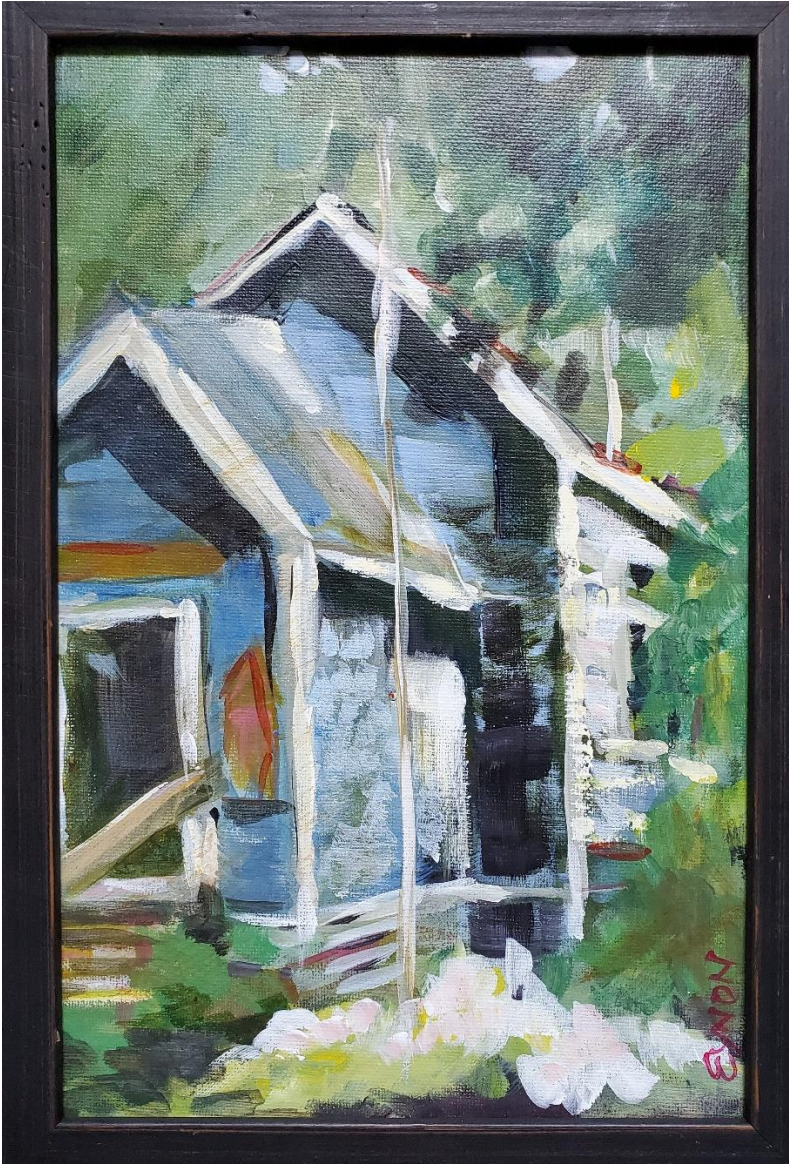


The Galiano Club - 2019 Annual Report and Retrospective
95th Anniversary



*The Galiano Community Hall by Ann Eynon, donated
in 2019 by Carolyn Canfield*

The Galiano Club - 1924 to 2019

Introduction

This Annual Report will cover 2019 and some of the activities of 2020 as the Annual General Meeting was postponed from its ordinary time in May to the late fall of 2020 due to the global pandemic – Covid19.

The Galiano Club was incorporated as a non-profit society on December 5th, 1924 to:

- a) encourage social, recreational and educational activity in Galiano
- b) foster agricultural interests in Galiano
- c) form a public library
- d) build a public Hall which shall be used for the above three purposes

Since the founding of the Club, the objects have been amended to include holding and administering in trust for the community, the Bluffs and Mt. Galiano. Both properties are zoned “nature protection”. Also added was the ownership and administration of the Heritage (Community) Forest lands, zoned “heritage forest”, in accordance with covenants on that land. In all, the Club is responsible for 830 acres of land on Galiano Island comprising 5.78% of the island’s land mass.

The Galiano Club Constitution - Last updated at the 2017 Annual General Meeting

1. This Club shall be called THE GALIANO CLUB
2. The purpose of the Society on Galiano Island shall be:
 - (a) to encourage social, recreational and educational activity.
 - (b) to maintain a public hall which may be available for use by any person or persons who wish to use it in accordance with the above purposes.
 - (c) to hold and administer lands as described in the Bluffs Park and the Mount Galiano Trust Agreements, as directed therein.
 - (d) to hold and administer Heritage Forest Lands (zone FH) in accordance with heritage forest covenants on such lands.
 - (e) to promote agricultural interests on Galiano Island including gardening, farming, other food related initiatives and production of agricultural products.

Fostering agriculture, an object when the Society was established, was added back in the objects in 2011.

Governance

The Galiano Club is managed by a volunteer Board of Directors (up to 11) half of whom are elected at each Annual General Meeting. The Board meets at least monthly to oversee Club operations. This is a “working” Board as opposed to a “governance” Board.

Board of Directors – 2019/2020

- Sonia Baker
- Dorothy Beauchamp - Secretary
- Diana Burgoyne – Vice President
- Allan Forget
- Judy Hayes – President
- Sylvia Jenkin
- Robert Matson (Appointed mid-term)
- Patrick Ramsay
- Garth Walmsley
- Allison Whitlock
- Carol Wilson – Treasurer

Strategic Planning

The Board of Directors and participated in a Strategic Planning session in the spring of 2019 to review the Club’s operations and to develop plans for each major activity area. The Community Food Program completed a Strategic Plan in 2018.

Administration

- **Policies and Governance** – The Board continues to spend time developing or updating policies on a range of administrative areas including Hall rentals, contracting, volunteer agreements and management plans for the lands.
- **Constitution and By-Laws** – The Constitution and By-Laws were last updated at the 2017 Annual General Meeting to comply with the new Societies Act proclaimed in November, 2016.
- **Youth Members** – The Junior Membership category was approved at the 2011 Annual General Meeting. The Club’s Junior Members participate in many Club activities from pie making and serving at the Blackberry Festival to decorating the Hall.
- **Membership** – There were 191 Galiano Club members in 2019.

