



SIERRA
CLUB BC

2022

IMPACT
REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2022 ended on a powerful note for SCBC with team members, including myself, attending the United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP15) in Montreal where close to 200 countries committed to protecting 30 percent of the planet's lands and waters by 2030. At COP15 Indigenous delegates called for the integration of Indigenous laws, knowledge, and financing to reach this target. I'm happy to report that shortly before COP15, Premier Eby and the B.C. government committed to protecting 30 percent of lands in B.C.

While we applaud the 30x30 goal, protecting 30 percent of the Earth's land is not enough. The scientific consensus is clear that an additional 20 percent of lands need to be protected to reverse the biodiversity crisis and stabilize our global climate system.

As recent disasters like forest fires, heat domes, floods and atmospheric rivers are showing us, ecosystem resilience is inextricably linked to human health and wellbeing. Intact ecosystems provide enormous benefits to humans, they clean the air we breathe, filter the water we drink, reduce the risk of fire and floods, provide food and shelter for countless beings, and pollinate the crops we need for food.

Intact ecosystems also store huge quantities of carbon that otherwise would be released into the atmosphere.

Biodiversity is what sustains healthy ecosystems. Still, in B.C. alone, close to 2,000 species and ecosystems are listed as at-risk, including southern resident orcas, woodland caribou populations, marbled murrelets and wild salmon.

Safeguarding habitat important for biodiversity means protecting ancient and threatened ecosystems. For over 50 years Sierra Club BC has been fighting to protect the province's old-growth forests. These spectacular ecosystems provide a home for endangered species.

That's why we've been focusing on protecting species and their habitats by pushing for a province-wide Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health Law that upholds Indigenous jurisdiction to meaningfully protect the habitat of all species, including those most at-risk.

This is one of the commitments the B.C. government included in the Old Growth Strategic Review, its promised paradigm shift for forest stewardship. Our plan is to continue building on this work in 2023. But we want to go much further than that.

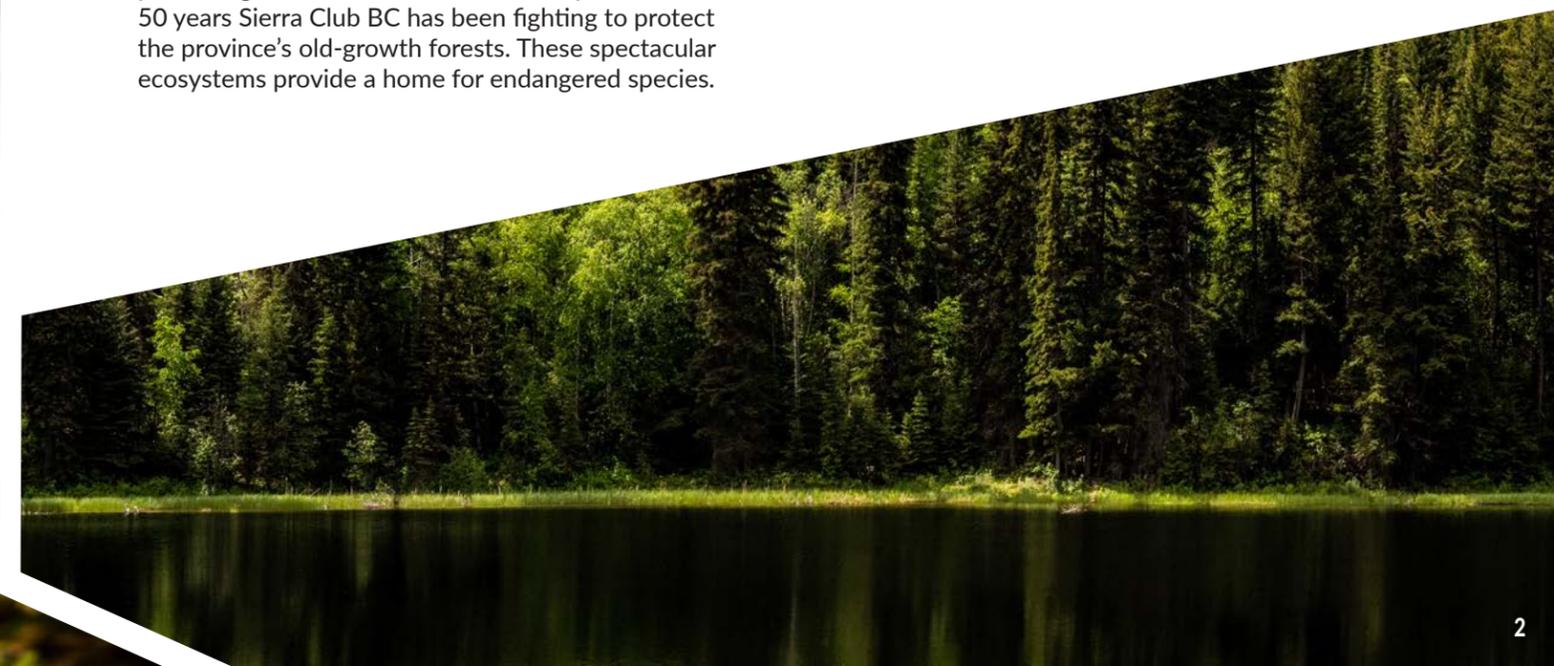
2022 allowed us to prepare for what is coming in 2023, Sierra Club BC will be connecting with our supporters, putting in the work to better see and recognize Indigenous governance, and working with key sector and local leaders in supporting them to catalyze change within their own networks and communities.

