



Shaws Bog, Ecological Reserve

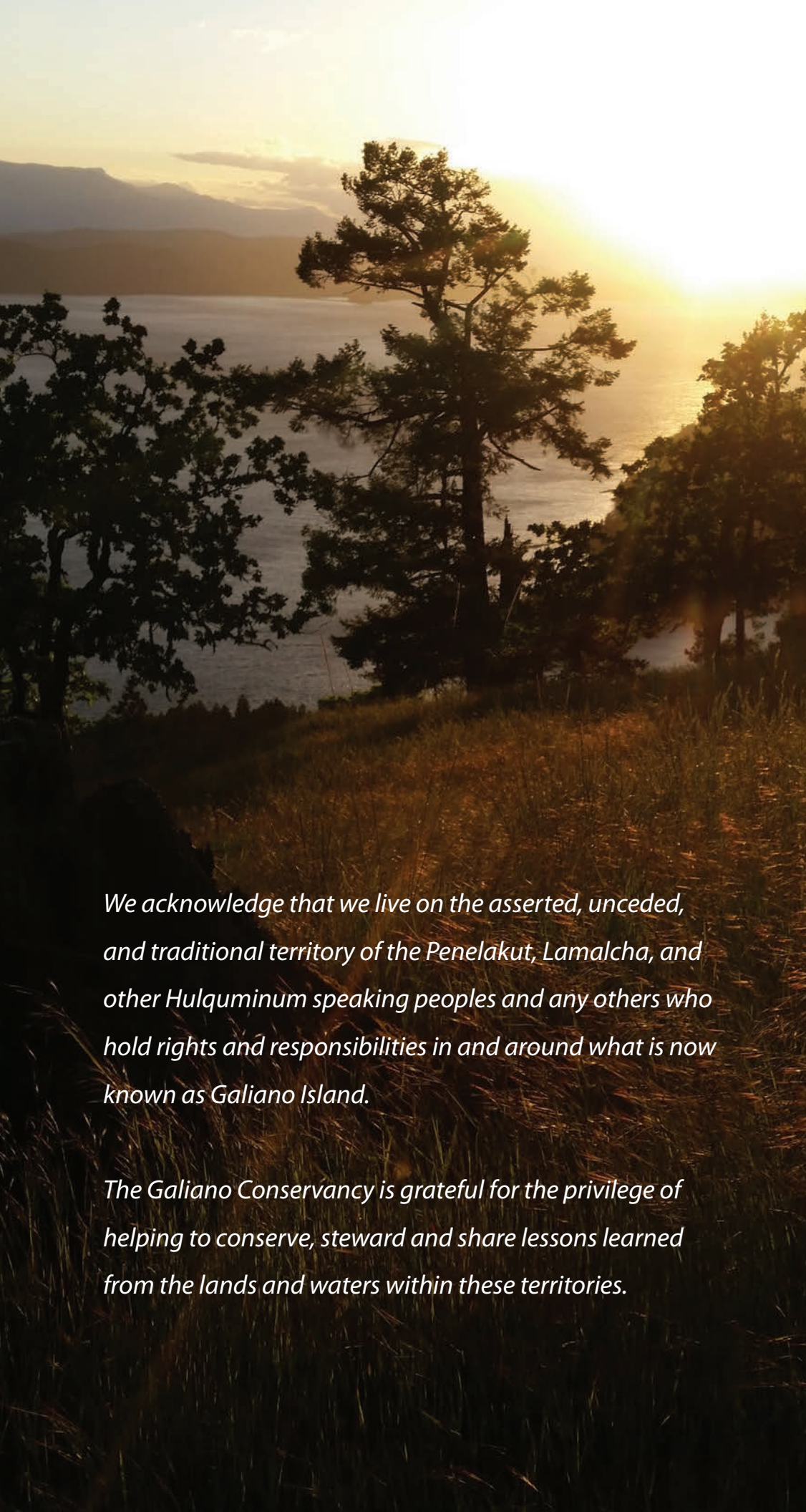
THE GALIANO CONSERVANCY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

To preserve, protect and enhance the quality of the human and natural environment on Galiano Island.

