



FAIRFIELD GONZALES  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

the place to connect



# ANNUAL REPORT

AUGUST 1ST 2016  
TO JULY 31ST 2017

Annual General Meeting  
October 21st 2017, 2pm

[www.fairfieldcommunity.ca](http://www.fairfieldcommunity.ca)  
[place@fairfieldcommunity.ca](mailto:place@fairfieldcommunity.ca)  
1330 Fairfield Rd.  
Victoria BC V8S 5J6  
250-382-4604



## CONTENTS

<i>Message from the Board President</i>	2
<i>Message from the Executive Directors</i>	3
<i>Land Acknowledgment</i>	4
<b>BOARD &amp; COMMITTEES</b>	5
<b>PROGRAMS</b>	9
<b>EVENTS &amp; PROJECTS</b>	14
<b>SERVICES</b>	17
<b>WORKING AT THE FGCA</b>	20
<i>Budget, Revenue &amp; Staffing</i>	
<b>FINANCIAL SUPPORT</b>	21
<i>Funding, Grants &amp; Sponsorships</i>	

### **FGCA MISSION STATEMENT**

*To create a connected, collaborative, inclusive, and sustainable community.*





*BOARD PRESIDENT*  
*Don Monsour*



It has been a pleasure to serve the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association in my second year as President. This past year has been a stable and productive one for both the Board and the staff of the FGCA.

We have a strong and committed Board that has accomplished many things this year. The Board devised a new mission statement that captures that way we work together and what we hope to achieve for our community. Through a Strategic Planning session in February, we came up with four goals that will guide our work for the next three years. In addition, the Governance Committee spent countless hours crafting the updated Constitution that is coming to the members to vote on at this year's AGM. That committee has also drafted revised bylaws that we will be bringing to the members early next year. All of this work brings us up to date with the new BC Societies Act, helps us communicate better with our stakeholders, and guides us in making good decisions that benefit the community.

We have also seen excellent work from our other committees. The Community Association Land Use Committee has gone above and beyond to gather your feedback on the things that matter to you, such as Clover Point, garden suites, and the many rezoning applications that are happening in our neighbourhood. The Streetlife Committee has brought community to life by working on emergency preparedness and the Community Yard Sale. The Garden Committee has made improvements to the Fairfield Food Forest, making it easier for volunteers to participate and for residents to enjoy the garden.

It has been a breath of fresh air to work with the Board, staff, and community this year to fulfil our mission: to create a connected, collaborative, inclusive, and sustainable community.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

*Kristina Wilcox*

*Vanya McDonell*

The Fairfield Gonzales Community Association is truly a special place, and our goal is always to maintain and build upon the many strengths that we see in our organization, our staff, our program users, and our community.

In our second year as Executive Directors, we have strived to create a culture of collaboration and inclusion, and to see this culture permeate all that we do; from the way we practice leadership to the education we are providing for our youngest participants. We have seen staff grow into new roles, youth take on leadership in their community, and volunteers thrive when taking on new challenges.

Never content to rest on our laurels, the team has focussed this year on an area of high need in the community: childcare. With a waitlist for Out of School Care at Margaret Jenkins Elementary that was full to bursting, we worked hard with our community partners to find a solution. We were able to open 15 new spaces in September, operating out of St. Matthias Church.

We also began planning for our first all day childcare space. With the cost of living on the rise, families are in desperate need of quality, dependable care so that they can go to work. We knew we were in an excellent position to help. With a little elbow grease, some flexibility and some changes in plans, we have now opened an Early Years Centre with 16 full time spaces for three to five year olds in our Portable building.

Our last note will be to thank the outstanding team of people who work and volunteer at the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association. The degree of talent and commitment of these people never fails to amaze us. As you will see in this report, people account for 90% of our expenses—but they account for 100% of our success. We thank each and every staff member and volunteer who gave their time and skill to the organization this year, and we look forward to another year of shared success!



# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Our neighbourhood of Fairfield Gonzales is located on the traditional, unceded (never surrendered) territories of the Lkwungen (Songhees) peoples. Recognizing the violence of this colonialism is a first step toward healing individuals and communities and is a critical part of demonstrating respect for the Indigenous peoples of British Columbia, the traditional stewards of this land. Our Centre acknowledges this as a current, active state requiring thought, respect and participation, rather than a token note of past history. By living here, working here and using the resources of this place we all participate in this experience. Rather than claim to have the answers needed to create a harmonious, sustainable, healthy community, we prefer to challenge ourselves with questions:

What are the obligations to the people who first inhabited this land?

