

In early 2022 the Canadian government made a commitment to conserve 30% of Canada's land and water by 2030. In light of the stress on our own natural landscapes within the "at-risk" Coastal Douglas-Fir Zone, we at LINC have been working over the last year towards realizing this goal here on Lasqueti Island. With the recent addition of the Young Point property, thanks to many generous donors and the BC Parks Foundation, we are at 11% of protected lands on Lasqueti and surrounding islands. In the next five years LINC plans to protect 15 – 20% of Lasqueti Island.

At the Osland Nature Reserve we watched as water levels rose steadily over the winter due to beaver activity. In June and July it became necessary to relocate the fenced enclosures and those plants that could be saved to higher ground. A higher trail has been built from the entrance of the Reserve to the beaver dam. In August, with the help and guidance from the Island Trust Conservancy, a camera was installed at the dam in order to monitor its progress.

On May 30th, the False Bay school kids and their teachers, Petra Knight and Amanda Jahnke, along with interested parents and community members were invited to a "Bioblitz". This was an outdoors, hands-on educational experience under the guidance of Cora Skaen, who is the conservation biologist researching the plant life on Mt. Trematon. Assisting were Catriona Gordon, an environmental educator and Jean Gordon, a UVIC ecological restoration student and community specialists Sue Wheeler, Sheila Ray, Jessica Slavik, Yves Parizeau, and Kaia Bryce.



In May, Dr. Cora Skaen, with LINC volunteers, continued her documentation of the plant changes at the Mount Trematon Nature Reserve. This is a slow and painstaking process, and is part of a continuing project which will progress over the next four years. LINC thanks the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation as well as the Island Trust Conservancy for providing funding for these projects.

Each year a team of LINC directors take part in the monitoring of our three covenanted Nature Reserves and file the appropriate reports in order to keep these reserves in good standing.

On June 13, some LINC directors accompanied the False Bay School students, their teachers, parents, and community members to the restoration enclosure and on up to the view point at the Salish View Nature Reserve for an invigorating hike.

On June 28th, Duane West, with his unerring eye, led a large interested group on a hike from the Mt Trematon Nature Reserve along the high ridges inside the Lasqueti Ecoreserve on the south slope of Mt Trematon.

On August 28 LINC sponsored a very successful Squitty Bay Day. A crowd came out to take in the workshops, enjoy the food and to make and listen to music. Over 1700 dollars was raised to further the activities of LINC. So many LINC members put in many hours of time in the organizing and operation of this event that I cannot begin to name them individually. Thank you all.



Top Right: Rigid Apple Moss; Middle: Western Screech Owl Box workshop hosted by Shari White this spring. Participants hold their boxes - (from left) Ron Chernick, Jay Rainey, Ezra Auerbach, Carolyn Masson, Shari White, Melinda Auerbach, Doane Grinell; Bottom Left: FBS Bioblitz; Bottom Right: Jenna Jade and Adam Wood install a Screech Owl Nest Box at Salish View

This year we published two LINC Newsletters with a third spring edition on its way. These newsletters have proved a popular way for LINC to further its mandate to educate and inform islanders. On New Years Day, Duane led another hike of hearty souls onto the Lasqueti Ecoreserve.



A screech owl nest box building workshop was organized and well attended with the help of Shari White. Thanks to Shari and Ezra Auerbach we installed two donated boxes up at Salish view this winter.

With funding from the Islands Trust Conservancy and BC Parks board, we thank Izzy Harrington for designing a new informative sign and Thierry David for building and installing a kiosk marking the start of the Salish View Trail.

With the generous donations LINC received in the fall and winter of 2022/2023, we are in good shape to face another busy year ahead of us. We will do this from our new office situated at the Judith Fisher Centre. I want to take a moment here to acknowledge and thank Julia Woldmo who, over the last year, has served this organization so well.

We are sorry to announce that Hilary Duinker is stepping down after five years as a LINC director to pursue some of her many other interests. Her ideas, her energy and ambition will be missed. Thank you Hilary.

The time and energy you the members and our dedicated directors give to this organization is the life force that keeps it alive. We thank you.

James Schwartz, Director

LINC's Board of Directors includes: Gordon Scott (President), Wendy Schneible (Vice-President), Sheila Harrington (Secretary/ Treasurer), Ken Lertzman, Duane West, James Schwartz, Hilary Duinker, Shirley Rogers, and Morgan Maher

We acknowledge that Xwe'etay/ Lasqueti Island lands and waters are within the traditional territories of several Coast Salish Nations and are within the treated lands of Tla'amin Nation. In doing so, we also acknowledge the many generations of Indigenous peoples who called Xwe'etay home.

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Top: Bill Helin leading drumming at Squitty Bay Day 2022.
Photo by Morgan Maher

Financial Report

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS	2022-23	2021-22
REVENUE		
Memberships	\$1,205.00	\$652.92
Donations (General)	\$9,762.14	\$8,048.37
Donations (Acquisitions)	\$1,752.00	\$736.00
Sales/events	\$1,196.00	\$70.00
Fee for Service 2022-23	\$8,360.00	\$5,470.00
Fee for Service 2021-22	\$6,800.53	
Grants	\$2,000.00	\$11,500.00
interest	\$46.69	\$0.07
General Revenue	\$31,122.36	\$26,477.36
Accounts Receivable	\$1,750.00	\$4,720.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$32,872.36	\$31,197.36
EXPENSES		
Rent., bk cgs., legal and insurance	\$1,569.43	\$992.80
Communication, Education & outreach	\$3,071.84	\$1,580.21
Administration & bookkeeping	\$4,981.25	\$1,720.00
Office equipment		\$697.96
Office supplies (General)	\$828.20	\$631.73
Land Management & monitoring	\$7,266.05	\$8,175.46
Land Protection costs (Point Young donation)		\$5,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$17,704.27	\$18,798.16
Operating Surplus for the year	\$15,168.09	\$12,399.20
Operating surplus start of year	\$40,387.43	\$27,988.23
Income Rec from 2021-22	-\$4,720.00	
Accts Payable	-\$362.50	
Surplus at end of year	\$50,473.02	\$40,387.43
Reserved Acquisition Funds	-\$10,000.00	
Reserved Operational Funds	-\$10,000.00	
Net surplus end of year	\$30,473.02	
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION		
Credit union account	\$48,426.57	\$35,122.82
Petty cash	\$658.95	\$544.61
Accounts Receivable	\$1,750.00	\$4,720.00
Accts payable	-\$362.50	
Total Assets	\$50,473.02	\$40,387.43
Less Reserved Funds	-\$20,000.00	
Total Assets after reserved	\$30,473.02	