Life Members – There are two Life Members, Don Anderson and Margaret Howell who have been recognised for their tremendous contributions to the Galiano Club. Life Member, Gloria Olson, passed away in November, 2019. Gloria was the Treasurer of the Board and an active volunteer for many years.



President's Report – Judy Hayes

2019 was the 95th anniversary of the founding of the Galiano Club. One of the original objects of the Galiano Club was to build a hall to be used for social, educational and recreational purposes. The Hall was completed by 1926 and has continued to be used for the purposes that the original founders of the Club envisaged.

Interestingly, “social” and “recreational” were originally considered inclusive of cultural activities and the Hall has long been used for cultural events such as theatre, concerts and art shows. Today, some funders will only consider grants to organizations where “cultural” is specified in the objects. The Board is considering adding cultural purposes to the Constitution in order to reflect the actual use and to access additional funding streams to support these events.

Below are outlined the capital investments made to this valuable community resource since 2006. 2019 was a particularly active year for upgrades, thanks to several significant grants. Several of the commercial grade appliances were replaced and additional ones added. A laundry was installed and the stage bathroom was upgraded. The pantry was reconfigured and updated with appropriate food storage bins. Considerable storage was added to the stage. The wooden wheelchair ramp was replaced with a concrete one, a longer lasting option in our temperate rainforest. And the large single paned windows in the Hall proper and the Green Room were replaced with double paned ones in a similar style. We are noticing a positive impact on the Hydro bill and positive comments from renters as a result. A new floor was installed in the Play Group space as well as new lighting.



The grant funds that support these upgrades not only ensure the Hall is maintained as a valued community resource, but these funds also provide employment. Where possible, the Galiano Club uses local trades people for these capital upgrades.

The installation of a commercial kitchen in 2006 supported the creation of the Galiano Club Community Food Program in 2008. The Food Program has grown significantly since its inception and 2019 was our biggest year, both in terms of the variety of programs as well as the involvement of local residents as participants and volunteers. While event fees and sales of frozen meals and soups help to support the Food Program, the Program is largely funded through grants from a variety of sources. Grant writing to ensure the continuation of this popular Program is ongoing and has to anticipate needs up to a year in advance. The Program has grown from two part-time contractors to four part time employees and from a couple of initiatives to the multi-faceted range of activities provided today.

Administrative areas were a focus for the Board in 2019. A code of conduct, conflict of interest and other policies were developed and approved. The skill sets required for a working board providing the range of Club programs were identified and current skills were reviewed. We learned there was a depth of experience across most of the identified skill sets and that all of the Board Members, although they had a primary interest in one area, were active in more than one program. We also learned that we needed to diversify the Board. Younger individuals with passion for the Food Program and the Parks/Forest are being sought to run for the Board.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the incredible community support that the Galiano Club continues to receive. Volunteers are involved with all of the programs which the Galiano Club runs. There is a dedicated and visible cadre that is involved in the Soup and Bread luncheons and producing the frozen soups and meals; others, perhaps not so visible, but equally dedicated, are involved in Game Nights, Community Potlucks, the Garlic Co-op, Gleaning, the Food Bank, the School Garden and trail clearing and more.

Some individuals come out to cut broom in the Parks/Forest in the spring or volunteer to become Forest Guardians. There are those who volunteer to help with projects to maintain the Hall and others who donate materials. We also appreciate the support the Club gets from the local tradespersons, farmers, suppliers and fishers. Community members also donate funds to directly support various programs. Without this community support the Galiano Club would not be able to provide the range of programs currently available.

Galiano is an amazing community and I am proud to be involved with a key contributor to this community and with the dedicated group of people who keep it all happening!

Project History

Year	Project
2019	<p>The Capital Regional District supported a major capital investment in the Hall. The large commercial freezer was replaced and a second smaller commercial freezer was added, to better accommodate frozen meals and soups for the Food Program. The commercial sanitizer in the kitchen was replaced and a commercial refrigerator replaced the former refrigerator, which was moved to the new Audio Visual Room (formerly the Bar Room). Both the pantry and the AV room were reconfigured to accommodate additional storage. New double paned windows were added to the main Hall and the Green Room, an upgrade which was immediately appreciated by the vendors at the Christmas Market. A new floor was installed in the Playgroup space (flooring donated by a parent) and the wood blanket was renewed on the playground. A foundation assessment was completed on the Hall, which will position the Club well if funding becomes available to replace the log posts with a foundation. A new projector and speakers were added to support events and workshops.</p> <p>New Horizons for Seniors funding allowed the installation of a laundry in the Green Room. As part of the reconfiguration to accommodate the laundry, the bathroom on the stage was upgraded, including the addition of hot water. The laundry means that volunteers no longer have to carry laundry home after events. New Pantry storage meant the Rubbermaid totes could be eliminated as well as the need for lifting heavy bins. The totes created trip hazards in the kitchen. In addition, storage cabinets were added to the stage area to accommodate less frequently used items and store equipment library items.</p>
2018	<p>The Hall floors were replaced for the second time in the history of the Hall as a result of grants from Heritage BC and Canada 150. An Auris Loop was installed at the same time to support those with hearing loss to better enjoy concerts and other events. Thanks to a grant from the Capital Regional District, the electrical system was brought up to code and rationalized, a propane on-demand hot water heater was installed and lighting was upgraded to LED throughout the hall. Ping pong players and volunteers working in the kitchen particularly appreciated the lighting upgrade. Those putting on large events no longer ran out of hot water. And the Board was relieved to have the electrical up to code. In addition, storage space for the Galiano Players backdrops was created under the Hall.</p>
2017	<p>Thanks to the Capital Regional District a second gas stove was installed.</p>
2016	<p>The Green Room was painted and updated and the kitchen was painted. The Concert Society donated funds for new panic hardware to be installed on the front door.</p>

2015	The propane system was upgraded, eliminating the need to transport 100 lb. canisters.
2014	The 6 burner gas/propane stove was installed through funding from the Capital Regional District.
2013	The fire exit stairs were replaced through the Capital Regional District and a donation. The Southern Gulf Islands Emergency Services Program installed 2 generators and the Hall became an alternate reception centre. The Hall underwent both interior (main Hall) and exterior painting .
2012	This was a big year for upgrades to the hall as a performance space. A grand piano was privately donated and the Concert Society raised money for its transportation to Galiano. New theatre lights were obtained from the University of Lethbridge. Galiano Club revenues and donations funded the installation of black stage legs and the blackout blinds .
2011	The front steps were replaced. With the addition of a large commercial freezer funded by New Horizons for Seniors, the Food Program was able to store soups and meals for sale. Funds from AgriSpirit Farm Credit Canada and a donation allowed the installation of a new lighting panel for the stage and the purchase of music stands .
2010	The Hall roof was replaced through a combination of a grant from the Capital Regional District, an individual donation and a fundraising “shingle” campaign.
2008	The outdoor playground was also installed.
2006	A commercial kitchen , funded by the Vancouver Foundation, the Victoria Foundation and Tides Canada allowed for the establishment of the Food Program in 2008.

