



FAIRFIELD GONZALES  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

*the place to connect*



*Youth Zone participants*

# *ANNUAL REPORT*

*AUGUST 1ST 2014  
TO JULY 31ST 2015*

Annual General Meeting  
October 26th 2014, 7pm  
1330 Fairfield Road

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### **FGCA MISSION STATEMENT**

To enhance the quality of life in Fairfield and Gonzales by involving community members in identifying and acting on the needs of the area residents.



*BOARD PRESIDENT*  
*Lynn Beak*



This has been a year of preparing for significant changes in staff executive leadership at the FGCA. As our long term Executive Director plans for retirement, the Board has been actively involved in planning for her succession and for a smooth transition to a new leadership model.

**Board renewal is also an important focus, as there will be a number of new board members after this year's AGM.** Together with the impending staffing changes and new leadership, this will require a significant investment of time and training for the organization.

Community programs remain a key focus of the FGCA. We see an ever increasing need for child care and support for families. With physical space often being our biggest limitation, the organization continues to actively explore options for increasing child care spaces for families.

Under the umbrella of local area planning, the FGCA has sought renewal of the Cook Street Village plan for the last 12 years. The city declined to update any local plans until after the Official Community Plan (OCP) was updated, a process that took over five years and was adopted in 2012. There is now an urgency to update local area plans, in order to provide better framework and direction for the development pressure that our neighbourhood is facing. We continue to work with the FGCA community, other community associations and through our Planning and Zoning Committee to address these issues.

A heartfelt thank you to Joan Kotarski for her many years of leadership. The FGCA was transformed from a small organization to a major service organization meeting the needs of Fairfield and Gonzales neighbourhoods during her 19 years. I have had the privilege of working with her since 2001 and I have seen her wisdom and ability to nurture staff and community development first hand. Her gain of more time for other pursuits and personal priorities is our loss but her legacy will live on.

This time of renewal provides an excellent opportunity to forge new relationships and partnerships with FGCA members, other neighborhoods, other community service groups and governments for the betterment of our community for all. We look forward to maintaining our commitment to board training and staff development, investing in people for another 40 years.



## *EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

*Joan Kotarski*

**Let's celebrate** - 40 years of amazing community service delivered by people who believe in working together to support our neighbourhood. While we have often disagreed on strategies, on projects and on politics, we have always respected the work that all the volunteers from board to committee to individual efforts have provided to the FGCA. It is the respect we give to each other that allows diversity of opinion to flourish and more complete information available to our board which always results in more informed decisions. Our code of conduct reflects what we value and expect from each other.

### People First and Always

This is my last report as your executive director. Since the day I was hired back in October 1996 it has been my privilege to work in this community and with amazing people. The most enjoyable (and the hardest) aspects of my job have been working with people. The FGCA is a valuable resource for our community and for the City of Victoria. Our programs and services are supported and delivered by people who have ideas, who care, who are willing to do the hard work of running an organization of this size and who are willing to work together to ensure the ongoing success of the FGCA.

As I reflect on my years with the FGCA, I am thankful for all the support I have received from every person. Their passion buoyed and sustained me in the tough times and gave joy to all the other times. It is always about the people and it has been fun!





# 40 YEARS OF THE FGCA

## 1975 TO NOW

Congratulations to everyone who helped make the FGCA and the Fairfield Gonzales neighbourhood a great place to be for the last 40 years.

All of us at the FGCA look forward to seeing what the next 40 years will bring. As non-profits like the FGCA are asked to do more and more in the service of a civil society, we will continue to step up and serve the needs of the community.



*Early days of The Observer Newspaper*



*Kids enjoying programs at The Fairfield Community Place*



*September 1982, programs start at the Fairfield Community Place.*

# *BOARD & COMMITTEES*

*STREETLIFE  
COMMUNITY GARDEN FOOD FOREST  
PLASTIC RECYCLING  
PLANNING & ZONING*



*Erika, Jazmin & James from Streetlife*

*BOARD MEMBERS WHO  
SERVED IN 2014/2015*

*LYNN BEAK  
DOUG TOLSON  
SUSAN SNELL  
ANNE TOMYN  
CHRISTOPHER SCHMIDT  
TORRANCE COSTE  
SCOTT DAVIS  
DON MONSOUR  
FORREST SMITH  
JASON TAYLOR  
GEORGE ZADOR  
DEBORAH JENSEN  
PEGGY STRASS*

## *STREETLIFE*

*Jazmin Snider, Chair*

Streetlife was involved with Community Outreach - both at the Moss Street Market and Fall Fairfield, 2014. Community maps asking "How Alive is Your Street?" and intriguing visitors to plot where food gardens, backyard chickens, & food-bearing trees/shrubs were located were hugely popular.

