

**The Human History of the Millard Learning Centre on Galiano Island:  
From the Inception of the Galiano Conservancy Association to the Purchase and  
Development of DL57**

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## **1.0 Introduction**

### **1.1 Land and Territory Acknowledgment**

The Millard Learning Centre (MLC) is situated on the unceded lands of many Hul'qumi'num groups, but historically was primarily inhabited by members of the Penelakut First Nation and utilised by Lamalcha, Hwlitsum, Chemainus, Cowichan, Halalt, Lyackson, and (ceded) Tsawwassen groups. We acknowledge that our project was formulated and is written from a settler point of view, and we acknowledge that this is a problem. We are grateful to have spent time on Galiano and are regretful that we were not able to meet with anyone from the Penelakut or any other First Nations groups with ties to the land. According to some of our interviewees, who have relationships with Penelakut elders, the MLC site historically has no specific importance to Indigenous inhabitants, though it was undoubtedly used along with the entirety of Galiano Island by the Penelakut people. It is our hope that, in the future, Indigenous use of the land will be investigated and recorded for the MLC site, and we sincerely and respectfully recognize that our report is incomplete without it. For more information on the importance of land acknowledgment, please view "Acknowledging our Shared Territory," a short film by Richard Wilson which can be viewed on the Galiano Conservancy Association's website.

### **1.2 Background**

When we visited Galiano and the MLC in early September, we noticed how many personal accounts and stories we heard about the extensive history of the MLC land. We realized that a written account of land use change and personal connection to the land would be a useful way to compile anecdotes and history into a document that could act as a timestamp for the conservancy. In 2015, UVic Environmental Studies students Bronte Renwick-Shields and Jon Weller set out to uncover much of the ownership history and land-use changes of DL57 through documents and a couple of interviews. Their report contains extensive information about land use change from early European contact on the island of Galiano until the end of the 20th century, but the human history of the MLC's inception by the GCA has not been written down, and the rich story of DL57 as remembered and told by community members has yet to be told.

### **1.3 Project Summary**

Through interviews with people with a connection to the MLC land and the GCA more broadly, we aim to tell the story of the MLC that complements and continues the account written by Renwick-Shields and Weller (2015). Renwick-Shields and Weller's 2015 report contains extensive information about the land-use history of the MLC site from first European contact until around 1990, when the land was inhabited by Bill Campbell, who owned the land from the 1950s. The lot, then named District Lot

(DL) 57, was bought by the GCA from long-time owner Bill Campbell in 2012. Since then, the site has been renamed and the GCA has performed various conservation and restoration efforts on the land with the help of the broader Galiano community. The site is a community hub for learning and hands-on outdoor experiences for children of all ages, university students, and adults who want to learn about natural history, renewable energy, food production and security, and ecological restoration.

## **2.0 Objectives**

### **2.1 Goals and Objectives**

Goal 1: Create a single document which tells the modern history of the Millard Learning Centre Site.

Objectives:

- Conduct interviews with community members and people with a connection to Galiano Island and the GCA.
- Consult the historical survey of DL57 written by Renwick-Shields and Weller (2015).
- Write the story of the site using information obtained through interviews with the community.

Goal 2: Present the historical information of the MLC in a way that is engaging and accessible to the public.

Objectives:

- Write the history of the MLC site based on interviews with community members in a format from which information can easily be extracted for educational or general interest purposes.
- Compile information in a digital format that includes pictures and interview excerpts which can be included on the GCA website and potentially be adapted to physical formats as the GCA sees fit.
- Provide the GCA with raw interview videos for storage and educational use.

### **2.2 Methods**

We performed interviews with past and present members of the GCA and of the greater Galiano community as per our ethics approval (#20-0523) from the University of Victoria. Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic and physical separation between us (in Victoria) and Galiano Island, all interviews were conducted using the web-based videoconferencing application, Zoom. We came up with interview questions that were broad and applied to each interviewee, focusing on connection to place and their personal accounts of changes to the land since they have known it. Interviewees were selected based on

personal connection with the MLC and the GCA and the fact that they were able to meet with us within our project's short time frame. Interviewees include: Adam Huggins, Chessi Miltner, Keith Erickson, Gary Moore, Loren Wilkinson, and Eric Higgs.