The Galiano Club Hall – *a brief history*

Allan Forget



One of the main objectives of the newly established—in 1924—Galiano Club was “to build a public hall”, the first such structure for the island. Planning began at the Club’s first Annual General Meeting, held on January 24th, 1925. A donation from Mr. Stanley Page of one acre of land located near to the Georgeson Bay Road and Porlier Pass Road junction was accepted and the decision was made to begin work immediately on an all-wood building to consist of a main hall with a raised stage area and three rooms, one at each side of the stage area (the Ladies’ Room and the Men’s Room) and a kitchen. Named simply “Galiano Hall”, it was ready for occupancy by early 1926 though construction work continued for many years to come. (Not until 1937 would the Club be able to announce that the Hall was “finished, inside and out”.) A visit to the island by the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, His Honour Randolph Bruce, on May 29th, 1929, provided the occasion for an “official opening” with the Club sponsoring a formal dance that evening in the new Hall. (A photo of the event taken by one of the Club’s founders, Mr. Donald New, has been enlarged and framed and now hangs inside the Hall.)

The Galiano Hall easily became the venue for island events of every kind: dances and parties, political meetings, religious services, wedding receptions, musical concerts, club meetings, art shows, craft markets, agricultural fairs, memorials, and theatrical events of all types, including the showing, in 1934, of a “moving picture”, the first on the island. Many of the events were

organized by the Club itself. In the 1930s and the 1940s the Hall was also a place for sport: indoor badminton. (When the Hall's fir wood floor was replaced in 2017 two layers of older floor levels were discovered. The lowest layer continued to display the painted lines of a badminton court.)

Also in 1934, a lending library was established in the Men's Room using the large number of books which had been donated to the Club. Though fulfilling yet another of the Club's founding objectives, "to form a public library", this first "Galiano Library" lasted for just a couple of decades. (Not until 2000 did another island library get established, a project of the Galiano Library Society whose formation had been sponsored by the Galiano Club.)

An "electric light plant" was installed in 1942, and the old wood-burning stove which had been providing heat to the main hall for several decades was replaced by a gas powered one two years later. Electricity came full-time to the Hall in the early 1950s, thanks to the creation of the Galiano Power and Light Co. which brought better lighting and heating to all of the Hall rooms. A well was drilled on the grounds in 1958 (a B.C. Centennial project) bringing a steadier supply of water to the adjacent Hall and an eventual redesigning of the kitchen to meet commercial-use standards (a 1967 Canadian Centennial project). A B.C. Tel connection was completed in 1973.

In the mid 1970s, the Galiano Club Board began to refer to the building as the "Galiano Community Hall". In 1976 a sign board stating this was mounted over the Hall's main entrance way. It remains there to this day.

By end of the 1980s, the Hall's continued existence was being questioned. The building was showing its age, and the construction of two other community halls on the island had reduced its usefulness.

Since 1972 the Galiano Club had been discussing the possibility of a new addition. This discussion eventually developed into a plan for the entire building to be razed, to be replaced by a more modern version. An architectural drawing was approved, a scale model was built, fundraising to cover construction costs begun. However, efforts to raise the necessary funds failed and after a couple of years the Club Board decided instead to embark on a program of better care and use of the Hall building that already existed followed by expansion if necessary. A long period of improvement began to both the Hall and grounds a program which continues to this day.

To start, in the early 1990s, the Hall's stage was enlarged and the rear end of the building extended. The expansion not only created more stage area but also an office space for the Galiano Club (a first). A section of the basement was excavated to create a "Teen Centre"

which later became a place for preschoolers to play and learn. Two washrooms were added along with an outdoor access ramp. The kitchen was reconfigured and enlarged.

In the 2000s, both the interior and the exterior were completely repainted in a new, more complementary colour schemes. Inside, the old fir wood floor was removed, levelled, and new boards put in. The building was rewired and a new lighting system put in place throughout.

In this last decade, the major drive has been to make the old Hall more energy efficient, more environmentally friendly. All the windows were replaced with double-paned ones (while keeping the old, historic wood frames), solar panels went on to the roof, a cost-saving heat pump was installed in the main Hall. New wiring and lighting was installed. Surround sound for events has been fitted. Skylights, that open, were put into kitchen ceiling to reduce the heat when large numbers are cooking.

Outdoors, the grounds were planted and landscaped, a watering system installed and the vehicle parking area improved. A kids' play area was created (2009) in the lower grounds complete with swings and slides all set in a large pit of soft wood chips. A bike rack/repair station was installed (2017) and a Galiano Island Parks and Recreation Commission information Kiosk too.

It has all worked. The almost century-old Galiano Community Hall is now, in 2020, in better shape and being used more, and in a more environmentally responsible way, than ever before. The creation in 2008 of the Club's "Galiano Food Program" has added a whole new dimension to the Hall's purpose, resulting in enhanced kitchen facilities and regular food events: the popular springtime NettleFest, the autumn Blackberry Festival (a long time Club event), the winter Solstice Dinner, the year-round Monday Soup and Bread Luncheons.



Sport too has returned to the Hall with a monthly Board Games Night, a weekly Ping Pong Night.

Steady rentals see the Hall regularly used as a performance space: the Galiano Concert Society and Coro Galiano for musical entertainments, the Galiano Players for theatrical productions.

In 2005, a most unusual away-from-Ottawa ceremony took place in the Hall when famed islander and novelist Jane Rule received the Order of Canada. The ceremony was led by Her Honour, Galiano-born Iona Campagnolo, then BC's Lieutenant Governor, deputizing for the Governor-General.

