## The Galiano Club - 2021 Annual Report 97<sup>th</sup>Annual General Meeting



Looking toward Mt Galiano and Collinson Point from The Bluffs

### The Galiano Club - 1924 to 2021

### Introduction

This Annual Report covers 2021 and some of the activities of 2022. The Annual General Meeting of 2021 was held on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 via Zoom due to the global pandemic – Covid19.

The Galiano Club was incorporated as a non-profit society on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 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 total, the Club is responsible for 830 acres of land on Galiano Island comprising 5.78% of the island's land mass. Fostering agriculture, an object when the Society was established, was added back in the objects in 2011. The Galiano Club Community Food Program, which focuses on a range of food and agricultural initiatives, is now the largest program of the Galiano Club (staffing and funding). The Program has grown from two part-time contractors to three part time employees and from a couple of initiatives to the multi-faceted range of activities provided today.

## 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.

### **Governance and Policies**

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 monthly to oversee Club operations. This is a "working" Board as opposed to a "governance" Board. The Board continues to spend time developing or updating policies on a range of administrative areas including Hall rentals, human resources, contracting, volunteer agreements and risk assessments.

### Board of Directors – 2021 - 2022

- Sonia Baker
- Dorothy Beauchamp—Secretary
- Marianne Bos
- Diana Burgoyne—Vice-President
- Jack Garton
- Judy Hayes—President
- Robert Matson
- Judy Parrack—Treasurer
- Patrick Ramsay
- Marina Roy
- Allison Whitlock

Sylvia Jenkin resigned part way through her term and was replaced with Marina Roy.

**Strategic Planning** – The Board of Directors 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.

**Honorary Life Members** – Currently the Galiano Club has two Life Members, Don Anderson and Margaret Howell who have been recognised for their tremendous contributions to the Galiano Club. Past life members dating back to the 1930's can be found at <a href="https://galianoclub.org/about/board-of-directors/">https://galianoclub.org/about/board-of-directors/</a>

**Annual General Meeting - 2022 -** Resolutions to update to the Constitution and By-Laws being presented at this Annual General meeting recognise pandemic adaptations by including electronic options for doing business. Other changes better align the wording with the charity requirements of the Income Tax Act.

### President's Report - Judy Hayes

Another year of pandemic restrictions significantly impacted the Club. Other than grants, fundraising, memberships and donations, Hall rentals are the only other source of income to maintain our programs and properties. For most of 2021, rentals were limited to the Galiano Club Food Program.

In addition, most of our big fundraising initiatives had to be majorly scaled back. The Blackberry Festival was limited to pie sales. The plays were held outdoors and the Christmas Market was held over two days to support social distancing. However, under the leadership of Diana Burgoyne and with the help of a group of volunteers, the Club made chocolates and other confections for the Christmas Market, Valentine's Day and Easter. All three chocolate events were sold out within a couple of hours.

**Grants** - The Galiano Club has been fortunate to receive funding from a variety of sources to support the programs and capital upgrades. In addition to the solar panels funded by a grant from the Capital Regional District, Rural and Northern Capacity provided funding for the commercial freezer for the Food Bank.

In 2021, we received funding to support the Food Program from New Horizons for Seniors, the United Way Southern Vancouver Island (2 grants), the Victoria Foundation and Food Banks BC. Several of these grants provided flexible funding to meet pressing needs resulting from Covid. It was a particularly good grant year for the School Garden. The Club received funding from Nature's Path and Whole Foods, which allowed the coordinator's hours to be increased and the installation of a new irrigation system. One of these grants was matched by a local donor. Gleaning was supported by both CRD Parks and Recreation and Government of Canada Food and Agriculture.

The Arts were supported by the Capital Regional District both through Parks and Recreation and an Ideas Grant.

The Galiano Club Community Food Program - In 2021, the Galiano Club Board undertook the first comprehensive review of the Food Program since its founding in 2008. Program statistics over a number of years were reviewed and each staff member was interviewed. Some initiatives were eliminated, such as the Cheese Club. The most substantive change was that the Community Greenhouse was consolidated with the School Garden.

The Food Program continues to be the largest program of the Galiano Club, both in terms of staff time and costs. There is a comprehensive report from the Food Program initiatives included later in this report. Program staff remained flexible and responsive in meeting community need through the ongoing pandemic. Most programs continued, some with

substantial adaptations. The frozen soup and meal production has continued to increase significantly over pre-pandemic levels.