From its beginning, the Conservancy has been devoted to

- 1) Land and marine conservation
- 2) Stewardship and restoration and
- 3) Environmental education and public awareness.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Risa Smith

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Director

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Director

Suzanne Fournier

Director

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Director

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Director, (on leave)

We acknowledge that we live on the asserted, unceded, and traditional territory of the Penelakut, Lamalcha, and other Hulquminum speaking peoples and any others who hold rights and responsibilities in and around what is now known as Galiano Island.

The Galiano Conservancy is grateful for the privilege of helping to conserve, steward and share lessons learned from the lands and waters within these territories.

Thank you for your support



It has been my honour to be Chair of the Galiano Conservancy Board this past year. And what a year it was! An unprecedented number of children, youths and adults participated in our education programs; the forage forest has neared completion; and an assessment of the effectiveness of our past restoration efforts commenced. Social enterprises related to the Forest Garden have particularly blossomed in 2017, with the addition of forest garden teas and the continuation of the produce delivery program (to local restaurants and the market) and native plant nursery. Perhaps one of the more memorable events was the Annual Musical Walkalong for Learning.

Attendance doubled, and with it we surpassed our target for bursaries. September 1, 2018, we will celebrate our sixth year of raising funds for student bursaries with a new Walkalong route on the trails at the 188-acre Millard Learning Centre.

We are maturing as an organization. Our 8-member Board has been busy on various committees addressing land management and infrastructure, educational programming, human resources policy, strategic planning and development. This approach has spread the workload around and made us more productive. As a GCA member you can join a committee without being on the Board or if you have some time to help shape the direction of GCA, we are also looking for new Board members. Board discussions are always engaging as we consider our different values and seek solutions to maximize conservation.

Our programs would not be possible without the dedication of our staff, a cadre of enthusiastic co-op students and international interns, a hard-working Board, volunteers and donors. We are a community-based organization and we encourage you to continue your involvement, or become more deeply involved if you can. We are only as strong as our membership!

We depend on all of our generous donors – big and small. In 2017 our Giving Circle, now in its fourth year, has expanded to 38 members. The Giving Circle provides foundational funding that allows us to focus more of our capacity on conservation and education. Thank you to those who already participate; welcome to new people who are considering participating in 2018. This year we were the recipients of an extraordinary donation which you can read about later on in the Annual Report. This has put us in a position to retire our debt, something which I know many of our long-time members will be very happy to hear.

The gifts we receive, and especially bequests, remind us of the visionary people in our communities who treasure nature for its intrinsic value, its ability to soothe our souls and make us happy, and the ecological services it provides. The active partnership with GLC and TLC of BC continues to fund-raise to protect lands on Galiano Island in honour of the late Victoria pediatrician Chrystal Kleiman. We look forward to celebrating the Kleiman legacy with the official naming of Chrystal Cove at the Millard Learning Centre.

Risa B. Smith

FORAGE FOREST



In 2017, the Galiano Conservancy led a collaboration to create a native plant forage forest at the Millard Learning Centre. The forage forest is a shared space where we are restoring and stewarding an indigenous forest ecosystem that provides us with important foods, medicines and materials. The forage forest is about caring for and reconciling with the place we live in, the communities we are part of and the cultures which link them.

On the site some hundreds of years ago, 70 meter tall red cedar and Douglas-fir canopies would have towered above a lush and vibrant garden of shrubs, ferns, flowers, and mosses. This dynamic forest provided an abundance of foods, medicines and other services for the thriving populations of local human residents as well as diverse and abundant wildlife.

More recently, the site has been struggling to recover from the impacts of logging and clearing with a dense layer of invasive agronomic grasses and thistles dominant amongst a minefield of large cedar stumps and some scattered patches of remnant native shrubs and herbs. Reforestation has been hampered by soil compaction from machines and intense grazing pressure from sheep and deer.

But there's hope. The impacts to the site present an opportunity for us to come together, to take action, give a helping hand and set a restorative path in motion.