Now also known as the "South Hall"—since the creation in the 1980s of the North Galiano Community Hall in a converted 1920s schoolhouse — the Galiano Community Hall remains a most "happening place". When one hears an islander say of an event, "it's at the Hall", the location is, more often than not, the small, cozy, versatile and historic... Galiano Community Hall.

Activities of the Society

This past year was another busy one for the Galiano Club. Included here is a summary of our 2019 and early 2020 activities.

Community Events

Jamboree/Fiesta – The Club had booths at the North End Jamboree and at the Lion's Fiesta events in 2019. The Club's projects were highlighted for visitors to the booths and watermelon slices were provided.

The Galiano Club Parks and Community Forest – Allan Forget

The Galiano Club manages 3 forested properties (830 acres or approximately 336 hectares) - the Bluffs, Mt Galiano and the Community Forest. Title to both the Bluffs and the Mt Galiano lands came to the Club as a result of a community purchase/donation; title to the Community Forest was given as part of a property subdivision arrangement. The Club's Board of Directors created a Parks/Forest Committee in 2017 to deal with the maintenance of these lands more directly.

The first Chair of this Committee was Garth Walmsley who became responsible for several important initiatives —a cohesive lands signage program, a Park Guardian project, the first draft comprehensive Management Plan for the Bluffs, an agreement with the Galiano Trails Society for clearance of hiking trails which included a determined Broom removal scheme, the creation of an Information Board for each property. He also instituted regular Committee

meetings and reporting schedule. Garth retired from the Board in mid-2020. The Parks/Forest Committee members — Board Directors, Diana Burgoyne, Robert Matson, Allison Whitlock, Allan Forget and from the community, Debbie Holmes, Deidre Jewell — sincerely thank Garth for his dedication and commitment.

The Bluffs

Title was acquired in 1948 and the area was declared a Nature Protection Area in 1988. In 2019, after a year of meetings and discussions, a joint community/Club committee finalized the draft Bluffs Management Plan, the first comprehensive Plan in over 30 years which included a complete Biological Inventory. Public input was obtained in preparation for a presentation of the Plan to the Club Membership at an Annual General Meeting. The Plan will go before the Club Membership in 2020 for ratification.

The old metal Bluff Road gates were moved to more effective locations, the Lookout access road entrance and the Canter Road emergency route entrance. The last of the new metal trail map signs was installed; wood-carved directional signs created by Avi Bryant were also put in place. Hiking trails were cleared of fallen trees and branches. Working with the South Galiano Volunteer Fire Department (SGVFD), an Emergency Vehicle route — Canter Road/Winstanley Trail — was cleared of fallen trees, low hanging branches. There was an annual cutting of Broom plants, mostly from the Lookout area. An Info Sign explaining some of its history was placed on the old log Lookout Shelter (built in 1955; dismantled in 2017). The Japanese Charcoal Pit Kiln, a BC Historic Site, remains a well visited spot, the new information Panels being much enjoyed.

On December 20th, 2018 a major windstorm brought trees down blocking the road to the Lookout. The general public removed firewood before Galiano Excavating could be contracted with to clear and repair the road in their beginning of 2019. The Bluffs Management Plan specifies that fallen trees remain in the Bluffs to contribute to the biomass of the ecosystem. The remaining fallen trees were placed along the boulders to reinforce the vehicle barrier.

Japanese Pit Kiln – The Galiano Club has long been the guardian of a Japanese Charcoal Pit Kiln in the Bluffs. It was restored by island resident and neighbour of the Bluffs, Steve Nemtin and his son Eli. In the spring of 2017, the Japanese Pit Kiln in the Bluffs was designated a Heritage Site by Heritage B.C. In the late 1800's, pit kilns were built by Japanese Canadians for producing charcoal that was used in the fish canning industry. The Japanese Canadians originally came from the Wakayama Prefecture in Japan where pit kilns were in regular use. A sign in English and Japanese at the top of Highland Rd. marks one of the trails to the Pit Kiln. A pamphlet about the Pit Kiln was developed by Steve Nemtin and it is available to islanders and visitors.

A booklet of the history of the charcoal kilns in the Gulf Islands was published in 2018 entitled, “Island Forest Embers”. It contains articles on Galiano’s pit kilns and Galiano’s Japanese Canadian history.

In January, 2019, the Board of Directors approved a permanent climate monitoring station within the Bluffs. This will be situated away from public view and have no impact on the Bluffs. This is a joint project of Vancouver Island University and Province of BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations initiated by Galiano resident Andrew Simon.

Mount Galiano

Title was acquired in 1991 as a result of a community fundraising drive to buy the land from MacMillan Bloedel. A Management Plan was developed the following year and the lands were declared a Nature Protection Area. Eventually, a single hiking trail, named the Dionisio Galiano Trail, to the 341 meter summit (1,100 feet), was built. Part of this trail included an old logging road (used as an Emergency Access Route from Georgeson Bay Road to the summit). A piece of land adjacent to the trailhead on Active Pass Drive was donated by neighbour, Dave Morgan; this was developed as a vehicle parking area. In 2019, the original 1990s wood directional signs were replaced with metal ones. The hiking trail, much used and well-worn after almost 30 years, was kept clear of fallen trees and branches.

The primary work of the Galiano Club on the lands is maintaining trails and clearing fallen trees as well as cutting broom in bloom. Club Directors and volunteers regularly walk the trails to identify what work there is to be done. The clearing of trails is done by volunteers. For firefighting purposes there are stores of water in the Bluffs and on Mt Galiano.

An updated Management Plan for Mt Galiano is being considered for 2020.



Clearing Mt Galiano Trail

Community Forest

Title was acquired in 2005 through a rezoning of Forest Lots. This was the site of the majority of the Galiano Wildfire of 2006 which destroyed a lot of what had remained from the clear cut

logging that took place prior to the transfer of title. A Management Plan was written in 2008. In 2019, control of Broom growth in the hiking trails continued to be a major occupation. A couple of public Broom Blitzes were organized (the burning of dried plants from last year's cut). As well, more new cutting of the invasive plant was completed. The hiking trails were kept clear of fallen trees and branches.

