotted time may vary depending on the activity planned. To enable all members to attend, most of the meetings will take place virtually. Field trips are also planned to give members an idea of what effective conservation measures can look like in practice. In the spirit of collaboration and mutual support, the following protocol is encouraged at meetings:

- turn on camera for lively exchanges;
- use the Raise hand icon to respect everyone's right to speak;
- limit speaking time to allow everyone to participate;
- show respect, use listening skills and demonstrate openness.

Recordings

Portions of the meetings will be recorded and made available through the project's toolbox, on the *OEEM: Conservation Done Differently* web page. The purpose of these recordings is to make certain information, such as the presentation of a case study, available to a wider audience. The recordings will therefore be made available to members of the Community of Practice, but also to external people. These recordings will remain available until the end of the project.

Before the recording begins, the community of practice facilitator will make an announcement, so that those attendees who so wish can close their cameras during that portion of the meeting. The question-and-answer period will not be recorded, however.



Partners and governance

The success of OECMs as a conservation tool depends on the collaborative efforts of a wide range of committed stakeholders. Accordingly, Nature Québec calls on the expertise of many organizations through an advisory committee and a network of experts in the field to support the project.

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