



SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the 13th Musical Walkalong on August 24th! You filled the forest with music, art, laughter, and community spirit. Our heartfelt gratitude also goes out to the performers, artists, staff, volunteers, and board members whose hard work made the day shine.

We have several upcoming events and workshops we hope you will also join us for: this Saturday, September 27th, you can explore the new Quadra Hill Nature Reserve and learn about plans for wetland restoration, public trails, and deer management; on October 11th, come to our Fall Plant Sale for GCA-grown additions to your garden; and later this fall, learn from local Indigenous knowledge holders at the Drum-Making (Oct. 25-26) and Feed the People (Nov. 1-2) workshops.

Find details on all of these wonderful events in this September edition of the GCA e-Newsletter.



Photo: Kirsten Grove-White playing the lyre at the 2025 Musical Walkalong, by Lúthien Teel



SUPPORT

We need the help of supporters like you to continue to preserve and restore coastal ecosystems where learning and a love of nature can flourish—thank you for your generosity!

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VISIT

Discover Galiano's extraordinary places and trails! Visit us at the Millard Learning Centre (MLC) and take a hike through diverse habitats in the Mid-Island Protected Areas Network!

[MORE ABOUT THE
MLC & TRAIL](#)



LEARN

Explore the Galiano Conservancy's wide selection of hands-on, environmental learning programs and workshops for people of all ages, to deepen your connection to nature!

[MORE ABOUT
GCA'S EDUCATION](#)

QUADRA HILL OPEN HOUSE SEPTEMBER 27



Image: Second-growth forest stand at Quadra Hill, post-thinning

Come learn about the newly-established nature reserve at Quadra Hill. Join us on a moderate guided hike to explore the various areas of the property, review and provide feedback on the draft stewardship plan, and ask any questions you may have as you enjoy some light refreshments!

 **Date & Time:** Saturday **September 27th**, 12:45PM - 4:15PM

 **Location:** Meet at **Millard Learning Centre (MLC)**, 10825 Porlier Pass Rd.

 **Cost:** Free! Everyone welcome

Bus transport to and from Quadra Hill for the walk is provided; parking and all other aspects of the event are at the MLC. Please be aware that the Quadra Hill Nature Reserve has no washroom facilities or running water, so please use facilities at the MLC before or after the walk. If you plan on bringing a pet, please ensure it is kept on a leash, and comfortable around others.

SCHEDULE:

- 12:45PM Park at the MLC to catch the Galiano Community Bus
- 1:00PM Bus departs for guided walking tour of Quadra Hill
- 2:00PM Open House at MLC classroom
- 2:30PM Presentation of the draft Stewardship Plan for Quadra Hill

- 3:00PM Community questions and feedback

Quadra Hill Open House Event Page

2025 FALL PLANT SALE

OCTOBER 11



Image: Sea Buckthorn berries growing in the GCA Food Forest

Please join us on Saturday, October 11th, from 10:00AM to 2:00PM, for the Galiano Conservancy's 2025 Fall Plant Sale at the Millard Learning Centre Nursery Annex (10825 Porlier Pass Road on Galiano Island)!

Fall is the best time to plant native and food-bearing perennials: more frequent rain events and cooler temperatures help your new plants settle in and put down strong roots with minimal watering from you.

Browse a fantastic selection of native and edible perennials, shrubs, and trees, plus an expanding lineup of fruit trees and berry bushes. Our nursery and sustainable food systems staff will be on site to provide advice and recommend the right plants for your garden, restoration project, or hedgerow.

Come early for the best selection!

[Visit Nursery Webpage](#)

LEARN FROM LOCAL KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS
INDIGENOUS DRUM-MAKING WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 25 & 26



October 25th & 26th

1PM - 3PM each day

Workshop costs \$175

Indigenous Participants will be

sponsored by the GCA

Millard Learning Centre

10825 Porlier Pass Rd

Craft something meaningful that you and your family will cherish for years to come.

