

**METCHOSIN FOUNDATION**  
**2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**DRAFT**  
**Sunday, September 19, 2021 at 7:00 pm**

**Venue:** Zoom Meeting

**Present:** Carol Carman (President), Valerie Jaeger (Vice President, Chair), Nicole Lalonde (Treasurer), Beverley Hall (Secretary), Mike Fischer (Director), Jacqueline Clare (Director), Morgan Yates (Director) Chris Pratt (Director), Kem Luther (retired Director), members and other guests (22 people attended, including Directors)

**Regrets:** Joan Rosenberg (Director)

**1. Welcome, Territorial Acknowledgement and order of Business by Chair, Valerie Jaeger**

Territorial Acknowledgement:

Metchosin Foundation acknowledges that it undertakes its activities and that our members reside in the unceded traditional territory of the Coast Salish people, most particularly, the territory of the Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay) First Nation.

Valerie welcomed all - those who have attended every AGM and those for whom this is their first time. Founded in 2008, the Metchosin Foundation is relatively young as foundations go. Foundations are unique in their ability to connect the dots in a community and provide wide umbrellas under which community members can play a part. Nothing is more important to our health and happiness than where we live, learn, work and play and so the work of the Metchosin Foundation is vital.

2. The **Agenda** was reviewed and amended to include zoom protocols by Morgan. Motion to adopt the agenda as amended (Mike Fischer/Valerie Jaeger). Carried.
3. **Morgan Yates** reviewed Zoom protocols and key features.
4. Led by **Carol Carman**, the activities since the 2020 AGM were reviewed by the Director most involved with the project (attached as Appendix A).

**Valerie Jaeger** thanked everyone who has been involved with the Metchosin Foundation. We particularly thank Bill and Linda Cave for their hours of volunteer work on the Insect Project, and Katy Nelson for her dedication to and guidance of the Meadow Project. As a reflection of our sincere thanks they will be presented with honorary Metchosin Foundation memberships for 2021-2022 and copies of *A Journey. A Journal*.

5. **Nicole Lalonde, Treasurer** presented the financial statements covering January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020 (Appendix B) and provided the following comments to accompany them:

I am happy to report that the Metchosin Foundation is in a healthy position financially. Thanks to some generous donations and careful management of resources we have been able to fund the projects we have described here today.

- The current balance in general funds is \$63,860; compared to \$12,166 five years ago and \$48,651 last year.
- The Metchosin Foundation is also responsible for the Valerie Cochran Memorial Fund of \$10,000.

- This year (2021) we applied to the Community Recovery Program through the Victoria Foundation and received a grant of \$1843 which will be used specifically for the purchase of computing hardware and software.
- In February (2021) we also received a significant donation from the Gates Foundation in honour of Vio Mitchell's many years of service with that Foundation.
- This year we were able to offer 4 scholarships to deserving local high school students, thanks to some generous donors.
- The Metchosin Foundation Stewardship Fund is a fund managed on our behalf by the Victoria Foundation. This fund generates a return that covers our basic operating expenses and therefore allows us to use every donated dollar to directly support projects. The amount in this fund is \$51,722. Its capital cannot be touched - it is truly a fund for the future.

Accomplishing some of our future goals will require greater financial assets than we currently have but we like challenges!

## 6. Business Meeting:

- a. Motion to approve the minutes of the 2020 AGM as presented (Michael Fischer/Nicole Lalonde). Carried.
- b. Motion to approve the financial report (January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020 Appendix B) as presented (Morgan Yates/Jacqueline Clare). Carried.
- c. Directors' Resolution: Prepared by Dan MacIsaac, legal counsel to the Metchosin Foundation; read by Valerie Jaeger:

### **THE METCHOSIN FOUNDATION**

(The "Society")

INCORPORATED: February 12, 2008

### **RE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF September 19, 2021**

WE, Jacqueline Clare, Michael Fischer, Beverley Hall, Nicole Lalonde, Christopher Gratrix Pratt, Morgan Yates, Carol Carman, Valerie Jaeger and Joan Rosenberg, being a quorum of Directors of the Society, CONSENT to the following business and adopt resolutions as put to a vote at the Annual General Meeting and carried unanimously, declaring and confirming it be RESOLVED that:

1. The following persons are confirmed as re-elected Directors of the Society (year 2 of 2nd term of 4 years) until successors are appointed in accordance with the bylaws:

Jacqueline Clare  
Michael Fischer  
Beverley Hall

2. The following persons are confirmed as re-elected as Directors of the Society (year 4 of 1st term of 4 years) until successors are appointed in accordance with the bylaws:

Christopher Gratrix Pratt  
Nicole Lalonde  
Morgan Yates

3. The following persons are confirmed as elected as Directors of the Society (year 3 of 1st term of 4 years) until successors are appointed in accordance with the bylaws:

Carol Carman  
Joan Rosenberg

4. The following person is confirmed as elected as Director of the Society (year 2 of 1<sup>st</sup> term of 4 years) until successors are appointed in accordance with the bylaws:

Valerie Jaeger

5. The appointment of an auditor is confirmed as waived for the coming year.
6. The Members of the Society hereby confirm February 12 (incorp. Anniversary date) as the annual reference date for the Society.
7. The Solicitors for the coming year are confirmed to be Maclsaac and Maclsaac, 2227 Sooke Road, Victoria, B.C.
8. The annual membership fee for membership in the Society is confirmed to remain set at \$10.00.

---

JACQUELINE CLARE  
Director and Member

---

CHRISTOPHER GRATRUX PRATT  
Director and Member

---

MICHAEL FISCHER  
Director and Member

---

BEVERLEY HALL  
Director and Member

---

NICOLE LALONDE  
Director and Member

---

MORGAN YATES  
Director and Member

---

CAROL CARMAN  
Director and Member

---

JOAN ROSENBERG  
Director and Member

---

VALERIE JAEGER  
Director and Member

Omnibus Motion to pass the Directors' Resolution as presented (Carol Voyt/Kem Luther). Carried.

**7. Generative Discussion led by Morgan Yates – Metchosin Foundation 2021 AGM (See Appendix C)**

8. Valerie Jaeger thanked everyone for their comments and participation. She introduced Chris Pratt who gave the closing remarks.

**9. Closing Remarks**

Chris noted that it is refreshing to see a cross-section of opinions. It will be remembered that Metchosin was the first of the “Western Communities” to incorporate, as a “Rural Municipality,” lying as it does outside the Urban Containment Boundary. That was in 1986, and was prompted by the decision of Colwood to install sewerage, an expenditure not considered necessary by the owners of larger properties.

As a historical note, “Colwood” Farm was named by E.E. Langford after his home in England. He was engaged by the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, a subsidiary of the HBCo., to raise a flock of sheep. He didn’t stay long before returning to England to join in the Crimean War, and the sheep were taken over by the Weir family to be raised near Pedder Bay.

When Colwood and Langford incorporated a few years after Metchosin, they called themselves “cities”. Today, most Metchosinites are convinced that Metchosin is worth preserving.

At 8:10 Motion for adjournment (Valerie Jaeger/Jacqueline Clare) Carried

**Appendix A**  
**Annual Report on Metchosin Foundation projects**  
**September 2020 – September 2021**

Metchosin Foundation AGM  
September 19, 2021

Among the projects that the Metchosin Foundation addressed this year are:

**a. Insect Biomass Study (Mike Fischer)**  
**Sampling and Malaise traps in 2021**

- Traps were set in place on May 1 and will run until November 1
- A total of 166,125 individuals from 76 collection bottles have been sorted and no biomass estimates have been recorded yet. One-hundred and fifty-eight collection bottles remain to be sorted. All samples are expected to be sorted and weighed by April 2022.
- Bill and Linda Cave were instrumental in running the traps for the 2021 field season and collecting the samples.
- It was a challenging field season with traps being damaged by high winds, UV damage and wear & tear, and even bears
- The project will need to purchase replacement Malaise traps in the coming year

**Student projects, reports and thesis**

- One student completed an undergraduate Directed Studies course, producing a statistical analysis of biomass data collected thus far.
- One student completed an undergraduate Honors Project entitled “Symbionts and diversity of leaf hoppers in Metchosin, British Columbia” (we will work to get ahold of that and share)
- Another Honours student has joined the project (September 2021)
- Several student volunteers will start working on the 2020 data as we slowly emerge from the Covid 19 shutdown at the University of Victoria.