**Community
Forest
Open
House**



A tour of the established emergency vehicle access routes was conducted with the South Galiano Volunteer Fire Department Chief, Sean Luttmmer, and suggestions for improvement were received and acted upon. A wood bench, built by Gord Palmberg) and donated by the Sigvardsen family, was received with it being installed high on the Wildfire Loop trail; there are hopes for more bench donations. An information Kiosk, similar to the one established last year in the Bluffs, was erected at the start of the Mistletoe Main trail.

In consultation with CRD Parks and Recreation it was determined that the parking lot and kiosk belongs to Parks and Recreation. Although the original intention was to allow access and parking for both properties, a separate information kiosk was erected within the Community Forest property.

The 2008 Management Plan was due to be reviewed in 2018. Due to a number of factors, including time commitments of Board members, this process was begun in late 2019, under the direction of Keith Erickson, registered biologist, as part of a Board Committee. Keith was the author of the Baseline Report and much of the 2008 Plan. Public tours, Open House events, all are being organized to gather input from islanders.

In 2018 an agreement was signed with the Gulf Islands Galisle Affordable Rental Housing Society (GIGARHS) for a possible rental housing project in a designated section of the Forest (as identified in the 2008 Plan). This designated section was the area where affordable housing would have the least environmental impact. GIGARHS has moved forward with the necessary application for a rezoning permit, a process which will involve much public consultation.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who have participated in these projects and to those who have cared for these properties by picking up litter, removing windfalls and reporting their concerns. Sincere thanks to the Park Guardians: the late Angela McIntyre, Deborah Roy, Kevin Toomer and Zoe Port. Special thanks to our tree cutting volunteers: Taylor Crandall, Colin Jenken, Gord and Jamaica Reimer and Pat Van Holderbeke.

The Galiano Community Hall – Alison Colwell, Judy Hayes

Hall Usage – The Hall was booked 378 times in 2019. The Community Food Program remains the largest user, but bookings also include meetings and Annual General Meetings, sales, festivals and private events, yoga, rehearsals, concerts, art shows and cinema, weddings and dances and workshops. This is where the community gathers to celebrate, to eat, and to recover from disasters. There are times that the Hall is booked for three different events in one day.

Maintaining the Hall – Rentals from the Hall only cover a portion (depending on the annual maintenance needs) of the cost of maintaining the Hall, the cost of insurance coverage for the Hall and our Galiano Club properties. The shortfall is covered through fundraising and donations.

Beginning in 2006 with the installation of a commercial kitchen, and particularly in the last decade, there has been ongoing capital improvements to the Hall, thanks to the generosity of funders and private donations.

Hall Stage – The Club has completely renovated its theatrical sound and lighting system. This is still a work in progress, so please bear with us while we work out the technical details. Cinema Galiano will resume with surround sound and a greater cinematic experience when we can gather safely again!

Galiano Players - Sonia Baker

In March the Galiano Players took their show on the road and presented “Blind Date” and “My Narrator” on Gabriola Island. In April, a professional acting teacher came over from Vancouver and 15 people took part in the four hour acting workshop. September had actors, musicians and singers entertain the audiences in the “Variety Show”. We held our annual Panto in November. The show was “The Jungle Book” by Tina and Rob Burbige. This was another successful event. All of the actors, performers, musicians, behind the scenes individuals, donors and audience members contribute to the success of the Galiano Players and all funds raised go to the Galiano Club. Please remember there is always room for more to join us whether on stage, behind the scenes or in the front of Hall!

Partnerships in the Hall

- **Southern Gulf Islands Emergency Services Program**
The Southern Gulf Islands Emergency Program keeps 2 generators at the Community Hall to be used to run the Hall in the event of a disaster or prolonged power outages.
- **Galiano Island Recycling Resources – GIRR**
provided the funding for a Bike Fix It Station located at the Hall. It gets a lot of use.
- **Music in the Hall** – The Concert Society holds its concerts in the South Hall. The Society presents a wonderful season of music and we have been fortunate to have very high level performances.
- **Capital Regional District** - The CRD helped fund the Electric Car Charging - EV Station - at the Hall, as well as many other improvements in 2019.
- **Apple Press** – Galiano Club Members, Susan and Stephen Rybak generously donated the funds for a Community Commercial Apple Press. It is getting a lot of use!



Bike Fix It Station

The Galiano Club Community Food Program - Looking Back at 2019

Alison Colwell – Executive Director and Food Program Manager



Alison Colwell



Emma Davis



Barry New

These are the Manager and Coordinators who, along with all of the volunteers, make the Food Program what it is. Our Vision is:

“The Galiano Community Food Program envisages Galiano Island as a thriving, livable, food-secure community. It is a place where every resident is included, welcome and empowered to build a deeper connection with their food system. In so doing, the Program improves Galiano’s ecological sustainability and community resilience in the face of climate change and uncertainty. The program seeks to set an example that reaches beyond our local community and spreads across the country.”

Soup and Bread for Seniors - In 2019, there were 30 soup and meal making kitchens, resulting in hundreds of servings of soup – we served more than 3,600 people lunches and made more than 2,715 meals. That's 300 more meals than the year before. This initiative raised over \$30,000 toward the costs of the Program, making this project close to self-sustaining. The Soup and Bread Program would not be possible without the support of all the dedicated volunteers that come week after week to cook and clean. In 2019, over 315 volunteer shifts were worked comprising 1,250 hours (or a value of \$25,200 if we were paying our volunteers!)

Because we take an unofficial attendance we know that in 2019 over 500 different people came for lunch. That's over half the island.

In the spring of 2020, soups and meals were available at the Community Hall (during any Food Program event or by calling Alison Colwell), at the Tuesday Walking Group, and on Wednesdays through our meal delivery service. On regular Soup days, thermoses of soup were delivered to the students and teachers at the Galiano Community School in stainless thermoses. In 2019, there were 651 thermoses of soup delivered to the school.

Community Games Nights - Games Night continues to be a very popular family event. In 2019, there were only 8 Games Nights due to family circumstances of Program staff.



Nettlefest Cooking

Community Potlucks

Nettlefest - On April 7th we held the 12th annual Nettlefest complete with a foraging walk in partnership with the Galiano Conservancy Association, a community pick, nettle cooking classes, a community kitchen, cooking contests and potluck dinner where over 120 people attended.



