

A ROCHA

06

CONSERVATION

08

EDUCATION

10

SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE

FIELD OF
COASTAL
BRITISH
COLUMBIA

THE "WHYS"
& "HOWS"
OF A ROCHA



A ROCHA
Environmental Stewardship

*Inspiring Change.
Caring for Creation.*



New immigrants to Canada get in on A Rocha's harvest during Fun on the Farm.

*Inspiring Change.
Caring for Creation.*

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LIVING LIGHTER

THE POWER OF WONDER

When my nephew was small he thrilled at being outside. Just old enough to walk but not yet old enough to have gained the mastery of speech, he had just one word at his command: Dis. You would carry him outside and within seconds he would be shrieking at the top of his little lungs, “Dis!” as he pointed wildly at the seagulls circling overhead. And if he was under his own steam, he would fling himself to the ground - “Dis Dis Dis!” he’d bellow, pointing at a string of ants winding their way along the sidewalk.

The world was full of miracles – ordinary, spectacular miracles!

The bedrock of creation care is the experience of wonder at the beauty and complexity of the natural world. It is what motivates people to make sacrifices, live simply, and maintain hope.

Ideas on how to ratchet up the wonder quotient in your family:

1. Keep a wonder journal.
2. Share wonder sightings over dinner.
3. Create a wonder collage of your own “wonderful” photos.



Share your stories or photos of wonder on our Facebook page: facebook.com/aroachacanada



LEAH KOSTAMO
Newsletter Editor
A Rocha Canada



FREE eBook Download!

This short booklet, written by A Rocha's own Markku and Leah Kostamo, explores the biblical foundations of creation care as Christian mission as well as how that mission is worked out in everyday life.

Download info: arocha.ca/ebooks-field-notes



Photo: Brooke McAllister



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

A Rocha International turns 30 this year! What started as a humble little conservation centre on the Portuguese coast has grown into a family of 20 projects around the globe – from New Zealand to Ghana to Brazil – each uniquely caring for creation in their own contexts. Birthdays are good occasions for taking stock of who you are and where you’ve been. In our case, it’s a good opportunity to answer the “why” and “how” of our own work in Canada. The “why” is simple enough: **we work in creation care as an act of faithfulness to the Creator for the goodness of creation.** Answering the “how” is a bit more complex, even though our own history in Canada goes back only twelve or so years. **In a nutshell we work to transform people and places,** but how we do that is wonderfully varied. At the risk of oversimplification, allow me to take you on a short pictorial tour which will hopefully give a glimpse into the many ways (the many “hows”) A Rocha has worked out our calling.



MARKKU KOSTAMO
Executive Director
A Rocha Canada

 [Twitter.com/markkukostamo](https://twitter.com/markkukostamo)



1999

First of three
Regent / A Rocha
Conferences



2001

Conservation
studies begin
(Bertrand Creek,
North Vancouver)



2003

A Rocha's first
environmental
centre is
established
in BC

FOLLOW A ROCHA TODAY



[Facebook.com/aroachacanada](https://facebook.com/aroachacanada)



[Twitter.com/aroachacanada](https://twitter.com/aroachacanada)



2004

Community
Shared Agriculture
project launched



2004

Environmental
education
programming
connects kids
with creation



2005

A Rocha's
Manitoba
Centre opens



2008

A Rocha takes
root in Ontario



2009

Just Growing
links faith and
food security
in Winnipeg



2010

Brooksdale
Environmental
Centre established



2010

Good Seed Sunday
launched, equipping
churches across
Canada to care
for creation



CONSERVATION



Patrick Lilley, A Rocha's Science Advisor, considers the central role of conservation to A Rocha's work.