How do settlers on this land figure out what their responsibilities are?

How we can be good guests here?

How can we support existing local struggles?

And how can we support indigenous self determination in the longer term?

This kind of dialogue around inclusion, representation, participation, respect and action are vital for all communities to thrive.



# BOARD & COMMITTEES

STREETLIFE  
COMMUNITY GARDEN COMMITTEE  
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION LAND USE COMMITTEE

## BOARD MEMBERS WHO SERVED IN 2016/2017

DAVID BILTEK  
PAUL BROWN  
ANDREW BROWN WRIGHT  
SCOTT DAVIS  
KIMBERLY DICKINSON  
BRETT DUNCAN  
KEVIN KOCH  
DON MONSOUR  
HEATHER MURPHY  
PHILIP SAWKINS  
R. FORREST SMITH  
JASON TAYLOR  
ANNE TOMYN  
GEORGE ZADOR  
ALICE ALBERT  
ANDREI WHITAKER  
DAVID THOMPSON

The Board of Directors consists of 10-14 members at any one time. Board members serve two year terms and are elected each year at the AGM by the membership. Board members bring a broad range of perspective and expertise to the FGCA, and provide governance and leadership to the organization. Board members also participate in community development through committee work.

## BOARD COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE  
PLACE  
HUMAN RESOURCES  
FINANCE  
FUND DEVELOPMENT  
STREETLIFE  
COMMUNITY GARDEN  
GOVERNANCE  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION LAND USE  
COMMITTEE (CALUC)

## STREETLIFE COMMITTEE

The Streetlife Committee was formed after the legendary blizzard of '96, which makes the committee just over twenty years old. Streetlife's objective is to build and strengthen community through participatory, collaborative, and inclusive practices to bring about safe, sustainable, lively and resilient neighbourhoods. The Community Garden Committee, which is responsible for the Food Forest in Robert Porter Park, had its beginnings as a project of the Streetlife Committee.

6 COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
10 MEETINGS

### PROJECTS:

*Terms of Reference update*

*Community Wide Yard Sale / Donation / Recycle event*

*Emergency Preparedness* in collaboration with City of Victoria Emergency Management, Resilient Streets Program and Block Watch

Our hope is that our latest initiative will also become a regular on-going program of the Association, ensuring that Fairfield Gonzales is indeed prepared and connected.

*COMMUNITY GARDEN  
COMMITTEE  
AND FAIRFIELD FOOD FOREST*



**8 COMMUNITY WORK BEES**  
*145 VOLUNTEER HOURS LOGGED*

**7 MOSS ROCK PRESCHOOL  
WORK PARTIES**  
*ENGAGED WITH PRESCHOOLERS  
AT THE FOOD FOREST THE FIRST  
MONDAY OF EACH MONTH*

*60 VOLUNTEER HOURS*

**1 FOOD FOREST FUNDRAISER  
WREATH MAKING**  
*15 VOLUNTEER HOURS*

*\$400 RAISED FOR GOOD FOOD  
BOX GIFT CAMPAIGN*

**1 PLANNING MEETING**  
*ATTENDED BY 20*

In spite of a slow start to our year due to a cold winter and late spring, we've had a busy year at the Food Forest. We wrapped up our growing season in September with a clean up work bee, Fall Fair, and then a morning garlic planting date with Moss Rock.

In December we hosted our first Winter Greenery Workshop. It was a sold out event and raised approximately \$400 for the Good Food Campaign. We hope to build on this event for 2017.

We held a planning meeting in February that was well attended, but our cold winter meant that we didn't get to work until March, exactly one month later than the previous year. We kicked off our growing season with a couple of work bees in March. Weather was not on our side, but we did manage to get the most pressing work done.

In April we hosted a small private work party with a group of young adults with autism. This work bee was a great success, and we will make every effort to host it again this year. Also in April a local builder, Reece Tibbet, constructed a cedar arbour at the entrance to the Food Forest, and we planted grapes shortly after with the hope they will one day welcome visitors. Imagine Fall, back to school with plump purple grapes overhead!