Streetlife members continued to support the 2nd annual Community-Wide Yard Sale/Donation/Recycle event held in May, 2015. The yard sales increased from 18 "neighbourhood clusters" in the first year to almost 50 this past year! And St. Matthias and Fairfield United both hosted sale tables. The Salvation Army was hard-pressed to handle all the donation pick-ups and so Clothesline helped out.

Streetlife created the Poetry & Performance Open Mic series, last Sunday of the month 7 - 9pm @ the Garry Oak Room. Since its inception in January 2015, Streetlife has hosted monthly Open Mic events drawing enthusiastic audiences. These events drew local performers (the first half was an open mic) and the second half featured a performance by a talented musician, poet or spoken word artist.





*Volunteers collecting plastics on depot day*

## *PLASTIC RECYCLING*

*Susanna Grimes, Coordinator*

Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup> was a bittersweet day for the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association's Plastic Recycling program. After a fabulously successful 16-year run, the final depot took place. While many were sad to see its end, this is actually a positive sign, reflecting an evolution in environmental awareness and the corresponding publicly available services created in response.

Once upon a time in 1998, the Environment Committee of the FGCA hatched an idea to address growing concerns about environmental degradation, while enabling local residents to take action in a tangible, individual way: plastics recycling. At that time, no plastics were accepted in the curbside blue boxes, only glass, tin and newspapers.

A pilot depot was launched in May 1999 at Eberts Park, which – after only a couple of months proved to be so popular that additional depots were planned at Chapman Park, Sir James Douglas School, St. Matthias Church, the Canadian Red Cross and on Olive Street. A few months later, hundreds of households in Fairfield and Gonzales were participating. Due to falling revenues over time, our business partner requested amalgamation of the sites into two.

Our business partner – originally Planet Recycling and later Pacific Mobile Depots - provided bags, trucking and some trained staff. Twenty percent of the revenue from fees charged by our business partner was returned to the FGCA.

The program initially targeted hard plastics, which were then delivered to a local business (Syntal) that turned them into plastic lumber. Over the years, it evolved to include a wider range of plastic products - a reflection of an emerging and variable market, as well as the ability of our business partner to accept and find an end use for the products. These included soft plastics, Styrofoam, gable-top containers, Tetrapaks, foil bags, e-waste, mixed paper, etc. Refundable beverage containers that were turned in helped support local charities.

The program was expected to be in operation for only a few years - perhaps five at most - until the blue box system would eventually accept all packaging and recyclables. Although that day has still not come, thankfully there are now other options to satisfy the public's demand for recycling.

**We accomplished what we set out to do, and more.** With the help of thousands of volunteer hours, our partners, and the guidance of FGCA staff, the program has:

- Diverted over 300 x 3-ton truckloads of plastics from the landfill - representing 600-800 households.
- Shipped and processed plastics as locally and as responsibly as possible.
- Helped a small business grow to the point that they are expanding to other parts of the province.
- Eliminated multiple vehicle trips that hundreds of residents would have had to make.
- Created places where people can mingle and feel part of a community and a successful environmental initiative.
- Helped spawn similar projects in other areas: James Bay, Fernwood, Oak Bay and Esquimalt.
- Generated over \$50,000 for the FGCA and local charities.
- Educated residents about the issues and challenges involved in recycling packaging and other products.
- Won the 2010 CRD EcoStar Award for Waste Reduction by a non-profit group.

It has been a visible, and positive, values-based expression of **the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association's mission:** to enhance the quality of life in Fairfield by involving community members in identifying and acting on the needs of area residents. It has also demonstrated the commitment of residents to recycle more products, and the viability of expanding the regional recycling program to include a wider range of plastics.