Community Potluck Picnic - On September the 8th we held the 10th annual Community Picnic, attended by 125 people and raising \$325.00. We experimented this year by letting the other organizations that take on responsibility for a booth or station, also promote their own organizations (like the volunteer fair.) And it worked really well.

Community Solstice Potluck Dinner - Roughly 160 people came to enjoy the Solstice Dinner. It was a nice, mellow evening (especially after last year's drama with the windstorm of December, 2018) with lots of great food for everyone and loads of amazing local entertainment. We also raised more than \$900 in donations.

All together over 400 people participate in these three community events.

Cooking at the Community School - The Food Program continues to offer cooking with the school kids. This takes a variety of shapes from intensive whole day Bread Workshops, to smaller exploratory activities.

The School kids hosted Elders and Grandparents Lunch on Tuesday June 11th. The Grade 3-5 class walked to the Hall to cook lunch for 25 seniors. The kids did really well and the Elders really enjoyed their lunch, with lots of lively intergenerational conversation happening around the room.

In February, two of the three classes learned to bake bread at the school. This is always a wonderful experience that the kids look forward to every year.

Cheese Club – The Cheese Club met monthly for the first six months of 2019. The favourite this year was a 3 month aged Peppercorn Asiago that was heavenly.

Workshops - Food Safe Level 1 on Saturday March 23rd was attended by 24 people. It was a long day (as usual) but everyone passed. The Chamber of Commerce sent \$300.00 to partially subsidize 10 spots for their members. The Emergency Program sponsored 2 spots for their volunteers.

UBC Land and Food Systems Department Collaboration – The Food Program worked with two sets of students in 2019. On March 3rd, a group of UBC students (who are working on creating new diabetic recipes) came to the island to run a test kitchen of the recipes they created. A second group of students came on November 10th to cook meals. The groups have been working on creating a more useful system to share the nutritional information of Food Program meals with the seniors. The UBC students made 84 frozen meals. A group of seniors was invited to lunch to give feedback on the meals' signage. The students have been working on turning the nutritional analysis of most of the meals into a user-friendly format. The collaboration with UBC is in its 10th year.



UBC LFS 350 Team

Food Program at the School Garden - There were lots of changes in the School Garden in 2019. We began the year with Brahmi Benner (an early year's educator) as Coordinator. Brahmi was great at getting the kids engaged in the garden and Brahmi was connected with the "Gulf Islands Learning Circle about School Gardens". It was a great networking

opportunity. Galiano is unique in its successes, having had greenhouse access and an ongoing successful Program for many years.

In February, Patti Pringle replaced Brahmi Benner in the School Garden. Patti brought years of educational experience with Galiano Conservancy Association, and she ran the Preschool Nature Buddies Program for years as well. She got the students working on mapping, surveys and science experiments. In the Garden Survey, students were asked which plants they wanted to grow the most: strawberries and watermelon were the highest rankers. Survey results were graphed and posted at the school. The kids also began a germination science experiment and were excited to find out if temperature affected the germination rate of pea seeds.

In September, “Back to school” meant that the grapes were ripe and the students flocked to the garden. They devoured these sweet treats and worked together to get the ripest ones at the top. A few were left for the birds, but not many.

The entire school celebrated harvest time with pizza day. A highly anticipated day by the kids as they harvest everything one might imagine for pizza toppings. The favourite pizza was beets, fennel, tomatoes, potatoes, and of course, grapes. Delicious! Huge thanks to Lisa Gauvreau from Babes In The Woods, who donated all the pizza dough, sauce, cheese and a day of her time. So generous!

In October Tricia Sharp replaced Patti Pringle as the new School Garden Coordinator. Patti returned to teaching in the District. Tricia brought some serious gardening/farming skills to the School Garden – which now includes a mushroom bed!

Workshops - Emma Davis

Perogies - In January, residents gathered to share Perogy stories, songs, and traditional recipes, and then shared in a feast.



Seaweed - In May, we brought Amanda Swinimer back from Sooke to lead a second workshop on seaweed harvesting, after her very popular 2018 workshop. Twelve participants came out to learn about species identification and sustainable harvesting, as well as incorporating seaweed into one's diet. Amanda also facilitated a workshop just for kids which had eight participants. People appreciated the combination of hands-on and theoretical instruction, seaweed tastings, and Amanda's immense knowledge on this local resource.

One participant said "I loved the whole thing. I thought the classroom part gave us the general information we needed to identify prime species and know how to harvest them sustainably, as well as important information on ... kelp forest ecologies. I also thought the field part helped us to learn, in practice, about how to look at the seaweeds that are very accessible and available to us on Galiano, and to discriminate between the specimens on the beach that are good to eat and the ones that are clearly past their prime. Really: excellent combination. I now feel confident that I can go to the shore and harvest, in the right conditions, at least five, relatively plentiful, edible seaweed species. I also now know how to harvest them in as sustainable a manner as possible. The workshop gave me exactly the right tools to go forward practically, and also helped me to think more about my role in promoting sustainable seaweed ecologies."

Knives - In November, Galiano's own Josh Blumenthal taught a dozen residents the basics of knife use and care, including cutting techniques, knife safety, and sharpening. Josh then prepared a soup from the chopped veggies that the group shared together. Participants said: It was all good. Very good. The meal at the end - particularly the soup - was terrific. I am an enthusiastic home cook and anything to improve my skills is appreciated. It encouraged me to pay more attention to the meals I prepare.

Butchering Wild Game - In December, in partnership with the Access to Media Education Society, the Galiano Conservancy Association, and the Community Resource Centre, members of the Penelakut Island community taught about 30 people from Galiano, Mayne and Penelakut the basics of wild game butchering. The group learned how to skin, debone, cube, grind and bag venison. Each participant took meat home for their freezer, and a very generous portion was also donated to the Food Program for distribution to families in need.

Stock Up Market in October - This was the 6th Annual Stock Up bulk food market, offering locally-grown keeper veggies and meat and encouraging people to buy in bulk to store for the winter. There was a wide variety of products available from the vendors and there was a good turnout. We had 11 vendors, one of whom was new: Sea to Seed farm brought squash.