In the fall of 2017, thanks to the efforts of almost 100 community volunteers and collaborators, the half-hectare area began its transformation back to a productive forest ecosystem. First we brought in machines to undo some of the soil compaction. Then we erected a perimeter fence to keep the grazers out and allow forest regeneration to proceed.

Next, we planted. Children from Galiano Community School and Penelakut Island Elementary School, along with students from our regional universities and many generous community volunteers began to re-establish the rich food and medicinal species that once grew there. Our work was guided by elders and knowledge holders who shared their understanding and relationship to the plants... how to care for them, how to harvest and prepare them and how to use them.

We celebrated our collaboration with the installation of beautiful cross-cultural artwork in the form of wooden sculptures, carved and painted by local



Photo: Mary Sanseverino



artists Richard Charlie, Richard Jim and Kenna Fair. In collaboration with Access to Media Education Society, the work was documented through video and a short documentary was produced by Richard Wilson, framing some important perspectives on the acknowledgement of territory and place.

Skipping forward 50 years into the future...we hope to see a young and vibrant forest system, lush with diversity and abundance, rich with foods and medicines to support our community. The now five-decade old wooden sculptures will remain scattered throughout the foraging area as a reminder of the collaboration, creativity and reconciliation that this site represents.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Education

- 41 programs (20 single-day / 21 multi-day) delivered to 755 participants who came from the mainland and other islands.
- 29 new groups recruited
- 30 programs delivered to 432 participants from our local community and the Galiano Community School.
- 27 bursaries provided to groups in need totalling \$13,855; 11 to local school and community groups and 16 to off-island groups.
- 3 new programs developed: Herbal Harvest Workshop – Spring Bloom edition, 3-day Future of Food Field School and Stories of the Salish Sea
- Hosted a 3-day international workshop of scholars and practitioners discussing the scientific, philosophical and spiritual roots of restoration ecology.

Forest Garden

- 34 harvests and deliveries to restaurants and markets.
- 2 bee hives established.
- 336 square feet of new planted area established with 19 pollinator-friendly perennials and 8 self-sowing annuals.
- 1 Sisiutl carving created by Marvin and Levi Wilson established at the entrance of the forest garden.
- 33 educational programs and site tours in the forest garden.



Conservation and Outreach

- 0.5 hectares of degraded logged forest restored.
- Invasive species controlled in 12 hectares of sensitive habitat.
- 7.5 km of public trails maintained.
- 10 conservation covenants totalling 231 hectares of protected land monitored.
- 24 participants attended Rainwater Harvesting workshop on Galiano.
- Distributed 100 home water saving kits.



Photo: BC Community Bat Program

Bat Monitoring:

- 92,711 bat calls recorded and analysed during acoustic monitoring inventory.
- 10 bat species recorded on Galiano Island

Rockfish population monitoring:

- 114 citizen science scuba dive surveys by 29 divers at 4 sites.
- 30 fish species observed, including 7 rockfish species.
- Rockfish conservation information provided to 767 people at 11 public events in Galiano, Sidney and Victoria.
- 15 more permanent rockfish education signs installed across the region



Photo: Scott Stevenson

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND FUNDERS

SECURING THE FUTURE CAMPAIGN DONORS

Gifts from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

GIFTS SUPPORTING LAND ACQUISITION

Bob & Denise Campbell
Harry & Elaine Lipetz
Geoff Stewart
The Land Conservancy of BC

GIFTS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

Open Purse Foundation
NWM Private Giving Foundation

CRYSTAL COVE CAMPAIGN

Bonnie Chatterton
Dora Fitzgerald
Allan Forget
Colin Gablemann
Charles Kahn
Richard Laing
Walter & Carol Latter
Monica Roots
Lezlie Wagman
Michael Whitney & Mary Sanseverino
The Land Conservancy of BC

We would like to extend a sincere thank you for the support of guarantors and promissory note holders in making this acquisition possible. Now these incredible ecosystems will be protected for future generations to enjoy.

A special thanks to our partners at Vancity for their commitment to this project's success.