In this two-day, hands-on workshop, Sandy Morris (Tsartlip) and Charity Morris (Ahousaht) of Morris Drum Making will lead the full drum-making process, guiding you through crafting your own 14" ceremonial drum. On Day 2, Levi and Marvin Wilson (Hartley Bay) join the workshop to support drum decorating and painting, helping you personalize your finished instrument.

Drum making is more than a craft—it's a way of deepening cultural connection, building relationships, and celebrating traditional knowledge. The drum, often called the "heartbeat of the people," symbolizes the unity, resilience, and renewal that the Restoring the Balance project seeks to bring to Galiano's forests, wildlife, and people. By participating, community members not only learn valuable

skills but also strengthen the cultural foundations that support [Restoring the Balance's](#) vision for Indigenous-led stewardship of Galiano's forest ecosystems.

Learn to construct a drum step-by-step, then personalize your drum with a design of your choosing -- either one of your own, or a traditional Coast Salish design provided by Marvin Wilson. Come for the craft; leave with a resonant instrument, and a deeper understanding and connection to the people, heritage and practices that shape it.

To find out more and to register for this amazing workshop, please visit the event page linked below:

[Drum-Making Workshop Event Page](#)

JOIN US FOR THE 6th ANNUAL
FEED THE PEOPLE WORKSHOP
NOVEMBER 1 & 2

Butchering & Sausage Making Workshop



This year, the Feed the People deer processing workshop will take place Nov 1–2, 2025 at the Millard Learning Centre.

Registration is now open (first-come, first-served) for our 6th-annual Feed the People workshop: Two immersive days of learning, sharing, food preparation, and community-building led by Penelakut Tribe Knowledge Holders. This gathering centres food sovereignty, cultural continuity, and ecological stewardship: participants learn about the history and present-day importance of locally hunted black-tailed deer, the conservation value of ethical harvesting on island ecosystems, and the teachings that connect people, place, and food.

Across the weekend, you'll work shoulder-to-shoulder with experienced instructors to process venison safely and respectfully from field to pantry: skinning, deboning, cubing, grinding, and bagging; then preserving through canning and sausage-making. In the spirit of *nuts'a'maat* (Hul'q'umi'num for "working together with one heart and one mind") all tasks are completed as a team. Animals are humanely and safely harvested from the forests of the Millard Learning Centre and elsewhere on the island (by experienced Penelakut hunters prior to the workshop), and the small group size ensures everyone has the opportunity to learn by doing, receive one-on-one guidance, and ask detailed questions.

Beyond technique, this workshop is about relationship-building: between Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members, between learners and Knowledge Holders, and between people and the land that sustains us. Expect cultural protocols to be observed; expect stories, language, and teachings alongside practical skills; expect to leave with both confidence and humility. Where possible, participants may take home a portion of the harvest to share with loved ones. Jars and food-safe bags will be provided.

You'll come away with:

- Practical, food-safe skills for processing and preserving venison
- Time permitting, you will be shown how to sharpen your work knife
- An understanding of cultural context, language, and teachings shared by Knowledge Holders
- Insight into how responsible harvesting supports local conservation and community well-being
- New relationships and a clearer pathway to continuing this work "in a good way"

Good to know:

- Dates: Sat–Sun, Nov 1–2, 2025
- Location: Millard Learning Centre
- Capacity: Limited—spots fill quickly
- Who should attend: Indigenous and non-Indigenous community members, hunters, home canners, youth and adults interested in food skills, cultural learning, and restoration
- What to bring: Closed-toe shoes, warm layers, notebook, water bottle, snacks, sharp knife suitable for butchering

How to participate: Please complete the registration form at the link below. Spaces are first-come-first-served. If cost is a barrier, let us know. We prioritize community access and may be in a position to help you.

[Learn More & Register for Feed the People](#)



Galiano
Conservancy
ASSOCIATION

See What We're Up To:



Galiano Conservancy | 10825 Porlier Pass Rd | Galiano Island, BC V0N 1P0 CA

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