

the place to connect



# ANNUAL REPORT

AUGUST 1ST 2015 TO JULY 31ST 2016

Annual General Meeting October 24th 2016, 7pm www.fairfieldcommunity.ca place@fairfieldcommunity.ca 1330 Fairfield Rd. Victoria BC V8S 5J6 250-382-4604

#### CONTENTS

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

#### 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.



Detail from Fairfield Stories Community Mural, installed September 2015

### BOARD PRESIDENT Don Monsour



When I took on the role of President last November, I could never have imagined what an eventful year we would have. In December we said goodbye to our Executive Director of 19 years, Joan Kotarski, and welcomed a team of three Co-Executive Directors who have shared the leadership of the organization. We have been so fortunate over the past years to have some of the best staff and Executive Directors anyone could wish for, who have built an organization with a strong reputation for serving the community well. The sound financial footing of the organization is a testament to the excellent work of our team.

This year, we had an unprecedented number of major projects come forward in our community, which led to a lot of healthy debate around the future vision for our neighbourhood. It is at times like these that we see how deeply the residents of Fairfield Gonzales care for their community. Membership in the Association is at an all time high, with over 1,000 members, and we look forward to carrying this momentum forward.

As your Board, we have strived to uphold the values and mission of our community association—to improve the life of the community and provide an inclusive forum for all residents to have their say. Working with such a great Board has really inspired me. All of our Board members are volunteers who have given countless hours of their time and provided the Association with a wealth of knowledge and experience.

I look forward over the next year to working with a strong Board continuing what we do so well: serving each and every one of you, your family and most importantly your children.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS
Kristina Wilcox
Thomas King
Vanya McDonell

What a year it has been! Over the past 12 months we have said goodbye to our longtime leader, Joan Kotarski, and our Operations Director, Ro Fife. Both brought a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the FGCA, and their departure has definitely left us with big shoes to fill. However, in true FGCA style we moved forward with an innovative leadership model—nicknamed the E-team—that has successfully maintained a high level of service delivery.

This year has brought on challenges, successes, steep learning curves and passion, not only for the E-team but for all FGCA staff. The FGCA has retained phenomenal, dedicated and passionate staff, solidified funding, and expanded services. Simply put, we have gained the knowledge and adopted the ability to manage through the many demands that face us as a non-profit charity.

This is the time that the E-team would like to formally thank all of the staff, volunteers and families who have contributed to this year's success. We are privileged to have what we believe to be the strongest, most dedicated group of staff in Victoria. With nearly 250 licensed childcare spaces, 5,000 people receiving social supports, 3,000 attending our classes, and many more being served by FGCA programs throughout the year, we have our work cut out for us, and we are thrilled to be your place to connect.

As we reflect on the year behind us, we cannot help but be excited about the year ahead. As Executive Directors, we recognize we have been given the agency to take the FGCA to great heights, while still honouring the vision that has been bestowed upon us. The FGCA was built with strength and passion and we intend to build upon that in the coming year!







### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Text by Paul Wartman



We acknowledge that we live on this land. We celebrate, we work through challenges, we raise our families and homes, we learn and play on this land.

This land, like all the greatest grandparents and grandguardians in our lives, nourishes us and supports us.

We acknowledge that this land is the unceded traditional territory of the Lekwungen peoples, and the surrounding land is the unceded territory of dozens of Nations and Tribes of unique Coast Salish and W\_SANEC peoples.

We acknowledge that they were here for hundreds of years before the first settlers and Sir J. Douglas colonized this land in the name of the British Empire... Before Sir John A. MacDonald became Prime Minister of Canada and, through the Indian Act, institutionalized the genocide of indigenous people... Before we settled here.

We acknowledge that this land is still theirs and that the resilient, creative, knowledgeable Lekwungen peoples, and the surrounding Coast Salish and W\_SANEC communities who are surviving, are still here fighting for

justice—fighting against the colonization that still hurts us all.

We acknowledge that challenges to the land and to the indigenous peoples are challenges to us all. In community we promise to work for the betterment of all.