The 30x30 goal is central to these plans and a very inspiring way to wrap up 2022. But we need all hands on deck to ensure this commitment succeeds, is taken a step further, and is developed alongside Indigenous Nations and communities. It's going to take all of us to create a paradigm shift in the way we value the lands, waters and health of all living beings.

Sincerely,



Hannah Askew
Executive Director



2022 BY THE NUMBERS

766K+ people reached via mainstream media coverage of Sierra Club BC's work.

42K followers across social media channels including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and TikTok.

12K+ new SCBC supporters sent letters calling for climate and old-growth action.

6.7K registrants for our webinars with topics ranging from old-growth policy, Indigenous solidarity and nature-based art lessons.

190 countries, including Canada, committed to protect 30 percent of the planet by 2030 and prevent further loss of biodiversity.

1 release of a species-at-risk report highlighting the provincial and federal legal gaps contributing to biodiversity loss.

218K+ people reached with climate and old-growth action messaging through social media ads.

34K people subscribed to our email list to get updates on topics like the state of old growth, climate action and how they can help build a healthier, life-sustaining future.

10K learners reached through our education programs.

752 news stories featured our work across outlets like Global News, CTV, the Vancouver Sun, The Narwhal and more.

12 field assessments conducted to assess the ecological and cultural health of old-growth forests.

1 launch of the Mother Tree Local Leaders Program to empower community members to take action for the lands and waters.

OLD-GROWTH FORESTS

STRENGTHENING THE LAWS



GOOD NEWS ON 30X30 COMMITMENT

Sierra Club BC welcomed the B.C. government's commitment to protect 30 per cent of the province's land by 2030, including a mandate to work with Indigenous communities to create Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas.

The commitment was made in Premier David Eby's mandate letter to Nathan Cullen, B.C.'s Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship. The mandate letter also called for the development of a "new conservation financing mechanism to support protection of biodiverse areas."

New, significant conservation funding commitments by the provincial government are overdue but expected to be included in a Nature Agreement between the B.C. and federal governments. This announcement came while the UN biodiversity conference in Montreal was looking to strike an international agreement to increase protection of lands and waters to 30 per cent by 2030.

The 30x30 commitment is a major milestone to safeguard biodiversity. Currently, about 15 per cent of the land in B.C. is protected. This means we will need to double the existing protected areas over the next seven years, to meet the 30x30 goal. Highly endangered ecosystems with the highest biodiversity are significantly underrepresented in today's protected area system so new areas should prioritize these lands and waters by tying funding to conservation goals.

SKAGIT DONUT HOLE WAS PROTECTED

After decades of advocacy, Imperial Metals surrendered their mining rights to the Skagit River headwaters!

This stunning area—located in the territories of the Nlaka'pamux, Stó:lō, Syilx and Upper Skagit peoples—is home to an important Chinook salmon run, grizzly bears and species-at-risk. The river also provides clean drinking water to many communities.

Logging was banned in the area in 2019 because of pressure from Indigenous Nations and environmental groups like Sierra Club BC. It's fantastic that this vital valley is now safe from mining as well.

We raise our hands to all who have been working tirelessly for decades to help protect these headwaters, including the Indigenous leaders, our friends at the Wilderness Committee who helped keep the pressure on, and the countless community members who have raised their voices.



ASSESSING PROGRESS ON OLD-GROWTH COMMITMENTS

In March 2022 we released our third report card grading the B.C. government's progress on implementing the recommendations of the Old Growth Strategic Review (OGSR) panel. We reported that in the 18 months since the B.C. government promised to implement the recommendations of the OGSR panel, only 24 per cent of the most at-risk old-growth forests had been deferred from logging and insufficient funding was being earmarked to address impacts of deferrals and to support long-term protection.

That same spring, we released new evidence of ongoing logging and pending cut permits in proposed old-growth deferral areas, including ongoing destruction of the last productive big-tree old-growth ecosystems remaining in Kwakwaka'wakw territory on Northern Vancouver Island.

That same month Forest Minister Katrine Conroy presented new figures about the amount of old growth that had been recently deferred, showing some progress, but still leaving more than half of the most at-risk old-growth forests without logging deferrals. We responded by calling for both more urgency and transparency around this process.

Over the summer, the provincial government remained tight-lipped about old-growth forests, despite images of logging in proposed deferral areas garnering public frustration.

On September 8, two years after the provincial government released the report of its OGSR panel, we released our fourth report card, once again giving the B.C. government failing grades for its progress to protect threatened old-growth forests and implement the recommendations of the report's three-year framework.

Deferral of logging in the most endangered forests has not yet been realized, three years after the OGSR report, and old-growth logging rates in the province have not declined. We continue to prioritize working with Indigenous Nations and government to achieve deferrals, and to work toward long-term conservation financing that will sustain communities and protect the last remaining old-growth forests.

As 2022 comes to an end, over 27,000 letters have been sent to the B.C. government via our online OGSR-focused old-growth petitions and with the three-year anniversary of the OGSR coming up, next year will be a big one for old-growth action.

PROVIDING WEBINAR UPDATES TO OUR SUPPORTERS

We hosted an 'Old Growth in 2022: Facts and Fiction' webinar featuring Sierra Club BC, Wilderness Committee, and Elders for Ancient Trees to help supporters make sense of the complex issues around old growth. Panelists answered forest-related questions and provided up-to-date and factual messaging for supporters and advocates around B.C.



ASSESSING THE ON-THE-GROUND REALITIES OF OLD GROWTH

In 2022 our team conducted field assessments in at-risk old-growth watersheds, including 12 site visits, during which our team documented industrial logging of old-growth forests and resultant watershed degradation; habitat destruction; proper functioning condition of salmon-bearing streams; and impacts on forests that hold significant archeological and cultural values.

