

SIERRA CLUB BC

THE FUTURE IS HERE

**ANNUAL
REPORT
2015**



**SIERRA
CLUB BC**

Dustin Trudeau

BY THE NUMBERS

3.1 MILLION

hectares of endangered old-growth off limits to logging

5000

students
reached
across B.C.

\$600,000

raised for First Nations legal challenges of Enbridge
Northern Gateway

47

years old

10

steps to
post-carbon
prosperity

FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

The past year has brought challenges and many promises to the Canada that we love. Those of us who monitor and work for change are kept busy trying to ensure that promises are kept, old ways are changed, and new cleaner, greener ways are embraced.

Sierra Club BC, thanks to its committed and talented staff, has again been in the forefront of effecting change. Often working together with other organizations and communities, we have ensured 85 per cent of forests is off-limits to logging in the Great Bear Rainforest, raised over \$600,000 in support of First Nations fighting Enbridge in court, and teamed up with landowners, farmers, and First Nations in the Peace Valley against Site C dam—these are significant achievements!

There is still much work to do in this province and we are moving in new directions to change the conversation. We are working collaboratively and creatively with organizations and stakeholders in local communities, we are producing reports like *The Future Is Here* that provide a path forward, we are pushing to include a Climate Test in B.C.'s environmental assessments. It is unnecessary, expensive and draining to

fight climate change projects one at a time—we are constantly looking at better ways to address the challenges of living in a province whose history, but not its future, lies in resource based industries.

Without the wholehearted support of our donors, volunteers, staff and board, our organization would not be capable of effecting change. We thank everyone for making a difference! A special word of thanks goes to former board chair, Doug McArthur, who stepped down in October 2015. His guidance was, and continues to be, much appreciated.

Sincerely,



Gail Riddell
Board Chair

GREAT BEAR RAINFOREST

2015 was a breakthrough year in our endeavour to safeguard the Great Bear Rainforest. After years of planning and talks with the B.C. government, First Nations and logging companies, our efforts with other environmental organizations to protect the largest intact coastal temperate rainforest in the world were rewarded.

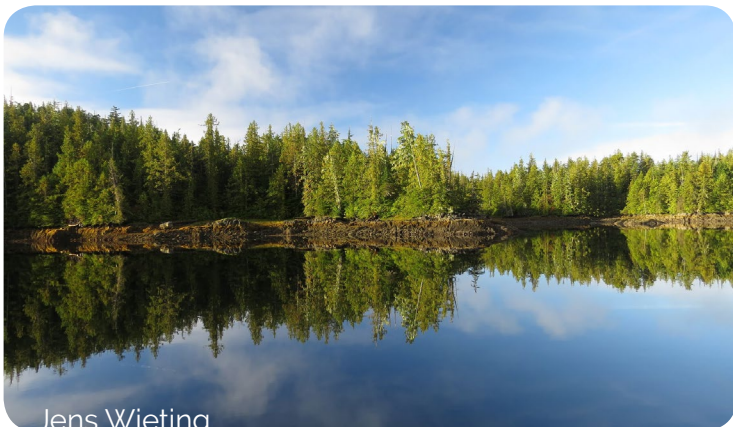
In June, the B.C. government published draft logging regulations and proposals for new protected

areas in the Great Bear Rainforest, resulting in 85 per cent of the region's

forests being designated as permanently off-limits to industrial logging. The remaining 15 per cent would be subject to the most stringent commercial logging standards in North America.

This incredible moment was just what our diverse group needed to push through the final steps of the Great Bear Rainforest Agreements that would be announced in early 2016.

**3.1 million
hectares off-
limits to logging**



Jens Wieting



PULL TOGETHER

In 2014, Sierra Club BC set out to support First Nations fighting Enbridge in court by demonstrating that British Columbia stood with them. The Pull Together initiative was launched, with overwhelming success in 2015.