### **BOARD & COMMITTEES**

STREETLIFE COMMUNITY GARDEN FOOD FOREST PLANNING & ZONING

BOARD MEMBERS WHO SERVED IN 2015/2016

LYNN BEAK DOUG TOLSON SUSAN SNELL ANNE TOMYN CHRISTOPHER SCHMIDT TORRANCE COSTE SCOTT DAVIS DON MONSOUR R. FORREST SMITH JASON TAYLOR GEORGE ZADOR DAVID ALLISON MAUREEN CONNOLLY RON COX BARBARA BOWMAN-EDWARDS **WAYNE HOLLOHAN** KELBY NACNAYR HEATHER MURPHY TED RELPH PHILIP SAWKINS DAVID BILTEK

#### STREETLIFE

Streetlife is a committee of the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association. It typically meets monthly, on a weekday evening, to plan upcoming events under the broad theme of "Bringing Community Alive".

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

Streetlife continued to support the 3rd annual Community-Wide Yard Sale/Donation/Recycle event held in May 2016. The yard sales increased from 18 "neighbourhood clusters" in our first year to over 68 this past year! And St. Matthias and Fairfield United Churches both hosted sale tables. The Salvation Army was hard-pressed to handle all the donations to be picked up around the neighbourhood, and so Clothesline helped out. In fact, the Salvation Army was so busy they couldn't measure the amount of donations coming their way!

Streetlife hosted the Poetry & Performance Open Mic series on the last Sunday of the month which drew enthusiastic audiences. These events supported local performers (talented musicians, poets, spoken word artists, dancers...) as well as a featured performance. The Open Mics were discontinued in early 2016 pending a re-evaluation of "what next".

Two Food For Thought events were held this past year, hosted by James Pratt, with some informative presenters who inspired lively discussions about issues of interest to our community—growing community gardens, food safety and security. A continuation and revisiting of these Food for Thought discussion evenings, focusing on "Livability and the Community", are being planned for the spring.

New events being considered by the StreetLife Committee are workshops on Emergency Preparedness (or Building Neighbourhood Resilience) specifically focusing on our community, and Neighbourhood-Wide Block Parties.



Rainy day garden work party

# COMMUNITY GARDEN COMMITTEE AND FAIRFIELD FOOD FOREST

The Fairfield Food Forest continues to thrive! We ended 2015 with a tour of the garden with Geoff Johnson, local permaculture expert and original designer of the space. In this walk through, he identified priorities for the 2016 growing year and guided us through the next phase of planting- the understory. With the help of our dedicated core group of volunteers combined with new volunteers, we completed the plantings laid out in the original plan.

In early January soil tests were taken. They were submitted to MB Laboratories, and the findings indicated that the current lead level in the forest is well below the City's agricultural requirements. In 2012 the soil tested slightly above the agricultural limit of Victoria Parks. A triple-strategy approach to soil remediation has been practiced at the site, including liming, selective soil removal and sheet mulching. We were very happy with these results and will continue to check the soil in the years to come.

Work parties for the food forest started in early February with an emphasis on mulching. The City provided beautiful mulch, Garden City Landscaping and Scotty's Tree Services donated ample wood chip. Fairfield Cycles & Dodd's Furniture supplied yards of cardboard. The garden is now completely mulched and will continue to benefit from regular applications.

This year the forest has been tended to by a diverse and growing volunteer base. In addition to our wonderful core group, we have welcomed new community members and three large groups including the RBC Cook Street Team, the Greater Victoria Green Team and the high school students from Glenlyon Norfolk school. Working with these groups has resulted in more work being completed, increased education and awareness about the forest and local food security, and it has generated new volunteers.

The Moss Rock Preschool enthusiastically helped out in the forest the first Monday of every month, beginning in 2015. This has resumed this fall with a new group of children. On October 3rd they planted garlic & strawberries with high hopes for harvest!

In May, the FGCA hosted the Community Wide Garage Sale & Rummage Sale. Through this event we were able to raise \$845.10 for the forest. In addition to raising funds for the next phase of planting & infrastructure, it was a wonderful opportunity to spread the word about the food forest.

During the summer months, the Goumi berries, Strawberries, Haskaps & Saskatoons stole the show. There were even reports of delicious figs.