Data from this fieldwork helped build support for forest protection and Indigenous-led conservation. Sierra Club BC staff and grassroots partners whom we support met with leadership from Quatsino, Ma'amtagila, Kwagiulth, Pacheedaht, and Nuchatlaht during the year. Upon request, we also directly supported Indigenous leaders in navigating provincial government relations to assert their communities' rights, jurisdiction and conservation goals for old-growth ecosystem protection.

Three Sierra Club BC staff members also had the opportunity to visit parts of the Interior in June to learn and raise awareness about the forests, communities and threats in this part of the province. We met with Indigenous elder Bert William of the St'uxwtews (Bonaparte) First Nation, private landowners, foresters and UBC scientists. Their in-depth perspectives about ecological integrity, Indigenous knowledge, industrial degradation and the impacts of the climate crisis on Interior ecosystems were eye-opening and continue to inform our work highlighting solutions in all parts of B.C.

As heat waves and other climate risks become more common, protecting remaining intact old-growth forests and restoring those degraded from industrial logging is the best way to keep communities safe. Yet year after year industrial clearcutting chips away more of these at-risk forests. Time is of the essence to chart a better path forward.

BEAR DEN AMENDMENTS PASS FIRST READING

The ongoing destruction of bear dens across many parts of the province is a dramatic example of the urgency of the biodiversity crisis in B.C., particularly for species that depend on intact forests.

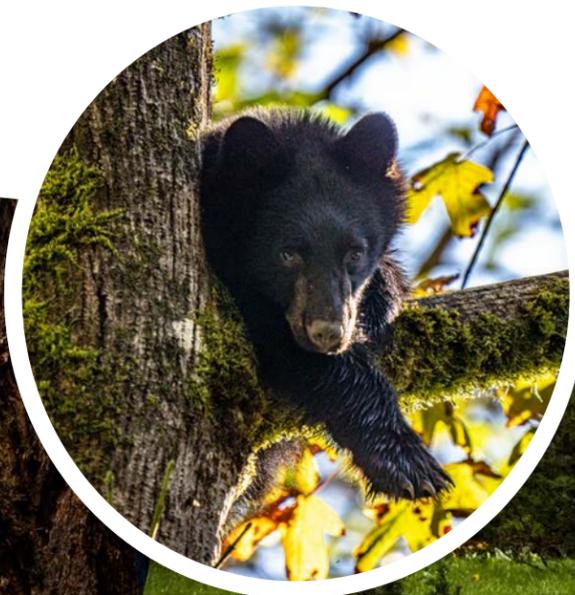
Over a century of logging old-growth forests has greatly reduced the availability of suitable bear dens across B.C., with research showing that black bears on Vancouver Island are some of the most affected.

We commissioned a report in 2022 in which University of Victoria Environmental Law Centre researchers identified simple yet effective policy measures to provide province-wide protection for bear dens.

SCBC's social media campaign and online letter writing tool resulted in thousands of letters and MLAs taking notice of the public outcry. We also supported bear biologist Helen Davis in running bear den workshops and publishing a scientific paper showing that protecting old-growth forests is the best way to ensure healthy coastal bear populations.

In early October, bear den amendments proposed through a Green Party private member bill passed first reading, allowing the possibility they might become reality.

As a culturally sacred and critical keystone species, a decline in bear populations would negatively impact other species and contribute to the ecological degradation of old-growth ecosystems. We plan to continue working with our partners to urge the B.C. government to pursue small and big steps towards the promised paradigm-shift in forest stewardship at the same time.



BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM HEALTH

UNITED NATIONS BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE (COP15) IN MONTREAL

One outcome of the United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP15) in Montreal was a commitment by roughly 190 countries to protect 30 percent of the planet by 2030 and prevent further loss of biodiversity. Also, during COP15, Premier David Eby issued a clear mandate for the B.C. Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship to protect 30 percent of the lands in B.C. by 2030.

This means that along with the COP15 commitment, there is now a global, federal, and provincial 30x30 goal. This is a huge step in the right direction and a much-needed boost to climate and conservation policy in B.C.

The 30x30 goal is central to Sierra Club BC's strategic plan. There's still more to do—science-based targets and criteria are needed to ensure protection of the most biodiverse and at-risk areas, including the remaining old-growth forests.

Moving forward, how do we help build the social and political will to meet these important targets? We know B.C. legislation to protect biodiversity and ecosystem health would help make the 30x30 target even more meaningful.

While we continue to hold leaders accountable, we recognize it's going to take all of us for the paradigm shift needed. This is why our second strategic plan goal is to support 1,000 local leaders to help their own communities take meaningful climate action by 2030. This is something we have started working on and will continue working on in 2023, allowing the possibility they might become reality.

CALL FOR A PROVINCIAL BIODIVERSITY LAW TO BE CO-DEVELOPED WITH INDIGENOUS NATIONS

In November we released an independent report about species-at-risk in B.C., written by biologist Jared Hobbs. This audit of provincial and federal policies highlighted the legal gaps contributing to biodiversity loss and species extinction in B.C., and how a biodiversity law co-developed with Indigenous Nations can chart a better path forward.

The provincial legal framework for biodiversity protection is a patchwork of laws with mostly voluntary compliance from industry. This has led to over 1,900 at-risk species that call B.C. home—like spotted owls, tiger salamanders and southern resident orcas—to fall through the cracks.

Reports like this highlight problems, offer solutions and help move us toward ensuring all beings and the ecosystems we rely on are healthy and thriving. The next step will be a new provincial law, co-developed with Indigenous Nations, that prioritizes biodiversity and ecosystem health—a true paradigm shift.