Gleaning - 2019 wasn't quite as abundant as 2018 but it was still a good season. We had 87 volunteers (19 more than the previous year), who gathered for 31 picking sessions (slightly

down from 2018) at 15 (down from 20) sites, picking just over 4,329 lbs of a variety of types of produce (5,500 in 2018). Rather than going to the deer or the compost, islanders' excess produce went to pickers, the Food Program's kitchens, families in need, the Food Bank and landowners. This project is an ongoing initiative of the Food Program.



Garlic Co-op – In 2019 nine members shared 1,068 bulbs, of which we saved 250 for seed. Each year the crop is bigger than the year before. We appreciate the generosity of Randy Bishop in allowing the Garlic Co-op to be located on his property.

The Community Greenhouse – Barry New - The pre-Covid Year

The Greenhouse Growing Group grows vegetables together in the Greenhouse. It is located behind the Galiano Library on the Community School Grounds. Anyone is welcome to join. The charge is only \$20.00 for the whole year. This fee includes all soil amendments, seeds, pots, and tools, but people are still encouraged to bring their own. Participants share the produce. We can provide handouts related to specific gardening questions.

Our start in the early Spring is for starting plants for the users own gardens and to establish plantings in the Greenhouse and School Garden. We are saving seeds each year for the main vegetables - tomatoes, peas and beans. Other seeds are from donations and seed swaps and using the Seed Library of Galiano (SLOG). Our group meets informally once or twice a week throughout the spring and summer. By the summer, we have a watering schedule so we make regular (weekly) turns by the participants to keep the plants well-watered. It is a teaching and learning environment and we have some resources and good links to help further the skills of participants.

The outside raised beds have strawberries, pole beans, broad beans, zucchinis and cucumbers and other companion plants. There are also “Seniors Beds” specially adapted for easy

maintenance (no bending!). The Greenhouse space is fully stocked with seed-trays, numerous pots, bean poles, soil amendments and more.

In 2018, there were two new large, raised beds built for artichokes and asparagus which are doing well and in 2019 another raised bed was rebuilt in the School Garden for annuals. During the year we have had donations of manure and hay bales to improve the beds. We add compost from the Hall compost bins and collect maple leaves from the School grounds every autumn.

Galiano Food Bank – In 2019, twice a month the Food Program delivered frozen soups to the St. Margaret's' Food Bank. When in season there were also fresh vegetables from either or both of Sunshine Farm and Cable Bay Farm. With Covid19 this has changed to weekly, year round in a collaboration between the Galiano Club and St Margaret's of Scotland.

Ralph Griffiths and Hans-Krishna von Hagen, who ran the Food Bank for years for Galiano, retired in 2019. We thank and honour them for their years of service to the community.

Club Fundraising



- Plays, Cinema Galiano, the Blackberry Festival and Christmas Market are the primary fundraising events for the Galiano Club. They are very successful and help the Club keep the Hall rental rates as low as possible. The Club Financial Report is attached as a separate document.
- In addition, the Galiano Club regularly applies for grants to maintain the Hall and to expand the Galiano Club Community Food Program. Our goal is to make this program self-sustaining so that we will not be relying on successful grant applications to maintain this important program.
- Finally, we want to acknowledge the generosity of the residents of Galiano, their friends and visitors, in making donations which support all the work of the Galiano Club. Every donation has made a difference. We thank the many people who made a donation in conjunction with their membership; those who made in-kind donations of produce, labour and services or goods and materials and those who contributed to particular projects throughout the year.

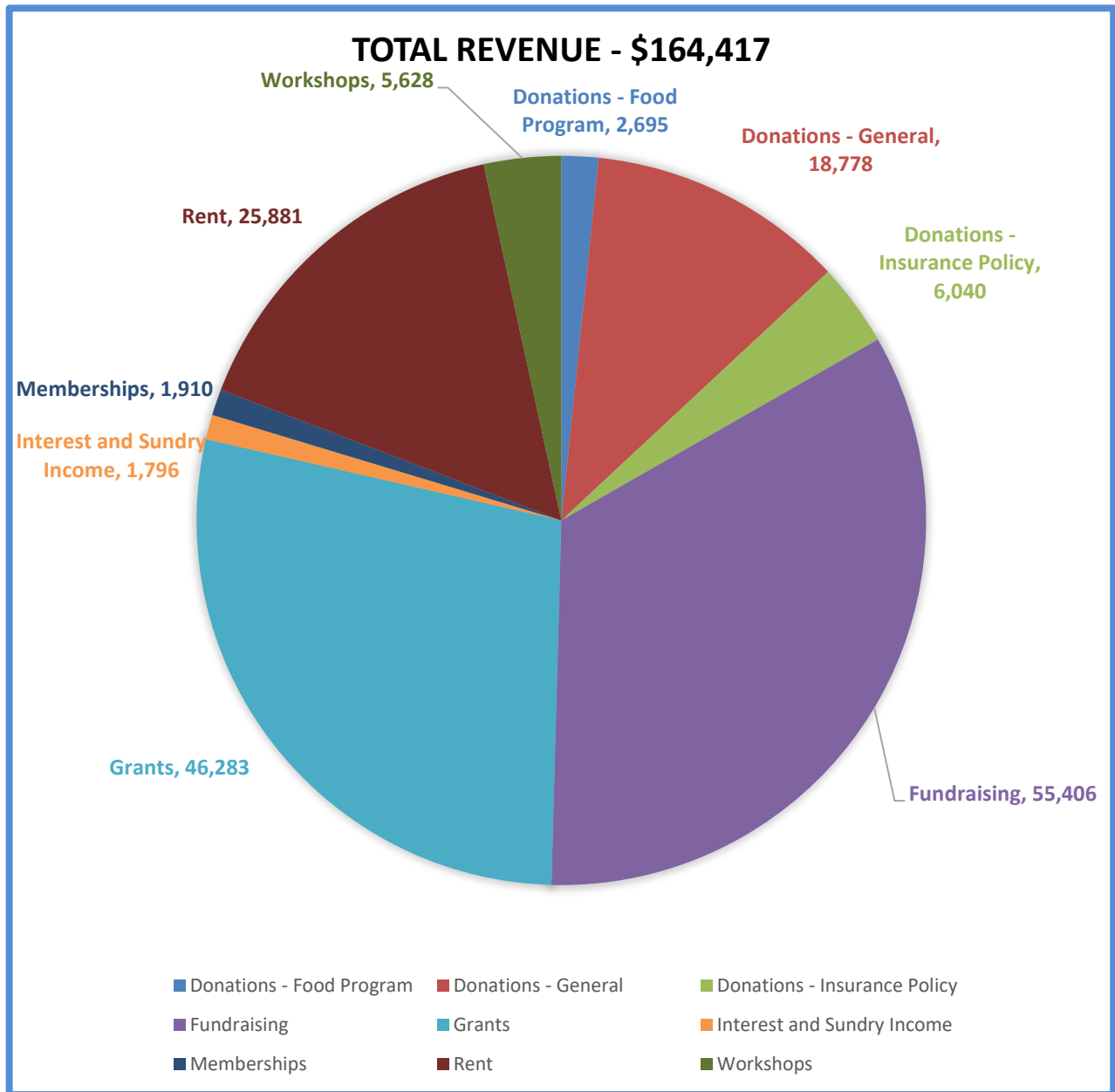
The Galiano Club also recognises the strong support of the community through memberships in the Club with over 275 volunteers and supporters. These include the wonderful support of our local trades and merchants who often donate their labour