The Galiano Club also received, in addition to private donations to support food security, donations from Food Banks Canada, Food Banks BC, Mayne Island Food Bank and the Capital Regional District. Mustard Seed supports the Food Bank with food rescue. The vulnerability of food security on an island dependent on ferry service, and with 85% of food coming from off island, remains an issue. Staff continued to work with local food producers and distributors and inter-island groups to promote food security.

**Community Support** - Finally, I would like to acknowledge the incredible community support that the Galiano Club receives. Volunteers have been as adaptable as our staff in meeting community needs. Volunteers are key to the Food Program, making the meals, running events and delivering meals. Volunteers helped make and sell chocolates and worked on the School Garden. The Parks and Forest Committee had volunteers patrolling, clearing trails and cutting broom and the plays would not have occurred without the many volunteers involved in the production.

Private donations, especially donations to the Food Program initiatives, are an important component in making the many initiatives of the Galiano Club viable. Despite the challenges many businesses were facing, we continued to receive amazing support from the Galiano stores, local tradespersons, farmers, suppliers and fishers. This second pandemic year, while challenging, illustrated this community's strengths. Galiano residents care about their neighbours and support them with both labour and resources. Without this community support, the Galiano Club would not be able to provide the range of programs currently available.

This past year was the 97<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Galiano Club. We are looking forward to celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024. We are hoping to mark this milestone by putting a new foundation under the Hall.

Thank you for all of your support of the Galiano Club

### The Galiano Community Hall—Alison Cowell, Judy Hayes

**Hall Usage** – Covid had a severe impact on the rentals at the Hall. Even before Covid the Hall rentals, depending on the annual maintenance issues, only covered a portion of the costs of maintaining the Hall and of insurance coverage for the Community Hall and properties. The shortfall is covered through fundraising initiatives undertaken by Club volunteers.

The Hall was booked only 111 times in 2021 compared to 378 times in the pre-pandemic 2019. The majority of bookings were for the Community Food Program and the Club. Losing this rental revenue has negatively impacted the Club.

For most of 2021, the Community Food Program was virtually the only user of the Hall. In addition to weekly kitchens to make frozen meals and soups, the Food Program organised deliveries of frozen meals to seniors. There were occasional meetings, some workshops and two sales, including the annual Kebe and Fast sale. The Galiano Players rehearsed their plays and Diana Burgoyne led chocolate making. In October, usage began to pick up, with Yoga Galiano, Ping Pong and Coro Galiano returning. In December, the Christmas Market was held over two days to support physical distancing.





**Hall Repairs** – The main focus in 2021 has been on maintenance for the last year. The back stairs had to be replaced because they were rotting. A cement porch area was created for the Play Group space to provide a small, covered play area and to stop gravel being tracked

inside the building. A new storage shed was built for the Food Program and is primarily being used to store the equipment library.

### The Galiano Club Parks and Community Forest Report – Allison Whitlock

### **Committee Members**

Board of Directors: Marianne Bos, Diana Burgoyne, Robert Matson, Allison Whitlock Community Members: Deidre Jewell and Cate Sandilands

The Galiano Club manages three forested properties (830 acres or approximately 336 hectares) - the Bluffs, Mt Galiano and the Community Forest. Titles to both the Bluffs and the Mt Galiano lands came to the Club as a result of a community purchase and donations; title to the Community Forest was given as part of a property subdivision rezoning. The Club's Board of Directors created a Parks and Forest Committee in 2017 to provide more consistency of maintenance of these lands.

### General

Management Plans - The 2020 AGM was held quite late in the year because of Covid. Thanks to the hard work of many community members and our Membership, both The Bluffs and the Community Forest Management Plans were ratified. The Mt. Galiano Management Plan update was started in 2021. When it is completed, all three properties will have updated plans.

**Trail Clearing and Broom Removal** - Trail clearing is an ongoing challenge on all three properties. Not only do the Lands and Parks Committee Members walk the trails, but other users notify the Club of problems including downed trees. In addition, broom blitzes have been held to help control the invasive Scotch Broom on all three properties. In the Community Forest, an ecologically sensitive area along the shoreline and Arbutus Trail were the foci in 2021. Some removal of Daphne (spurge laurel) was also undertaken on Mt. Galiano.

**Fire Risk** - No Smoking and Extreme Fire Hazard signs were purchased for all three properties to be put up during extreme drought conditions. Discussions occurred about possibly closing the gate on the access road to the Bluffs Lookout. The South Galiano Volunteer Fire Department Chief advised that there might be traffic problems as people would park at the gate and possibly block Bluffs Rd. As well, having people walking in the Bluffs area increases the chances of reports of any problems or fires.