### **2.3 Acknowledgement of Biases**

This report is informed by the experiences, stories and direct reflections of people with a connection to the Galiano Conservancy Association (GCA). The people interviewed include the current and former Executive Director of the GCA, the current Restoration Coordinator, and longtime members of the board of directors of the GCA. All those interviewed were male. It is important to acknowledge the biases that come with telling a story from the perspective of male members of the GCA that is not informed by any members of the Penelakut First Nations or any other First Nations groups with connection to the land since time immemorial. The terms of our UVic Ethics Approval restricted our ability to interview members of First Nations groups with connection to the land. This was out of an abundance of caution to ensure appropriate protocols were recognized, and likely very difficult to do within the confines of a single term course. We recognize this is a major lacuna in our project. It is also not informed by anyone who owned the MLC site previous to the GCA, which we imagine may change the story's perspective. Finally, the stories and reflections told to us by interviewees were informed by our interview questions, which were formulated by two women in a restoration design class in the UVic Environmental Studies department. Therefore, the questions focus not only on acquisition of the land but also on restoration and design. We recognize that our project lacks diversity, equality, and Indigenous perspective, all of which are necessary to tell a full story of land use. Therefore, we do not claim this story to be exhaustive, final, or complete. We present our time-limited findings for use by the GCA as an outline of restoration efforts and anecdotal reflections since the GCA has owned the land, as well as an overview of the process that went into purchasing the land in 2013. Our report may be used as a buildable template for future projects to add in different perspectives and create a fuller story.

## **3.0 The Story**

### **3.1 Background History of District Lot 57**

The information in this section is a summary of Renwick-Shields and Weller's 2015 report "Historical Survey of District Lot 57."

The first registered owner of District Lot 57 (DL57) was John W. Walker, who purchased the land in 1896 for \$160 and cleared it for agriculture. He sold the land less than a year later to John Shaw, who remained the owner for the next 30 years. In 1932, the land was purchased by the Scholefield family, the first recorded owners to settle and live on the site. The Scholefields regularly received money from

their family members back home in England, which allowed them to build a 13-bedroom house that overlooked Trincomali Channel. The property was sold a few years after the Scholefields moved away from Galiano back to Qualicum Beach in the mid 1940s, where they had originally settled upon immigration from England. The Olympia Cooperative, later known as the Galiano Co-operative Association, were the new owners of DL57 and aerial photos show that the preexisting agricultural land was maintained over the next 10 years, though the rest of the property appears to remain intact. In 1958, DL57 was sold to William (Bill) Campbell. This is where our story begins in more detail.

### **3.2 The Galiano Conservancy Association and Ken Millard**

Ken and Linda Millard moved to Galiano permanently in the mid-'80s, and quickly became involved in conservation on the island (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020). Linda had been a librarian at Simon Fraser University (SFU), and both created and ran the GCA's office library. Ken was described by Eric Higgs as a "case study of an individual who had an unusual and unpredictable career path." He earned a PhD in quantum mechanics from Case Western Reserve University in the United State, and took a postdoctoral research appointment at Simon Fraser University. He also had a great love of early music, and played the viola da gamba with an early music ensemble in Vancouver. Eventually, he realized that his heart did not lie in academia, and followed his musical passions toward a career producing specialized early music instruments and notably bows for the viola da gamba bows out of a workshop on Galiano, becoming one of the world's leading experts. (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020; Higgs, personal communication, Nov 22 2020). Unfortunately, he developed a severe allergy to the tropical woods he used, stopped his instrument making, and turned his attention to local environmental activism.

