



THE GALIANO CONSERVANCY ASSOCIATION

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ANNUAL REPORT 2015



## Education

### Off – Island Groups / Schools



**18** different groups;  
**13** single day programs and  
**5** multi-day programs  
programs delivered for a total of  
**542** participants

### Local Community and School

**43** programs delivered to  
**778** participants



### Bursaries

**16** bursaries given out for  
a total of **\$16,800**  
benefiting over **250** participants:  
**12** to school groups from  
urban areas (**\$12,300**) and  
**4** to our local school (**\$4,500**)

### Learning Centre Programs and Facility Use

(these groups have already been counted in the above regional groups and local participant totals)

**3** workshops  
**14** groups that participated in education programs; **8** of these groups stayed overnight at the campsite  
**7** events / meetings

In total, LC was used for **24** events / programs.



## Agriculture



### Garden

**43** different types and 205 individual vegetable plants were grown in the garden  
**160** people fed from the garden  
**60** agricultural education participants



### Volunteer Hours

garden **23** days  
nursery **20** days  
community education = **44+**

# Thank you for your support in 2015

Ken Millard, the co-founder and creative, gentle leader of the Galiano Conservancy for over a quarter of a century died suddenly at the end of September 2015. We feel his loss keenly, and are deeply grateful for all that began to grow under his leadership. He helped to shape a vision that included three tasks: Education, Conservation, and Restoration.

A symbol of that vision is the rapidly greening mill site at the entrance to the Learning Centre. Many of the trees, shrubs and ferns growing there were planted by school children. Restoration was an important part of their education—and they carried it out on the newly conserved 88-hectare Learning Centre, with its mile of rare coastline forest.

The children who helped restore the mill site were among thousands whom the Conservancy has introduced to the natural world; The Learning Centre is part of the Mid-Island Protected Network that the Conservancy has created, and its renewal is part of the unique approach to forest restoration that the Conservancy has pioneered.

Work on all of these tasks continues. Since the Conservancy was founded in 1989, we have helped to protect 2000 acres of rare habitat on Galiano Island, including nearly 1000 acres that we own or manage. Protecting and restoring these lands lies at the heart of what we do, and our land management work continued to be a major focus in 2015.

### OUR PROGRAMS CONTINUE TO FLOURISH:

- In 2015, we welcomed over 1000 student participants to hands-on environmental programs, both from off-island and from the Galiano community.
- We expanded our work with species at risk, including a collaborative project aimed at restoring rockfish in the Salish Sea.
- We hosted Environmental Studies students from the University of Victoria for a week long field course at the Learning Centre for the third year in a row.
- Thanks to the support of our donors and volunteers, we enhanced the off-grid Learning Centre classroom, with the completion of the kitchen and the installation of solar panels.
- We introduced new community programs such as the popular “Food Forest” workshop. Our permaculture planting is already producing food for the community, and its productivity—and educational value—will steadily increase.

Our work continues, despite the loss of Ken; we are deeply grateful for his legacy. We are grateful also for the contributions of retiring board members and GCA staff whose dedication and extra work has carried us through this transition. We welcome and look forward to working with the new board members. Above all, that work of Education, Conservation and Restoration will be carried on by you who support the Conservancy with your time, your encouragement, and your generous donations. We are grateful to you.

– Cheryl Bastedo, Loren Wilkinson, and Jane Wolverton, interim co-chairs

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Cheryl Bastedo**, Treasurer,  
Retired Bookkeeper and  
Administrator

**Bob Campbell**, Director,  
Development Committee  
Retired Engineer

**Ursula Deshield**, Director,  
Retired Teacher, Learning  
Assistance

**Allan Doty**, Director  
Retired Electrician

**Dora FitzGerald**, Director

**Suzanne Fournier**, Director  
Retired Journalist/Writer

**Terry Hoffman**, Director  
Retired Engineer

**Paul Kopas**, Director,  
Development Committee  
Political Scientist

**Rose Longini**, Secretary  
Organic Farmer & Musician

**Ken Millard**, (1941-2015)  
Coordinator, Director,  
Development Committee

**Gary Moore**, Director  
Writer, Retired Teacher

**Tamara Nile**, Director

**Risa Smith**, Director  
Ecologist, Senior Science Advisor,  
Environment Canada

**Eric Touchburn**, Director  
Kayak Guide

**Loren Wilkinson**, Director,  
Development Committee  
Author and Theologian

**Jane Wolverton**, Director  
Social Worker, Retired Manager  
BC Children and Family Services

# At the Galiano Learning Centre



Located on 188 acres of rare coastal Douglas-fir oceanfront property, the Galiano Learning Centre is an ecological hub and living classroom where people of all ages can discover practical approaches to stepping lightly on the earth. Powered by renewable energy, the facility provides a demonstration centre where students, researchers and community members can find the balance between resource needs and ecosystem health.