GIFTS OF LAND

Elaine Ferbey

ANNUAL GIVING CIRCLE MEMBERS

SALISH SEA CIRCLE: \$3000 +

Anonymous (2)
Dan Bloomberg & Irene Beardsley
Carolyn Canfield
Harry Lipetz
Dan Moore & Julie Gardner
Risa Smith & Tom Mommsen
Mary-Ruth & Loren Wilkinson

ARBUTUS CIRCLE: \$1,000-\$2,999

Gary Coward & Ursula Deshield
Louise Decario
Norman & Harriet Falk
John & Carolyn Gill
Valerie Gonzales
Colin Grier
Michael & Carolyn Hoebel
Doug & Elizabeth Latta
Peggy Ng & Richard Smith
Peter Reiner & Lynn Jennings
Pearl Roberts and Roger Allen
Oleg Verbenkov
Atco Structures

CAMAS CIRCLE

\$500-\$999
Jan Adler & Philip Buller
Virginia Monk & Dave Ages
Ed Andrusiak & Sher O'Hara
Lisa Cairns
Keith Erickson & Kate Emmings
Greg & Sharon Foster
Steve Goldberg
Tom & Sharon Gove
Bob & Liz Harmer
Eric Higgs & Stephanie Cairns
Christine Lintott
Rose Longini

Sharon Masui
Brian Mitchell
Doris Recinos
Cate Sandilands
Chris Tollefson
Jane Wintemute
Jane Wolverton

FRIENDS OF THE CONSERVANCY

Anonymous (3)
Rob & Cora Ashburner
Lee Ann Bryant
Avi Bryant & Emma Davis
Brian Caines & Lammert Prinsen
R.V. Paul Chan
John Coates
Don & Val Clark
Claudette Deshaies
Jenna Falk
Suzanne Fournier & Art Moses
Gabriel Friedenberg
Neil Friedenberg
Geoff & Chris Gaylor
Keith & Margaret Gilley
Don Gordon
Flora Hawbolt
Steve Helsing
Dianne Houghton
Tanya Inglis
Iris Communications Inc.
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Linda Millard
Lisa Millard & Phare-Millard Family (Dylan, Kelly, Logan, Rowan, Savannah)
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Geraldine Peet
Elizabeth Purvis
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Shirlene Raines
Bonnie Robson
Paul Sanborn
Colleen Savage
Emily & David Sheldon
Steven Ross Smith
Geoff Stewart
Beth & Reg Thiessen
Jonah Timms
Cam Trowsdale
Andy Turner
Ross & Sarah Tweedale
Donna Usher
Elizabeth Whynot & Linde Zingara
Gunhilde Will
Christine Wilson
Susan Yates

PLANNED GIFTS

Anonymous (6)
Andy Turner
Pearl Roberts
Carolyn Canfield

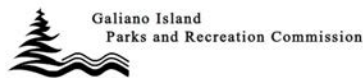
WALKALONG 2017

Our sincere appreciation to the 154 walkers and over 150 donors at our 5th Annual Walkalong for Learning. Thank you, together we raised over \$27,000 for environmental education.

* A note to our supporters: We appreciate your generous donations to the Galiano Conservancy Association, and we want to recognize everyone accordingly with 100% accuracy. If we have inadvertently made an error, please contact the Galiano Conservancy at 250-539-2424 with concerns or corrections.



AGM annual report design and production by Kelly Brooks/Far&Wide Marketing Communications



Open Purse Foundation



A LEGACY OF HOPE



It is early evening and you feel the familiar knock and sway as the ferry comes into dock at Sturdies Bay Terminal. Even though it was a rush to catch the earlier sailing, getting in before dark makes it all worthwhile.

You are back on Galiano and have a whole week of peace and quiet ahead, with waves and bird song to replace the white noise of the city.

For many of us on Galiano, we have these blissful moments of return. There is something about this place that grabs hold of our hearts and does not let go – and we have embraced that by making home here a reality.