**Other news in 2021**

The Metchosin Flying Insect Biomass Project was featured in the Ring (UVic publication, March 2021).

Mike thanked the trap hosts, volunteers on the ground, and those who have donated money in support of the project.

**b. Garry Oak Mycorrhizal Fungi Study (Morgan Yates)**

Working in collaboration with UVic and HAT, the Foundation is supporting a 4-month study of the mycorrhizal fungi associated with our region's Garry oak trees. While about 80% of the world's plants have symbiotic relationships with mycorrhizal fungi, this "underground" relationship has not been very thoroughly studied in the oak trees that are a keystone element in our region's iconic meadow ecosystems.

Up to 50% of the study's regional sampling will occur within the District of Metchosin. Through the analysis of mycorrhizal DNA, this UVic project has the potential to identify species new to science. Knowledge of our

mycorrhizal species diversity will assist the evaluation of ecosystem health and the identification of ecosystem restoration goals.

The Foundation's support includes a financial contribution as well as in-kind support in identifying and coordinating access to Metchosin-based field sampling sites. Morgan thanked the Metchosin landowners and land stewards who have offered to make their properties accessible for field sampling work, over the coming weeks.

**c. Monthly articles in The Muse (Carol Carman)**

Carol Carman thanked Johnny Carline and his team for producing and publishing the monthly Metchosin Muse, stating that this newspaper is a key link in information sharing across our entire community – even those who are not electronically “on-line”.

She outlined some of the past year’s Metchosin Foundation articles in the Muse, stating this source is a good summary of many of this group’s activities.

In February, we wrote a fairly extensive article titled Legacy Properties Help Define Metchosin. The article discussed large, forested and agricultural acreages that preserve natural areas as well a smaller acreages that contain important ecosystems. Establishment of conservation covenants is an option which can be customized to reflect landowner wishes and circumstances.

Articles to update information about continuing projects such as the Insect Biomass Study and the Moralea Milne Garry Oak meadow were published.

Metchosin’s own Gretchen Markle created an exquisite masterpiece of drawing and writing about her daily hikes from her home to Witty’s Lagoon. She generously donated the book, *A Journey, A Journal*, to the Foundation to print and sell and this was announced in the Muse.

Education is important to the Foundation. Mike Fischer wrote an article on city lights vs night skies to celebrate the dark and spoke of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada hosting star parties on the Metchosin Municipal Grounds over the years.

Continuing our support of education, Jacqueline Clare announced the scholarship recipients for this year.

**d. ArtyBird Cards; *A Journey, A Journal* (presented by Nicole Lalonde on behalf of Joan Rosenberg)**

After the launch of the “Arty Bird Cards” in conjunction with the artists, the Artpod and Rocky Point Bird Observatory, we had two wonderful community events, both COVID safe and outdoors.

In one, we welcomed the artists and naturalists responsible for making the deck of Bird Cards. We were excited to use the Bilston Farm property in Metchosin during peak lavender season. There were 36 posters of the art cards hidden in the woods and around the grounds for the public to discover while exploring the farm.

The second event involved our whole community. We placed the bird posters at 36 local small businesses. Each business could choose to display the birds wherever it worked best for them. Bird watchers of all ages were invited to find the birds and post selfies of themselves within a 3-week period. This gave small local businesses a bit of publicity and exposure. Homeschooling families loved it! We had a 2-year-old with grandparents win a prize, and a 92-year-old! Here are a couple comments:

*“This arty bird blitz was a lot of fun, informative and frustrating! We discovered roads and places we had never been on in this lovely community”* from the 92-year-old participant.

*"I can't tell you how much fun we had. Hours and hours of good wholesome family fun in our beloved community. The kids thanked me today driving home. It brings me to tears actually. Thank you for offering such fun to us".*

The Artpod and Rocky Point Bird Observatory have now published a second set of cards which are selling well.