## **MANY THANKS TO**

**Founding members:** Phil Fawcett, Gerry Howell-Jones, Dr. Linda Green, Helen Lindo, Peter Ronald, Jean Siemens, Neil Vickers **Partners and sponsors:** Canadian Red Cross & Steve Bingham, Fairfield United Church, St. Matthias Anglican Church, Pacific Mobile Depots and Planet Recycling **& the hundreds of volunteers who made it happen!**



## *PLANNING & ZONING*

*George Zador, Chair*

The Planning and Zoning Committee is mandated by the City of Victoria to receive and review proposals for development involving land use rezoning in the Fairfield-Gonzales community, prior to their formal submission to the City. The Committee holds Community Meetings where such proposals are presented to the affected public. Reporting back to the City, it acts as the voice of the community regarding the effects of the development on the neighbourhood. The projects may be as small as a single family zoned lot seeking rezoning for a garden suite, or as complex as a large high-rise apartment building covering several lots.

In the past year, only 10 projects were presented at 7 meetings however, two major proposals created ongoing controversy and public engagement.

The commercial/residential building on Cook St at **Oliphant, as well as the Mount St. Angela Senior's** Complex proposals continue to be at crossroads with some community interests.

The Committee has responded to a significant number of contacts from the community and also attended several informational functions hosted by the City of Victoria.

A word of appreciation and thank you for the time and effort of current members Susan Snell and Ken Roueche as well as former Committee members Paul Brown, Jim Masterton and Bill Rimmer.





*Work party in the garden*

## *COMMUNITY GARDEN FOOD FOREST*

*Emily Hull, Community Garden Volunteer Coordinator*

The garden, now fondly referred to as the Fairfield Food Forest, is thriving. Most plants have been in the ground for approximately 2 ½ years and have well established root systems thanks to our irrigation system that carried us through a very dry summer. A work party in October 2014 saw a record number of volunteers, with steady participation continuing throughout the year. This May, plants were added and irrigation expanded. Well attended work parties and an expanding contact list indicate that community participation continues to grow.

The Food Forest, as the plants take up more space, is becoming a place of its own. The children at Moss Rock preschool have been exploring the plants and were able to enjoy fresh Goumi and Haskap berries in June. School aged kids could be spotted wandering through the garden on their way home from Sir James Douglas with strawberries in their hands. Curious passersby are stopping and noticing the plants. We are looking forward to installing signage that will aid in educating the community about the Food Forest, as well as communicate upcoming events related to the place.

What's next? Work parties will continue with emphasis on sheet mulching and planting. We will look at ways to define walkways in order to protect the root system of the plants, install signage, and continue our efforts to secure approval and funding for a few amenities on site, particularly a garden shed and bench. Efforts will be made to increase communication via social media in order to grow our volunteer base and make the Food Forest more accessible to its community.

# PROGRAMS

OUT OF SCHOOL CARE  
RECREATION  
FAMILY DROP INS  
PRESCHOOLS  
YOUTH

## OUT OF SCHOOL CARE

*Kristina Wilcox, Coordinator*

Our licensed Out of School Care programs consist of both before and after school care. Our Before School Program begins at 7:30am and our After School program ends at 6:00pm. Our OSC programs service Margaret Jenkins Elementary and Sir James Douglas Elementary and, additionally, consist of Seasonal and Pro-D Day camps which are offered to all members of the community. This year our programs have worked hard to adopt a strong child-led, exploration based program. Additionally, we have grown our relationships with other departments in the agency in order to give our programs a stronger community voice.

Our Margaret Jenkins Program expanded by 24 spaces this year. We licensed the Margaret Jenkins Gymnasium to run an additional before and after school care program. In response, we added an additional manager position to the OSC team (MJ Assistant manager) and were able to employ 2 additional leaders. Our Summer program also expanded by 20 spaces and ran for 8 weeks of the summer.