The Galiano Conservancy Association (GCA) started, as Gary Moore describes it, when the activist stance on Galiano shifted from "stopping clearcut logging to preventing wholesale real estate" (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020). Moore's 2017 book, "What Happened at Coon Bay?", tells the story of the GCA in detail, from its humble beginning in the '90s as a group of concerned citizens to the innovative restoration education association it is today. The original group was called Clear Cut Alternatives, and aimed to address large-scale logging being done by MacMillan-Bloedel, a logging company that owned most of the land on Galiano. Moore led the first meeting that would lead to Clear Cut Alternatives' formation. After the meeting, he was approached by the Millards, who wanted to be involved (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020). From that moment on, Ken became a driving force in the Conservancy's ability to harness the power of community to protect local ecology. The Millards donated nearly full-time work to conservancy for the rest of Ken's life (Higgs, personal communication, Nov 22 2020).

According to Gary Moore, whenever the GCA finished a project, Ken always had a “bigger and more outlandish” new project to take on. Millard referred to this as his character flaw. The topic of this report, the acquisition of DL57 and DL58, was the biggest project the GCA had ever taken on, and so it is perhaps a perfect example of this “character flaw” in action. When asked about Millard, however, those who knew him seldom frame this as a flaw. Adjectives that arise often are “selfless” and “dedicated.” This is perhaps indicative of the discrepancy between the responsibility he felt for the GCA’s financial risks and how much those risks improved the lives of GCA members, the Galiano community, and all students who come to learn at the MLC. The GCA’s 2013 Management Plan was drafted just after the land was purchased, and lists the goals of the MLC: “to practice ecological stewardship, provide opportunities for learning, contribute to local food security, contribute to economic development on the island, provide public access to the grounds, and to create opportunities for recreation” (GCA, 2013; Huggins, personal communication, Nov 3 2020). Adam Huggins, the GCA’s Restoration Coordinator, noted that “a lot of it has been achieved, and then some” (Huggins, personal communication, Nov 3 2020).

The Millards dedicated immense amounts of time and energy to the GCA, and everyone who had the pleasure of working with them remembers the time fondly. When Ken passed away in 2015, it was a huge loss to the Conservancy and to the Galiano community. Eric Higgs recalls more than 300 people, from all over the coast, attending his memorial service (Higgs, personal communication, Nov 22 2020). Erickson remembers Ken saying, “If you work your way up the nonprofit corporate ladder, you end up working full-time for free” (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020). However, despite the years of work Millard donated to the Conservancy, Moore insists that Millard would have opposed the MLC being named after him—he saw it as a community effort, and would have hated the public credit (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020).

### **3.3 DL57 and the Campbells**

From 1958 until 2012, DL57 was owned by a logger named Bill Campbell, a bit of a “swashbuckling [man], one of those old-time guys that knew all the tricks in the woods.” (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020). Ken Millard used to joke that he could tell Campbell was a logger because he stirs his coffee with his thumb (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020). We took that to mean that he was hardened—a career cutting wood in the freezing rain and blazing sun would make one familiar with physical discomfort. Dipping a thumb in a scalding coffee may even have soothed a hardy logger’s calluses.

Campbell owned DL57 for over 50 years, and lived on the land for the latter period (approximately 15 years; Renwick-Shields & Weller, 2015). Prior to Campbell, sections of DL57 were

used for agriculture but the rest stayed primarily intact and forested (Renwick-Shields & Weller, 2015). He ran a band saw mill, perfect for logging cedar but too thin for most fir. DL57 became embedded in the greater Galiano community for lumber supply as well as housing. Throughout the '70s and '80s, Campbell was known for letting young families squat on the land and build cabins to raise their children (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020; Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020). For many, DL57 became a long-term residence where folks raised families, farmed, and resided for cheap (Renwick-Shields & Weller, 2015). During this time period, a range of dwelling and agricultural structures were erected on DL57, some of which are still (barely) standing today.

Campbell joined the families living on DL57 in the 1990s with his wife, Lennis, and their daughter, two grandchildren, and son-in-law, who worked for Bill. In 2001, the Campbells were living off-grid down by the not-yet-named Chrystal Cove (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020). This was the year they decided to sell the land. One option was to appraise the land and subdivide the lot into 13 parcels of residential land, a profitable option as the lot contains 56 acres of waterfront property (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020). Oddly, Campbell chose instead to first pursue a far less lucrative option. He approached Ken Millard and suggested the GCA buy DL57 for conservation (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020; Wilkinson, personal communication, Nov 17 2020).