TAKING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO COURT OVER MIGRATORY BIRD ACT VIOLATIONS

Protecting threatened and endangered bird species requires protecting the habitat they depend on, and for many species this includes old-growth forests. Unfortunately, this is not reflected in provincial and federal regulation.

This is why we are suing the federal government for failing to protect the critical habitats of at-risk migratory birds across Canada. The lawsuit, which Ecojustice filed in Federal Court on behalf of Sierra Club BC and Wilderness Committee, alleges that Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault is failing to meet his statutory duties to ensure the protection of habitat necessary for the survival and recovery of at-risk migratory birds.

Among these is the marbled murrelet, a small, migratory seabird that nests high in the mossy branches of old-growth trees. These birds only approach or leave their nests under the cover of darkness, making the nests nearly impossible to find and difficult to protect.

The main threat to the marbled murrelet's survival and recovery is logging of their nesting habitat. Surveys conducted in some of the last intact old-growth areas on Southern Vancouver Island in 2021 revealed over 300 marbled murrelet detections overtop of a proposed cutblock in the Ada'itsx (Fairy Creek) watershed on Pacheedaht territory. This habitat was outside the deferral area and was set to be logged by Teal-Jones Group. No action was taken to stop logging because the nests themselves could not be identified. The cutblock was logged roughly a week after the federal and provincial governments were notified of the marbled murrelet detections.

Healthy populations of plant and animal species are an indicator of ecological integrity. When a species like the marbled murrelet becomes threatened, it is a sign the ecosystem is deteriorating. Each species that is lost triggers spillover effects within its ecosystem, including the loss of other species.

This case has larger implications for habitat protection for bird species across Canada. If we are successful, the federal government would have to take steps to ensure protection of the habitat and ecosystems bird species are embedded in, rather than just applying often-ineffective measures to protect nests. This could in turn lead to the protection of more old-growth forests and other habitat important to migratory birds.

CLIMATE ACTION

CLIMATE ACCOUNTABILITY LEGISLATION

In March 2022, Sierra Club BC and Ecojustice launched a lawsuit alleging that the B.C. government's 2021 Climate Change Accountability Report failed to include plans to make progress towards B.C.'s 2025, 2040, and 2050 climate targets as well as the critical 2030 target for the oil and gas sector. The two non-profits went before the B.C. Supreme Court in October. A decision by the court is expected in early 2023.*

The province's 2019 Climate Change Accountability Act requires the B.C. government to publish an annual accountability report that describes plans for continuing progress toward B.C.'s emissions targets. Sierra Club BC is arguing that this requires the government to be fully transparent and report how far these plans will move B.C. towards reaching each of its emissions targets. If the plans only get us part of the way there, B.C.'s accountability report has to be clear in telling us that.

This information is critical for the public to hold the government accountable to develop climate plans that are adequate to meet all of the emissions targets it has set in law.

The B.C. government is not complying with its own climate accountability legislation at a time when the province's emissions are too high, and the climate emergency is having an increasingly direct and damaging impact on the lives of people in B.C. This comes after people living in B.C. were battered by extreme weather events tied to climate change, with 2021 being particularly devastating.

Upon launching our lawsuit, Sierra Club BC ran a social media campaign alongside a letter-writing campaign that saw thousands of people writing to their local representatives. We also hosted a rally outside the courthouse, which received extensive media coverage.

As the year comes to a close, new premier David Eby has an opportunity to reset B.C.'s approach to climate action and accountability. By acting immediately, Eby can ensure B.C. meets all its climate targets. It is critical that B.C. ban new LNG facilities and commit to phasing out fracked gas, in line with climate science.