**180 CHILDREN ENROLLED**

**25 STAFF**

Before & After School Care for:

Margaret Jenkins Elementary

Sir James Douglas Elementary

Professional Development Day Camps

Winter & Spring Break Camps

Summer Camps



*Children doing crafts in After School Care*

*'(my partner) and I have really appreciated having such a wonderful place for (our child) to go. Thank you and your staff for the wonderful experience you have given our family.'* - FFOSC Parent

*'The after school care program has been a complete game changer for our quirky boy!! He is so happy, eager, and thriving there!!'* - MJOSC Parent



*Isabel, leading a Zumba Toning class*

## *RECREATION*

*Thomas King, Coordinator*

The FGCA provided a number of child and adult recreation based registered programs last year over four seasonal sessions.

***700 REGISTRATIONS***

***200 DROP-IN VISITS***

***8 CONTRACTED INSTRUCTORS***

Arican Hand Drumming (1 & 2)  
 Dance Bollywood  
 Drop-in Badminton  
 Iyengar Yoga (Beginner & Intermediate)  
 Spanish (1 & 2)  
 Spring Forest Qi Gong  
 Sportball  
 Sportball Soccer  
 Tensegrity Repair Yoga  
 Yin Yoga  
 Yoga Home Practice Prime  
 Zumba Toning  
 Zumba 15-15-15  
 Zumba Family

*"Excellent energy, choreography, joyful teacher"*

*"Isabel, you are wonderful! This is the happiest I am all week"*

*- Zumba class participants*





*Cathy reading to the kids at Parent & Tot drop-in*

## *FAMILY DROP-INS*

*Ro Fife, Coordinator*

The primary goal of our Family programs is the need to support and engage primary caregivers as the most important influence in the life of a young child. Our programming continues to feature caregiver and child drop in sessions. These programs continue to create opportunities for young families to build connections and learn together through social, educational and recreational activities at the Place. Participant feedback for our programs has highlighted their appreciation for regular opportunities to meet others undertaking the challenging and often isolating job of parenting.

*"It (drop-in) made me realize I was not the only parent going through challenges with parenting."*

*"I met parents/families in the neighbourhood and stayed connected. I learned and joined community activities."*

*"The relationship between me and my kids has become stronger."*

- Drop-in participants

**Early Years Drop Ins (Parent and Tot & Kindergym)**

**130 FAMILIES PARTICIPATING**

**Laugh, Learn, then Lunch**

**18 PARENT SUPPORT SESSIONS**

**40 LUNCH DATES**

**600 HAPPY & FULL BELLIES**

**Family Clothing Swap**

**OFFERED MONTHLY**

## *MOSS ROCK PRESCHOOL*

*Kristina Wilcox, Coordinator*

Moss Rock Preschool is a licensed preschool that runs Monday- Friday between the hours of 9am and 12pm. The Preschool offers 2-5 day registrations for children aged 2.5-5 years old and is based out of Fairfield Place. Moss Rock identifies itself as a child-centred, nature and exploration based program that nurtures individual needs.

**24 CHILDREN ENROLLED**  
**2 STAFF**

*'Thank you for sharing your thoughtful insights and giving precious glimpses into our children's expanding world beyond us. How lucky I feel to have had two kids learn, grow and be cared for by you.'*

-Moss Rock Preschool Parent

## *FIVE POINTS PRESCHOOL*

*Ro Fife, Coordinator*

Five Points Preschool is a licensed early learning program for three to five year olds with the overarching goal of school readiness.

We have been operating since October 2001 as a part of the family programs of the FGCA and believe that play provides children with opportunities to investigate, develop and practice skills. We encourage the preschoolers to explore, discover, create, socialize and have fun. We support this by offering choices within a framework, facilitating problem solving and encouraging curiosity.

It is an on-going pleasure to see students and their families make life long connections in our program and are always pleased to see alumni families return with their second and third child to our preschool. Our dedicated staff truly model the proverb, that it takes a village to raise a child.

**16 CHILDREN ENROLLED**  
**2 STAFF**



*Moss Rock Preschool children enjoying a rainy day outside*



*Marshmallow fight in Youth Zone*

## *YOUTH*

*Emma Zabloski, Manager*

The FGCA facilitated five youth programs (three onsite and two offsite), and provided space for two other organizations to offer their programs. The FGCA ran its registered Youth Zone program Mondays to Wednesdays, and its drop-in Chill Zone program after school at the Fairfield Community Place's youth space.