**Bike Racks** - Bike racks were purchased and installed at all three parking areas. Since biking is not allowed in The Bluffs or Mt. Galiano, it was particularly important to have bike racks available.

### The Bluffs

**Road Grading -** Galiano Excavating completed the grading of the access road to the Bluffs Lookout. This is a fantastic community service.

**Signage** - During the year signage installation was completed in the trail system including the lovely wooden directional signs created by Avi Bryant. The trails continue to be monitored by the Committee and other interested community members and any fallen trees have been cleared either by our committee members or volunteer, Taylor Crandall.

**Pit Kiln** - A boardwalk is being considered for the Japanese Pit Kiln site as the area is very swampy and seems to be reverting to a wetland.

### **Community Forest**

**Breaches** - In 2021, the first of several breaches in the Community Forest were identified. The Galiano Club contacted the neighbours to address the issues and discussion is ongoing.

**Memorial Bench** - The first memorial bench was installed in the Community Forest in memory of Sue Evans, a long-time member and also former President of the Galiano Club.

**Sequoias** - A community member of the Lands and Parks Committee donated and planted two Sequoia trees in the Community Forest.

**Culvert** - The culvert located at the top of the Wildfire Loop trail was plugged and the water washing over the trail was causing erosion. The culvert was replaced by Galiano Excavating.

### Mt. Galiano

**Management Plan** - In 2021, the Parks Committee has been putting together a plan to have the Mt. Galiano Management Plan reviewed by Keith Erickson and members of the Parks Committee. Keith Erickson and a committee began work on the Plan, in line with the parameters provided by the Board. Input from indigenous Elders will form part of the Plan. Please stay tuned for events arranged to provide opportunities for community consultation and engagement.

New signage was installed on Mt. Galiano. Our new volunteer Deborah Roy has been invaluable as she walks the trails often and has alerted us to several downed trees that have been removed by either Allan Forget or community member Pat Van Holderbeke.

### Galiano Players 2021 - Sonia Baker

Being in a pandemic year it was hard to put any plays on for the public. There were many creative adaptations developed. Last summer four plays were produced for out of doors. With two gardens spaces kindly donated by their owners, the plays were produced for each garden. At Marcia DeVicque's garden, only 20 people could be in attendance and her garden was perfect for this. The next weekend the plays were held in Judy Hayes's garden and by then 50 people could attend. Judy's garden being a lot bigger allowed for lots of room to spread out.



Allison Whitlock and Orion Finnie

Rehearsing for the four different plays became quite a marathon of meetings at different times in Sonia's garden. The Players were lucky to have Sylvia Jenken to help in all aspects of running these shows. All the actors did a fantastic job.

Marek Czuma directed a podcast, with the help of Jack Garton doing the technical part and Jack Garton and Jenn Garton Hamer acting.

Many people got to listen to it. This was a new direction for the Players to try. It was funded by the generosity of CRD grant.

There were many things that had to be cancelled last year but things are back up and running this year. A very successful production of the comedy "Self Help" was mounted on stage at the Community Hall this past spring.



Carol Guin, Buzz Shuttleworth and Margaret Howell



Behind the Scenes

# The Galiano Club Community Food Program Alison Colwell, Food Program Manager Looking Back at 2021



"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**

In 2021, there were 44 soup and meal making kitchens. That is more than any other year. Even though the Hall only opened for inside seating a handful of times, the volunteers and Alison continued to cook every week. In 2021, the Food Program produced 4,720 meals compared to the 2,700 made in 2019!

While Covid made lots of things harder (needing to limit volunteers in the kitchen, cooking over a hot stove while wearing a mask), demand for frozen meals increased dramatically. The Club was thrilled that to be able to meet this community need. However, without the Community Soup and Bread lunches that help to support this project, the Food Program was reliant on continuing grants from the United Way of Southern Vancouver Island and Victoria Foundation.

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 2021, over 320 volunteer shifts were worked comprising 1,280 hours for a value of \$25,600 if volunteers were paid!







Dorothy Beauchamp

Cate Sandilands



Sylvia Jenkin

In 2021 soups and meals were available outside the Community Hall on Mondays, and on Wednesdays through the Program's meal delivery service. In the spring of 2022, the delivery of soup resumed to the students and teachers at the Galiano Community School on regular Soup Mondays. Nothing beats showing up to the school with a tray of thermoses to cheers from the students!