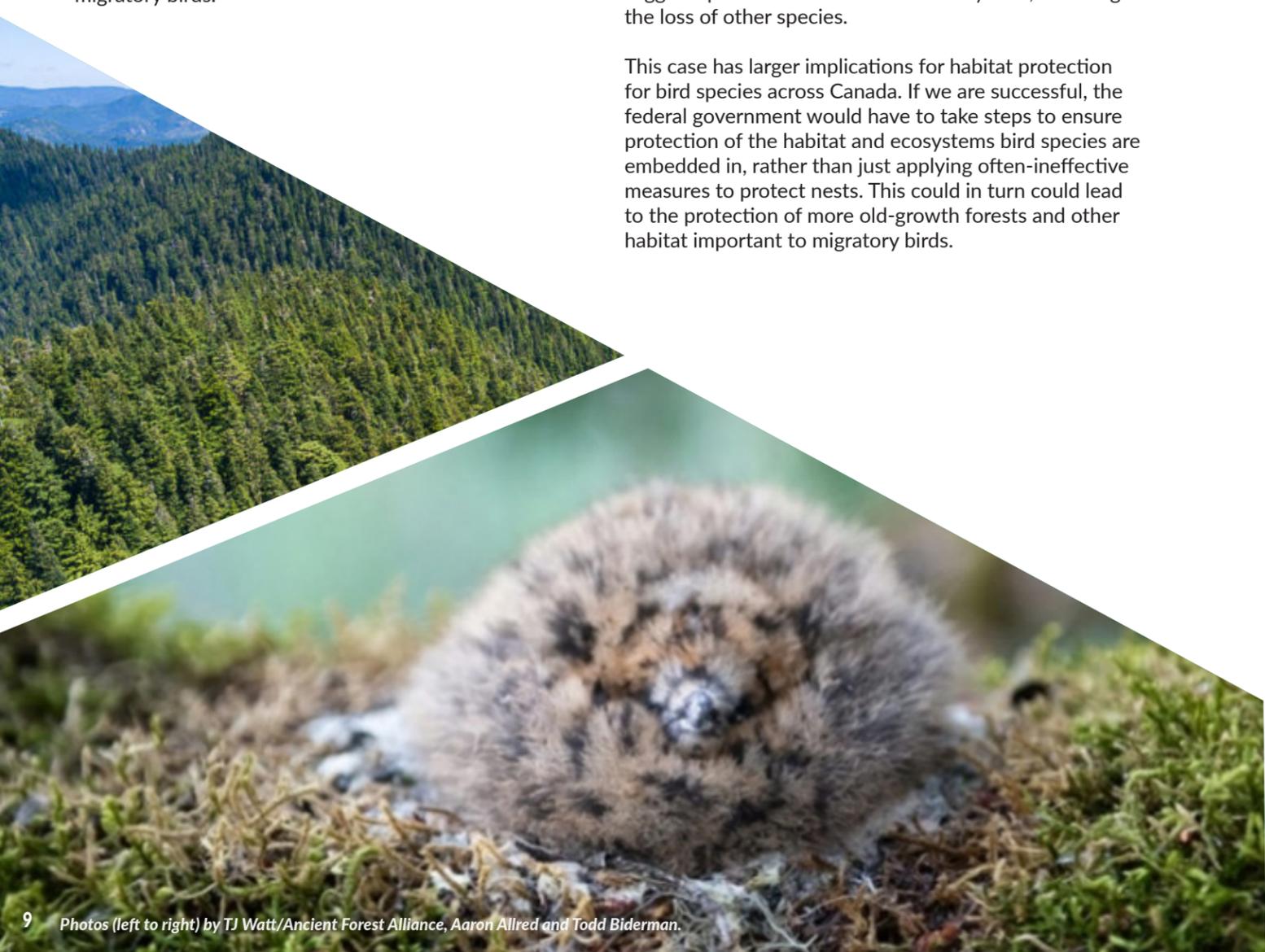
As we wait for a court decision on whether B.C. is complying with its own climate law, Ecojustice and Sierra Club BC will continue to hold the government to account for getting on track towards its climate targets and staying there in the years to come.

**The decision in 2023 was a mixed bag for the environment. Learn more about it at sierraclub.bc.ca/climate-case-decision*

BETTER UPHOLDING INDIGENOUS LAW

A notable highlight this year was solidifying a partnership to deliver a capacity-building workshop aimed at how the environmental non-profit sector can better understand and recognize how and when it is engaging with Indigenous legal orders. We will jointly host a two-day workshop with the Indigenous Law Research Unit in spring 2023 in support of this sector-based capacity matter.

We would also like to acknowledge that while a big portion of our campaigns work focuses on Canada and B.C.'s legal frameworks, this is just one part of the story. Indigenous laws that help maintain rich biodiversity have never ceased to be practiced and are continually undermined by Western government laws. Indigenous-managed lands make up around 20 percent of the planet and contain 80 percent of the world's remaining biodiversity, highlighting how Indigenous Peoples are the most effective stewards of biodiversity.



EMPOWERING LOCAL LEADERS

GROWING THE MOVEMENT

Part of Sierra Club BC's mandate to support local leaders includes building a community of engaged members who think and act with respect and care for the beings and the natural world around them, and who empower others to "step in" in a similar way.

This year we hosted over 20 community events and connected with hundreds of people across the province who signed up as artists, youth climate action groups, teachers and guardians of young ones, and ambassadors—people organizing in community groups interested in bringing up key issues with their contacts and in some cases with their local governments.

Each one received a welcoming phone call and 78 of them met one-on-one with SCBC staff over Zoom, phone, or in person. In these meetings we listened to concerns around issues such as biodiversity loss and the effects of climate change and connected them with people and resources from their town or city, to build more connected and resilient networks.

Here are highlights from some of the community events we hosted this year:

February 28, 'The Stories that Move Action' multi-faith online event

SCBC teamed up with the Climate Emergency Unit and For the Love of Creation to co-host an event for 30 faith and spiritual leaders across the country.

This event brought together leaders from a wide range of faith and spiritual traditions to reflect on the messages within their traditions that might inspire the public and politicians to act with greater courage in this time of climate crisis.

March 20, the Town hall and Art Build for the Nuchatlaht Title Case was held in-person in Vancouver

This town hall for the Nuchatlaht Court Case drew over 150 people. It was emceed by SCBC Climate Lead Anjali Appadurai and featured powerful speeches by Tyee Ha'with (Hereditary Chief) Jordan Michael, elder and councilor Archie Little, and Chief Judy Wilson. The art-build brought together over 75 people who created strong visuals with the collaboration of a silkscreen created by students and faculty at Emily Carr whom SCBC had led through a season-long series of educational forest walks.



April 25, How to talk with kids about climate anxiety online event

We offered an online event with discussion and resources around how to help our young ones cope with climate anxiety and how to nurture our ability to stay centered in these challenging times.

May 26, Reimagining Invitations to Environmental Action

SCBC staff presented at the Religious Responses to Climate Change Conference hosted by the Vancouver School of Theology, which focused on the importance of personal and spiritual connections to place and how this shapes the climate action we can take.

May 29, Art Workshop: Needle-felting birds' nests online event

SCBC member and talented needle-felting artist Laura Briggs led this tutorial where participants deepened their relationship with birds in their neighborhoods by thinking about what they need to build nests and how we can help them.

September 24, Ceramics Together for the Salish Sea held in-person in Vancouver

This workshop invited artists together to create a collaborative ceramic art piece celebrating salmon and all the life they support.

October 4, Climate Court Case Send-Off

We organized a public gathering with media in front of the B.C. Supreme Court in solidarity with the launch of our climate accountability legal challenge.

