



Galiano Conservancy Association
Annual General Meeting
Meetings

June 14, 2025

Millard Learning Centre Classroom Building (10825 Porlier Pass Road)

[Zoom link for remote attendance](#) (Meeting ID: 834 6193 4706)

1:30 PM – AGM proceedings

Attendance: 34 (including 8 staff; 7 board members) in person, 7 on-line

1. Welcome & Acknowledgement of Shared Territory by Sheila Anderson
2. Call to Order at 1:48 pm
3. Approval of Agenda - Approved unanimously
4. AGM Minutes **Motion:** *It was moved to approve the minutes of 2024 AGM – 22 approved; none against.* Link: [2024 AGM Minutes](#)
5. Chair's Statement by Sheila Anderson – Sheila expressed thanks to the Board members, new and old, and especially to all of those who took the time to attend the AGM. She highlighted that GCA is a community and that is reflected in the support of all of the people who are here. (See page 2 of the [2024 Annual Report](#))
6. Financial Report (See page 10 of the [2024 Annual Report](#))
Chessi Miltner provided an overview of the financial statements, which were provided in advance to members. A summary is in the Annual Report.
Motion: *It was moved to adopt the [2024 GCA Financial Statements](#)* Moved by Stephanie Cairns; 2nd by Pearl Roberts. Motion passed unanimously
Motion: *It was moved to waive the audit requirement when preparing the 2025 GCA Financial Statements.* Moved by Diana Lilly, 2nd by Akasha Forest – Motion passed unanimously
7. Program Updates / Staff Reports (See pages 3-5 of the [2024 Annual Report](#))
 - Education Program presented by Katherine Hazen – 1820 participants in 2024. 95 days of education programs delivered to local and visiting schools. A special program with the Penelakut Island Elementary School, in which the children made puppets and presented a show to their school. It has been videoed.
 - Conservation and Climate Change – Sofia Silverman summarized programs she is involved in including the land stewardship (211 ha covenants; 382 ha protected areas); biodiversity (monitoring species on land and coastal marine area and beach cleanup); water meter program
 - Sustainable Food Systems – Cedana Bourne described the development of the gardens over the past 10 years, with a description of the experiments associated with watering, biochar, and the many species that have been successfully harvested.
 - Restoration – Adam Huggins described the restoration program. Although he mentioned the wetland restoration program, today he focused on our forest restoration program on Quadra Hill property. The purpose of the program is to increase carbon sequestration and reduce risk of wildlife. Different techniques have been used. One of the highlights is really the diversity of skills required and the good time that everyone had from working together.



- Q'úyél q'úwen – Bobbi-Jo Basarab explained the *Restoring the Balance* program. This is an Indigenous led initiative designed to enhance the health of Galiano's forests with Indigenous people of this area. Program has three pillars: i) stewardship of the forest; ii) stewardship of the island deer; iii) stewardship of the understory. This was supported by GenCon for a 5 year systems change grant.
- Land Protection – Chessi Miltner explained GCA recent acquisitions, with a focus on 'Talking Trees Nature Reserve'. It's a completed acquisition but we are short funding for a lot of the work that needs to be done.

8. Board Elections –

Sheila Anderson explained the election process.

Sheila Anderson, Pearl Roberts, Suzanne Fournier are retiring.

Two new candidates: Tahirih Rockafella and Blake Danis

Sheila thanked Suzanne Fournier for her long term service, her contribution to the organization and her willingness to help in many ways. 11 years of service.

Sheila thanked Pearl Roberts for her service. She's been on the Development Committee, Executive Committee, Outreach Committee, Board Recruitment Committee

Eric Higgs also thanked Pearl Roberts for her service on the Development Committee.

Risa Smith thanked Sheila Anderson for her service, as a founding board member and for the last four years and especially as her 2-year term as Board Chair.

Blake Danis spoke briefly about their experience and interest in becoming GCA board member.

Motion: It was moved to re-elect [current board member Risa Smith](#) to the GCA Board for a 2-year term. Passed

Motion: It was moved to re-elect [current board member Nancy Wilkin](#) to the GCA Board for a 2-year term. Passed unanimously

Motion: It was moved to re-elect [current board member Laurene Stefanyk](#) to the GCA Board for a 2-year term. Passed unanimously

Motion: It was moved to re-elect [current board member Emily Gonzales](#) to the GCA Board for a 2-year term. Passed unanimously

Motion: It was moved to elect member in good standing [Tahirih Rockafella](#) to the GCA Board for a 2-year term. Passed unanimously

Motion: It was moved to elect member in good standing [Blake Danis](#) to the GCA Board for a 2-year term. Passed unanimously

Mike Keefer was nominated from the floor as a Board member.

Motion: It was moved to elect Mike Keefer, a member in good standing to the GCA Board for a 2-year term. Passed Unanimously.

3:10 PM – It was moved to adjourn the business portion of the meeting.

- [Intermission](#) (continued next page)



(AGM 2025 Agenda continued from previous page)

3:00 PM – Featured Speaker: [Dr. Lori Daniels, Professor of Forest Ecology, Department of Forest and Conservation Sciences, UBC.](#)

Presentation: Coexisting with Wildfire

Wildfire is an essential ecological process and cultural practice, but can be incredibly destructive in the wildland-urban interface, as we experienced across diverse forests of Canada in 2023. Wildfire is driven by climate, weather and fuels that vary among ecosystems and through time. Combined, land-use change, fire exclusion and global warming have made many forests highly susceptible to intense fires that are difficult to control, spread to large sizes and are costly to society. Revolutionizing forest and fire management will improve ecosystem resilience to climate change, but we will not stop future fires from burning. Successful adaptation must also include actions by individuals and communities learning how to coexist with wildfire.

Bio Statement

Dr. Lori Daniels is the inaugural Koerner Chair of the Centre for Wildfire Coexistence in the Faculty of Forestry at UBC-Vancouver. Lori investigates the impacts of natural and human disturbances and climate change on forests. With her research team, she has on-going projects on wildfires, forest dynamics, and social-ecological resilience to climate change across British Columbia. Her enduring partnerships with all levels of government, First Nations, community forests, environmental organizations, and forest managers ensure her scientific advances are translated to active conservation, restoration and management. To share with the public, she has given more than 400 media interviews on wildfires and their impacts on forests and communities. She is among the 150 Canadian Scientists recognized for research shaping new frontiers and making our world a better place (#150Scientists). An award winning professor and researcher, in 2025, she was honoured to receive the King Charles III Coronation Medal for public service to Canada.

4:30 PM – [Adjourn Event](#)