The GCA had been purchasing parcels of land on Galiano, and began to notice a possible connectivity network that would run nearly the North-South length of the island and certainly touch sections of the East and West coasts. This network is now known as the Mid Galiano Island Protected Areas Network (Fig. 1; Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020). The land included within this connectivity network had the potential to be used as a wildlife corridor both N-S and E-W, and contains many elevation changes and therefore microclimates for a variety of species. DL57 would help form this network. Millard set his sights on rounding up the funds to make the purchase of DL57 a possibility.

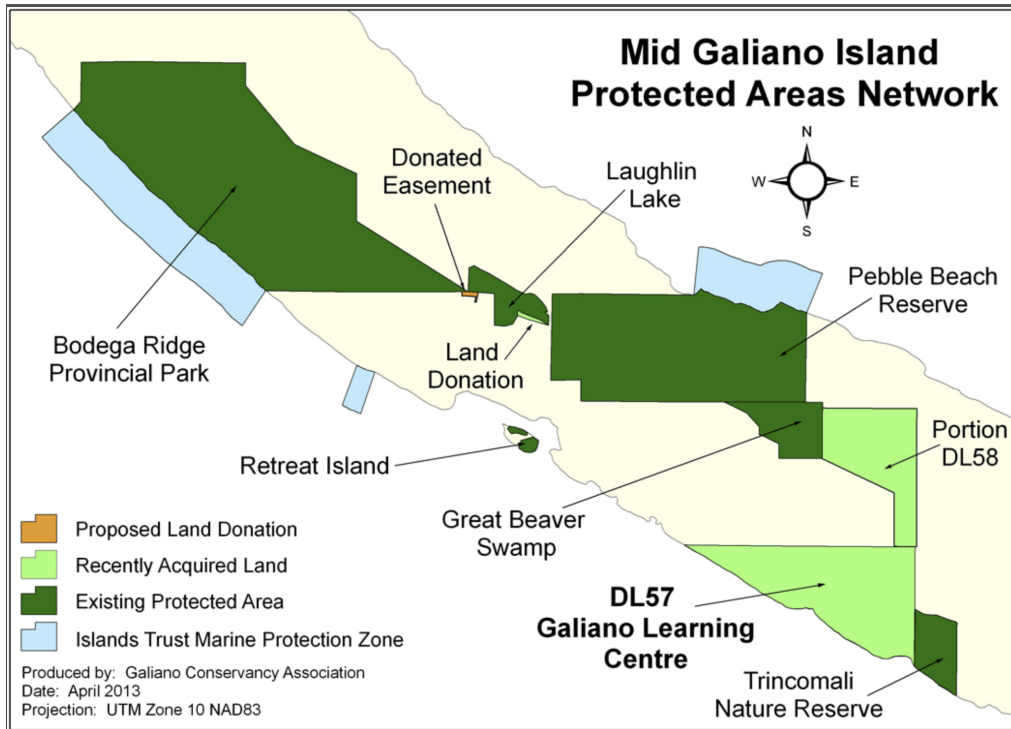


Figure 1. Map of the Mid Galiano Island Protected Areas Network produced by the Galiano Conservancy. Retrieved from <https://galianoconservancy.ca/learning-centre-history/>

### 3.4 The Purchase of DL57

The purchase did not happen in 2001, but DL57 remained a target for Millard and the GCA for nearly a decade (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 17 2020). The most alluring ecological feature of DL57, and one that nearly everyone mentions when describing their love for it, is its shoreline. Of the lot's 76 hectares, 23 are uninterrupted, untouched old-growth forest along the shoreline (Miltner, personal communication, Nov 6 2020). This made the land immensely ecologically valuable, and immensely high-risk. If the land were subdivided, the uninterrupted old-growth could be destroyed.