October 22, Indigenous Law and Mindfulness Retreat

Co-hosted by the Victoria Multi Faith society in collaboration with the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council. SCBC staff presented on the panel alongside John Borrows. More than 100 participants—Indigenous and non-Indigenous leaders, academics, students and others—joined or this day-long event at the Sorrento Centre.

December 11, Hug the Mountain

SCBC staff did some in-person tabling at Burnaby Mountain in support of resisting the expansion of the Trans Mountain pipeline.





I chose Sierra Club BC [to take deeper action with] because I liked its focus on using science, data and policy to help protect and restore the land, water and the plants and animals who live there. I also chose it because it is one of the few organizations that is focused on our natural world and allows for someone to give more than a signature on a petition or a monetary donation.

Since engaging with SCBC and eventually becoming a SCBC delegate to Greater Victoria Acting Together (GVAT), I've been steadily learning and gaining new perspectives. I'm learning about the rich opportunity to see things through the Indigenous lens, the importance of understanding how local, provincial and federal politics works as it relates to our priorities, and the power of having meaningful one-on-one conversations about climate change.

-Tracey Scott, who recently moved to the Victoria area after working in Alberta in the oil and gas sector for twenty years.

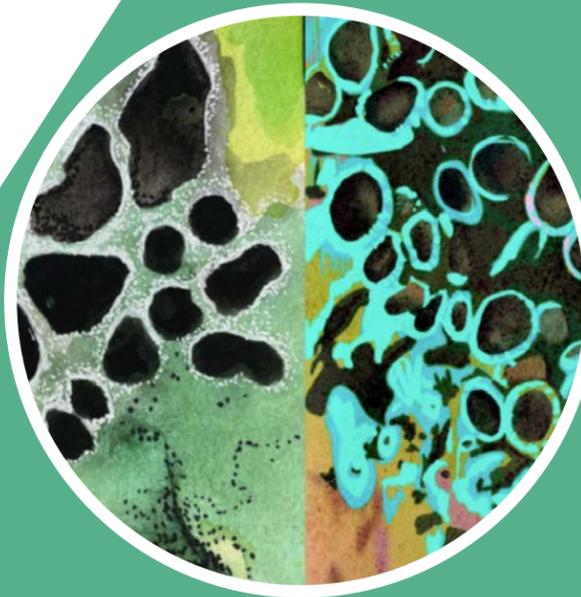
MOTHER TREE LOCAL LEADERS PROGRAM

Weary of petitions, sign-on letters, and other forms of largely online action, British Columbians are wanting to expand beyond typical forms of advocacy with fresh tools and imagination. Every community is filled with folks who care deeply about their local ecosystems but lack the expertise or funding to protect them from harm.

The Mother Tree Local Leaders Program fills that void by inviting local leaders to in-person and online sessions that deepen our relationship to the land, foster conversations around climate action, address the roots of the crisis we are experiencing, and ultimately empower people to pave the way for lasting conservation gains.

During 2022, SCBC hosted eight walks that were attended by 85 people, in Victoria and Vancouver. We also piloted our first walk series from January to April with 'Place Based Field School' students at Emily Carr University of Art and Design (featured below).

The collective impact of powerful networks all working towards addressing the climate crisis has tremendous potential to catalyze change. We look forward to more work with community leaders, empowering each other to reach out to our networks and build a vision of a healthy environment and life-affirming society.



RE-STORYING OUR RELATIONSHIPS: AN ARTS-BASED WORKSHOP

Re-imagining is a practice of hope needed to sustain our planet. The first step is to reflect on the ways we have storied our belonging and connections to the natural world. This arts-based workshop asked what if stories that call the land a resource could be transformed into narratives that inspire responsible ways of relating with the natural world?

In this five-session workshop, participants engaged with the practice of "re-storying" through writing and illustration exercises. In each session, participants re-imagined narratives that encourage reciprocal relationships with the natural world and those who inhabit it.

These five weekly sessions were led by Andrea Vela Alarcón, from the Abya Yala rainforest territory, currently known as the Peruvian Amazon. Andrea is an artist and community educator interested in facilitating spaces of critical conversations on ecological survival.

*"To bellow is to accept the sunshine.
To thank the Earth for the role it bestows upon you.
To burst out of the egg and know how to worship the water.
A deep rumble like an earthquake.
The embrace of the shade,
the kindness in the warmth."*



EDUCATION



GROWING OUR EDUCATION PROGRAM

Our environmental education programs offer experiential learning opportunities that centre diverse ecological and cultural knowledges. They are deeply rooted in the principle that empowering and educating youth is vital to stewarding abundant ecosystems and a stable climate—as well as building resilient, equitable communities. As we respond to deepening environmental crises, our programing becomes increasingly important.

Looking back on 2022, this was another big year for SCBC's education program. Our team formed new relationships, participated in inspiring conversations, visited new learning communities, and built more bug homes than we could have ever imagined.

Since 1998 SCBC has offered a variety of free environmental education workshops directly in communities—in classrooms, school yards, homeschool neighbourhoods, and local outdoor spaces. This year's

workshops were primarily within Metro Vancouver, Mid-Northern Vancouver Island regions, the Capital Regional District and the Qathet Regional District.

This means a big goal in 2022 was to increase our service to reach more learners across B.C.—particularly in underserved communities, both urban and remote. We delivered over 350 in-person outdoor workshops and seven Learn to Draw Webinars. We reached over 10,000 people from more than 26 different B.C. cities and school districts.