**Frozen Meals Delivery Program:** In the first weeks of Covid the Food Program started a delivery program to help people who were in quarantine or isolating. Initially it was a Food Bank style hamper, but gradually it changed into a delivery system for the Program's frozen meals. Meals are no longer available at the Health Care Centre or at the Lions Walk and Talk. Meals continue to be delivered every Wednesday to seniors through the Better at Homes Program, Food Program volunteer drivers and a Wednesday walking group volunteer.

### **Community Potlucks**

**Nettlefest** was cancelled in 2021 but went ahead in the spring of 2022. It was the Food Program's first indoor event since March, 2020.

**Community Picnic** - The Community picnic happened on Sunday September 12<sup>th</sup> at the Galiano Community School. A number of changes were made to keep the event Covid safe - and some of those resulted in a better picnic! There was no potluck table and there were no eating tables so families brought their own tables and blankets and spread out over the field. It was a real picnic and gave everyone lots of space. The Galiano Conservancy held a puppet show, the Ping-pong group brought a table and Diana Burgoyne brought the Galiano Club's apple press and served fresh apple juice. Plus, there was ice cream, lemonade, a pie contest, gardening contests and zucchini races. Over 140 people attended this very successful event and it was such a treat to see the community back together again!

Diana Burgoyne and the Galiano Club Apple Press



Community Solstice Dinner – The Winter Solstice celebration was very successful on December 21<sup>st</sup> at the Hall. Myron Sebelius with Gord Palmberg and Sandy Moodie built an incredible bonfire, Jack Garton led the kid's lantern parade and there was lots of food. It is hard not to compare this event to past Solstices. As Jack Garton said, "Just appreciate it for what it is." And this was a success. It was raining. And probably 120 people came out to enjoy the fire and the food. Jelena Crane's roast turkey sandwiches on fresh bread with homemade cranberry chutney and gravy aioli were amazing. Sturdies Baybes sang outside. People came and stayed and were grateful for the chance to gather, even in the cold and dark.

Altogether, over 250 people participated in these two community events. People volunteered for sixty shifts between the Community Picnic and the Solstice Dinner.

#### **Food Bank**

This was the second year managing the Food Bank that operates out of the St Margaret's of Scotland Anglican Church meeting room. And numbers of clients still continue to grow. In 2021, there were 638 client visits to the Food Bank, compared to 537 in 2020. In 2021, there were 56 individual clients, compared to 41 in 2020. There were 27 Christmas Hampers distributed that fed 58 people. The Food Bank continues to be open every Friday. The CBC Food Bank Day fundraiser in December contributed \$17,285, the Food Program's share of the CBC Food Bank fundraiser. This represents almost six months of funding.

#### **UBC Collaboration**

One set of students from UBC's Land and Food Systems Department worked with the Food Program in 2021. On November 20<sup>th</sup> the Program hosted 6 UBC students who had been working on some new recipes for the seniors' frozen meals program. Sixty meals (of seven different varieties) were made and then some seniors joined in or a taste-testing lunch. They gave instant feedback on the new meals. The students also continued to work during the term on the nutritional analysis of the frozen meals.

### Workshops

In 2021 there were workshops in a variety of different areas: Beginners Jam class where six students made Strawberry Jam and Blackberry Jam, a Marmalade/Long Boil class where six students made Plum and Orange Marmalade, and Apple Ginger Marmalade. In September there were two sessions of the Pressure Canning Tomatoes class.

The Food Program also held a Food Safe Level 1 training class in 2022 and is planning a longer series of preserving classes for 2022.

Events Postponed due to Covid: Community Games Nights, Cooking at the Community School, and Nettlefest.

### Administration, Gleaning, Garlic and Agriculture Support Staff Emma Davis, Food Program Coordinator

In January, in response to the needs identified by the Program's Covid impact surveys, the Food Program hosted Meet Your Maker, a remote networking event for Galiano's food industry. In attendance were 15 growers, three grocers, three farmers' market representatives and nine restaurateurs. The event involved breakout sessions with small groups of growers meeting in turn with grocers, markets and restaurants, as well as a whole-group discussion. The event provided a valuable opportunity for connection during the pandemic. There was a shared desire all around to increase partnership and availability of local food, and a desire for improved cooperation and communication. Growers and vendors came away with a much clearer understanding of the limitations and requirements for potential partners. Participants identified the challenges they see in improving food security on the island. Galiano does not have anywhere near enough growers and land in production to meet the needs of those markets. The growers who are here are able to find markets for all their food, though often not at a viable price. The restaurants and grocery stores need far greater volume than our growers can provide, across a very long season, and it often just is not possible for the growers to try to serve this market.

