

Options for land

The Escarpment Corridor Alliance is working across the South Georgian Bay Escarpment region with landholders who understand and value the importance of conservation action towards an ecologically connected corridor.

Our work is rooted in volunteer participation and education.

Landholders can protect habitats and wildlife from development, mitigate the impacts of climate change and leave a lasting legacy for future generations who will call this place home.



How can landholders support land conservation?

Protection Mechanism	Explanation	Tax Benefits to Land Holders	Additional Notes
Land donation	Land is donated to a conservation organization from a willing landowner	Yes – option for enhanced tax receipt through Ecological Gifts Program (EGP)	Through EGP, tax receipts can be used over 10 years, and 100% of capital gains tax is eliminated; life interest agreements are possible
Partial donation	A % of land value is donated by landowner and a % is purchased by the conservation organization	Yes – as above	See above note on EGP donations
Land purchase	Land is purchased by a conservation organization, from a willing landowner	Yes – as above	Life interest agreements can be considered, so landholder can continue to use the land for the duration of their lives
Conservation easement agreement	Landholder stays on title as owner, but enters into a legal agreement with a conservation organization that is registered on title	Yes – option for enhanced tax receipt through EGP; also option for reduction in property taxes with MPAC	Legal agreement has restrictions on what can't occur on the property (e.g. development, clear cutting, etc.)



What if I want to keep some of the land for myself and my kin?

In all cases above, severances can be considered, allowing maximum flexibility for landholder while still contributing to conservation efforts. In all cases, lands will be stewarded to an exemplary management standard to ensure they contribute to conservation on an ongoing basis and to protect their natural values, forever.

What if I don't want to do something permanent yet?

In addition to the above options, there are emerging conservation tools that landowners can explore, including recognition of their lands as conservation to contribute to Canada's target to protect 30% of lands and waters by 2030 (sometimes referred to as Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures or OECM), stewardship partnerships with conservation organizations, rights of first refusal options, and other custom agreements.

How else is the ECA working on land protection in South Georgian Bay?

Land securement is just one tool that the Escarpment Corridor Alliance is implementing to protect, conserve and restore the natural heritage of the South Georgian Bay Region. Other tools, including landholder-led stewardship and improved sustainability on private land, community education and outreach, and working alongside local governments and other conservation-focused organizations towards synergistic outcomes for a strong conservation economy.

Who can I contact for additional information?

To find out more about our organization and all that we do, please visit <u>myescarpment.ca</u>. For additional information on Land Securement, please email <u>conservation@myescarpment.ca</u>.