The FGCA also continued to run its outreach mentorship Jump N Start program at Central Middle School and George Jay Elementary School after school on Thursday and Fridays, respectively. And thanks to a two year grant from the United Way we began a new high-school aged leadership program on Friday evenings. All of the programs ran at near or full capacity throughout the year.

**797 CHILZONE DROP INS  
57 IN YOUTH ZONE & JUMP 'N'  
START, YOUTH LEADERSHIP &  
SUMMER PROGRAMS  
4 STAFF, 2 PRACTICUM STUDENTS,  
3 YFCS, 4 VOLUNTEERS**

Youth Zone  
Chill Zone Drop-In  
**Jump 'N' Start**  
Youth Leadership  
Summer Youth Club

*"The highlights from the FGCA Youth Leadership Program for me was seeing my ideas and plans get put together and finalized into a finished event, that is the greatest feeling ever and all youth should experience it." - Youth Leadership Participant*



# *EVENTS & PROJECTS*

*FALL FAIRFIELD HARVEST FETE  
FAIRFIELD GONZALES GALA  
SPRING CLEAN YARD SALE  
ART AT THE PLACE*

*Vanya McDonell, Coordinator*

## *FAIRFIELD GONZALES GALA*

Our fourth annual Gala Fundraiser welcomed over 100 people to the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, once again offering an evening of top notch entertainment to attendees. Enjoying a wine tasting game, jazz from Cold Cut Combo, access to the world class galleries, **and an incredible silent auction, the Gala's attendees raised \$13,000 for the FGCA's youth and family programs.** Nearly 100 local businesses donated their wares to support the event.

## *COMMUNITY WIDE YARD SALE*

**Fairfield's second Community Wide yard sale** was met with an enthusiastic response from the community. Fairfield United Church and St. Matthias church hosted large group sales, and we partnered again with the Salvation Army to pickup donations from households in the neighbourhood. 45 households hosted sales and the neighbourhood was buzzing with activity.



*Silent auction & dancing at the Gala Fundraiser*



*Bucan Bucan performing & visitors dancing at the Fall Fairfield Harvest Fete*

## *FALL FAIRFIELD HARVEST FETE*

In its fourth year, Fall Fairfield 2014 saw the benefit of becoming a known event in the community. Many residents looked forward to it as the seasons changed, and it had a truly local flavour. The event met its food awareness goals very well through a strong presence from the garden committee and a new pre-fete baking day which brought together many community members in collecting apples and baking together. It also met its arts goals through the participation of Fairfield Stories Mural Project and the now familiar **'harvest hats', which were a big hit with all ages.** With music, dancing, and festivities throughout the day, it was a unique chance to celebrate our neighbourhood.

## *ART AT THE PLACE*

This year, the foyer of Fairfield Community Place was adorned with the works of four local artists and two community projects. Joanna Saunders, Joan Cahill, Laurie McAmmond and Robert Ives all had a chance to display their art and brighten our space. We also hosted a collection of photos from our Artists Alive summer camp and art pieces made during our Fairfield Stories Mural Project. Four volunteers have worked to curate the space, with Diane Salmon taking a lead on engaging artists and hosting receptions

## *OBSERVER NEWSPAPER*

The Observer newspaper continued to inform and engage our community, published twice a year with a distribution of 5,000 copies per issue. A strong team of contributors wrote on all sorts of topics, from travel to cooking to the arts. The support of local advertisers makes the newspaper possible, and we were happy to welcome a new volunteer, Kevin, in 2014 to do copy editing and another, Kyle, in 2015 who worked to deliver the paper to neighbourhood hubs.

## *PLANTING SEEDS GROWING COMMUNITY*

The FGCA undertook outreach to the community on sustainability issues at our Moss Street Market Booth in 2014. Volunteers led participants in activities such as ecological footprint calculators, local food mapping, and compost bin liner origami. Partner organizations such as World Fisheries Trust, BC Sustainable Energy Alliance, and Victoria Emergency Management Agency were invited as guest presenters to showcase their contribution to sustainability in our neighbourhood.