For Elaine Ferbey and her late husband, Brian Appleby, Galiano was such a place. In 2007, they purchased a waterfront home and cottage close to Retreat Cove. Tall, twisting Arbutus trees and Douglas Fir surround the home with views of Trincomali Channel and Salt Spring Island.

It was during Brian's long search for an island home that they had become aware of the Galiano Conservancy Association and its activities in the community. At one point they had made an offer on the large property that is now home to the Millard Learning Centre but their offer had not been

successful. However, they were delighted eventually to acquire the Retreat Cove property, often discussing its bequest to the Conservancy.

They enjoyed their own piece of paradise as frequently as they could, coming for a week or two, or longer vacations all year-round.

Following Brian's death in 2011, Elaine continued to come to Galiano for several years. Although she shared the joys of the island with many friends over the years, without Brian – the gardener, handyman, and jack-of-all trades - it became more challenging to maintain.

In 2017, Elaine reluctantly decided she was ready to leave Galiano. Her love and affection for the island remained. She wanted to create a legacy of her time here, for the community's benefit and for future generations. Although she had already included the Conservancy in her Will, she decided, "Why wait?"

The anticipated emotional toll of the entire selling process seemed daunting, so she considered the advantages of donating the property outright. That would allow her to avoid the process, enjoy the significant tax benefits of a donation and know that the property would be used right away for a beneficial cause.



all photos:
Mary Sanseverino



Elaine contacted the Galiano Conservancy Association. She was impressed with the Conservancy's mentorship of research students both from Canada and internationally at the Millard Learning Centre. She realized the special value of this work, providing unique learning opportunities in ecological restoration and conservation.

"Giving the next generation of scientists and decision-makers opportunities to develop a conservation ethic and love of nature is something I am very happy to support."

Elaine met with Conservancy staff. The potential gift turned out to have far greater community impact than she had originally expected - we were in the midst of raising funds for the Millard Learning Centre property for a nature education centre. The serendipity was compelling and in a very short while, the donation was arranged.

It was agreed the greatest positive impact for the community and the organization would be to sell Elaine's property and apply the proceeds to protect the Millard Learning Centre. At the same time, it gave Elaine a lasting legacy aligned with her values and goals.

"I found a perfect solution in this gift; it brings great community impact, furthers my personal passions, and allowed me to say goodbye to Galiano without the pain and stress of selling my beloved property."

Gifts of assets can help protect nature on the islands we love. The Galiano Conservancy is a registered charity able to accept land donations from Canadian and American landowners. If you would like to use your real estate asset for conservation impact on Galiano, contact us today.

CONSERVATION LANDS

Finlay Lake

A 17 acre wetland-dominated parcel donated in 2014 by the Estate of Marjorie McClelland. Present BC assessed value is \$133,000.

Great Beaver Swamp

A 45 acre parcel including 13 acres of wetland adjacent to Pebble Beach Reserve. Present assessed value is \$299,000.

Millard Learning Centre

A 188 acre parcel including 2km of waterfront, agricultural land and intact old growth forest. Present assessed value is \$2,757,000.

Retreat Island

Just over half of the 7 acre island featuring Garry oak meadows and old forest was donated to the Conservancy. Present BC assessed value is \$116,000.

Mount Sutil

A 42 acre summit parcel protecting critical Garry Oak ecosystems. Present BC assessed value is \$343,000.

Pebble Beach Reserve/DL63

A 154 acre parcel, DL63 is a restoration forest and links two Crown Land parcels to make up the Pebble Beach Reserve. Present BC assessed value is \$526,000.

Conservation Highlight: LAUGHLIN LAKE



About midway up Galiano Island in the headwaters of the Greig Creek watershed lies Laughlin Lake, the largest fresh water body on the island.

Freshwater habitat is rare on Galiano and makes up only two percent of our land base. This 13-acre lake within a 27-acre protected area is teeming with life: insects, frogs (including the threatened Red-Legged frog, *Rana aurora aurora*), mammals (including a beaver colony), and over 60 species of resident and migratory birds.