In May our shed was delivered, built and installed by Camosun College. A work bee to move into the shed followed shortly... Everything fits! In July we had the pleasure of hosting a community dinner, where two of our most dedicated garden volunteers prepared a wonderful history of the garden and the land it inhabits.

This year we are proud of our infrastructure improvements and pleased to see more interest from young families in the community.

Goumi berries, Figs, Peas, Garlic, Herbs, Olallie berries and Evergreen Huckleberries have been enjoyed by many!

We have had countless interactions with neighbours passing by and stopping to chat about the Food Forest, who we are and what we do. Most recently was a senior who has just moved from Ontario. He was eager to chat and we must have visited for 45 minutes in the garden.

One of our regular volunteers this year is a student from India. He has expressed how much he appreciates the social connection at the Food Forest and is keen to help out.



## *GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE*

The Governance Committee is a standing committee of the Board, which this year consisted of three board members including the President and three other members of the society. The committee's purpose is to assist the Board to fulfill its legal, ethical and functional responsibilities through amongst other things, the maintenance of the Constitution and Bylaws, and the development of effective society policies and committee terms of references.

### *ACHIEVEMENTS*

Transitioned the existing Constitution and Bylaws, unaltered, to the new BC Societies Act;

Began the process to initiated changes to all governance documents to conform to the new BC Societies Act;

Elevated Board understanding of what it means to be a charity and the "political activities" restrictions the Income Tax Act and Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) imposes on charities.

Updated Board "Charitable Status Compliance" policy;

Revised CALUC Terms of Reference to be compliant with CRA restrictions on "political activity;"

Drafted revised association Constitution (aka CRA Purpose);

Drafted new "Conflict of Interest Policy," which was approved by the Board; and

Continued past year's work to modernize our bylaws.

### *FUTURE CHALLENGES*

Promoting understanding of the new BC Societies Act's terms, policy, requirements and conditions;

Approval of the Constitution by the CRA once accepted by members at the 2017 AGM;

Communicating the new approved Constitution (Purpose) to members and the community once approved by the CRA;

Approval of new bylaws in 2018;

Adjusting Board Policies and Practices as well as Committee Terms of References to conform to changes in the bylaws once approved; and

Changing the legal name of the association to include Gonzales.



**COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
LAND USE COMMITTEE (CALUC)**

Fourteen volunteers served on the CALUC committee, fulfilling its role to: facilitate dialogue between land use applicants and the community, identify issues (both positive and negative) regarding land use applications, and be knowledgeable about the Neighbourhood and Precinct Plan(s).

**21 APPLICATIONS FOR  
PRELIMINARY / COMMUNITY  
MEETINGS**

**8 VARIANCE APPLICATION ON  
WHICH WE COMMENTED**

**6 CONSULTATIONS ABOUT  
APPLICATIONS WHICH WERE  
NOT STARTED**

**3 FOLLOW UP ON OLDER  
APPLICATIONS**

**20 COMMUNITY/PRELIMINARY  
MEETINGS**

**6 INTERNAL MEETINGS**

**12 MEETINGS WITH APPLICANTS &  
DEVELOPERS**

**500-750 ESTIMATED NUMBER OF  
PEOPLE WHO HAVE ATTENDED  
MEETINGS**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

Mount Edwards Community Meeting  
Day Care application on Kipling  
Fairfield United Church rezoning

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Garden Suites Policy: We were asked by the City of Victoria to conduct a community meeting on a new policy and process for approving garden suites.

Dallas Walkway Amenities after Wastewater Pumping Station and Pipeline Survey and Report: We conducted an online survey completed by 675 people and held a meeting attended by an estimate of 45 people to assess what the community wanted for the Dallas Walkway. A report was submitted to the CRD and City Council.

Variances Policy: The committee developed a policy on commenting on variances.

Process Changes: We have improved processes and added advisories to developers and residents on our website.

Reorganization of CALUC: Late in the year we commenced a process to reorganize the workflow and responsibilities within the committee. The work of the committee will likely continue at the present pace; however, it is a concern that the demands will become overwhelming without an increase in retiree participants or others who can dedicate a significant number of hours per week to supporting the CALUC. The committee is not sustainable in its present format.