We helped raise over \$600,000 for seven First Nations on the front line of the fight against Enbridge's Northern Gateway pipeline and tankers. Over 140 businesses joined the campaign, donating their proceeds, and individuals across the province held over 125 fundraising events.

Pull Together inspired and mobilized

British Columbians

to learn more about the ecological values at stake and the concerns of First Nations, and take a tangible step along the pathway toward reconciliation. Together, we demonstrated that communities across B.C. will do what it takes to stop this unwanted pipeline and tankers.

The Judicial Review Hearings were held in the fall of 2015 and the decision is expected in spring 2016.

**Raised over
\$600,000 for
First Nations'
legal challenges**

SITE C

In 2015 we worked hard to defend the fertile land of the Peace River Valley. As climate change continues to threaten B.C.'s food security, protecting this region that could feed one million people becomes increasingly vital.

We held a show-and-smell press conference with Chief Roland Willson of West Moberly First Nations, bringing 200 pounds of contaminated bull trout to the lawn of the B.C. legislature.

With just one day's notice that Site C was to be debated in the legislature, we organized a lightning rally in support of Peace Valley farmers and First Nations. 29 MLA's voted against the dam—the strongest show of opposition yet to come out of the B.C. legislature.

Through the fall of 2015, we mobilized farmers and communities in the Fraser Valley to speak out for the Peace River Valley. In addition to a billboard on Highway 1, we put up signs on farmers' land, and held events with Peace Valley farmers and farmland defenders!



C. Lyon

EDUCATION

2015 was another hugely successful year for our vibrant environmental education program.

We directly engaged over 5,000 students across British Columbia in experiential environmental programs. Our programs brought us into contact with over 200 teachers who we supported through our curriculum-linked education workshops and our extensive online library of educational materials. We also reached 2,200 teachers, parents and environmental educators with our fun and informative monthly newsletter.

Beyond the classroom, we also participated in community-based environmental education events, and our Youth Environmental

Leadership Program organized a successful benefit concert for Pull Together and raised over \$3000.

By focusing on helping children, youth and educators to connect with and care for their local environment, our education programs continue to increase knowledge and awareness of nature in the school and extracurricular settings where we work.

**Over 5,000
students
reached
across B.C.**

ENERGY AND CLIMATE

Climate Test

In September 2015 we worked with the UVic's Environmental Law Centre, to produce a report (*Blind Spot*) on implementing a climate test in B.C. We submitted our report to B.C.'s Climate Leadership Team and were able to draw significant media attention to the failures of the climate leadership plan process and draft recommendations.



Kinder Morgan

We continued to draw attention to the ecological risks posed by this dangerous, unwelcome pipeline and tankers project. Our widely circulated report *Credibility Crisis* highlighted the many flaws of the National Energy Board review. We staged a die-in in English Bay to highlight the hazards associated with an oil spill in Burrard Inlet. The stunt successfully garnered the attention of the media and nearby onlookers.

By holding community-level discussions about the post-carbon transition initiatives thriving in many municipalities, we



shifted the narrative to demonstrate that pipelines are not inevitable. The shift to a post-carbon economy is already here and growing. We held 13 Future Is Here events across the province last year and engaged over 1,500 people at our events.

LNG

While the provincial government pushes full steam ahead on its empty dream of LNG, we raised awareness of alternatives through our Future Is Here events and garnered media coverage of the climate impacts of fracking and fracked gas.



We produced a forward-looking document, *The Future Is Here*, to showcase the steps needed for B.C. to transition to an equitable post-carbon economy.

BIODIVERSITY & CONSERVATION

Vancouver Island and South Coast Rainforest

On Vancouver Island and B.C.'s South Coast, large, intact-old growth areas are now as rare as white rhinos. Continuing to sound the alarm on the need to protect these endangered old-growth forests, we released a mapping analysis showing that the Walbran Valley is the last grand ancient rainforest of its size on southern Vancouver Island.