*Art making for the Fairfield Stories Mural Project  
photo credit: Francesca Cadeddu*

*"Working on this has been challenging and fun. It's a great project." – Joan Cahill, volunteer graphic designer*

*"Was such a pleasure to be there with you guys last Saturday! Amazing things going on there and it was a blast!"  
– Francesca Cadeddu, volunteer photographer*

*"It is so interesting that I can't wait to come here again!"  
– Joanna Zhou, ArtShop volunteer*

## *FAIRFIELD STORIES MURAL PROJECT*

*Vanya McDonell, Coordinator*

In 2014, the FGCA received a Community Arts Grant from the City of Victoria to create new public art with the Fairfield Stories Mural Project, led by professional artist Carolyn Knight. Carolyn engaged the community in art-making workshops throughout the fall, both public and in FGCA programs. She asked participants to make their mark with stamps, printmaking, painting and drawing, and to write letters to the future and past people of Fairfield Gonzales. Volunteer Marissa Hoen worked as a mentored artist to help engage community residents. About 350 people participated, and the artworks they created were digitized. They were then compiled by graphic designer Joan Cahill, working with the artist, into the final mural piece, which is installed on a shipping container behind Fairfield Community Place to bring joy to the many users and passersby that see it each day



*Volunteers hosting an art workshop for the Fairfield Stories Mural Project  
photo credit: Francesca Cadeddu*



# SERVICES

VOLUNTEERS  
FACILITY RENTALS  
YOUTH & FAMILY COUNSELLORS

## VOLUNTEERS

*Vanya McDonnell, Coordinator*

Over 2014-15, we were lucky to have a number of exciting projects for our volunteers to work on, such as the Fairfield Stories Community Mural Project and our Planting Seeds, Growing Community outreach project. There are also many volunteers who give their time throughout the year keeping the Place tidy, nurturing our gardens, educating children, and offering management expertise, to name a few. **Volunteers do the jobs that wouldn't get done if they didn't show up to lend a hand and pitch in. They make our community great! Thank you to all our volunteers, whether you gave one hour or one hundred. We couldn't do it without you!**

**200 VOLUNTEERS  
4,000 VOLUNTEER HOURS**

Fairfield Community Garden  
Sustainability Project  
Observer Newspaper  
Plastics Recycling  
Fairfield Stories Mural Project  
Photography  
Board of Directors and committees  
Streetlife Committee  
Moss Street Market Booth  
Planning and Zoning  
Fairfield Gonzales Gala  
Fall Fairfield  
Community Wide Yard Sale  
Youth Programs  
Out of School Care  
Newspaper delivery  
Postering and flyering



*Beach clean up with the FGCA & Royal Bank volunteers*

*"I was grateful for the opportunity to participate in an Agency fundraiser. It was well organised with plenty of volunteers and I enjoyed myself" - gala fundraiser volunteer*

*"Within the FGCA, I have been involved in many interesting projects and had the opportunity to work with a group of talented and passionate people. I will greatly miss working with everyone and my involvement as a board member" - board volunteer*

Summer Camp  
Drop-In Badminton  
Preschools  
Front Garden  
Toy Cleaning  
Facility Volunteer  
Administration  
Archives & Digitization  
Copy Editing  
Art Curator  
UVic Project Serve  
RBC Cook Street Village Day of Service  
Database build and support  
Good Food Box  
Transition Team  
UVic Community Service Learning Placements  
Graphic Design



*The Garry Oak Room , a popular place to rent*

## *FACILITY RENTALS*

*Thomas King, Coordinator*

Our various rooms hosted a number of events, workshops, meetings, classes, and private functions.