A student-led research project on bats in 2017 confirmed an impressive, eight native species around the lake (including the endangered Little Brown Myotis, *Myotis lucifugus*), as well as a ninth migratory species, the Brazilian Free-tailed Bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*), that has only been confirmed in BC once previously.

Fish have not yet been confirmed in this shallow lake, which is less than two meters deep, so forget the fishing rod, and grab your binoculars instead. Valuable riparian habitat surrounds the lake and this unique property forms an important corridor for wildlife between the Pebble Beach Reserve and Bodega Ridge Provincial Park.

Laughlin Lake was purchased by the GCA with a final contribution from Environment Canada after a three year fundraising partnership with Habitat Acquisition Trust, the Island Trust Fund and the Galiano community including community member, Andy Turner, who raised more than \$5,700 by shaving his hair and mustache. Laughlin Lake is an important island treasure and great destination for any nature lover.

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA



The Millard Learning Centre has been a living classroom over the last five years for University of Victoria students who enrol in a 400-level Ecological Restoration course, taught by Professor Eric Higgs. Each student takes on an intensive research subject on a theme of “regenerative and restorative designs for ecological and social resilience.” The local Galiano community is invited to share expertise and attend evening lectures.

The MLC’s human legacy transects, as well as the restoration of forests and former industrial sites, along with our forest garden, undisturbed coastline and ocean coves, are fascinating to students who crave applied learning experiences. In return, UVic has provided classroom resources and expertise. It’s a mutually-beneficial partnership, going into its sixth year in 2018, that provides a paradigm for future learning!



Eric Higgs' Environmental Studies field school, 2017 class

LOOKING FORWARD

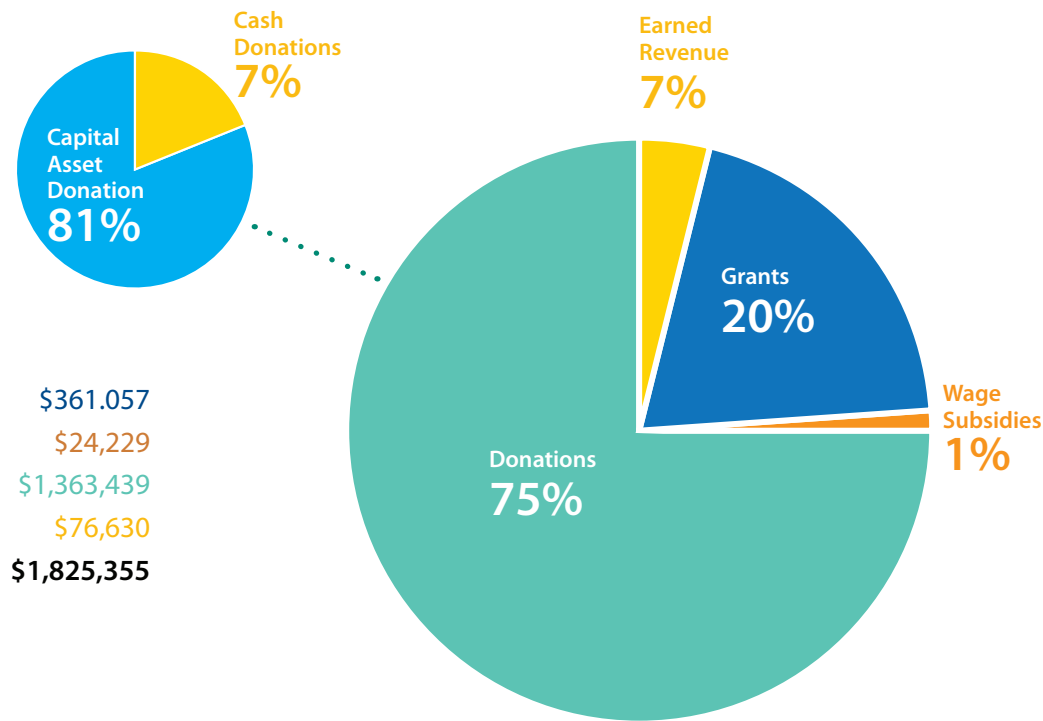


THE FINANCIAL LANDSCAPE FOR 2017 highlights the organization's progress and growth over the past year. Administrative costs made up 19% of our total expenses, seven percent went towards Fundraising and Development activities and the remaining 74% were for the delivery and development of our ecological restoration, conservation and environmental education programs.