## *2015 saw some exciting projects bloom at the Learning Centre.*

The renewable energy demonstration facility – a 1,200 sq foot off-grid classroom and kitchen given a second life on Galiano in 2014 – is nearly complete. In 2015 we installed 4.6 kW capacity of solar panels, finished the kitchen, hall interior, and welcomed potable water to the building in a gravity fed system. We aim to finish construction in 2016 and winterize the water system. Generous funding from Rudy North, Greater Victoria Savings Credit Union Legacy Foundation and BC Hydro allowed us to make this positive progress, offering basic infrastructure to support programs that continue to grow in diversity.

### UVIC FIELD SCHOOL

In 2015 the Learning Centre provided a unique environment for university students and researchers to study and share knowledge in a true living classroom. Students of the Restoration and Sustainability field course taught by UVic Environmental Studies professor Eric Higgs had the opportunity to study new techniques in ecological restoration, habitat recovery, sustainable food systems and more. The Centre hosted the students for 8 days in July, with daily activities across the property and in the off-grid solar powered classroom building. Students immensely enjoyed the hands-on, community focused research. Students shared their experiences and research ideas with the community on the last evening. This course will be returning in July 2016 for its 4th year.

### CHRYSTAL COVE

Chrystal Cove, (named in memory of Chrystal Kleinman whose generous conservation legacy allowed the Conservancy to secure the Learning Centre property), at the Galiano Learning Centre was the focus of the Conservancy's ecological restoration efforts in 2015. The cove and surrounding area was the site for a home and the hub of activity for the early settlers of the property. The historical roads and forest cleared here represent the one break in an otherwise contiguous old growth Coastal Douglas-fir/Arbutus ecosystem that spans the Learning Centre's 2km long shoreline bluffs – one of the largest remaining undeveloped tracts in the Gulf Islands.

### SITE RESTORATION WORK

We have added 21 nest boxes to enhance habitat for bird and bat species on the property. We have removed exotic vegetation to shift the degraded areas towards a healthy and resilient native ecosystem. We have developed technical plans to restore the seasonal creek that runs into the Cove. The creek will be relocated from its current course as a roadside ditch to its natural route and a healthy riparian ecosystem will be restored. Members of the Galiano community, along with a group of middle year youth from our local Galiano Community School and our neighbouring outer island schools helped with our restoration activities. It was a wonderful opportunity to observe the ownership and pride demonstrated by our local youth when speaking to their peers about their past restoration work at the Centre.

### MONITORING EFFORTS

Monitoring of the restoration and wildlife enhancement work carried out in 2015 will provide a base for a variety of ongoing learning opportunities, adding depth to our experiential education programs for school aged children, at risk youth, university groups, and naturalists.



### GALIANO COMMUNITY FOOD FOREST

From the hosting of a community design charrette in April to planting the beginnings of our forest garden in October, this past year the Food Forest project has seen incredible progress. Between these two events we engaged experts to create a professional site plan, did massive site preparations, installed an impressive fence, and hosted a sold-out 5-day workshop. We now have a growing permaculture forest garden established at the Galiano Learning Centre that will provide food and medicines for our participants, to our community and beyond for many centuries to come. The highlight of 2015 was the ethnobotany portion of the food forest project. In partnership with Access to Media Education Society (AMES), Penelakut Elementary School, Galiano Community School and Galiano Community Food Program we explored and documented community held knowledge of the many foods and medicines native to our forests. The program culminated on April 21st with a gathering of the two schools along with a myriad of elders and community members from both islands at the Learning Centre, where we shared knowledge, culture and a feast made from local foods.