WHY

One of A Rocha's core commitments is to the conservation and restoration of the natural world. Both scientific research and practical conservation projects are a part of how we carry this out. Good stewardship requires an adequate understanding of organisms, their interrelationships, and the habitats that support them. **Our scientific work aims to provide a strong foundation needed for informed protection and management. Our conservation projects are aimed at slowing or reversing the trends of habitat loss that are affecting many species.**

From a faith perspective, our motivation for these activities comes from our belief in a creator God who has called us to be stewards of His creation. For Christians, conservation work is an act of both obedience and worship. **In the developing world, with so many humans dependent on healthy, functioning ecosystems for food, clean water, and even medicines, conserving the natural world is also strongly tied to alleviating poverty and spreading justice.**

Even in Canada the connection between a healthy environment and the health of the human community is being recognized since many conservation projects have tangible benefits to local communities. Therefore, where possible, we work with local landowners and residents to understand their concerns and collaborate with them in the good act of stewardship.

HOW

A snapshot of several of A Rocha's conservation projects:

- **Greater Toronto Area:** We have been working with partners to steward and restore natural areas on the Oak Ridges Moraine. The Moraine is a major source of drinking water in the area and the headwaters of several rivers that flow through the Greater Toronto Area and into Lake Ontario.
- **Southern Manitoba:** We have been counting migrating hawks and eagles as they travel northward through the Pembina River Valley each spring. This is helping to document the importance of the valley as a critical flyway for raptors.
- **British Columbia:** We have begun to work with local landowners in the Little Campbell River watershed to identify sources of water pollution, to remove invasive species, and to replant native streamside vegetation. The goal is to improve water quality and habitat for fish, wildlife, farming, and shellfish harvesting.

FIND OUT more

Learn more about conservation at: arocha.ca/environmental-stewardship/

DIY: WILDLIFE GARDEN

So, you want to steward the earth and you happen to own a bit of earth out your back door. Turning a corner of your lawn or garden into a Wildlife Garden is a wonderful way to provide habitat for birds, bats, bees and other creatures. The Canadian Nature Federation has developed the following criteria for "wildlife friendly backyards:"



chemical free
(no herbicides or pesticides)



organic soil
(through use of compost, rotational planting, nitrogen-fixing plants)



water
(pond, bird bath, creek)



shelter
(bird, bat and bee houses, trees with cavities, tall grass patches)



food
(bird feeder, berry bushes, nut and fruit trees, nectar-providing flowers; use native plants as much as possible)



Upload a photo of your wildlife garden to [facebook.com/arochacanada](https://www.facebook.com/arochacanada)

GETTING STARTED:

- Choose native trees and shrubs which provide both food and nest sites (see resources).
- Vary the height of your plants with various-sized trees and shrubs, vines and flowers to create layers.
- Plant in groups of uneven numbers rather than in straight lines.
- Plant densely to create safer, warmer shelter and nesting sites.
- Use groundcovers in place of lawn in parts of the garden.
- Emulate creation and embrace the mess! Wait to deadhead until spring; mulch well with leaves; stack fallen and cut branches to create a brush pile.
- Create a safe place for wildlife by keeping kitty inside.



EDUCATION



Education Director Rick Faw ponders the role of education in A Rocha's mission.

WHY

When describing A Rocha I often suggest that conservation and sustainable agriculture might be considered the “what” and “how” of A Rocha Canada’s work. What kind of bird is that? How do I restore a wetland? How can agricultural practices build soil quality? In this light our education programming is the “why” of A Rocha. Why is earthkeeping biblical? Why is habitat restoration or grocery shopping or biking part of following Jesus? **A Rocha excels at inviting people to “get their hands dirty,” figuratively and literally, in order to explore and discover God’s world** (“Check out that pileated woodpecker!” “Have you ever tasted a carrot like this?”). We believe this direct, unmediated engagement with creation is foundational for A Rocha’s work and our lives. However, realizing the transformative potential of experiential interaction requires thoughtfully considering the purpose of stewardship. Therefore, **A Rocha’s education programming seeks to articulate the connections, both biblical and practical, between our relationship with God, our relationship with each other, and our relationship with the rest of creation.**

HOW

We articulate those connections for school kids on field trips and summer day camps (while also handing those same kids sets of binoculars so the theoretical gets grounded in the practical!). And we make these connections for adults in pews and in classrooms, learning institutes and internship programs, in the hopes that the “whys” of earthkeeping will get translated into a wonderful array of “hows” as folks take seriously the call to care for creation.