Work resumed in the garden in September with a focus on cleanup for the Fall Fair on September 24th (where we had a booth & "Fig Plinko").

What's next? During this next year at the garden the focus will be on the understory planting- native pollinators, herbs, annual plants. The signage on the cages will be improved as well as the main sign that will hopefully be installed in time for the spring & summer months. The protective cages around the plants will need to be altered to accommodate the growth of the plants. We have also applied for funding to proceed with proposed infrastructure improvements, particularly a garden shed and bench as these would improve community



# COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION LAND USE COMMITTEE (CALUC)

Ten volunteers served on the CALUC committee, fulfilling its role to:

- facilitate dialogue between land use applicants and the community to identify issues (both positive and negative) regarding land use applications;
- be knowledgeable about the Neighbourhood and Precinct Plan(s).

CALUCs may also wish to comment on the interpretation of the relevancy of the policies and whether development applications fit with the spirit and intent of the Neighbourhood Plan

This year ten projects were presented. A second CALUC meeting was held in November for the commercial/residential building proposed on Cook St. and Oliphant St., with an attendance of over 200 community members.

#### PLANNING AND ZONING

The new Planning and Environment committee focused its energy on working with the City as a stakeholder in the Local Area Planning process taking place in the 2016 calendar year. This committee had approximately 20 volunteers. Some of the community issues brought forward to the Planning and Environment committee were:

- Mt. Edwards transitional housing
- City's Biketoria
- Clover Point Sewage/Wastewater Treatment
- Urban Forest Canopy
- Tent City
- Out of School Care Spaces
- Renoviction
- Built Environment/Natural Environment

## PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

With a number of large scale projects on the horizon in our neighbourhood, there was significant interest and activity in the Planning and Zoning activities of the FGCA this year. To increase opportunities for participation regarding land use issues in the community, the Board held an open call to join the Planning and Zoning Committee in October. Close to 50 community members attended the first orientation meeting to discuss how best to serve the needs of our community, as well as have sufficient members to support upcoming initiatives pertaining to the City's work on the Fairfield Gonzales Local Area Plan(s).

In November, to accommodate the numbers interested in being involved in land use issues, the Board divided the Committee into two new stand-alone committees: CALUC (Community Association Land Use Committee) and Planning and Environment.

Throughout the summer, the Board reassessed its role in Planning and Zoning activities, suspending activities while it gathered feedback from experts and from its membership. This feedback led to a decision to focus its land use activities on just the CALUC, disbanding the Planning and Environment Committee.

### PROGRAMS

OUT OF SCHOOL CARE
RECREATION
FAMILY PROGRAMS
PRESCHOOLS
YOUTH

#### OUT OF SCHOOL CARE

Our licensed Out of School Care programs consist of both before and after school care. Our OSC programs service Margaret Jenkins Elementary and Sir James Douglas Elementary. Seasonal and Pro-D Day camps are offered to all members of the community. After expanding our Out of School Care program last year, we continue to see an unmet need in the community for additional childcare space. This year we have focused on building relationships with community partners to increase our capacity to offer more childcare options to residents in Fairfield Gonzales. With the support of the community and our partners we hope to continue these efforts.

This year our program managers and leaders have worked hard to adapt OSC programming to suit the needs of our intermediate students. We have worked with the children to create programming that celebrates their growing need for independence and prepares them for the transition into youth!

# 195 CHILDREN ENROLLED 25 STAFF (INCLUDING 3 MANAGERS)

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



"To all of you. Who do this. Every day. For my two most valued beings. Loving them. Encouraging them. Supporting them. Healing them. You are a spectacular and highly valued bunch of creative, quirky, funny, interesting & spirited leaders...leading them to such elevated places. This parent cannot thank you all enough. Because of you, we are a better family." – MJOSC 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.