## OUT OF SCHOOL CARE

We currently operate two Out of School Care (OSC) centres which run in tandem with the School District 61 school year. Our centres service École Margaret Jenkins School as well as Sir James Douglas Elementary and to a lesser extent, the surrounding community. We have continued offering additional care over Spring Break in lieu of Winter Break to best serve our community. We continue to see an unprecedented need for childcare within the Fairfield Gonzales communities and the greater Victoria area.

Our program managers and leaders continue to work hard to create OSC programming that reflects our children's imaginations and experiences by collaboratively designing programming that celebrates their growth and potential.

**218 CHILDREN ENROLLED**  
**23 STAFF (INCL. 2 MANAGERS)**

Margaret Jenkins OSC  
Fairfield OSC  
Seasonal Camps (Spring/Summer) - All Day  
Professional Development Day Camps - All Day

# PROGRAMS

OUT OF SCHOOL CARE  
RECREATION  
FAMILY PROGRAMS  
PRESCHOOLS  
YOUTH



*"We really don't have the words to express the amazing care our kids have received over the past three years in program. The leaders are all so caring, supportive, engaged, creative, respectful, patient and organized! It always felt like each child was respected as an individual, their personal needs supported through positive and encouraging relationships."*

**Out of School Care Parent**



## RECREATION

The FGCA provided a number of child and adult recreation based registered programs last year during all four seasonal sessions, with the goal of fostering health and wellness close to home.

**895 REGISTRATIONS**

**200 DROP-IN VISITS**

**12 CONTRACTED INSTRUCTORS**

*"This is my favourite yoga in the city. Affordable, safe, thorough instruction."*

**Iyengar Yoga Participant**

*"Isabel is wonderful. This is the happiest I am all week!"*

**Zumba Participant**

Arican Hand Drumming (1 & 2)  
Bike Maintenance 101  
Cheese Making Workshops  
Drop-in Badminton  
Gentle Yoga & Somatics  
Introduction to Cheerleading  
Iyengar Yoga (Beginner & Intermediate)  
Paint Night  
Spanish (1)  
Spring Forest Qi Gong  
Sportball  
Sportball Camps  
Sportball Soccer  
Tai Chi  
Tensegrity Repair Yoga  
Yin Yoga  
Yoga Support and Restore  
Yogafit  
Zumba Toning  
Zumba 15-15-15  
Zumba Family







## *FAMILY DROP INS*

The primary goal of our Family Programs continues to be to support and connect primary caregivers as the most important influence in the life of a young child. Through free or affordable drop in programming, our programs provide an opportunity for children to explore and learn through play while caregivers build connections, share resources and learn together. In addition, these programs provide an opportunity for young families to interact with the social, educational and recreational activities the FGCA offers. For many families, drop in programs are the first interaction they have with the FGCA.

*EARLY YEARS DROP INS  
PARENT AND TOT  
986 PARENTS/CAREGIVERS  
1180 CHILDREN*

*KINDERGYM  
418 PARENTS/CAREGIVERS  
506 CHILDREN*

*"It is the highlight of our Tuesdays and Thursdays."*

*"Thank you for everything you do. You help people way more than you know."*

*"It creates such a community and network in our neighbourhood. Makes me feel welcome, connected and is SO important for the parents to get out! This program saved me from post-partum depression by introducing me to friends who were happy to see me and checked in with me when I didn't attend."*

### *Drop In Participants*

*LUNCH, LAUGH, AND LEARN  
29 PARENT SUPPORT SESSIONS  
20 LUNCH DATES  
596 HAPPY FULL BELLIES*

*CLOTHING SWAP  
11 SWAPS, OFFERED MONTHLY  
200 APPROXIMATE PARTICIPANTS*

## MOSS ROCK PRESCHOOL

Moss Rock Preschool is a licensed preschool that runs Monday-Friday between the hours of 9am and 1pm. The Preschool offers 2-5 day registrations for children aged 2.5-5 years old and is based out of Fairfield Place.

Moss Rock Preschool has been operating since September 2011 and has been growing ever since. This popular program identifies itself as a child-centred, outdoor, nature and exploration based program that nurtures individual needs. This year we decided to expand our hours of practice to four hours. This decision was reflected in the needs of families in our community who not only need preschool but a part time childcare option.

