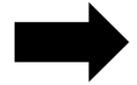# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BOREAL BIRDS

WHAT'S GOING ON

Over **300** bird species breed in the boreal region of northern Canada. But they have a heck of a time getting there.

269 MILLION birds die EVERY YEAR in Canada directly from human activities → **95%** of them are killed by **CATS & COLLISIONS** with windows, vehicles, & power lines.

CATS | COLLISIONS | Other

On top of this they are **LOSING HABITAT** in their wintering grounds to:

- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Aquaculture
- Beach tourism

and

LOSING HABITAT in their summering grounds to:

- Agriculture
- Industrial Energy Projects
- Forestry
- Mining
- Urban Expansion

ALSO, **CLIMATE CHANGE** is altering habitats, increasing extreme weather, & shifting **migration & breeding** out of sync with plant flowering & insect emergence.

The Result:

A whopping 12% decline in boreal birds in the past 40 years
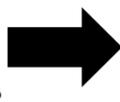
Canada's boreal birds are important. For example, many are **insectivorous** (saving us an estimated **$5.4 billion** in pest control).

Birds are an important part of **our boreal ecosystems**. They disperse seeds, consume insects, are dinner for raptors and mammals, & even create new habitats for other species (e.g., woodpeckers).

Birds are also excellent **indicators of ecosystem health** and their declines provide early warnings of changes to our environment.

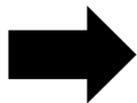## WHAT YOU CAN DO

If you have an outdoor cat → **BUILD A PEN** or keep it on a **harness** when outside

CHOOSE **SHADE-GROWN COFFEE** TO SAVE BOREAL BIRD WINTER HABITAT

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE → MINIMIZING DEMAND for 1st-generation products **DECREASES HABITAT LOSS** (e.g., using recycled paper products reduces logging in Canada's old-growth boreal forests)

Buy **ORGANIC** to reduce the amount of **pesticides** our birds encounter

Get outside and **help monitor** our boreal bird populations! For example, you can volunteer at the Christmas Bird Count, Breeding Bird Survey, Canadian Lakes Loon Survey, Project FeederWatch, and the Great Backyard Bird Count, or record sightings on eBird.