**COME
see us**

To schedule a field trip, investigate internship opportunities, or book an A Rocha speaker for your church, check out our website: arocha.ca



EARTHKEEPING INSTITUTE JOINS FAITH & ACTION

The Earthkeeping Institute, spearheaded by A Rocha’s Matt Humphrey, is a unique opportunity to participate in the community life of Brooksdale, to dig deeper in understanding the biblical basis for earthkeeping, and to experience new ways of embodying this commitment in our daily lives.

The first of our two 2012 Institutes focused on “Food and Faith” and featured four days of bible study, a tour of local sustainable farms, fantastic guest speakers, and a “taste” of the rich “food life” of Brooksdale – from growing and harvesting to cooking, preparing, and sharing in meals

**FIND
OUT
more**

Stay tuned for additional Earthkeeping Institutes in 2013: arocha.ca/earthkeeping

GIRLS IN ACTION

A Rocha’s Fun on the Farm program has partnered with the Surrey School District to bring hands-on environmental education to 80 “girls at risk” in four local elementary schools. The Girls in Action program is designed to help girls build self esteem as they learn new skills and form new relationships, thereby breaking cycles of bullying. The A Rocha team of educators is visiting the girls in their schools as well as hosting them at the Brooksdale Environmental Centre where they participate in a variety of “farmy” activities from planting seeds, to making kale chips, to exploring the surrounding forest. From the girls’ surprised and enthusiastic responses to these activities it is clear that getting up close and personal with creation is quite a novelty – a novelty that is building new connections both to the earth and to caring adults who are genuinely “for” them.

**get
INVOLVED**

Provide a girl at risk with three mornings of environmental education for \$100. Go to arocha.ca/donate to give



Project partners: World Vision



Issue 38 2013
arocha.ca

09

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE



A Rocha Farmer Paul Neufeld reflects on the “Whys” and “Hows” of Sustainable Agriculture

WHY

A Rocha projects around the globe are designed to preserve biodiversity and teach people about the amazing details and the grand vistas of creation. Because agriculture is a leading cause of habitat loss and declining biodiversity, it has just made sense for those of us working in Canada to grow food in ways that allow the inhabitants of our small patch of earth – birds, amphibians, insects, humans, and humus – to flourish!

get
INVOLVED

\$600 will provide a low income family with a season of organically grown veggies. Give today at arocho.ca/donate

HOW

Through our Community Shared Agriculture (CSA) project, based out of the Brooksdale Environmental Centre, we grow food with an eye toward holistic environmental health while providing over 70 families as well as several food banks with 20 weeks of organically grown veggies. Eating locally and seasonally is a learning curve, and we feel grateful to be accompanying so many folks on this journey of sustainable eating.

Interns are a key component of our CSA project, and it is heartening that so many interns experience a transformation (a transformation that often begins while weeding!) in their thinking and outlook while serving with us. This is a generation that is well aware of the human causes of environmental degradation, and many feel hopeless and discouraged. It is not surprising, therefore, that working in the garden brings a sense of renewed hope as they learn to practically steward the earth while providing for their own and others' needs.

As I reflect on our own garden and the host of A Rocha affiliated gardens that make up our Community Garden Network across Canada, I am filled with gratitude for the abundance that we have experienced. **Such abundance is a gift, and makes possible other gifts: healthy bodies and minds nourished by good food, the raw materials for hospitality, the opportunity for generosity,** the necessity of creativity in the kitchen (more zucchini?!), and the reminder that all of this comes from the hand of our generous Creator!

A COMMUNITY GARDEN MOSAIC

Congregations across Canada are digging up portions of their church properties and planting beans, broccoli and brussels sprouts where lawn and brambles used to reign. Many are doing this with the support and training provided by A Rocha's Community Garden Network.