822 REGISTRATIONS 200 DROP-IN VISITS 9 CONTRACTED INSTRUCTORS

"Charming, informative, welcoming – thank you!"
"Very knowledgeable and engaging – enjoyed thoroughly!"
"Great Class. Easy to understand the 'chemistry'"
Paula Maddison's Cheese Making Workshops: participants

Arican Hand Drumming (1 & 2) Cheese Making Workshops Drop-in Badminton Gentle Yoga & Somatics Iyengar Yoga (Beginner & Intermediate) Spanish (1 & 2) Spring Forest Qi Gong Sportball Sportball Camp Sportball Soccer Tensegrity Repair Yoga Yin Yoga Yoga Home Practice Primer Yoga Support and Restore Zumba Toning Zumba 15-15-15 Zumba Family



Drumming Class with Jordan Hanson



Kindergym participant

#### FAMILY DROP INS

The primary goal of our Family programs is 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 in our programs has highlighted an appreciation for regular opportunities to meet others undertaking the challenging and often isolating job of parenting.

EARLY YEARS DROP INS PARENT AND TOT 140 PARENTS/CAREGIVERS 154 CHILDREN

KINDERGYM 350 PARENTS/CAREGIVERS 350 CHILDREN "I always look forward to Parents and Tots. The routine, consistency, outreach and support are a huge component of our family health."

"The drop in program has helped me to grow with my child."

"The programs give me a chance to meet other parents, to network and discuss challenges and ways to cope. The group is also great for my child to meet other children and engage in development fostering activities.."

**Drop In Participants** 

LUNCH, LAUGH, AND LEARN
30 PARENT SUPPORT SESSIONS
40 LUNCH DATES
600 HAPPY FULL BELLIES

CLOTHING SWAP
11 SWAPS, OFFERED MONTHLY
300 PARTICIPANTS

#### MOSS ROCK PRESCHOOL

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 Preschool has been operating since September 2012 and has been growing ever since. This popular program identifies itself as a childcentred, outdoor, nature and exploration based program that nurtures individual needs.

Parents appreciate the flexible schedule of this program with extended hours.

### 25 CHILDREN ENROLLED 2 STAFF

"Thanks for all you do, we are just LOVING seeing such positive feedback and amazing changes in our child. I'm so grateful to you, Danielle, and Morgan!"

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 Place.

The program has been operating since October 2001 with an overarching goal of school readiness. Here at Five Points Preschool the belief is that play provides children with opportunities to investigate, develop and practice skills.

The preschool staff encourage the children to explore, discover, create, socialize, have fun and make connections. Our dedicated staff truly model the proverb that it takes a village to raise a child.

### 15 CHILDREN ENROLLED 2 STAFF

"Thank you so much for such a fantastic, enriching preschool experience for our son!"

Five Points Preschool parent





Everyone made a patch and helped sew our beautiful Youth Zone quilt

#### YOUTH

The 2015-2016 year for the FGCA Youth Programs has been one of expansion, creative explosion, and active learning. Our Youth Zone and Chill Zone numbers continued to increase, we launched a new high school aged youth program entitled the Headwaters Collective, we added a permanent support leader position for the Chill Zone program, and offered two weeks of subsidized Outdoor Adventure Camps this summer. We have also hired a new Youth Programs Manager, Natasha Gold, to take over our programs in 2016-17, as Emma will be moving on to new adventures after four years in this role!

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 Thursdays and Fridays, respectively. We also completed a two year United Way funded high school aged leadership program. The program continued to run Friday evenings (weekly time modified as needed to accommodate special activities), and consisted of volunteering in the community, organizing and leading activities for the George Jay Jump N Start group, and social group activities.

As always, we continue to integrate and practice a philosophy of youth empowerment and engagement in programming, which has led to some pretty outstanding stuff this year. One of our major highlights is our George Jay and Youth Leadership Group's film submission. The film placed FIRST in the Youth United Anti-Bullying Film Festival in February, FGCA youth's fourth film to place in the Festival since 2013!

#### 1044 CHILLZONE DROP INS

- 70 REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS IN YOUTH ZONE, JUMP 'N' START, YOUTH LEADER-SHIP & SUMMER CAMPS
- 650 PARTICIPANTS IN THE HEADWATERS COLLECTIVE (500 UNIQUE & 150 REPEATING)
- 6 STAFF
- 2 PRACTICUM STUDENTS
- 3 YOUTH AND FAMILY COUNSELORS
- 2 **VOLUNTEERS**

"I got new friendships and I got to know people better and I feel like I got to show a bit of myself that I normally don't show with other people because this is a really inclusive place."