Rachel Grigg

When logging company Teal Jones applied for cut permits for the Central Walbran, we joined with others to pressure the B.C. government and logging companies to save this precious area. The widespread opposition has resulted in Teal Jones issuing a statement that they have "no immediate plans" to log in the most controversial Central Walbran area, but the fate of the area remains uncertain.



Flathead

We continue to promote the creation of a national park to protect the Flathead River Valley. We held the 4th Annual Bioblitz in this region, highlighting the diversity of species that exist here. We produced a "Friends of the Flathead" video series to give a face to the many people who want to see this park created. We also gave presentations to community and youth groups, did outreach at events in the Victoria and the Lower Mainland, and organized an event at UVic during Conservation Week.

**Friends of the
Flathead now has over
37,000 supporters**



Rachel Grigg

VOLUNTEERS



Our work couldn't be done without the help of our outstanding volunteer team. In 2015, over 50 volunteers put in more than 500 hours at over 60 events,

helping Sierra BC achieve its goals and expand its presence. Volunteers help by petitioning, helping out with our education program, running events, thanking donors, and many of them step into leadership roles training new volunteers.

**Our active volunteers
put in over 500 hours at
over 60 events in 2015.**



GET INVOLVED

Become a member

Donate just \$10 a year to become a Sierra Club BC member.

Visit sierraclub.bc.ca/donate to learn how.

Volunteer

Get involved in the movement to save B.C.'s wild places and stop climate-polluting fossil fuel projects.

Join a local group

Connect with like-minded people and work together on the issues that matter most in your community.

To find out more visit:

sierraclub.bc.ca/learnmore



Defending
B.C.'s wild
places and
species



Inspiring
British
Columbians
to value
nature



Supporting
the shift
to a just,
low-carbon
economy

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS & FINANCIAL POSITION

	2015	2014
Revenues		
Grants	\$432,054	\$398,732
Donations	\$304,644	\$326,985
Community Gaming Grant	\$109,064	\$100,394
Government Grants - (Note 1)	\$24,482	\$15,462
Bequests	\$48,380	\$85,538
Other Revenue	\$51,684	\$39,044
Activities Carried Out Under Agency Agreement	\$50,235	\$33,538
Total Revenue	\$1,020,543	\$999,693

Expenditures		
Operations	\$181,472	\$120,138
Development & Supporter Engagement	\$279,602	\$268,716
Biodiversity	\$160,068	\$235,605
Low Carbon Economy	\$225,797	\$173,298
Education	\$170,530	\$190,688
Local Groups	\$19,226	\$17,965
Activities Carried Out Under Agency Agreement	\$52,977	\$32,032
Total Expenses	\$1,089,672	\$1,038,442
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(\$69,129)	(\$38,749)
Fund balances, beginning of the year	\$144,216	\$182,965
Fund balances, end of year	\$75,087	\$144,216

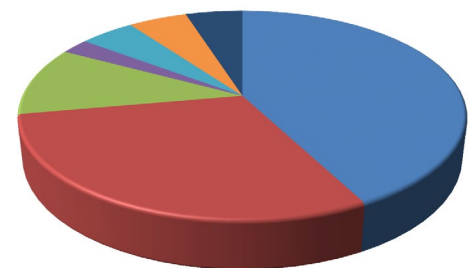
Note 1		
Local Government	0	\$3,000
Federal Government	\$24,482	\$5,162
Provincial		\$7,300