**24 CHILDREN ENROLLED**

**2 STAFF**

*"When I say that we have our son in the best preschool in the city (possibly the world) I mean that from the bottom of my heart. The way Morgan and Danielle approach education and early childhood is enthusiastic, open, caring, supportive and fun. They allow the children to grow and learn in a supportive, yet independent manner. The kids are allowed to be adventurous, silly, creative, happy, sad, energetic and most importantly are encouraged to be themselves. I always say I wish I could parent the same way these incredible women teach. We are grateful that our son gets to experience life with these amazing educators."*

**Moss Rock Preschool Parent**



## FIVE POINTS PRESCHOOL

Five Points Preschool is a licensed early learning program for three to five year olds. The program runs Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am-11:30am and is located at Fairfield Community Place.

The program has been operating for 16 years with an overarching goal of kindergarten readiness. Our emphasis is on "learning through play" where the children are provided with opportunities to investigate, develop and practice skills.

The preschool staff encourage the children to explore, discover, create, socialize, have fun and make connections.

Special attention is given to the dramatic play corners such as the bakery, castle and spaceship which are huge hits with the children.

**15 CHILDREN ENROLLED**

**2 STAFF**

*"Cathy, I can't thank you enough for everything you've done for our family. You've provided a safe, fun and caring environment for our 4 children at preschool."*

**Five Points Preschool Parent**



## YOUTH

The 2016-2017 year in the Youth Programs was a beautiful time of change, creation and learning! We continued to grow our numbers and expanded registration from 16 to 17 participants.

The Youth Programs here at the FGCA are known for supporting youth empowerment, fostering autonomy, and holding a space for creative exploration. We continued to do so this year, while also learning about the collective versus individual voice, and what it means to accommodate for community. Lots of energetic, creative projects came from the youth this year and it was inspiring to always be around such creativity.

The Youth Zone program continues to be in high demand and its popularity is vocally supported by the youth, who enjoy having a space to come to that allows for more freedom and a transition from out-of-school care.

Chill Zone was on fire this year with a drop-in total of 1062 visits!

Headwaters Collective had a strong project focus that took the form of the only youth-made, youth-focused magazine on the island—FLOCK magazine. The purpose of the magazine was to address the initial goals of our surveyed participants, including: job opportunities, feminism, environmental/social justice, creative expression and community engagement. We all agree that the magazine meets and succeeds our top five goals.

This year's Jump 'N' Start program (delivered in partnership between the FGCA, George Jay Elementary School, and Central Middle School with assistance from the Ministry of Children and Family Development) participated in a number of fun activities:

**Rock-climbing at Crag-X Climbing gym!** The youth won a ParticipACTION grant, promoting fitness and activity.

**Fun out trips this year included:** a BBQ at the beach, Interactivity Board Game Café, picnics at Beacon Hill Park, Cineplex Odeon, swimming and more!

**Lots of cooking and baking activities:** homemade pizza dough, banana bread, cupcakes, Chopped Kitchen Challenge, Iron Chef: Kids Challenge, and most of our daily snacks.



**Creative Art Projects** emphasized self-awareness and emotional reflection. Groups drew their “River Story,” created a community-based mandala, did refrigerator poetry, made and used journals, and drew personal reflections inspired by music.

### 1062 CHILLZONE DROP INS

55 REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS IN YOUTH ZONE, JUMP 'N' START, & SUMMER CAMPS

90 PARTICIPANTS IN THE HEADWATERS COLLECTIVE

7 YOUTH PROGRAM STAFF

2 PRACTICUM STUDENTS

13 YOUTH AND FAMILY COUNSELORS

*“We made FLOCK to give youth a platform for their voices and an opportunity to make money on the side—every youth who contributes gets paid. It’s a good way to get youth voices out into the community, which is important because we have great ideas that don’t often get shared”*

*“I believe it’s important for youth to have their own space to share their ideas and artwork because often there isn’t a space just for youth voices to be shared and heard. Having the opportunity to see many different unique views of young people is really powerful. To see their thoughts and opinions and how they might differ from an adults, is important.”*

**Headwaters Participants**



# EVENTS & PROJECTS

FALL FAIRFIELD  
COMMUNITY YARD SALE  
ART AT THE PLACE  
BOOK CLUB  
FIRST NATIONS WALKS  
OBSERVER NEWSPAPER  
RENTERS FORUM  
GIFT OF GOOD FOOD  
COMMUNITY DINNERS  
REPAIR CAFÉ FAIRFIELD