### SPECIES AT RISK

Species at risk work in 2015 focused heavily on rockfish conservation efforts, funded through Environment Canada's Habitat Stewardship Program. Commonly known as red snapper, rockfish species in the southern gulf islands and across BC are under serious pressure and several are federally listed as under threat. For our part, the Galiano Conservancy, in partnership with Valdes Island Conservancy and University of Victoria has been developing a variety of materials for public education and outreach around Rockfish Conservation Areas and the importance of letting their populations rebuild. We held a Rockfish Conservation Forum in March 2016 which brought together community and regional scientists to find ways to improve stewardship and public engagement around rockfish. Fall 2015 saw 2 months of intensive dive surveys to monitor populations around the gulf islands. We hope to continue these and other activities in the coming years and are grateful for the inspiring partnerships developing through this work.

### NEW ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

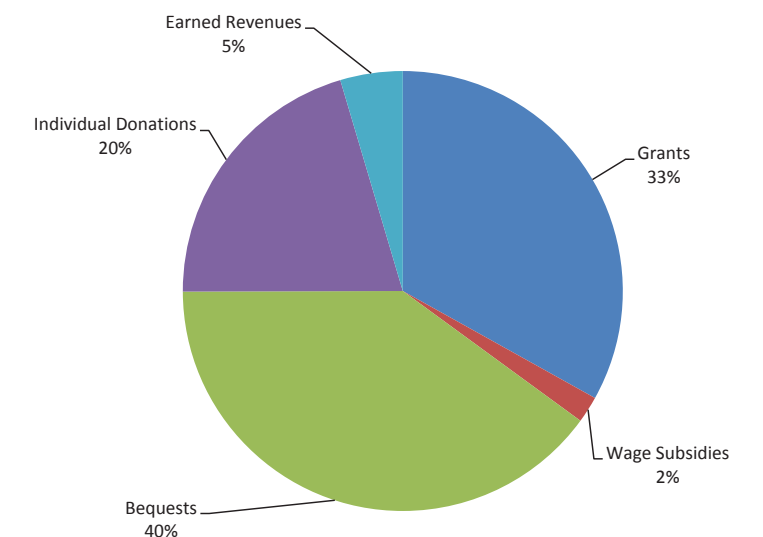
In 2015 we expanded our programming with funding and gear donations from Mountain Equipment Co-op to pilot a multi-day first-time backpack camping program for children and youth called "The Back Country Experience". Working with our local school, we ran this 3 day program with the middle years class. This exciting new program made use of the Learning Centre's campground, building and connectivity with the Mid-Island Protected Areas Network. The Back Country Experience introduces youth to the basics of back pack camping from how to pack your backpack to outdoor cooking and safety. With the great success of this program in 2015 we have added it to our core program offerings.



**THE FINANCIAL LANDSCAPE FOR 2015** shows the forward momentum of the Galiano Conservancy and corresponding changes in revenues and expenses. The Galiano Conservancy was privileged to be the recipient of a bequest facilitated by the TLC from Frouzan Azad Wroe for a total of \$400,000. This generous gift supports the acquisition of the Learning Centre land (DL58) and reduced our overall debt owing on the property. In addition, the hard work of staff in writing successful grants led to increases in revenue from both federal and foundation granting sources. The Learning Centre is a place to cultivate the human-nature connection through educational programming and workshop opportunities that bring people closer to nature. In 2015, revenue increases from programs fees increased from approximately \$15,000 to just over \$30,000, a success we will continue to build through our Learning Centre Social Enterprise of environmental programs and workshops. The Fundraising and Development allocations when based on our overall revenue are 7%. We value every donation and moving forward we will continue to work with our family of donors and members to support the conservation and stewardship of the Galiano Island forests and ocean.

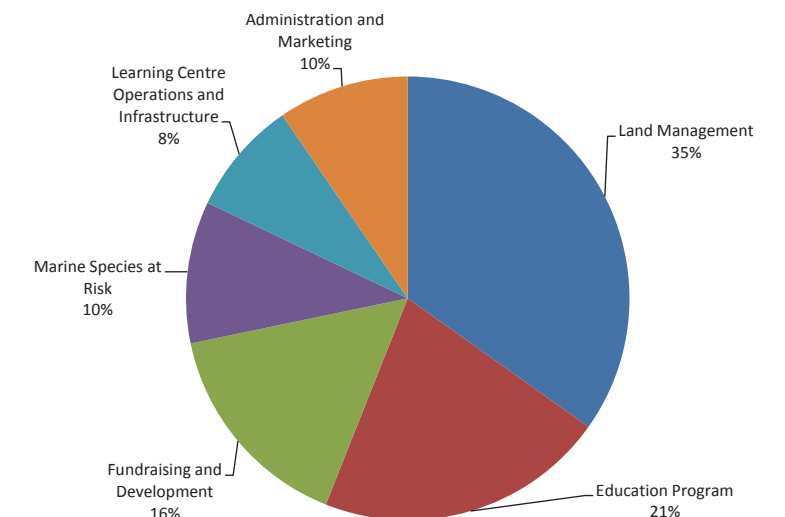
### REVENUE SOURCES

Grants	\$331,583
Wage Subsidies	\$19,590
Bequests	\$400,000
Individual Donations	\$205,024
Earned Revenues	\$45,958
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,002,155</b>



