



PLANNED GIVING: BRINGING YOUR LEGACY TO LIFE

At a time when wild bird populations are declining and the demand for bird care services continues to rise, your support matters more than ever. One of the most meaningful ways to ensure the future of bird conservation is through planned giving—including Le Nichoir in your will.

A gift in your will helps provide long-term financial stability, allowing Le Nichoir to stay focused on what matters most: caring for injured and orphaned wild birds, educating the public, and serving the community with compassion and expertise far into the future. As a non-profit that relies on the generosity of the public, donors like you are the heart of everything we do.

By making a legacy gift, you're not just supporting an organization—you're creating a lasting impact for wildlife and for future generations who deserve to experience the beauty and wonder of wild birds. Le Nichoir takes each gift to heart, honouring your memory with the same care and respect we show to every bird and every person we help.



NATURE CONSERVATION IS INTERCONNECTED AND CONSERVING WILD BIRD STRENGTHENS THE ENTIRE ECOSYSTEM

Ecological Benefits



- Pollinators and seed dispersers: Birds, like hummingbirds and many songbirds, pollinate plants, while others spread seeds, helping forests, grasslands, and even urban ecosystems regenerate.
- Pest control: Birds like swallows, warblers, and owls naturally manage insect and rodent populations, reducing the need for chemical pesticides.
- Scavengers and cleanup crew: Vultures and other scavengers help clean up dead animals, preventing the spread of disease.

Cultural and Human Connection



- Birds appear in art, folklore, and spiritual traditions across cultures as symbols of freedom, hope, and resilience.
- Birdwatching is one of the most popular nature-based activities worldwide, fostering appreciation and mental well-being.

Scientific and Educational Value



- Birds are widely studied in biology and ecology, helping us understand migration, evolution, adaptation, and animal behavior.
- Their visibility and diversity make them ideal for inspiring curiosity and teaching conservation.

Indicators of Environmental Health



- Birds respond quickly to changes in their environment. A declining bird population is often the first warning sign of ecosystem imbalance, pollution, or climate change.
- Monitoring birds helps scientists assess the overall health of biodiversity.



CHALLENGES BIRDS ARE FACING

Wild birds face a wide range of challenges—most of which are caused directly or indirectly by human activity.

- **Lack of public awareness**

- There is growing awareness and concern about our environment but more needs to be done.
- Public education and community engagement are critical to long-term, nature conservation.

- **Habitat Loss and Fragmentation**

- Small changes like removing dead trees can eliminate critical nesting or feeding areas

- **Collisions with windows**

- One of the leading causes of bird death in urban areas
- Kills hundreds of millions of birds each year in North America

- **Predation by domestic cats**

- Kill 1-2 billions birds every year in North America

- **Disease**

- Disease such as Avian Influenza, West Nile virus are becoming more common

- **Pesticides and Pollution**

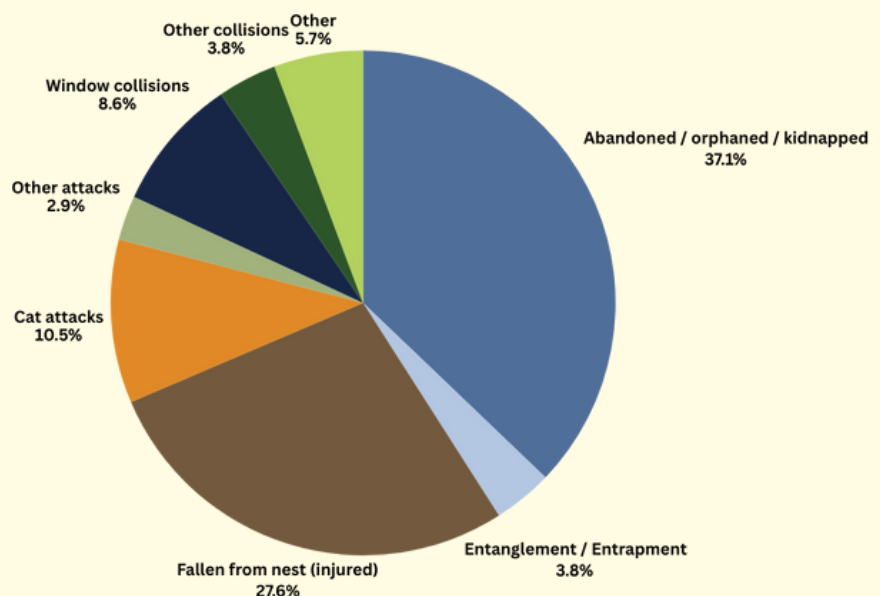
- Rodenticides, herbicides, insecticides, and plastic pollution can kills birds and their food supply

- **Climate change**

- Affects migration timing, breeding seasons and food availability



REASONS WILD BIRDS ARE BROUGHT TO LE NICOIR FOR CARE



CONSERVING WILD BIRDS AS PART OF OUR NATURAL HERITAGE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Le Nichoir is committed to:

Le Nichoir is committed to:

- Leading through collaboration, compassion, integrity and professionalism.
- Setting an example as the largest wildlife rehabilitation centre in Quebec.
- Offering science-based care to its patients grounded by veterinary science, biology and current research.
- Teaching people of all ages about the importance of birds, their role in wildlife conservation and biodiversity, and how everyday actions can promote positive change.