We deepened efforts to incorporate local Indigenous cultural knowledges and connections into the learning process; through collaboration and reciprocal relationship building. One way we've helped invite learners to this different way of understanding is through our very popular 'Learn to Draw' webinar series, which reached over 5,000 learners of all ages during 2022.

Led by illustrator Julius Csotonyi, our 'Learn to Draw' webinars are a series of art lessons focusing on different beings that call the West Coast home. In drawing these beautiful species and learning more about their lives, homes and relationships, people are being gifted

Photos: Students taking part in our place-based forest and marine workshops. Through these programs, youth are invited into a deeper relationship with the beings just outside their front doors (Photos by Mya Van Woudenberg).

the seeds for re-building and re-imagining their connections to our non-human neighbours. This year's online lessons included Frog, Shark, Hummingbird, Mutualism, Coastal Wolves, as well as Black Bears and their dens.

Another important milestone in 2022 was increasing access to professional development opportunities and resources in place-based environmental education, for formal and non-formal educators, across the province (including online resources). Our team accomplished this by organizing seven Pro-D workshops for teachers with over 100 participants. This allowed us to build confidence in teachers leading environmental education lessons in their classrooms and increase capacity for learners to consider their relationships with the many beings just outside their doors in a different way, emphasizing their responsibilities towards stewardship.

We are looking forward to another great year of collaboration, engagement, learning, and more with the many learning communities we serve.

COORDINATED WORKSHOPS FOR YOUTH IN INDIGENOUS SCHOOLS

These workshops were organized in collaboration with the schools and aimed to engage the youth in environmental education. One of these collaborators was the Tsleil-Waututh Nation (TWN) sɪɾámθət School.

This year we also hosted an Indigenous and International Youth Program. Between July 15 and 22, ɣa'nalas~Dakota Smith, from our Education team, facilitated a multi-day land-based learning experience for youth from the Kwakwaka'wakw Nation and a visiting group of international students.



HEAR FROM TEACHERS WE'VE WORKED WITH!

"It is so important that students are given the understanding, vocabulary, and time to explore nature and connect to the world around them. Sierra Club BC offers ways to engage locally and creates importance in our surrounding environment. As we face a climate crisis, it is vital that students grow their understanding of the living things that can and will be affected by our actions."
- Grade 1/2 teacher in SD 39 (Vancouver)

"We are an inner-city school, and this program is so VALUABLE for our diverse community of learners."
- Grade 1 teacher in SD 61 (Victoria)

"Our class is involved in an Indigenous inquiry, and [Sierra Club BC]'s contribution moved along our learning in a big way. I hope to emulate our workshop leader's way in the forest. I really appreciate the way they tied in Indigenous values at the end, and I want to be able to do the same."
- Grade 3 teacher in SD 36 (Surrey)

"The outdoor workshop was an engaging interactive way for the students to learn about the environment around them. They were able to observe and learn how our relationship to the land and ecosystem and the relationship between various organisms in our environment are reciprocal. Building the insect homes pushed them to treat their local environment with more care, knowing that these insects were living all around us."
- Grade 1/2 teacher in SD 36 (Surrey)

"The programming offered by Sierra Club BC is invaluable for teachers since it provides an expertise with regards to environmental education that not all teaching professionals possess. It adds a hands-on component that not only covers Science and Social Studies curricular competencies but also touches on Applied Design Skills and Technology goals. My students were intensely engaged from beginning to end thanks to the high-calibre presenters and program content."
- Grade 5 teacher in SD 70 (Port Alberni)



SCBC LOCAL LEADER AWARDS

We are so grateful to our large network of local leaders who are helping build a healthy and life-sustaining future for all. Every year, we honour four community members and groups for their exceptional service with our Sierra Club BC Local Leader Awards. Thank you to all our award recipients, past and present!

GERALDINE IRBY AWARD FOR VOLUNTEERISM

The Geraldine Irby Award for volunteerism recognizes those who work behind the scenes and lay the groundwork for the organization's success.

In 2022, this award was given to Laura Kozak, an instructor at Emily Carr University of Art and Design who co-founded the Place Based Field School. This is a unique program that supports students' ability to have reciprocal relationships with the communities they're a part of.

Past award recipients:

- 2021 Dr. Julius Csotonyi
- 2020 Gabe Davis and Rob Calder
- 2019 Braedan Drouillard
- 2018 Lola Rabinovitch
- 2017 Karli Mann
- 2016 Morag Keegan-Henry
- 2015 No award recipient
- 2014 Dana Peng and Andre Holdrinet
- 2013 Carla Stein
- 2012 Meaghan Dinney
- 2011 Martin Golder

- 2010 Jamie Biggar
- 2009 Diane Pinch
- 2008 Gordon Hawkins
- 2007 Janet Brazier
- 2006 Judy Leicester

JACK HEMPHILL EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

His memory is honoured with this award, which recognizes individuals for their valuable contributions and commitments as volunteers.

In 2022, this award was given to Jean Chisolm, an instructor at Emily Carr University of Art and Design who co-founded the Place Based Field School. This is a unique program that supports students' ability to have reciprocal relationships with the communities they're a part of.

Past award recipients:

- 2021 Sierra Quadra
- 2020 Jane Welton
- 2019 Diane Pinch
- 2018 Finn Kreischer
- 2017 Rolling Justice Bus

- 2016 Terry Dance-Bennink
- 2015 No award recipient
- 2014 Caspar Davis
- 2013 Esther Dyck, Myrtle Creek Stewards and Sierra Malaspina
- 2012 Judy Leicester
- 2011 Ruth Zenger
- 2010 Betty Zaikow
- 2009 Brian Pinch
- 2008 Jack Hemphill

ROSEMARY FOX CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Sierra Club BC developed an award in her name which recognizes individuals for significant achievement in protecting the lands, waters and beings who call them home.