### **129 RENTERS**

### **839 BOOKINGS**

Al-Rahman Samosa King  
 Bahai Community of Victoria  
 Bucan Bucan  
 Canadian Company of Pilgrims  
 Canadian Hemochromatosis Society  
 Canadian Spondylitis Association  
 Capoeira  
 Chronic Pain Network  
 Cycling Coalition of Victoria  
 Dallas Road Paragliding Society  
 Don Tamales  
 Eat-I t-Up!  
 Edibella Organic Landscapes  
 Empress Alchemy catering  
 Hot Mama Fitness  
**International Women's Catering Co-op**

Island Health  
 Iyengar Yoga Association  
 Japanese Friendship Society  
 Japanese Playgroup  
 Karate Brothers  
 Lightning Theatre  
 Matoto Multicultural Art Society  
 Moss Street Market  
 Narcotic Anonymous  
 Par-T-Perfect  
 Positive Birth Group  
 reHabit Restorative Exercise  
 Royal Astronomical Society of Canada  
**Rozy's Jams**  
 Ruth & Dean Catering  
 S.O.L.I.D.  
 Soundings Vocal Ensemble  
 South Vancouver Island Potters Guild  
 Sportball  
**St Michael's University School**  
 Thrifty Foods  
 Tyee Aquatic Club  
 We Bike  
 Victoria Creative Doll Fashions  
 Victoria Emergency Program  
 Victoria Insight Meditation Society

## *YOUTH & FAMILY COUNSELLORS*

*Ro Fife, Administrator*

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. Even during the challenges of the public school strike in September 2015 our talented and resourceful staff continued to serve their students with creative ways to connect in the community and building shared resources.

***1,150 STUDENTS & FAMILIES  
15 YOUTH & FAMILY COUNSELLORS  
11 SCHOOL COMMUNITIES***

James Bay Community School  
George Jay Elementary  
Macaulay Elementary  
Victoria West Elementary

Central Middle School  
Lansdowne Middle School  
Shoreline Middle School  
Rockheights Middle School

Oak Bay High School  
Mount Douglas Secondary  
Esquimalt High School  
Lambrick Park High School







# *WORKING AT FAIRFIELD*

*AUGUST 1ST 2013  
TO JULY 31ST 2014*

## *BUDGET*

*\$ 2,320,302*

*OPERATING BUDGET*

## *REVENUE*

*\$ 2,404,585*

*ACTUAL FOR YEAR*

*67 %*

*GOVERNMENT FUNDING,  
SCHOOL DISTRICT & GAMING*

*31 %*

*FGCA PROGRAMS & RENTAL  
REVENUE*

*2 %*

*DONATIONS, FUNDRAISING &  
GRANTS*

## *STAFFING*

We are a major employer in the Fairfield neighbourhood. The majority of our positions are part-time and seasonal, shadowing the school year calendar. We are a training ground for many university students pursuing child and youth care and education degrees.

*103*

*T4S ISSUED FOR 2014*

*85 %*

*STAFFING COSTS AS % OF OVERALL  
EXPENSES*

*FGCA staff during bike to work week*

# FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE FGCA

As with all non-profits, we are constantly working to secure funding for the services we provide. This unseen work to diversify funding streams ensures a sustainable future for our programs. Staff, board, and volunteers all contribute to fund development efforts.

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Fairfield Gonzales Gala, April 2015

Soul Gospel Choir Concert May 2015

## SUCCESSFUL GRANTS

United Way Jump 'N' Start expansion – year 2 of funding

Wolf's Den youth Leadership Grant - District of Saanich

Sara Spencer Foundation Grant for Youth Zone

RBC Day of Service Grant

City of Victoria Community Arts Grant

City of Victoria Matching Grants

Government of Canada Accessibility Grant

Canada Summer Student Grant

## SPONSORSHIPS

Duttons Real Estate – Youth Zone Sponsor

Orca Books

Abstract Developments – Gala Sponsor

Ferris Law – Gala Sponsor

Meritage Financial Group – Gala Sponsor

Shampoo Hair Bar – Gala Sponsor

We also had the support of over 80 generous in-kind sponsors this year. Please visit [www.fairfieldcommunity.ca](http://www.fairfieldcommunity.ca) for a full listing.



*Duttons Realty presents the FGCA with a donation*

In 2015 local realtor Duttons pledged to donate 10% of their commission on homes they listed in Fairfield. Thank you to David, Ole and everyone at Duttons for their visionary support for the FGCA and their commitment to making Fairfield and Gonzales a great place to live for all of us!



# *FUNDING FOR THE FGCA*



## *FUNDING FOR THE FGCA PROVIDED BY*

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



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