Photo: Brooke McAllister



Tenth Avenue Alliance, Vancouver, BC

"The Healing Garden" got its name from the participants of Tenth Church's weekly Meal and Shelter Program. All the food grown in the church's six raised-bed boxes is turned into soups, salads and side dishes for the meal program!



St. Barnabas Anglican Church, Calgary, AB

The parishioners of St. Barnabas Anglican Church began growing their "allotment" community garden in May 2010 with the purpose of providing a beautiful space that would produce a bounty of food to be shared with others in the Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community.



St. Margaret's Anglican Church, Winnipeg, MB

A Rocha and St. Margaret's have partnered for over three years in reaching out to Winnipeg's marginalized through the Just Growing project. Just Growing's community garden not only produces bushels of organic veggies for those living on low income, but also is the site of fun-filled day camps.



Church of the Resurrection, Toronto, ON

The award-winning "Garden at the Rez" is beautifying Toronto's East York neighbourhood while providing locals with their own plots of dirt in which to dig, plant and harvest.

FIND
OUT
more

Want to start a community garden at your church? check out our website: arocho.ca/communitygardens and get digging!

A ROCHA ACROSS CANADA: PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

1

LIFT-OFF IN HAMILTON

“People in Southern Ontario are searching for an organization that will help integrate their faith, work & play. A Rocha is positioning itself to be that organization, bringing transformational experiences to people and caring for places.”

Darren Brouwer, Associate Professor of Chemistry at Redeemer University College

Taking their cue from A Rocha’s first project in Portugal and its initial conservation focus on birds, a faithful band of A Rocha folk in Hamilton, Ontario, are working to increase local populations of Eastern bluebirds. Building on the success of organizations like the Ontario Eastern Bluebird Society, **they are helping this special species recover from pressure due to habitat loss and the proliferation of invasive species.** The work has both conservation (just ask the birds!) and education value as local high school students and community members construct bluebird houses, as well as participate in bird counts and bird banding.

FIND OUT more

To find out more about this work and other projects in Hamilton and the Greater Toronto Area email us at ontario@arocha.ca.



PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

3

PUTTING CHRISTIAN HEADS TOGETHER

Samuel Chui, A Rocha’s Multicultural Outreach Coordinator, reports on his time at the Lausanne Movement’s Global Consultation on Creation Care and the Gospel.

This past fall I had the privilege of participating in the Lausanne Movement’s Global Consultation on Creation Care and the Gospel. I was joined by several A Rocha team members from India, Ghana, UK, and Uganda as we met representatives of Christian relief agencies, mission organizations, conservation advocates, scientists, and theologians from around the globe. **I was inspired by the goodness of the work that so many are undertaking, often in very challenging circumstances – work like that of a young social worker from Congo who initiated a community program to address poor sanitation and water pollution problems;** and a Brazilian urban farmer who

started a regional movement of local sustainable agriculture that feeds the poor; as well as the work of major Christian relief agencies who are beginning to tackle ecological challenges in their community development projects. The Consultation concluded with a “Call to Action” to the worldwide church, echoing profoundly A Rocha’s current work, reaching out to the Chinese communities in Canada and our initiatives in the Asia-Pacific region.

FIND OUT more

For more information on this important conference and to read the “Call to Action,” check out lausanne.org

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

2

RUNNING FOR THE RIVER

A troop of over 70 enthusiastic runners hit the trails during A Rocha’s second annual Run for the River – a family friendly race that raises both awareness and funds for salmon and their habitat in the Little Campbell River. Winding their way through the beautiful Campbell Valley Regional Park on a gorgeous fall day, runners were able to get a close-up look at the habitat that sustains the five species of salmon and trout that call this river home. **The more than \$12,000 raised will go directly towards restoring this important and sensitive habitat so that salmon and other wildlife might better thrive.**

We are grateful to our race volunteers and sponsors: the good folk at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Small Ritual Coffee, Muscle Milk, The Honeybee Centre, Langley Farmers Market, and Cloverdale Country Farms.



PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

4

GERMINATING CONVERSATIONS: GATHERING AT A ROCHA’S TABLE

Focused on food justice, stewardship of the land, and bridging the rural-urban divide, the “Germinating Conversations Listening Events” drew both growers and eaters to a common table to listen to one another and explore hard questions. Larry Danielson, A Rocha’s representative for this project, writes, **“Our goal has been to better understand issues of food justice and land stewardship in both their rural and urban contexts.”**

“Food, Faith, Eating and the City” (Fall 2012) explored issues related to eating, such as knowing where one’s food comes from and the affordability of “just” food.

“Food, Faith, Farming and the Land” (Spring 2012) focused on the challenges and joys of food growers and how faith relates to their ventures.

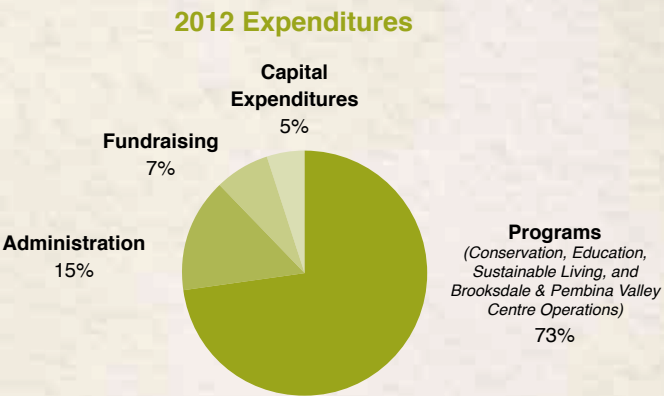
While listening continues to be vital to the process, the Conversation is now becoming a dialogue. A small-scale event, hosted just recently at A Rocha’s interpretive centre in the scenic Pembina Valley, brought together the four partnering planners (A Rocha, Canadian Mennonite University, Mennonite Central Committee, and Food Matters) and presenters from the previous “Listening Events.” This facilitated dialogue reflected on experiences from the first two events, focused on several emergent themes, and considered ways to go forward with this important Conversation.



Photo: Brooke McAllister

A ROCHA CANADA 2012 FINANCIAL REPORT

Income		Expenditures & Capital Asset Investment	
	2012		2012
1 Donations (Individuals, Churches & Corporations)	616,229	1 Programs (Conservation, Education, Sustainable Living, and Brooksdale & Pembina Valley Centre Operations)	1,058,660
2 Grants (Foundations & Government)	250,074	2 Administration	220,609
3 Program Fees, Centre Revenue	175,180	3 Fundraising	103,712
Operating Subtotal	1,041,483	Operating Subtotal	1,382,981
4 Capital Projects - Grants & Donations	526,106	4 Capital Expenditures	77,815
Total Income	1,567,589	Total Expenditures	1,460,796



BROOKSDALE ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE



CARE FOR CREATION AND CHANGE YOUR LIFE

Are you 18 years or older and looking for practical experience in creation care? Are you interested in gaining this experience while living in a welcoming and vibrant community?



- Internships are available in the following program areas:
- Conservation Science
 - Sustainable Agriculture
 - Education
 - Generalist



To learn more check out our website: arocha.ca/internships or email interns@arocha.ca

A Rocha's Centre in BC is a place where young scientists learn conservation science skills, children explore creation on field trips, the local community enjoys fresh, organically-grown veggies and folks from all walks of life are offered a quiet place to reflect and recollect. To aid in this latter endeavour, Rob and Ruth Des Cotes have recently joined the Brooksdale team, led by David and Shauna Anderson. Ruth has served for years as A Rocha's environmental educator with children. Rob is an artist, pastor and a trained spiritual director who is thrilled to facilitate both group and personal retreats from Brooksdale's heritage guest house.

We invite you to visit, stay, work, and play alongside us. The Centre is available for

- Internships in conservation, education and sustainable agriculture
- Day or overnight retreats for business and church groups
- Personal retreats



Please visit arocha.ca or contact us at british.columbia@arocha.ca for more information!