Sierra Club of BC Foundation Balance Sheet as at Dec 31, 2015

	Operating Fund	Special Purpose Fund	Total 2015	Total 2014
Assets				
Current Assets:				
Cash	\$57,254	\$219,685	\$276,939	\$326,599
Accounts Receivable	\$16,902	\$36,820	\$53,722	\$89,061
Prepays	\$1,048	0	\$1,048	\$1,421
	<u>\$75,204</u>	<u>\$256,505</u>	<u>\$331,709</u>	<u>\$417,081</u>
Grants Receivable	\$0	\$19,100	\$19,100	\$38,200
Capital Assets	\$41,781	0	\$41,781	\$27,717
Interfund Balances(see Note 1 below)	\$24,666	(\$24,666)	\$0	\$0
			<u>\$0</u>	
	\$141,651	\$250,939	\$392,590	\$482,998
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities:				
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$27,351	\$12,556	\$39,907	\$38,995
Deferred Revenue	\$3,463	\$238,383	\$241,846	\$275,388
Current Portion of Obligation Under Capital Lease	\$5,296	\$0	\$5,296	\$4,869
	<u>\$36,110</u>	<u>\$250,939</u>	<u>\$287,049</u>	<u>\$319,252</u>
Deferred Capital Contributions	\$16,221	\$0	\$16,221	
Obligation Under Capital Lease	\$14,233	\$0	\$14,233	\$19,530
Fund Balances				
Unrestricted	\$75,087	(\$0)	\$75,087	\$144,216
	\$141,651	\$250,939	\$392,590	\$482,998

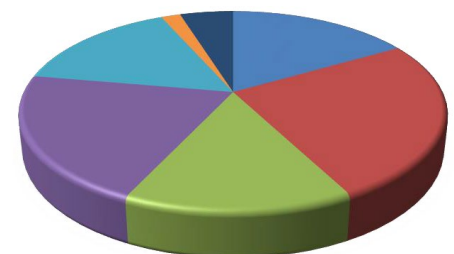
Note 1: During the year small interfund balances will exist between Operating, Special Purpose and the Fundraising funds. These differences are due to regular, monthly, automatic deposits being deposited to the general account with funds being restricted for the Special Purpose Account or the Fundraising Account. They can also occur due to the 9% administration fee the foundation charges on restricted grants, these funds come in the form of a cheque and are deposited to the Special Purpose Account. The differences are cleared monthly.

REVENUES



■ Grants	42%
■ Donations	30%
■ Community Gaming Grant	11%
■ Government Grants	2%
■ Bequests	5%
■ Other Revenue	5%
■ Activities Carried Out Under Agency Agreement	5%

EXPENDITURES



■ Operations	17%
■ Development & Supporter Engagement	26%
■ Biodiversity	15%
■ Low Carbon Economy	21%
■ Education	16%
■ Local Groups	2%
■ Activities Carried Out Under Agency Agreement	5%

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT



KPMG LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants
St. Andrew's Square II
800-730 View Street
Victoria BC V8W 3Y7

Telephone (250) 480-3500
Telefax (250) 480-3539
Internet www.kpmg.ca

To the Directors of Sierra Club of British Columbia Foundation

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Sierra Club of British Columbia Foundation ("the Foundation"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2015, and the statements of operations and changes in fund balances and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the Foundation's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many charitable organizations, the Foundation derives revenue from donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Foundation. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether, as at and for the years ended December 31, 2015 and December 31, 2014, any adjustments might be necessary to donations revenues and excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses reported in the statements of operations, excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses reported in the statements of cash flows and current assets and unrestricted fund balances reported in the statements of financial position. This caused us to qualify our audit opinion on the financial statements as at and for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Sierra Club of British Columbia Foundation as at December 31, 2015, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by the Society Act (British Columbia), we report that, in our opinion, the accounting principles in the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Chartered Professional Accountants
April 21, 2016
Victoria, Canada



OUR TEAM

Current Staff

Ana Simeon, Peace Valley Campaigner
 Anna Kemp, Communications Specialist
 Bob Peart, Executive Director
 Britton Jacob-Schram, Grants Coordinator
 Caitlyn Vernon, Campaigns Director
 Galen Armstrong, Outreach Coordinator
 Jens Wieting, Forest & Climate Campaigner
 Kirsten Dallimore, Environmental Educator
 Larissa Stendie, Climate and Energy Campaigner
 Laura Hope, Communications Specialist
 Lisa Dumoulin, Education Program Coordinator
 Lynn Bakken, Office Administrator
 Lynn Mathieson, Chartered Accountant
 Mark Worthing, Forests and Biodiversity Campaigner
 Maureen Yao, Bookkeeper
 Susan Elrington, Individual Giving Steward
 Tim Pearson, Communications Director

