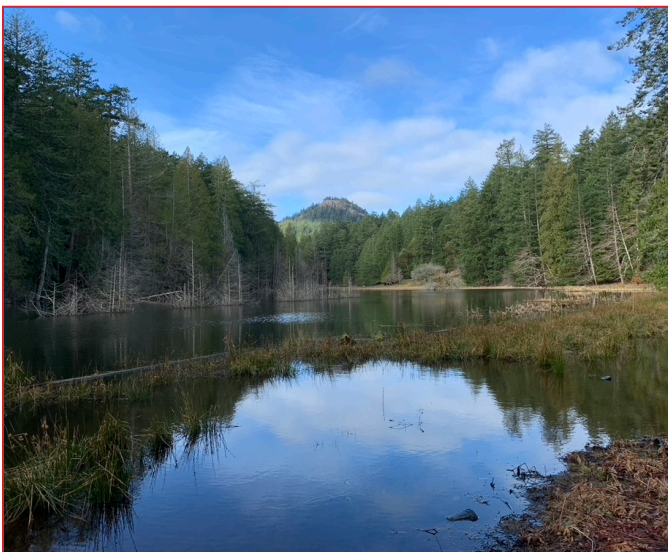




The need for LINC's work has never been more critical. Last year's heat dome, wildfires and flooding have brought the urgent call to address climate change into sharp focus. The value of nature-based solutions, like land conservation, is finally being widely recognized. Census data for 2021 recorded a 25% increase in Lasqueti's population. This increase is a conservation concern for the rare habitats of the globally important Coastal Douglas-fir (CDF) biogeoclimatic zone, which encompasses all of Lasqueti and surrounding islands. It's more important now than ever to conserve land and waters here in the heart of the Salish Sea.

This past year marked the beginning of a significant new project— the Mt. Trematon Restoration Biodiversity Study. This is a robust scientific study on biodiversity and ecosystem recovery from herbivory, designed by ecologist Dr Cora Skaen with assistance from Dr. Ken Lertzman. The study design was finalized in the spring of 2021 and funding for materials, supplies and lunches was secured by volunteers through the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation's Public Conservation Assistance Fund. The Islands Trust Conservancy found funding to hire a team of local women to install the first 2+ acre enclosure along Trematon Creek. After the completion of a baseline scientific survey, over 200 native plants were planted inside and outside the enclosure and their locations recorded. Water tanks were also installed to allow for watering of new plantings while they establish themselves. We hope this research will contribute valuable data to the field of ecological restoration that can then inform land stewardship activities locally and more widely.



Top Left: Cora Skaen conducting the baseline inventory
Top Right: Mikaila Lironi, Anna Smith, Heather Crawford and Tian Ostapovich installing the fence at the Mt. Trematon Biodiversity Restoration Project site
Middle: volunteers at the October planting day on site
Above: Mt. Trematon in view from the John Osland Reserve

Stewardship and Restoration work also continued at Salish View and Johnny Osland Nature Reserves. The public trail at Salish View was completed early in 2021 and several dozen additional native plants were added to the wetland enclosure. Three more small enclosures were added to the two larger ones along the wetland at Johnny Osland Nature Reserve and thanks to False Bay School students and many volunteers native plants were added inside. However, beaver activity has now raised the water level at the reserve, forcing us to adjust our restoration activities. We are now working on a trail system for the nature reserve, including a trail out to the beaver dam so visitors can see these ecosystem engineers in action. Both nature reserves also saw new boundary signs installed.

This past year, LINC supported the BC Parks Foundation in its acquisition and fundraising efforts, resulting in the protection of the Young Point property, a most welcome and significant addition to the protected areas here on Lasqueti. Protection of this stellar 256-acre waterfront property increases the percentage of protected land on Lasqueti Island from 5.6% to 7.1%.



Point Young, Guided Tour with Andy Day, Photo Gordon Scott

The board's strategic planning sessions in September 2021 reaffirmed LINC's primary goal of land conservation. The directors set a goal of doubling protected areas in the next five years on Xewetay/Lasqueti and surrounding islands. Thank you LINC members and the Lasqueti community for your support and input into our detailed 2021 Survey. The new 2022-2026 Strategic Plan developed with community input from the survey, is now on our website. LINC's new website linc.lasqueti.ca was also redesigned this past year with the volunteer help of Ian Rusconi.

LINC sponsored two more 'Spurge Purge' work parties near the south end fire hall. Thanks to many wonderful volunteers, our work removing the invasive Daphne Spurge laurel seems to be paying off. We are hopeful we might see the end of spurge laurel in this area soon.

All this conservation and stewardship work was done in addition to our regular activities - completing annual covenant monitoring on four properties, liaising with our conservation partners (Islands Trust Conservancy, BC Parks, BC Parks Foundation, Nanaimo and Area Land Trust, Sea Change, and the Coastal Douglas Fir Partnership), publishing the much loved LINC 'newtletter' three times per year, processing memberships and donations, writing emails to members and articles for the Lasqueti Local, bookkeeping and all the other correspondence and background administrative work required to keep LINC a trustworthy charitable organization. Up to this point, all this administrative and outreach work has been done by the volunteer board, much of it by our hardworking secretary/treasurer Sheila (Izzy) Harrington. This past year, after much deliberation, including input from our membership and the local community obtained through our 2021 Community Survey and insights gleaned from a 3-day Strategic Planning session in the fall, the board decided to hire a part-time administrative assistant. Julia Woldmo began a contract for 4 hrs/week in January 2022 and has proven a capable and insightful addition to our team.

Hilary Duinker, Director

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS	2022	2021
REVENUE		
Memberships	652.92	1321.83
Donations (General)	8048.37	6029.33
Donations (Acquisitions)	736	
Sales/events	70	
Fee for Service	5470	1450
Grants qrd & HCTF	11500	1500
interest	0.07	37.75
GST rebate		
Sales general		50
<i>General Revenue</i>	<u>\$26,477.36</u>	<u>\$10,388.91</u>
<i>Salish Reserve</i>		
<i>Accounts Receivable</i>	<u>4720</u>	<u>1470</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	\$31,197.36	\$11,858.91
EXPENSES		
Acct., bk cgs., legal and insurance	992.8	945
Communication & Education	1580.21	1931.91
Administration & Outreach	1720	
Office equipment	697.96	
Office supplies (General)	631.73	469.17
Land Management & monitoring	8175.46	1615.92
Land Protection (Young Point)	<u>5000.00</u>	<u>4962</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$18,798.16	\$4,998.68
Operating Surplus for the year	12,399.20	\$6,860.23
Operating surplus start of year	<u>\$27,988.23</u>	21,128
Net Operating surplus at end of year	<u>\$40,387.43</u>	<u>\$27,988.23</u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Credit Union	35,122.82	25,864.26
Petty cash	544.61	653.97
Credit union GIC's Salish View		
Accounts Receivable	4720	1470
Accts payable		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$40,387.43	\$27,988.23