### OPERATING EXPENSE DISTRIBUTION

Land Management	\$149,297
Education Program	\$90,806
Fundraising & Development	\$67,339
Marine Species at Risk	\$44,367
Learning Centre Operations & Infrastructure	\$35,783
Administration & Marketing	\$40,989
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$428,581</b>



# Thank You to Our Supporters and Funders

## SECURING THE FUTURE CAMPAIGN DONORS

Gifts from July 2014 to December 31 2015

### GIFTS SUPPORTING THE PROTECTION OF THE GALIANO LEARNING CENTRE LAND AND VANILLA LEAF LAND NATURE RESERVE

Frank Arnold  
Dan Bloomberg and Irene Beardsley  
Bob and Denise Campbell  
Gary Coward  
Google Matching Gifts  
Eric Higgs and Stephanie Cairns  
Ted and Carolyn Osborne  
Peter Reiner and Lynn Jennings  
Pearl Roberts  
The Land Conservancy of BC  
Tides Canada Foundation  
Loren and Mary-Ruth Wilkinson  
Estate of Frouzan Azad Wroe

### GIFTS SUPPORTING LEARNING CENTRE INFRASTRUCTURE

Greater Victoria Savings Credit Union  
Legacy Foundation  
Tom and Ann Hennessy  
BC Hydro  
Rudy North  
Vaagen Fibre Canada  
Walkalong for Learning 2014 Donors

*We extend a sincere thank you for the support of guarantors and promissory note holders in making this acquisition possible. A special thanks to our partners at Vancity for their ongoing commitment to this project's success. We continue efforts into 2016 to secure the land.*

## ANNUAL GIVING CIRCLE FOUNDING MEMBERS

### SALISH SEA CIRCLE

Dan Bloomberg  
Carolyn Canfield  
Paul Kopas  
Harry Lipetz  
Linda Millard  
Lisa Millard and Phare-Millard Family (Dylan, Kelly, Logan, Rowan, Savannah)  
Risa Smith  
Mary-Ruth & Loren Wilkinson  
Anonymous

### ARBUTUS CIRCLE

Gary Coward & Ursula Deshield  
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Valerie Gonzales  
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Doug & Elizabeth Latta

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Rose Longini  
Sharon Masui  
Brian Mitchell  
Doris Recinos  
Chris Tollefson  
Martha Wintemute  
Jane Wolverton

## MEMORIAL GIFTS IN HONOUR OF KEN MILLARD

Ed Andrusiak & Sher O'Hara  
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Barbara & Doug Bledsoe  
Cathryn Buttery  
Rene Zich  
Louise Decario  
Claudette Deshaies  
Allan & Lorna Doty  
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Bruce Whittington

## FRIENDS OF THE CONSERVANCY

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Daniel Kirkpatrick  
Paul Kopas  
Darien Lancaster  
Tyler Lawson

## LEGACY CIRCLE

### GIFTS FROM ESTATES (TO 2015)

Estate of Paulie Topp  
Estate of Cathy Holahan  
Estate of Marie Sutherland Hardy  
Endowment in Memory of Nick Francis  
Estate of Chrystal Kleiman  
Estate of Frouzan Azad Wroe

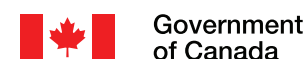
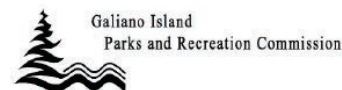
### PLANNED GIFTS

Anonymous (4)  
Andy Turner  
Pearl Roberts  
Carolyn Canfield

### WALKALONG 2015

Our sincere appreciation to the 84 walkers at our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Walk Along and the 49 donors, thank you, together we raised over \$10,000.