We have achieved a significant increase in Earned Revenue (program fees / agricultural and merchandise sales) which rose to \$76,630 in 2017, a 52% increase over the \$50,128 earned in 2016.

Donations accounted for 75% of the total revenue. This includes the generous donation of a residential property valued at \$1,105,325.00. We invite you to read more about this in our Legacy of Hope article on page 10.

2017 was an excellent year for the Galiano Conservancy, with a Net Revenue over Expenses of \$1,277,897.00. The vast majority of this was accounted for by the property donation and resulting increase in our capital assets.



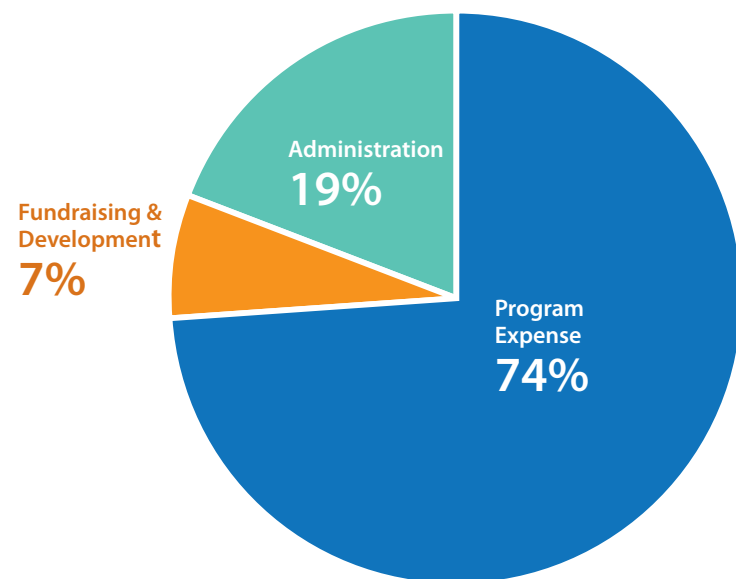
REVENUE SOURCES

Grants	\$361,057
Wage Subsidies	\$24,229
Donations	\$1,363,439
Earned Revenues	\$76,630
Total Revenue	\$1,825,355

ORGANIZATIONAL EXPENSES

Program Expenses	\$404,659
Fundraising & Development	\$38,733
Administration	\$104,083
Total Expenses	\$547,474

NET REVENUE \$1,277,879



The Galiano Conservancy Association will continue to focus on the stewardship of our conservation lands where we are demonstrating long-lasting, reciprocal relationships with our local ecology.

We will care for, harvest and sell products from our native forage forest, forest garden and nursery and will be developing the next phase of our forest restoration and eco-forestry work on DL63 (North Cable Bay).

We are initiating significant investments in our capacity to deliver environmental education programming at the Millard Learning Centre.

Upgrades to our facilities include indoor washrooms and showers, and a winterized water system enabling us to deliver year round, uninterrupted programming.

We have also made a commitment to construct a welcome centre and office facility at the Millard Learning Centre. This exciting next step will consolidate our operations resulting in less travel, reductions in

core costs and more efficiency for staff implementing our conservation work.

With funds from the Capital Regional District and the North Growth Fund, the Galiano Conservancy will be adding a "Regional Renewable Energy Education Centre" to our educational programming.

We will also become a 'net-zero' facility, with the expansion of solar energy, the addition of 2 public electric car charging stations, and a new curriculum geared at students, professionals and citizens on the ins and outs of renewable energy.

This work would not be possible without the generous donations of time and financial support from our community, partners and funders. Thank you.



Galiano Conservancy Association
RR #1, Sturdies Bay Road
Galiano Island, BC V0N 1P0
250.539.2424
info@galianoconservancy.ca

Visit our Website!
galianoconservancy.ca