"It's easier to talk in front of people now since I started Jump N Start, which was in Grade 4. It's easier to talk to people now that I've been here."

Jump N Start participants

### **EVENTS & PROJECTS**

FALL FAIRFIELD
COMMUNITY WIDE YARD SALE
ART AT THE PLACE
REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP INFO SESSION
MOSS STREET MARKET BOOTH

#### FALL FAIRFIELD

We hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Fall Fairfield on Sept 24<sup>th</sup> 2015 in Porter Park, celebrating harvest and community. 500+ people participated in art activities and interactive booths hosted by community organizations. A highlight of the festival was the celebration of the new Fairfield Stories Community Mural, which was installed to beautify a shipping container in the back of the community centre building.

# COMMUNITY WIDE YARD SALE

Fairfield's third Community Wide Yard Sale hosted a whopping 63 sales this year, including large group sales at Fairfield United Church and St. Matthias church. We partnered again with the Salvation Army to pick up donations from households in the neighbourhood. We also added a fundraising component, a rummage sale that raised over \$800 for the Fairfield Food Forest.



Staff and volunteers at the rummage sale fundraiser



Puppet heads and Tim Gosley

#### PUPPETS FOR PEACE

Puppets for Peace is new to the FGCA this year. We provided space to host puppet making workshops for all ages and partnered to bring an Ottawa puppet company, Rock the Arts, to present two shows in the Garry Oak Room. This partnership continued for Fall Fairfield 2016 and will be ongoing into 2017 with a series of educational workshops on climate change, diversity and First Nations Peoples culminating in a World Peace Day Puppet Parade in September 2017.

#### ART AT THE PLACE

A series of beautiful artwork came through The Place in 2016 featuring a variety of disciplines including water colours, pencil sketches and acrylics. Opening receptions hosted by the artists brought new folks to the FGCA that have not engaged with our work previously. Several artists successfully sold their artwork, making revenue for the FGCA as well.

Artists in 2015/16: Robert Ives, Robert Amos, Annie Nazarian, Lisa Riehl, Suzanne Heron, Linda Skalenda, and Erin Vanessa.

#### OBSERVER NEWSPAPER

The Observer newspaper keeps going strong on engaging and informing our community. Published twice a year, circulation is now at 5,000. The team is always looking for contributors!

#### REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP INFO SHARE SESSION

In November we hosted a session for groups who were working on sponsoring Syrian refugees to come together to share information and ideas. Many of these group shave now had success bringing Syrian families to Canada.

#### MOSS STREET MARKET BOOTH

Each year the FGCA hosts a booth at the Moss Street Market through the summer. This year we hosted booths about once a month to help people be more informed about all the great things happening at their community centre. We even had a visit from the Puppets for Peace gang!



Harvest Hat at Fall Fairfield



Joan Kotarski's Retirement Party



New stroller parking shelter celebration

### SERVICES

VOLUNTEERS FACILITY RENTALS YOUTH & FAMILY COUNSELLORS

#### VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers at the FGCA have a diverse range of skills and abilities to contribute to their community. We do our best to find the right fit for each volunteer, and to welcome them as part of our FGCA family.

We had a number of volunteer groups lend a hand this year, including the Greater Victoria Green Team, RBC Cook Street Village and Glenlyon Norfolk School. We couldn't do it without you!

#### 210 VOLUNTEERS 3500 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Volunteers help out in all aspects of the Community Association:

Fairfield Community Garden

Observer Newspaper

Photography

Board of Directors and committees

Streetlife Committee

Moss Street Market Booth

Planning and Zoning

Rummage Sale fundraiser

Fall Fairfield

Community Wide Yard Sale

Youth Programs

Out of School Care

Newspaper delivery

Postering and flyering

Babywearers group



Stewart College Volunteers

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

Greater Victoria Green Team

Glenlyon Norfolk School team

Needle felting group

Stewart College Volunteers



The Garry Oak Room, a popular place to rent

#### FACILITY RENTALS

Our various rooms hosted many events, workshops, meetings, classes and private functions.