and/or give discounts on materials. Our volunteers are involved in every aspect of the Club's activities including cutting broom, moving large boulders to protect trail accesses, cooking, minor renovations of the Hall, washing dishes, hauling garbage, baking, making signs, taking photos, picking berries, collecting water samples, clearing trails, hauling materials and other goods from off island, painting, designing a website, refinishing, delivering meals, sewing, gardening, making architectural drawings, producing and directing plays and events, setting up and taking down tables and chairs at the Hall, doing recycling, giving advice, laundry, cleaning and making tons of popcorn.

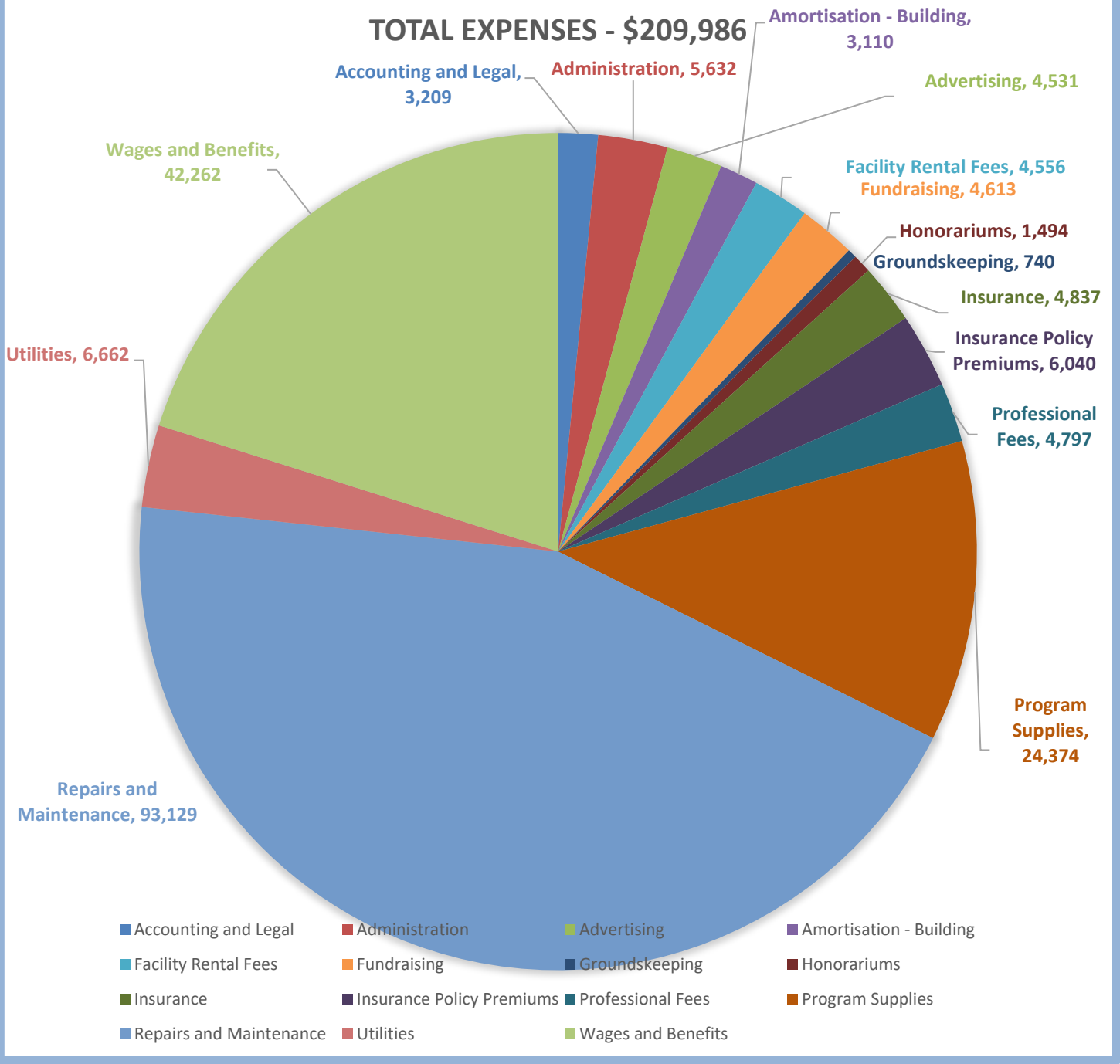
This steady support and encouragement helps the Board of Directors plan ongoing maintenance and upgrading projects for the Hall as well as the many activities in which the Club is involved.

We also are fortunate to have tremendous staff in Alison Colwell, Emma Davis, Barry New and now Kris Krug who go above and beyond in their service to the Galiano Club and the Galiano community. *Thank you so much!*

THE GALIANO CLUB FINANCIAL PICTURE - 2019



TOTAL EXPENSES - \$209,986



Thank you to our Sponsors, Supporters, Donors and Funders! We could not serve our community as effectively without you!



United Way
Greater Victoria

Galiano Island Parks and Recreation Commission



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Centre for Sustainable Food Systems at UBC Farm
Faculty of Land and Food Systems | The University of British Columbia



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