## FALL FAIRFIELD

The sixth annual Fall Fairfield took place on Saturday September 24th, 2016. This unique celebration brings residents together each year to celebrate harvest and community. This year we launched a hugely popular Pie Contest fundraiser and a beer garden provided by Spinnakers. We enjoyed our old favourites of harvest hat-making, old fashioned games, and stellar local entertainment. In partnership with Puppets for Peace we offered workshops through the summer, creating puppets for a Salish Seascape that made its debut in a spectacular parade at the end of the festival.

20 PARTNERSHIPS  
1,000+ ATTENDEES  
8 PUPPET WORKSHOPS  
35 VOLUNTEERS  
\$400 RAISED FOR COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

## COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Thirty-one yard sales took place across the neighbourhood in our fourth annual Community Yard Sale. The neighbourhood was hopping, with a book sale fundraiser and Repair Café Fairfield happening at Fairfield Community Place and group sales at St. Matthias and Fairfield United churches. Residents were encouraged to donate used goods to our four donation partners: Clothesline (Canadian Diabetes Association), WIN (Women In Need), Salvation Army and Beacon Community Services.

31 YARD SALES  
7 VOLUNTEERS  
\$240 RAISED FOR FOOD FOREST





## BOOK CLUB

Neighbourhood bookworms had a new place to gather this year when the FGCA started a monthly book club. The Book Club focused on mostly local and culturally diverse authors and stories, and even had visits from local authors.

### **This year's reading list:**

*The Heaviness of Things that Float* by Jennifer Manuel  
*The Break* by Katherena Vermette  
*Half-Blood Blues* by Esi Edugyan  
*Laughing All the Way to the Mosque* by Zarqa Nawaz  
*The Parcel* by Anosh Irani  
*Do Not Say We Have Nothing* by Madeline Thien  
*Mexican Hooker #1 and My Other Roles Since the Revolution* by Carmen Aguirre  
*The World* by Bill Gaston

## FIRST NATIONS INTERPRETIVE WALKS

Prompted by a desire to have indigenous culture and history help inform the City's neighbourhood plans for Fairfield and Gonzales, we hosted two interpretive walks in Beacon Hill Park. The walks were led by Songhees Nation member and School District 61 indigenous counsellor Mark Albany.

*"Just got home from participating in this morning's First Nations Walk, and wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed it! This was a great opportunity to learn about the past history of Beacon Hill Park. Thank you for organizing this very meaningful experience."*

**Community Member**

## ART AT THE PLACE

With the help of volunteer curator Dianne Salmon, the foyer at Fairfield Community Place continued to host a revolving array of visual art created by local artists. Many artists host opening receptions where the community can come in and meet the artist in person.

This year's shows:

*Erin Vanessa*

*Kristofer Parley*

*Kelly Ketcheson*

*FGCA staff and volunteer show: Shelter*

*CarrolAnn Smedley*

*Alena Ebeling-Schuld*

*Faces of Victoria* photo exhibit



## RENTERS FORUM

The FGCA Board partnered with the City of Victoria's Neighbourhood Plan team to host a Renter's Forum. We wanted to hear from renters in the neighbourhood about what issues were important to them and what the Association could do to help. Thirty-five people attended the forum. Some of the ideas we have been able to act on this year are more social gatherings (community dinners, book club) and more opportunities for public input on issues (garden suite and sewage project meetings hosted by CALUC).

## GIFT OF GOOD FOOD

We partnered with Fernwood NRG this holiday season to raise money for the Gift of Good Food—providing fresh, healthy fruits and veggies to families in need right in our neighbourhood. The Community Garden Committee hosted a Winter Greenery Workshop fundraiser, and all in all \$5000 was raised for Fairfield Gonzales to support 10 families with fresh food for an entire year.