\* A note to our supporters: We appreciate your generous donations to the Galiano Conservancy Association, and we want to recognize everyone accordingly with accuracy. If we have inadvertently made an error, please contact the Galiano Conservancy at 250-539-2424



# Conservancy Lands



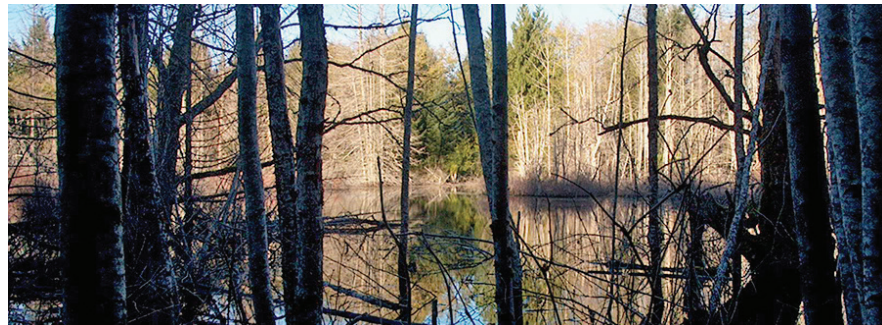
## Finlay Lake

In 2001, Marjorie McClelland placed a conservation covenant on the Finlay Lake property. It was her desire that this area be protected in its natural state. In 2014, Marjorie's estate donated the land to the Galiano Conservancy. It is a 17 acre parcel of land containing one of the larger wetlands on Galiano. It is home to beaver and listed dragonflies. It will be protected in perpetuity. Its present appraised value is \$265,000



## Learning Centre Land

The Learning Centre land is 188 acres. It has a varied landscape, including 2 km of waterfront, agriculture land and intact old growth forest. It provides an excellent site for the future infrastructure for the Centre. The purchase price in 2012 was \$3,025,000. A stewardship endowment for the land has been established, which is in excess of \$340,000.



## Great Beaver Swamp

The Great Beaver Swamp is a large wetland adjoining the Pebble Beach Reserve. The 45 acre parcel was purchased in 2003 for \$185,000. There has been a boundary adjustment so that the present parcel includes all of the wetland. Its present assessed value is \$358,000.



## Laughlin Lake

Laughlin Lake is the largest lake on Galiano and provides a connecting link between Bodega Ridge Provincial Park and the Pebble Beach Reserve. The 27 acre property was purchased from a court ordered sale for \$148,900 in 2000. Its present assessed value is \$378,000.



## Retreat Island

Retreat is a 7 acre island located off Galiano in the Trincomali Channel. As part of an estate planning process, the owners placed conservation covenants on approximately one half of the Island and then in 1999 donated that land to Galiano Conservancy Association. The present assessed value is \$770,000.



## District Lot 63

District Lot 63 provides a connecting link between two Crown Land parcels to make up the Pebble Beach Reserve, an area used for recreation by islanders and visitors alike. The 154 acre parcel of land was purchased in 1998 in a partnership between Galiano Conservancy, the Nature Conservancy of Canada and the Pacific Marine Heritage Legacy (federal/provincial partnership) for \$430,000. The title is held by Galiano Conservancy. The present assessed value is \$535,000.



## Mt. Sutil

Mt. Sutil is the site of an important Garry oak ecosystem. The 42 acre summit was purchased in 1990 by Galiano Conservancy and the Nature Conservancy of Canada for \$42,000. This parcel has limited legal access. In 2002 the title was placed in Galiano Conservancy's name only. The present assessed value is \$329,000.



# 2016

2016 will be a year of renewal and we are excited to have hired Cedana Bourne, as Agriculture and Nursery Coordinator, who will be actively working within the community, building partnerships with local businesses to sell our native plants and to share our Food Forest harvest with the community. Our education team is excited to welcome (back) Reed Osler, who will be taking the reins from Patti Pringle, who after 10 years with the organization, will be transitioning to new and exciting teaching pursuits. In 2016 we will continue to develop new projects

at the Learning Centre and our goal is to complete the Learning Centre classroom building. This coming year we are excited to be moving forward on the development of educational programs at our newly created Food Forest, where we intend to install a new solar powered irrigation system. We need your support. Without the commitment and partnership of supporters like you, we could not have accomplished what we have. We encourage you to join us as a member for 2016 and be a part of our journey of renewal.

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Visit our Website!  
[galianoconservancy.ca](http://galianoconservancy.ca)