In the years following Campbell's initial approach to the Conservancy, the GCA's education programs had begun to build. Missing, though, was a permanent space dedicated to education, where students could stay overnight and have a meaningful experience in Galiano's terrestrial and shoreline ecosystems (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020). DL57 had a history of use, so the GCA could put in some infrastructure without damaging sensitive ecosystems. And, compellingly, DL57 had high ecological biodiversity and value that the GCA could protect. It seemed to be the perfect opportunity for the conservancy to create a thriving, dynamic learning space (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020).

Around 2010, Campbell began to lay legal groundwork to subdivide the property, so Ken pitched the acquisition to the GCA. DL58 (now known as Vanilla Leaf Land) became available around the same



time, so the GCA set out to find the funding for both. The acquisition would cost the Conservancy over four million dollars (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020). This purchase was extremely ambitious—the GCA had never before sought an acquisition of this scale.

### **3.5 Fundraising**

The GCA applied to the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), which offered a grant to cover 50% of the costs of projects focused on educational programs and conservation. They were successful, and received \$2 million toward buying DL57 (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020). The GCA also secured a significant pledge from the estate of Dr. Chrystal Kleiman who, upon her passing, left over half a million dollars for the purchase of a place that kayakers could enjoy (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020; Higgs, personal communication, Nov 22 2020). The beautiful cove near the original site of the Campbell's house is one of the only spots where a kayaker can pull up to shore along that stretch of coastline, and helped secure the estate for the conservancy. The cove is now named “Chrystal Cove” in Kleiman's honour (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020; Wilkinson, personal communication, Nov 17 2020).

With the NCC pledge and the money from Kleiman's estate, the GCA still needed to secure or borrow approximately \$1.2 million (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020). Gary Moore noted that most of his work for the GCA that year was grant writing to various organizations. The remaining money was raised as a testament to the importance of mutual aid. Galiano community members, some of whom were involved with the GCA and some of whom simply supported their work, put up their properties as capital to secure a \$1.2 million loan from VanCity through the credit union's social resilience fund (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020). Community members also donated money outright to the GCA's cause—tens of thousands of dollars were raised in this way (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020).

Once the land was secured in the GCA's name, the challenge of paying back the borrowed money persisted for years. Keith Erickson described it as the “worst fundraising you could think of,” noting that it is very hard to get money for something you already have and use (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020). After slowly obtaining donations and funds from the community and various small organizations, the clouds finally parted for the GCA. In 2018, an anonymous donor donated her waterfront property, thinking the conservancy could use it to house interns. The stress of the conservancy's debt was heavier than their need for housing, however. With the donor's understanding and support, the GCA sold the property (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020; Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020). Now, as of 2019, the GCA finally lives debt-free and can focus on building educational programs and community relationships.

### **3.6 GCA's Restoration, Conservation and Development at the Learning Centre**

DL57 was originally renamed the Restorative Learning Centre once it was purchased by the GCA to allow a more obvious focus on running educational programs (GCA, 2013; Higgs, personal communication, Nov 22 2020). When Ken Millard suddenly passed in 2015 and Keith Erickson was asked to become executive director, the GCA decided to rename the property the Millard Learning Centre (MLC). Gary Moore noted that this is the last name Ken would have wanted for the property, but without him there, the vote was unanimous (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020).

Bill Campbell logged DL57's cedar until the day its sale to the conservancy became official. Moore describes it as "an industrial mess, with lots of pollutants, machinery, oil, and pneumatic machines left abandoned in the woods" (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020). There were burn piles of cedar by the mill, some up to 15 feet high. A few decrepit shacks still clung to their foundations, mouse-infested, daring to crumble in a strong breeze. Erickson describes Campbell's mill site as being in especially bad shape. He remembers lamenting to a coworker that the mill site would be a bad first impression for kids coming to the MLC for environmental education, and that they should find a different entrance area. She responded that the ramshackle entranceway was in fact a major opportunity to transform sick land into something that feels good (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020). The mill site became the first of many restoration projects at the MLC.