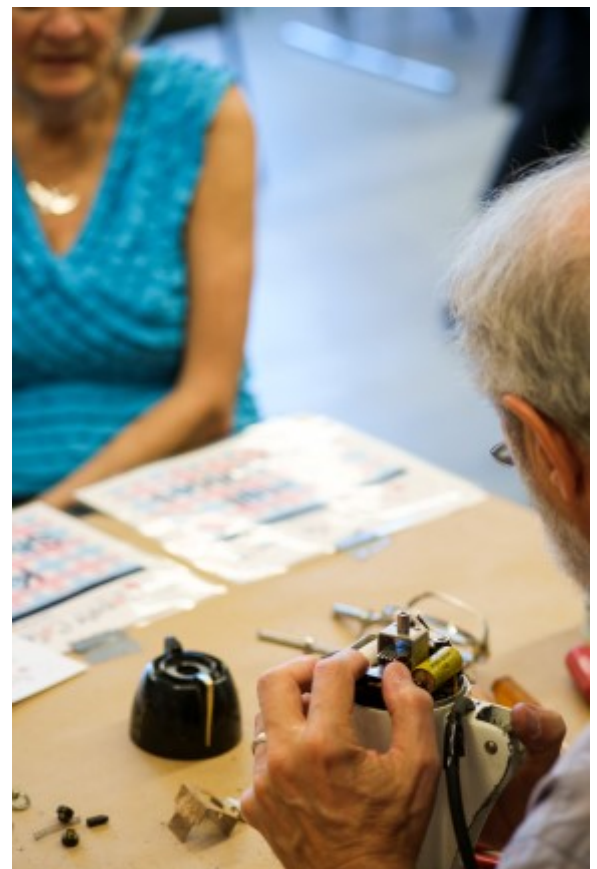
### *COMMUNITY DINNERS*

The FGCA received a grant from the Victoria Foundation for Canada's 150th birthday to host community dinners throughout 2017. The dinners were an overwhelming success. Over 100 attendees came to each of the first two dinners to share food and meet neighbours. Those numbers eventually stabilised at a manageable level of about 30-40 attendees. Each dinner was themed and promoted inclusion and diversity.

### *REPAIR CAFÉ FAIRFIELD*

With the support of the FGCA, a group of intrepid volunteers have launched Repair Café Fairfield, a local branch of a global initiative to reduce waste by repairing household items instead of throwing them away.

**4** CAFES HOSTED  
**25** VOLUNTEERS  
**130** ITEMS FIXED AND KEPT  
OUT OF THE LANDFILL



# SERVICES

## VOLUNTEERS

From volunteers who have been with us for 15 years to volunteers who lend an hour during a special event, we value all the people who make time to give back to their community.

**200 VOLUNTEERS**  
**3400 VOLUNTEER HOURS**

Volunteers help out in all aspects of the Community Association:

Fairfield Food Forest  
Observer Newspaper  
Photography  
Board of Directors  
Streetlife Committee  
Community Association Land Use Committee  
Governance Committee  
Book Sale fundraiser  
Fall Fairfield  
Community Yard Sale  
Youth Programs  
Out of School Care  
Newspaper delivery  
Posting and flyering  
Babywearers group  
Moss Street Market Booth  
Summer Camp  
Drop-In Badminton  
Preschools  
Front Garden  
Toy Cleaning  
Facility Volunteers  
Administration  
Art Curator  
RBC Cook Street Village Day of Service  
Database build and support  
Graphic Design  
Glenlyon Norfolk School team  
Needle felting group  
Stewart College Volunteers

VOLUNTEERS  
FACILITY RENTALS  
YOUTH & FAMILY COUNSELLORS

PEOPLE WHO MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE:  
GORD WARRECHUK

This year at our AGM we are honouring an exceptional volunteer, Gord Warrenchuk of Savant Database Solutions. Gord has helped many non-profit organizations in the Capital Region with their member and donations databases, which he has volunteered his time to build and maintain.

When we approached Gord with an idea for a childcare database, not only did he step up, but his eyes lit up with glee at the thought of problem-solving to build us what we needed! Gord has put in countless hours of valuable time, managed seemingly infinite requests and tweaks, and has built us a database that we find to be invaluable.

This is truly a labour of love for Gord and we appreciate every ounce of time he has put into supporting us in our work.





## *FACILITY RENTALS*

Our various rooms hosted many events, workshops, meetings, classes and private functions. We have been fortunate to share our space with community members, musicians, support groups, the Repair Cafe Fairfield, astronomers, jam-makers and many more. Our kitchen was regularly rented throughout the year and has become a jump-starter for a few local small businesses.