In 2021, the Food Program began a collaboration with a new Southern Gulf Islands food and agriculture collective called the Food Resilience Alliance (FRA) that works to address food-related gaps and opportunities at a regional level. The FRA was successful in securing a Community Works Fund grant in Spring 2021 and funded a wide range of projects.

8<sup>th</sup> Annual Stock Up Market



**Stock Up Market** - In October, the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Stock Up Bulk Food Market was held, offering locally-grown keeper veggies and meat and encouraging people to buy in bulk to store for the winter. This year the market was held outside to address public health concerns. There were lots of people in attendance.

In November, the Food Program partnered with the Galiano Conservancy for the third rendition of the Feed the People wild game butchering workshop with Penelakut Tribe members. It was well attended and well received. The Food Program supplied equipment and supplies and some staff support.

**Gleaning** - This year there were 48 active community members, 25 picking sessions, 17 picking sites and 1,967 lbs of fruit gleaned. This initiative was funded by the Food Resilience Alliance and Galiano Parks and Recreation Commission. This year there were three "deputy" gleaning coordinators who led picking sessions. This was a great way to split the workload in the peak season and to have people located on different parts of the island. This year the Program ran a first aid training program for all of the coordinators before gleaning started.

"I sometimes have trouble affording enough food for my family to eat healthy and well especially in the winter months. I rely on the gleaning project to be able to preserve fruit through drying and canning. This way my kids get fruit through the winter even when it becomes too expensive in the store for us to afford. Thank you for all the work that you do to keep this program running." Gleaning Participant

**Garlic Co-op** – There were 14 active members with ten work parties over the year. The members planted 1,561 cloves and harvested 1,334 bulbs. There were a couple of challenges this year - an extra bed that was put in was a failure because it was not raised up enough and could not drain adequately. There also was a fairly significant infestation of white rot, confirmed by the Provincial Lab. This is quite a devastating diagnosis - harmless to humans but very destructive to the plants, rendering them much less likely to cure and store. Even worse, it lives in contaminated soil for decades, so these beds cannot be reused and new ones needed to be dug and prepared. Luckily, there is sufficient space at the current site to do so. Because seed from the harvest cannot be used for next year, there will also be a large outlay next season for seed garlic.

In October, a Microgreens unit was launched based on a need for more microgreens that was identified during the Meet Your Maker event. Three Galiano growers signed up to take an online self-paced instructional course. This program was funded by the Ministry of Agriculture's Knowledge Transfer Events Program.

### The Food Program School Garden 2021 Shauna Anderson and Kris Krug, Food Program Coordinators

In 2021, despite Covid restrictions, the Galiano Community School Garden remained a key part of the Galiano School experience. At the beginning of the year, Kris Krug (Coordinator at the time) connected with Robin Jenkinson, school gardener of Salt Spring Island Elementary School, to enable a greater source of resources for Gulf Island school garden coordinators. Kris attended School District #64 Zoom meetings to engage with the School Board and explain his role as garden coordinator.

In March, Kris sourced locally crafted cedar trellises for the garden and began early season plantings with the students. Kris led one on one mentorship sessions with special students, beginning in April, 2021. April also brought with it the good news that the School Garden had received \$5,000 in grant funds from Nature's Path (Gardens for Good), which was then matched by the Galiano Fund, a local foundation. Another \$1,000 was granted from School Gardens Canada. This money funded the new irrigation system installation, which began formally in September with planning and was completed in March of 2022.