In 2022, this award was given to the Old Growth Birders and Bio-Blitzers who have worked tirelessly during the last two bird nesting seasons to monitor and document old-growth dependent species at risk on Vancouver Island.

Past award recipients:

- 2021 Marion Cumming
- 2020 Paul Spong and Helena Symonds

- 2019 Ric Careless
- 2018 Eagle Eyes and FightC
- 2017 Ken Farquharson
- 2016 Tom Lane
- 2015 No award recipient
- 2014 NorthWest Watch
- 2013 Geraldine Kenny and Sierra Quadra
- 2012 Douglas Channel Watch
- 2011 Patricia Molchan
- 2010 Andrew Wright
- 2009 Judy Leicester

YAAHGUDANG AWARD

Meaning "respect for all beings" in the Haida language, this climate justice award recognizes individuals whose work lies at the intersection of climate action and transformative justice.

In 2022, this award was given to the Stewards of Sc'ianew who have worked to remove invasive species from their territory and reintroduce native plants which have cultural and medicinal significance to their people.

Past award recipients:

- 2021 K'aayht'aa Haanas (Valine Brown)

FINANCIALS

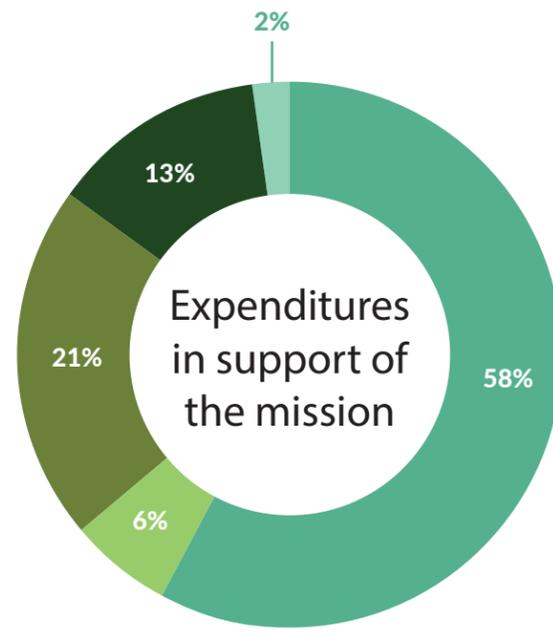
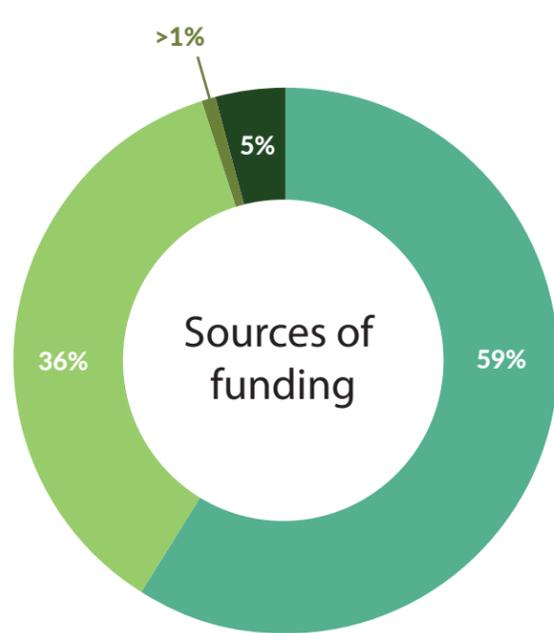
The financial position of the organization remained strong over 2022 even as COVID era supports wound down and inflationary pressures influenced the decisions of donors and potential donors. The organization remains on a strong fiscal footing to advance its work and weather any potential future economic downturn.

In 2022, the organization increased its surplus position from 2021 with a net result of a \$392,316 surplus. We achieved this strong result through substantially increased revenues, totaling over \$3.6 million. This marks a nearly 47% increase in revenues from 2021 and was primarily driven by grant increases. These funds were put to work substantially expanding the scope of the organization's work with expenses totaling over \$3.2 million, an increase of nearly 38% from 2021. This increase was almost exclusively driven by increases in charitable activities carried out under agency agreements.

The financial position of the organization is particularly strong with current assets of over \$2.4 million relative to current liabilities of approximately \$1 million. Our cash position also remains strong at nearly \$2 million in cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year.

Our strong surplus position in 2021 and 2022 and cash position will enable the SCBC team to meet key priorities, weather any potential future downturn or inflationary pressures, and expand the depth or scope of its work in the year ahead. As always, we are enormously grateful to our supporters for helping us carry out our work while maintaining a strong fiscal footing.

- Rob Gillezeau, Board Treasurer



- Grants
- Government Funding
- Donations
- Other

- Environmental Advocacy & Awareness Programs
- Indigenous Knowledge
- Development & Supporter Engagement
- Core Mission Operations
- Education K-12 Programs

THANK YOU!

We offer deep gratitude to our funders, partners, supporters and major donors for their significant contributions in helping better care for the lands and waters.

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 Ms. Julie Puetter
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These individuals contributed substantial legacy gifts to Sierra Club BC. We are so grateful to have been chosen to receive these gifts as we celebrate them in memory.

Please note that we have done our best to acknowledge all supporters as they wish to be recognized when the Annual Report went to print. Our sincerest apologies if there are any errors. We encourage you to be in touch to confirm how you wish to be recognized in future publications.

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WE'D LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND THANK ALL THE HANDS AND MINDS WHO HELPED BREATHE LIFE INTO THIS REPORT.

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