#### **3.6.1 The ASPA Building**

The ASPA building at the MLC has lived two different lives—before its time on Galiano, it lived up in the Kootenay Mountains near Salmo, BC. Ken Millard had a connection with Herb Hammond, who ran an ecosystem-based forestry group called the Silva Forest Foundation. The Foundation had an ecoforestry school on a few hundred acres of land up in the Kootenays. Eventually, the education aspect of the Foundation died down, and the owners sold the land to a sustainable logging company (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020; Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020). The company had no interest in using the classroom building the school had used—without maintenance, it would eventually start to rot and crumble and become a liability. In the summer of 2013, the Foundation approached the GCA and asked whether they could make use of the building.

Millard was excited by the prospect—not only could they get a classroom building for free, but they could do so using almost entirely reused materials. So, in June 2014, eight MLC volunteers travelled to Salmo to spend nine days deconstructing the building by hand. In July, a team of six returned to finish the deconstruction and load the building, in pieces, onto a flat-bed truck. On the last day, the truck started down the mountain road toward Galiano, where another team was laying concrete foundations using a fleet of wheelbarrows (Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020).

It all went very smoothly, until it didn't. As Moore put it, the team remaining on the ecoforestry school's land got the message that things were "not so much in the balance, but in the creek, really" (Moore, personal connection, Nov 17 2020). The driver had taken a corner too hastily for the rainy mountain road and flipped onto its side with the building still strapped to the bed. The volunteers had done a shockingly good job with the strapping—the building suffered practically no damage, including the windows. After some minor repairs, the driver hit the road again and made it to Galiano upright (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020; Moore, personal communication, Nov 17 2020).

### **3.6.2 Food Forest and Forage Forest**

The Food Forest and the Nuts'a'maat Forage Forest are restoration projects aimed at supporting food security. The Food Forest was designed to be a complex garden in which the plants provide not only food, but also habitat, nitrogen fixation, and food for pollinators. It was originally planned to be where the Forage Forest is now, just beside the ASPA building (Huggins, personal communication, Nov 3 2020). A contracted expert looked at the site and said that the giant cedar standing in the middle would prevent other trees from growing well, so it would have to come down. As it happened, Millard and Erickson were not at all interested in that tree coming down. So, they changed the plan to put the Food Forest in its current site (Erickson, personal communication, Nov 11 2020). Huggins describes the site as having "some of the better soil on a property with mostly bad choices for soil, on an island with mostly bad choices for soil" (Huggins, personal communication, Nov 3 2020).

The GCA held a workshop on how to design a food forest, and some 30 people came by to help install it. The first year, the forest consisted solely of small trees and garlic as far as the eye could see. Huggins and Cedana Bourne, the GCA's Agriculture and Nursery Coordinator, just barely managed to stuff the harvest inside Bourne's car—the garlic filled it all the way to the roof (Huggins, personal communication, Nov 3 2020). Erickson suggested they hang it in the basement, where it promptly threatened to rot and had to be removed for its own survival. Since then, it has become a site frequently used for education programs, and has thrived with the help of netting—as Huggins put it, "Sometimes you've just got to keep the birds off your berries" (Huggins, personal communication, Nov 3 2020).

The Forage Forest was conceptualized by Adam Huggins with thorough examination by Hyeone Park and created with the knowledge and guidance of Auggie Sylvester and Karen Charlie from the Penelakut nation (Park, Turner & Higgs, 2017; Park & Higgs, 2018). Both are elders who are quite knowledgeable about plants, and despite some hesitation from other members of the Penelakut nation, were willing to share it with the GCA to keep their knowledge alive. The idea behind the Forage Forest was to create a restoration project reflective of the diversity of food and medicine plants on Galiano, and to be an experimental site where settlers and the Penelakut community could gather to learn about

Indigenous medicines. Huggins designed and populated the forest as the final project for his Restoration of Natural Systems diploma through UVic, and still feels like a caretaker for the project, which he describes as “a lesson in managing an ecosystem collaboratively with other people” (Huggins, personal communication, Nov 3 2020).