In the summer of 2011 Ryan Scruggs, an instructor from Alberta Bible College, offered a course on social justice at Bow Valley Christian Church. In response, a small band of participants formed the Social Justice League, a group committed to, among other concerns, caring for God's creation. For Ryan, at the heart of it all is the "realization that we serve a God of redemption, not of consumption. This means that God longs to renew everything he has created and best of all he invites us to take part in that mission."

The group has individuals from a number of different churches in Calgary. One of those churches, Rosscarrock Church of Christ, has a team of folks enthusiastic about community gardening. One church member reflected on the church's new garden by saying, **"using the church grounds to plant a vegetable garden and sharing its produce as a congregation has been a good reminder that we depend not on grocery stores, but on the land for our food, and on the God who causes the plants to grow."** This simple garden has increased our visibility in the community, has inspired others in the congregation to live with greater environmental awareness, and has led to our church exhibiting environmental stewardship in other ways." Another church, Bow Valley Christian Church, has financially partnered with A Rocha to reforest an area in Ghana and bring hope to the people who depend on the forest.

It's for churches like these that Good Seed Sunday was created! **For the past two years, A Rocha has served hundreds of churches across the country in their creation care efforts through our Good Seed Sunday initiative. These churches have held Good Seed Sunday services using our free resources – resources like sermons, reference materials, bible studies, Sunday**



Lending a hand to the Trout Canada fish rescue near Calgary

school and VBS (Vacation Bible School) curricula and more. And many churches have followed up with practical creation care projects that regularly engage their congregation in hands-on stewardship of the earth, thereby giving witness to Christ, the one through whom all things were created and in whom all things are sustained (Col. 1:16-17).

GOOD SEED SUNDAY CHURCH RESOURCE PACKAGE

The package includes resources that form a biblical foundation for joyful stewardship while engaging the whole church to worship God by caring for creation in practical ways. Resources include

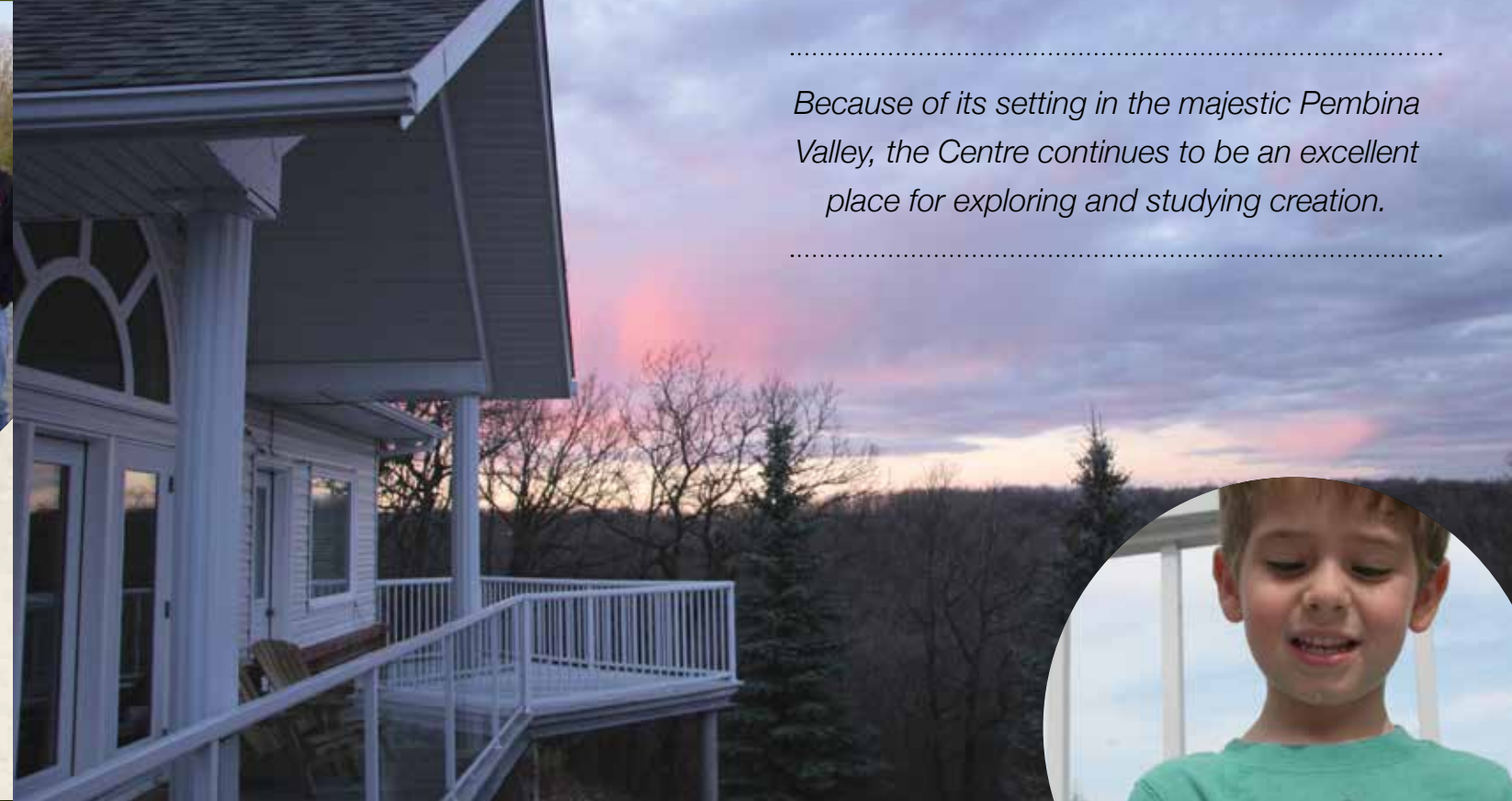
- Church Service Package
- Bible Study and Small Group Materials
- Sunday School Teacher Kit
- Daily Reflections/Devotionals
- Living Lighter Resources