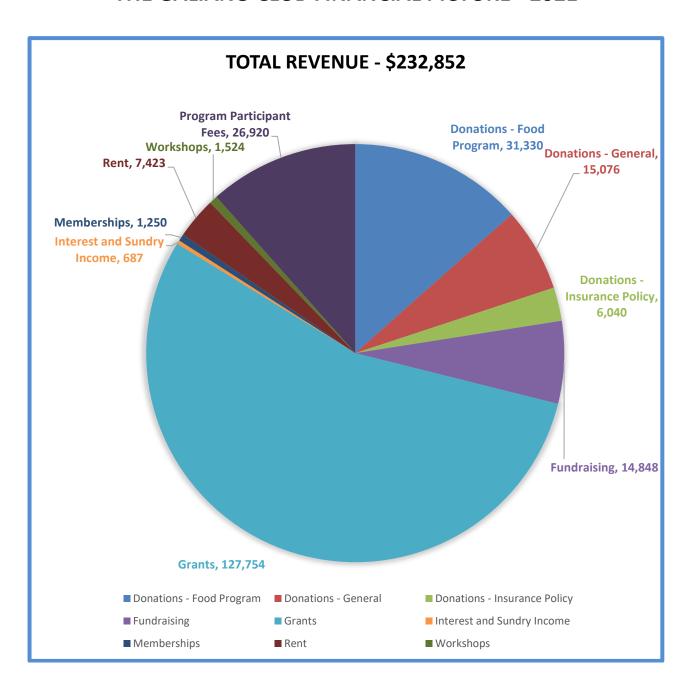
Kris spearheaded a gardening Zoom speaker series which continued throughout the year, which served to introduce the students to the many perspectives of gardening and farming food. In May, Kris welcomed Robin Jenkinson for a visit to Galiano, she kindly donated seeds and a new wheelbarrow to the garden. The kids enjoyed early summer crops and, as always, they snacked heavily on greens - kale, lettuce, fennel fronds.

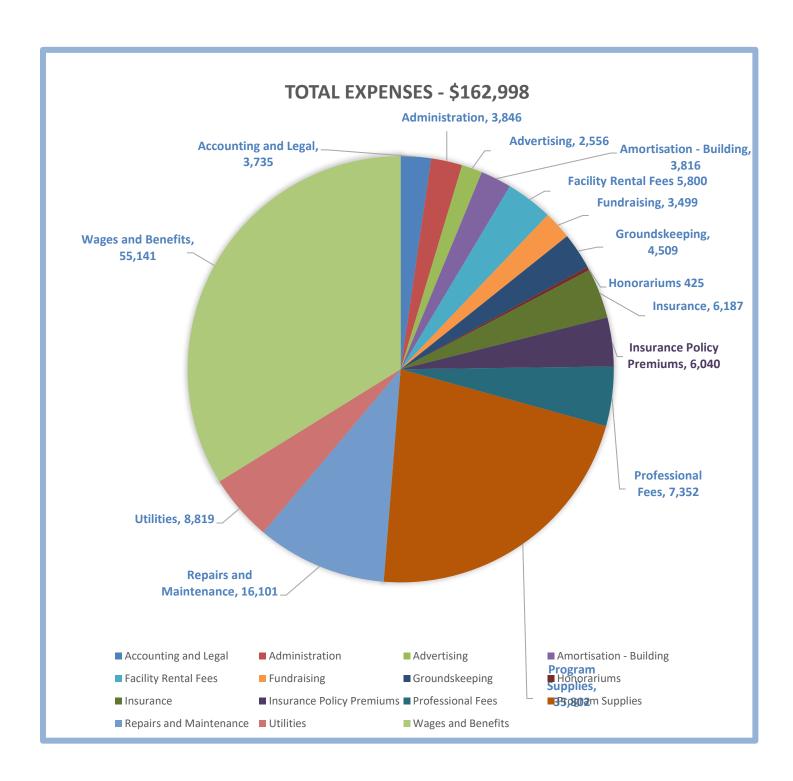
During summer vacation Kris held several garden visits with the children enrolled in the Galiano Activity Centre Summer Program which culminated in an end of summer party where the garden-grown potatoes and tomatoes were enjoyed as fries and ketchup - a super treat that many kids are looking forward to again!

The fall of 2021 brought about another rendition of the School Applefest, which engaged 50 students, and nine adults (due to Covid restrictions parental involvement was limited) in games, activities and apple-tasting at the school grounds.

A work party of new parent volunteers was held in late November to dig trenches for the irrigation lines in the garden. At the end of 2021, the greenhouse became part of the school gardening space, with the Seniors Greenhouse group coming to an end. With the greenhouse group wrapping up, the care of the greenhouse beds and compost will be the responsibility of the school garden coordinator to organise. In January 2022, Kris resigned his position with the Food Program to explore life on a new island. He was replaced by Shauna Anderson who brings years of gardening experience, plus firsthand knowledge of the kids and the school. She is a welcome addition to the Food Program team.

### THE GALIANO CLUB FINANCIAL PICTURE - 2021





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

SD 64 - Gulf Islands





**Southern Vancouver Island** 

### **Galiano Island Parks and Recreation Commission**



Centre for Sustainable Food Systems at UBC Farm
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