### **3.6.3 Other Restoration Projects**

Many other projects have taken place at the MLC over the years, and new ones are always being undertaken. For example, in terms of restoration work, a lot of work has been put into removing invasive species and industrial debris from the mill site. Invasive species are also being removed and monitored at Chrystal Cove, and assessments for invasive species across the rest of the property have begun (GCA, 2020). The GCA had their work cut out for them when they bought DL57, and spent a lot of time removing derelict buildings and industrial materials—memoirs from its logging years. Decommissioning of old logging roads has been underway since the property’s purchase (GCA, 2020).

The MLC is rich in ecological design initiatives, many of which are created by students from UVic’s Restoration of Natural Systems program. The programming building was brought to the MLC in 2019, and has since been equipped with bioswales, rainwater catchments, and greywater systems reduce the office and plant nursery’s demand on Galiano’s water supply, which is an important adaptation strategy for facing climate change on the Gulf Islands (GCA, 2020; Higgs, personal communication, Nov 22 2020). In October 2020, an artificial liner wetland was built near the classroom building by a group of community volunteers (GCA, 2020).

Recently, a major renewable energy project headed by Tom Mommsen and Risa Smith has been designed and installed by the programming building. It not only collects solar energy for the MLC, but also keeps the ground beneath it at an appropriate temperature for plants to grow, which is often difficult with solar projects. A trail system has also been added, and continues to be expanded in hope of creating a widely enjoyed public trail system (GCA, 2020).

## **4.0 Conclusions**

The MLC land has had its trees chopped down, its soils tilled for agriculture and compacted by houses, its flora munched by deer, and the love and dedication of countless people over the years. The acquisition of this land was the largest risk the GCA had ever taken on, and their eventual outright ownership of it is due to the work of many individuals. We are touched by the Galiano community’s ability to come together, both in the ‘90s to for the conception of the GCA and in 2012 to help the GCA purchase the land for the sole purposes of conservation, restoration and education. Likely, these were not

unusual circumstances for the Galiano community, and we assume mutual aid to be a way of living among long-term residents.

Since DL57 was purchased by the GCA from Bill Campbell, countless school groups and workshops have been hosted, a classroom building with toilets and showers has been erected, food security on site has been enhanced, the GCA has built a permanent office on site, and old growth forest has been protected. The 2013 management plan states that the Learning Centre's goals and objectives were:

- Practicing ecological stewardship
- Creating opportunities and providing facilities for learning, research and innovation
- Contributing to local food security
- Contributing to local economic development
- Providing public access
- Creating opportunities for recreation

In the seven years since they were drafted, these goals have all been achieved in ways that allow the GCA to continue to develop existing programming, come up with innovative new projects, and allow restoration students to experiment and push the boundaries of ecological restoration design.

#### **4.1 Future Research**

The MLC has many remarkable stories within its soils, and we only scratched the GCA-centric surface. We recommend that this story be heard from more voices than those who informed this report. A major gap in the story of the MLC land is an Indigenous perspective, which we feel is important to include through a tended and mutual relationship with the Penelakut First Nation that we were unable to achieve and respectfully maintain during the timeline of this project. Also, as all interviewees were men, we recommend conducting interviews with women involved with the MLC, namely Risa Smith, Suzanne Fournier, and Rose Longini. Many of the "hippie" homesteaders who squatted on DL57 when Bill Campbell owned the land still have connections to Galiano, and their stories and connections with the land likely vary greatly from the GCA's. These would be valuable insights worth recording. An interview we were regretful to not be able to conduct was one with Bill Campbell's daughter. We think talking with those views and opinions that differ from those of the GCA, perhaps the Campbells or various logging companies with ties to Galiano, would deepen the story and create a less biased view of how the acquisition of DL57 by the Conservancy came to be.

Along with this written report, we are leaving recorded interviews and transcripts with the GCA. Oral histories are incredibly valuable as they contain all of the observations, vocal inflections, emotions, and stories of the interviewee without the filter of a writer. Thus, they offer more intimate recollections

and insights than a written report could hope to achieve. In future research, we recommend the interviews stay with the Conservancy to build up a larger oral history project.

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