Inspire your own church to care for creation: visit goodseedsunday.com to get started, then email us so that we can share your story!

THE PEMBINA VALLEY INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

Because of its setting in the majestic Pembina Valley, the Centre continues to be an excellent place for exploring and studying creation.



A Rocha has a new handle in the Pembina Valley! In a desire for the name of our Manitoba Centre to more accurately reflect its purpose, the former "Field Station" is now the "Pembina Valley Interpretive Centre." The Centre is set up to host long-term interns and overnight guests, as well as day events such as concerts, cheese-making workshops, and even family reunions (to name a few). **Because of its setting in the majestic Pembina Valley, the Centre continues to be an excellent place for exploring and studying creation.**

To help facilitate all this exploring and studying, a brand new Education Centre is currently under construction near the main building. Henry Martens has led a team of devoted volunteers in constructing a large classroom/meeting space

which will comfortably fit 50 creation explorers. The building will be wheelchair accessible and have all the necessary amenities, including a large central fireplace. Bethany Paetkau commented, "It will be a cozy place to retreat to after a few hours in the woods!"



Come visit! Please contact us at manitoba@arocha.ca if you are interested in internships, overnight stays, or school group visits, or if you just want to drop in for a cup of tea!

VICTORY IN PORTUGAL

A Rocha Portugal had cause to celebrate this year after taking a leading role in two court actions aimed at protecting the Ria de Alvor.



Photo: Will Simonson

The Ria de Alvor, which forms part of a UN designated Natura 2000 site, is one of the most important wetlands in southern Portugal, noted for its threatened habitats, rare plants and significant populations of resident and migratory shorebirds. It's one of the few remaining undeveloped areas of this popular coastline.

It is also the namesake and first conservation study site of A Rocha. Indeed, over the past 30 years countless volunteers, interns and staff have collected volumes of data on the birds, plants, fungi, moths and butterflies of Quinta da Rocha – “Farm on the Rock.”