***140 RENTERS***  
***852 BOOKINGS***





## YOUTH & FAMILY COUNSELLORS

A unique program under the oversight of the FGCA is the Youth and Family Counselor (YFC) staffing for many of the schools in the Greater Victoria district. YFC staff are tasked with providing counseling services to students, with an overarching goal of improving their relationships and school attachment. This work is rich and varied, with many staff working as the only non-school district staff in the school environment. In 2016-17, statistics from the Youth & Family Counselors' final reports identified the following top five student concerns:

*Stress and anxiety*

*Family conflict/challenges*

*Peer conflict/bullying/harassment*

*Relationship Issues (peer and adult)*

*Poverty (low income, unemployment)*

In collaboration with children, youth and their families the YFC provides the following services and strategies to help address these concerns:

*Individual counselling.*

*Family counselling and parent/teen mediation.*

*Group counselling (i.e. grief/loss, parenting, divorce, social skills, healthy lifestyle choices).*

*Life skill training, which may include social skills development and conflict mediation/resolution.*

*Enhancement of interrelationships between families, schools and community.*

*Ongoing consultation with teachers/community professionals.*

*Crisis management intervention.*

*Preventative interventions (i.e. health promotion, drug and alcohol education).*

*Facilitation of students' transition to and connection with a new school or work placement*

*Case management to ensure service plans/goals have been met.*



**1,150 STUDENTS & FAMILIES**  
**13 YOUTH & FAMILY COUNSELLORS**  
**10 SCHOOL COMMUNITIES**

# WORKING AT THE FGCA

AUGUST 1ST 2016  
TO JULY 31ST 2017

REVENUE  
\$ 2,370,681 ACTUAL FOR YEAR

EXPENSES  
\$ 2,296,530 ACTUAL FOR YEAR

6%  
CITY FUNDING

10%  
PROVINCIAL & GAMING FUNDING

1%  
FEDERAL FUNDING

45%  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 61 CONTRACT

37%  
FGCA PROGRAMS & RENTAL  
REVENUE

1%  
DONATIONS, FUNDRAISING &  
FOUNDATION GRANTS

## STAFFING

We are a major employer in the Fairfield neighbourhood. Our staff are our greatest asset, and are the face of the organization in the community. Most of our expenses go to staffing for service delivery.

113  
EMPLOYEES IN 2016

90%  
STAFFING COSTS AS % OF OVERALL  
EXPENSES



# *FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE FGCA*

The FGCA has a diverse array of programs and services. Some of these receive funding, and some are supported by user fees. This diversity of funding provides stability of programming and service for the organization and the community we serve.

## *FUNDRAISING EVENTS*

This year we hosted a book sale fundraiser in tandem with our Community Yard Sale in May, raising over \$200 for community development programs. We also raised over \$400 through our donation boxes at Fall Fairfield. Through November and December we helped raise funds in support of the Gift of Good Food program at Fernwood NRG; \$5000 was raised specifically to support Fairfield Gonzales families with a bag of healthy food every two weeks through the year.

## *SUCCESSFUL GRANTS*

RBC Day of Service Grant  
Canada Summer Student Grant  
Community Fund for Canada's 150th  
Participation grant  
City of Victoria My Great Neighbourhood Grant

## *IN-KIND SUPPORT*

We also had the support of many generous in-kind sponsors this year. Their support with items such as tents, products, or services make our events possible.

Major In-kind sponsors:  
Thrifty Foods  
RBC Cook Street Village  
ReFuse  
Spinnakers



## *DONATIONS*

Donations from our supporters are what makes many of our 'extra' programs and services possible. From running a Book Club to sponsoring kids in youth programs to beautifying our garden, each donation makes a big difference in how we serve our community.

We would like to thank each and every donor for their generous contribution to making our community a better place to live, work, and play!



# FUNDING FOR THE FGCA



## FUNDING FOR THE FGCA PROVIDED BY

Annual Foundation  
Public Health Agency of Canada  
Employment and Social Development Canada  
Ministry of Children and Family Development  
Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch  
Island Health (formerly VIHA)  
City of Victoria  
School District #61  
RBC Foundation  
Community Fund for Canada's 150th  
*BC Recreation and Parks Association*



Government of Canada  
Gouvernement du Canada



RBC Royal Bank®