Every year we provide professional care to more than 2,500 injured or orphaned wild birds of over 100 different species from across Quebec. **More than 47,000 birds have come through our doors since they first opened in 1996.**

Our work is made possible by a small team of passionate staff, over 120 volunteers, and a generous community of donors who help us keep up with the rising demand for bird conservation services.



A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

My connection to nature began at a young age. With parents who were avid campers, many of our weekends and vacations were spent outdoors—walking trails, stargazing, and exploring the woods. I quickly became the child who always returned home with a critter in tow—injured or orphaned animals seemed to find me wherever I went.

Since I was 14, I've volunteered as a youth leader with Scouts Canada, sharing my love for the environment with young children. I also served on the Board Member of the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council (IWRC) for 13 years as well as had the position of President. These experiences, alongside my lifelong passion for wildlife, shaped my path toward becoming a wildlife biologist.

Helping animals and protecting the environment has become more than a passion—it's a way of life and a set of values I now pass on to my own children. I believe in showing kindness to all things wild, in teaching that each individual animal matters, and in empowering others to see that their actions—no matter how small—can lead to lasting change.

For many people, a commitment to wild bird conservation begins with a simple act: finding a wild bird in need. That moment of compassion often leads to curiosity, awareness, and ultimately, action.

Over the past 20 years at Le Nichoir, I've had the privilege of helping thousands of wild birds and connecting with incredible volunteers, donors, and community members who make this work possible. I am grateful for each of these encounters, and for the opportunity to connect with you—to hear your story, learn about your love for birds, and help you create a legacy that reflects your values.

We take your wishes to heart and are committed to honouring your legacy with care and respect.

Susan Wylie, CWR
B.Sc. Wildlife biology
Executive Director





HOW PLANNED GIVING BENEFITS LE NICHOR

Planned gifts provide sustainable, long-term funding to help Le Nichoir improve the quality of care offered to avian patients. They can fund species-specific aviaries and other investments in infrastructure, ensuring that a bird in need is never turned away due to capacity limits.

Planned gifts also provide increased flexibility in times of unexpected crisis—whether that's a disease outbreak, oil spill, or extreme weather event — ensuring that expert care is available when it's needed most. With bird populations in decline — largely due to human-related causes — your legacy can help offset those impacts and support birds in a rapidly changing world.

A CASE IN POINT

When I first considered creating a legacy gift for Le Nichoir, I simply had to look to my experience over the years as a Nichoir volunteer and education committee member to inform my decision.

I have always been moved by the compassion and dedication the entire staff at Le Nichoir brings to their duties each day. And as a longtime volunteer, I am also aware of the stress and strain the center can sometimes experience in its efforts to bring the best care to the injured and orphaned birds that come its way. This has made my decision to create a long-reaching legacy donation for Le Nichoir a simple one to make.

Le Nichoir stands as a caregiver to the present and future ecological health of our world. Please consider creating your own legacy gift. What better way to lend a hand to our beautiful planet while honouring the compassion and concern that we feel towards our fragile natural environment.

Peter Kosiuk- volunteer and planned giver

WHERE TO START: WITH DONOR BENEFITS IN MIND

Planned giving allows you to make a meaningful, long-term contribution to a cause that you care about, without impacting your ability to live comfortably today. Later, upon settlement of your estate, your legatees will benefit from the usual income tax and capital gains tax advantages associated with charitable giving in Canada.

Your gift can take many forms. It can simply be a dollar amount or an outright gift of securities or mutual funds. It can be real estate. It can be in the form of a residual gift after your loved ones are cared for or a gift made in memory or in honour of someone special. It can also be naming Le Nichoir as a beneficiary of your life insurance, RRSP, RRIF, or TFSA.

CHOOSING THE GIFT THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU

Through Le Nichoir you can leave a legacy that protects wild birds and supports conservation for generations to come.

Here are some of the ways:

- A gift in your will (a specific amount or percentage)
- Naming Le Nichoir as a beneficiary of your life insurance, RRSP, RRIF, or TFSA
- A gift of securities, mutual funds, or real estate
- A residual gift after your loved ones are cared for
- A gift made in memory or in honour of someone special



START BY SPEAKING TO YOUR ADVISOR

Preview your will and financial plans with your notary, lawyer or and/or financial advisor. If you decide to proceed, they will advise you how to include Le Nichoir as a beneficiary.

Legal Name: Centre de réhabilitation Le Nichoir inc.

Charitable Registration #: 894112358 RR 0001

Address: 637 Main, Hudson J0P 1H0

A small brown and white bird, possibly a sparrow, is perched on a green grass stem. The bird has a brown head, a white breast, and brown wings and back. It is looking to the right. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

STAY CONNECTED

If you've included Le Nichoir in your plans, We'd love the opportunity to thank you personally and share our long-term goals with you. We would be interested to know what matters most to you and we can offer recognition options, such as newsletters, plaques, or legacy acknowledgements. You may also choose to remain anonymous and we will respect and honour your wishes fully.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me at susan@lenichoir.org or 450 458-2809. I'd be honoured to speak with you.

Susan