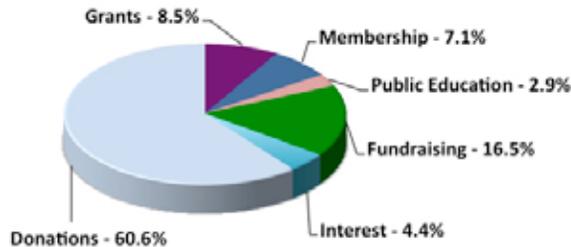


Financial (Unaudited)

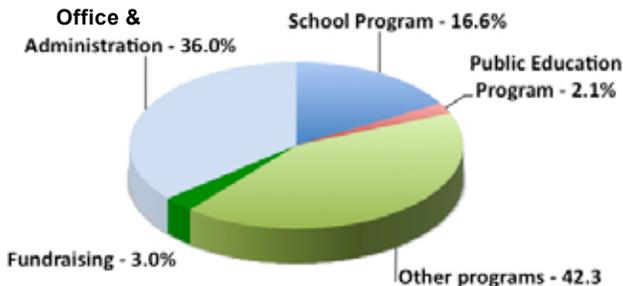
2009 was a challenging financial year for the Conservancy, as it was for many other charitable organizations. Total revenue from grants and donations decreased, although donations in response to our annual appeal increased. Particularly difficult was the loss of \$15,000 from BC Government gaming funds, which paid for much of our School Program. Rather than cutting services, the Board decided to use surplus funds from prior years to make up the shortfall. 2009 clearly demonstrated that the Conservancy must widen its sources of funding and increase its endowment fund in order to secure its long-term financial stability. We initiated several measures towards this goal in 2009. We continue to carry no debt.

The figures below do not include funding we received for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2010 for our species-at-risk programs (\$138,000 from the federal Habitat Stewardship Program; \$18,000 from the Intergovernmental Recovery Fund). We account for these funds to the government separately. In 2009, Board members and other volunteers recorded an impressive 5,329 hours of work for the Conservancy, which no doubt understates the actual number.

2009 Income – \$98,654



2009 Expenses – \$124,685



Thanks to Our Funders:

Operating Expenses

John Lefebvre, all other Conservancy donors, and Country Grocer.

Stewards-in-Training School Program:

Thrifty Food's Smile Card Program, Mountain Equipment Coop, Nature Canada - Parks and People Program, and TD Friends of the Environment Fund.

Habitat Protection & Stewardship Program

Government of Canada Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk, Bullitt Foundation, Islands Trust Fund, Victoria Foundation, Garry Oak Ecosystem Recovery Team, BC Transmission Corp, Public Conservation Assistance Fund and The SSI Foundation.

Board of Directors 2009

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Registered Charity No.: 89006 3977 RR001

Layout: David Denning; Photography: Simon Henson and David Denning



2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Conservation in Action



From the President and Executive Director

“The land and the future is entrusted to all of us”. Our Board and staff continued to improve the long-term planning and coordination of our conservation work. For example, before acquiring land we must plan how to acquire resources



to protect and manage it in the future. We established new financial programs to improve our planning capacity. We now accept monthly donations, on-line donations, and donations of stocks and other securities. We

also publicized the benefits of leaving a green legacy through a bequest. We are focused on protecting our island environment, and we know that our strength lies in the support and commitment of members and the dedication of staff. Thank you all, for your loving concern for the natural world and for continuing to support your Conservancy.

Acquisitions

The Acquisitions Committee seeks to protect some of the island's most beautiful and ecologically sensitive areas. Stronger collaboration with staff has allowed the committee to improve its response to landowners' inquiries about protection of their land.

The acquisition fund is modest, so we are constantly seeking new grants and donations from private foundations and individuals.



Covenants

Conservation covenants enable landholders to protect the natural values of their land in perpetuity. They are voluntary, legally binding agreements, registered against the title. They can usually provide income tax or property tax relief.

We were among the first organisations in B.C. authorized to hold these covenants. We hold 13, protecting 754 acres. Eight are held jointly with The Land Conservancy of British Columbia and five jointly with the Islands Trust Fund under their tax exemption program

Education and School Programs

The Conservancy offers monthly public talks on natural history and environmental issues, many of them co-sponsored with other groups. Our spring library program provides interactive sessions for children. Kelsey Mech from GISS was our scholarship winner. We published 3 issues of the Conservancy's newsletter, The Acorn.

The Stewards-in-Training School Program took some 700 students (grades 1-8) on all-day nature trips.

The School Program won the Islands Trust Community Stewardship Award and was featured in BC Teacher Magazine. We produced a School Program manual and brochure. Over 50 volunteers donated 1,277 hours to make this program possible.



Environmental Governance

The committee reviewed the environmental impacts of several community proposals and made recommendations to the Board on those that fit the Conservancy's mandate. The Board then passed along recommendations to appropriate jurisdictions.

Land Management and Restoration

The committee cares for 99.2 ha. (245 acres) owned by the Conservancy. The new Land Manager is Terry Ridings, and two new Wardens are Doug McMillin (Andreas Vogt Nature Reserve) and Rick Laing (Mt. Erskine Provincial Park). Trail work, broom control, and ecological restoration were begun at North View Nature Reserve. At Mt.

Erskine/Manzanita Ridge, we cleared downed trees, improved trails and progressed with ecological mapping. Islands Trust Fund supported broom cutting at AVNR. A draft management plan for Mt. Erskine, prepared with the Nature Conservancy of Canada, is under review by BC Parks.



Stewardship Committee

We monitored 71 Western Bluebird boxes during the breeding season, erected 32 new boxes, developed a brochure on bluebirds for landowners and started a successful “Adopt a Bluebird Box” fundraiser. A campaign to control Scotch Broom on the island was initiated in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Stewardship Project

This project focuses on conservation and education for protecting native species. It received funding from Habitat Stewardship Program, Public Conservation Assistance Fund, and BC Transmission Corporation.

We dealt with landowners about species at risk in more than 213 site visits, 429 contacts, and 200 mailouts. Species monitoring was assisted by 250 participants. Six landowners are discussing conservation through land acquisition or donation. Outreach led to new discoveries of at-risk species, including a snail, never before seen on SSI, at two locations.



Additional activities included installation of turtle basking logs, amphibian monitoring boards, owl boxes and bluebird boxes as mentioned above, and removal of invasive species at 8 locations.