Thank you to the wonderful staff members who moved on from Sierra Club BC in 2015: Amy Mitchell, Elodie Button, Michelle Johnson, and Rikki Ayers.

Board

Bruce Hill, Member at Large
 Gail Riddell, Chair
 Geraldine Kenny, Member at Large
 Hannah Askew, Member at Large
 Jackie Larkin, Secretary
 Patricia Lane, Legacy Member
 Robert Mitchell, Vice-Chair
 Shirley Franklin, Treasurer
 Stan Tomandl, Member at Large

Thank you to the board members who moved on from Sierra Club BC in 2015: Doug McArthur and Rahman Saleem.



THANK-YOU

Funders

Barthel Foundation
The Barnes Family Foundation
Province of British Columbia
The BC Government and Service Employees' Union
The Brainerd Foundation
The Conservation Alliance
Tides Canada Foundation – Anonymous Grantor
The Health Sciences Association of British Columbia
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
J.W. McConnell Family Foundation (Innoweave)
The McLean Foundation
Mountain Equipment Co-operative
The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
Tides Canada Foundation - Wild Salmon Ecosystem Fund
Tides Foundation – On Recommendation of an Existing Fund
North Growth Foundation
Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
Patagonia Environmental Grants Fund of Tides Foundation
Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia
Government of Canada (Canada Summer Jobs)
The Schein Foundation
The Spencer Creo Foundation
The Stewart Fund, held at Vancouver Foundation
TD Friends of the Environment Foundation
The Laura L. Tiberti Charitable Foundation
Vancouver Foundation
Victoria Foundation
Western Mining Action Network
Wilburforce Foundation
Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative

Corporate Sponsors

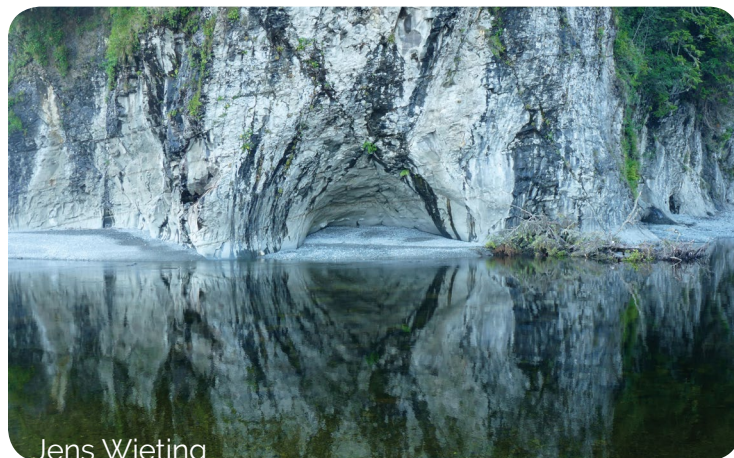
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Linda Hannah
Lynn Bakken
Margaret & Trevor Matthews
Margo Boyd
Paul Hunter
Robert Mitchell
Steve & Janet Gray
Sue Elrington
Thomas Hackney
Thomas Lane

Legacy Gifts

Estate of Roald Normolle
Estate of Erika Lockwood
The Brenda Scott Trust



*Thank you for helping create an ecologically sustainable, just and prosperous future.
For more information on ways to give, please visit sierraclub.bc.ca/donate*



SIERRA CLUB BC

301-2994 Douglas Street
Victoria, B.C. V8T 4N4

www.sierraclub.bc.ca