Having failed in diplomatic negotiations with the owner, A Rocha rather reluctantly initiated legal action in the hopes that the destruction would be halted. In February 2012, thanks in large part to the scientific evidence provided by A Rocha, property developer Aprígio Santos was convicted of environmental crime, given a two-year suspended sentence and fined 150,000 euros.

However, a decision was still awaited in another court action: A Rocha Portugal led a coalition of six national NGOs in demanding that the law requiring the damaged habitats be restored should be applied. In June, the judge made a landmark ruling. A Rocha Portugal's Executive Director Tiago Branco said, “This was a case that looked as though it would end like so many others in Portugal. Until now, developers who have ruined habitats have simply paid a nominal fine and continued with their original plans. But finally the law has been applied: the owners have been completely prohibited from undertaking any work on the protected habitats for ten years, allowing the wetlands to recover.”

It was a David vs. Goliath victory in which years of A Rocha's faithful scientific work carried the day in convincing the judge of the value and uniqueness of this special place.

Source: A Rocha International press releases, 15 February & 9 June 2012



Therefore it was with tremendous dismay that between 2007 and 2010 the A Rocha team watched bulldozers roll in as the owners of Quinta da Rocha illegally destroyed habitats which they should have protected.

curlew sandpiper, one of the Alvor Estuary's passage migrants
Photo: Peter Harris

RESTORING DIGNITY IN UGANDA



Go to arocha.org/ug-en to watch a short video about A Rocha's work in Uganda



Farming is a time-honoured practice in many African families, with men traditionally growing crops to sell and women growing legumes and other vegetables to feed the family. However, in recent years these practices have become constrained by climate change and urbanization, leaving poor communities with limited options.

Rehema lives in Bwaise, a slum frequently affected by floods, and is saddened by the changes. She explains that these days the people living around her cannot even grow enough vegetables to feed themselves. Yet A Rocha Uganda is determined to change this. To help communities cope with rocketing food prices and increasing floods, the team, under the leadership of Sara Kaweesa, has embarked on an initiative to revive farming even in urban areas where there is limited space. **By training local people in how to plant sack gardens and giving them seeds for their first**

planting, A Rocha is providing the tools whereby futures are changed. With the money locals make from their harvest, they will be able to buy their own seeds in the future and also share what they have learned with their neighbours.



The sack garden project is just one of an array of life-changing initiatives A Rocha Uganda is undertaking. In addition, they are studying and protecting the Lubigi Wetland, the largest wetland in the Kampala area; providing clean drinking water through water filtration; and finding new ways to dispose of sewage and garbage. A Rocha's work in Uganda is transforming lives by bringing health, dignity and hope.



To donate to the work in Uganda go to arocha.ca/donate/international-projects

Other Funders: Service
Canada (HRSDC), YMCA,
YWCA Eco-Internships,
Eco Canada

Photo: Brook McAllister

OUR MISSION

A Rocha is an international Christian organization which, inspired by God's love, engages in scientific research, environmental education and community-based conservation projects.

OUR VISION

Restoring salmon habitat, training young scientists, inspiring school children, feeding low-income families – A Rocha is transforming people and places through hands-on conservation projects, environmental education programs and sustainable agriculture initiatives.

OUR COMMITMENTS

Christian

Underlying all we do is our biblical faith in the living God, who made the world, loves it and entrusts it to the care of human society.

Conservation

We carry out research for the conservation and restoration of the natural world and run environmental education programs for people of all ages.

Community

Through our commitment to God, each other, and the wider creation, we aim to develop good relationships both within the A Rocha family and in our local communities.

Cross-cultural

We draw on the insights and skills of people from diverse cultures, both locally and around the world.

Cooperation

We work in partnership with a wide variety of organizations and individuals who share our concerns for a sustainable world.



**Thank you for
your support.**

To donate:

604.542.9022
canada@arocha.ca
arocha.ca

Make cheques payable to:

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19353 16th Avenue
Surrey, BC V3S 9V2



A ROCHA
Environmental Stewardship

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