



September 9, 2020

Dear Emily:

We are writing to recognize and thank you for your dedicated service to the Network over the last five years and for your tangible accomplishments for the NLC during that time. You have played a key role in moving the Network from an idea to a functioning organization that is driving innovation in collaborative landscape-scale conservation in North America. Accordingly, the Coordinating Committee of the Network for Landscape Conservation has today approved a resolution commending you for accomplishments that include:

- You helped to secure grants from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, and William and Flora Hewlett Foundation to support the Network, including nearly \$2 million to launch the Catalyst Fund. Annual leadership dues and personal donations to support the Network have more than doubled as part of an average of more than \$170,000 in annual fundraising.
- The Network has exhibited enormous growth in outreach and communications including the highly successful National Forum in the fall of 2017, followed by the report: *Pathways Forward: Progress and Priorities in Landscape Conservation*. You led the creation of a new Communications Framework with compelling messaging, and from there developed an entire new website and expanded Landscape Conservation Bulletin. Today, the staff and leadership of the NLC now speak regularly at key conferences, and the Network has more than 200 institutional partners and more than 3,500 individual members.
- NLC's Policy Working Group was a staunch defender of the LCC program and has worked hard in the federal administration to forge enduring connections with federal and state agencies, and to develop foundational principles and policies for going forward. The recent virtual Policy Forum, with 1,000 registrants, was an affirmation of what the Network can provide in this arena
- The S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation provided an opportunity for the Network leadership and organization to become more focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) as pillars of landscape conservation. As a result of its commitment, the Network provided in depth DEI training for seven leadership and staff, scheduled training for the remainder of its leadership in 2020, participated in ongoing monthly peer learning calls with the other organizations, and also garnered implementation funds to produce a case studies report with the Salazar Center.
- The Network survey of 132 landscape conservation initiatives in 2016 provided important and timely information on trends in the field and played a key role in building the case for the

critical value and rapidly growing nature of collaborative landscape conservation. The goal to repeat this survey and report every five years makes this effort all the more powerful and represents a landmark effort of the Network.

- The 2019 Catalyst Fund represented a fundamental turning point in the history of the Network. For the first time, the Network was able to provide tangible funding to landscape partnerships in the field and to have a national and foundation platform to fully explain the fundamental shift in land conservation and the essential need to fund and support the collaborative process in reaching land conservation goals. It also allowed the Network to move more directly into diversity and inclusion work, with the Indigenous-led component of the Fund.
- The Peer Learning Program element of the Catalyst Fund has been an exciting addition to the Network portfolio. Across the country, regional networks, local partnerships, and academics are working to identify elements of collaborative leadership and landscape conservation partnership success. The Network's Peer Learning Program offers an opportunity to provide value-added opportunities to the NLC's grantees in terms of peer learning and skill building and also peer connections that will last long after the funds are expended.
- The NLC has made many constructive advances in governance and a commitment to reviewing governance and crafting a new strategic plan in 2021. This process holds promise for the Network as it evaluates its progress and plans its strategic future.

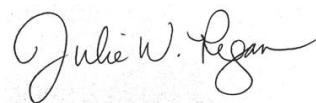
We understand that these accomplishments have been achieved often with limited and uncertain resources. Your hard work, enthusiasm for the cause, and drive for success have contributed in large measure to the Network's success. You can take lasting pride in what you have achieved at the Network for Landscape Conservation, most importantly because it will contribute to the long-term health of natural and human communities in the real world of North America.

Thank you for all you have done, and all the best in the years to come.

With deepest appreciation,



Ernest Cook
Co-Chair



Julie Regan
Co-Chair