#### 144 RENTERS 877 BOOKINGS

Al-Rahman Samosa King Baby Wearing Group Bucan Bucan

Canadian Company of Pilgrims Clover Point Anglers Association

Cycling Coalition of Victoria

Don Tamales Enchanted Fables

Friends of Beacon Hill Park

F.U.N. Society

God's Garden Church

International Women's Catering Co-op

Island Soaring

Iyengar Yoga Association

Japanese Friendship Society

Japansese Playgroup

Knotty by Nature Fibre Arts

Mighty Speck Records

Moss Street Market

Narcotic Anonymous

Par-T-Perfect

People in Pain Network

Positive Birth Group

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

Rozy's Jams

Single Parent Resource Centre

Soundings Vocal Ensemble

South Vancouver Island Potters Guild

Sportball

The Land Conservancy

Tyee Aquatic Club

Victoria Creative Doll Fashions

Victoria Emergency Program

Victoria Insight Meditation Society

## 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.

# 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



### CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL A HEALTH PROMOTING SCHOOL

In 2013, Island Health chose Central Middle School as a pilot project to enhance the health of the students based on the well documented link between health and achievement: 'Healthy students are better learners and are healthier throughout their lives'. As the "Community Builder" over the past 3 years I was tasked with engaging our students in improving their access to healthy food and finding structural ways of reducing their overwhelming stress and anxiety. We were able to secure significant donations allowing:

- daily and predictable access to nourishing snacks (apples and cheese) throughout the day;
- the development of a naturalized playground to support access to nature, passive play, age appropriate social gathering spaces, shade on the playground and two outdoor classroom areas.

Students have self-reported feeling more cared for and safer as a result of ready access to healthy food and a playground that supports their diverse physical, emotional, and social needs. Graduate students from the University of Victoria did pre/post installation surveys and observed significant increases in frequency and duration of play as a result of the project.

Report by Kathie Cross,

Youth and Family Counsellor at Central Middle School since 1989

# WORKING AT THE FGCA

AUGUST 1ST 2015 TO JULY 31ST 2016



FGCA staff Sally & Paul

REVENUE \$ 2,316,266 ACTUAL FOR YEAR

EXPENSES \$ 2,240,591 ACTUAL FOR YEAR

6% CITY FUNDING

8%
PROVINCIAL & GAMING FUNDING

1% FEDERAL FUNDING

45% SCHOOL DISTRICT 61 CONTRACT

31 % FGCA PROGRAMS & RENTAL REVENUE

2 %
DONATIONS, FUNDRAISING &
FOUNDATION GRANTS

#### STAFFING

We are a major employer in the Fairfield neighbourhood. We have met our goals of retaining many of our wonderful staff this year by providing both a positive environment and meaningful work.

106 T4S ISSUED FOR 2015

90 % STAFFING COSTS AS % OF OVERALL EXPENSES

# FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE FGCA

The FGCA relies on a number of different funding streams to support its programs. By having diverse sources of funding, the organization maintains financial health and is able to serve the community more effectively.

#### **FUNDRAISING EVENTS**

This year we did not hold a major fundraiser, but hosted a small rummage sale in conjunction with our Community Wide Yard Sale event, raising over \$800 for the Fairfield Food Forest!

#### SUCCESSFUL GRANTS

RBC Day of Service Grant
City of Victoria Community Garden Micro Grants
Canada Summer Student Grant
Annual Foundation Youth 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.

Thrifty Foods
RBC Cook Street Village
ReFuse
Level Ground
Orca Books
Knotty By Nature
...and many individuals who have donated craft supplies,
books, dishes and more!



RBC Day of Service

#### DONATIONS

Although donations account for a relatively small part of our budget, they are play a huge part in making our unfunded or underfunded programs possible. We would like to thank the many individuals who contributed to the FGCA this year, whether it was \$1 or \$1000!

A major contributor this year was Duttons Real Estate, who donated \$8425 over the course of 2015. This enabled us to build a beautiful and functional new stroller and bike parking shelter to promote active transportation to the community centre.

# 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 United Way of Greater Victoria **RBC** Foundation











Government Gouvernement of Canada du Canada



**RBC Royal Bank®**