The revenues from the Arty Bird Cards allowed us to pursue further artistic collaborations.

We were grateful to Gretchen Markle for allowing us to publish her daily "COVID" journal, beautifully illustrating plants and animals in Witty's Lagoon Park. The Foundation is hoping that once visitors become aware of the living beings, we share the park with, they will be inspired to care for them.

*A Journey. A Journal* has sold almost 300 copies.

#### **e. Moralea Meadow Project (Bev Hall)**

Work in the meadow continues on most Wednesday afternoons. Through the seasons, volunteers did general maintenance, worked on the path through the meadow, planted licorice ferns, shooting stars and wild strawberries, and removed weeds and invasive grasses. The municipality removed one danger Douglas-fir and cleared the debris.

Last fall, with the volunteered advice and help from Kristen and James Miskelly from Saanich Native Plants, two cleared areas were seeded with native plants. These gave a nice showing of blooms in the spring. Wire fencing was extended to keep out non-native rabbits which were eating the new growth on the Camas and digging holes everywhere including where we planted bulbs last year.

The volunteer group was given a grant of \$1000 through HAT from the federal Conservation Economic Stimulus Initiative. This money will fund the purchase of native plants and seeds for the meadow. We will plant these in the next few weeks.

The sign honoring Moralea Milne is almost ready for printing and the "Welcome to Moralea's Meadow" sign, also designed by Bonnie Farris, another of our wonderful volunteers, is now installed.

You are welcome to participate at any time in our work parties or just visit the meadow to enjoy the changing seasons.

#### **f. Butterflyway Project (Bev Hall)**

The Butterflyway Project is a volunteer-led movement that began in five Canadian cities in 2017 and since then has expanded to 400 communities. The mission is to plant native wildflowers in neighbourhoods across Canada: in backyards, schoolyards, streets and parks in order to create healthy habitat that will support bees, butterflies and birds.

The Moralea Milne's Meadow Project was invited to participate in the Butterflyway movement. In order to support and further expand food and shelter for pollinators, the directors of the Metchosin Foundation decided to offer financial assistance to the two local schools in our District, Hans Helgesen and WestMont, as well as to the Stewards of Sc'ianew Society at Beecher Bay, to purchase locally-sourced native plants and seeds. The very good news is that all three organizations were willing to participate in the project as they were already planting native species in their respective environments. A sponsor in each school and in the Sc'ianew Society has been identified and the Butterflyway Project will continue now that school is in.

If you would like further information about the Butterflyway Project or tips on how to create your own pollinator friendly garden, including lists of pollinator friendly plants assembled by HAT, please visit the David Suzuki Foundation/Butterflyway. Perhaps talk to your neighbours about creating a neighborhood butterflyway, or volunteer at one of the local schools to help establish their pollinator friendly school yard.

**g. Scholarships (Jacqueline Clare)**

Since 2017, the Metchosin Foundation has offered four scholarships to members of the Metchosin and Beecher Bay (Sc'ianew) communities made possible by generous donors in our community. We believe by supporting the young people in our community we are helping the next generation develop into good citizens and environmental stewards who will care about the people, species, and ecosystems in the places they live in. This year's winners were:

- Rowan Kew - Environmental Stewardship Scholarship
- Emma Sjerven - Community Citizenship Scholarship
- Jeannie Chipps - Moralea Milne Beecher Bay (Sc'ianew) Community Scholarship
- Louisa Krusekopf - Academic Achievement Scholarship

We are planning to again offer these scholarships in the spring of 2022.

**h. Local Watershed Analysis (Chris Pratt)**

A university student and Metchosin resident, Joseph Barrs, was engaged to prepare an inventory of the fresh water courses and resources in the municipality. He has produced a map and a detailed description of the surrounding terrain, as well as map-overlays showing significant contours and property lines. He has thus provided the Board with valuable graphic and written information that will be useful in future deliberations.

There were no questions about any of the projects.



Appendix B:

Coast Capital Account

Financial Statement	to Dec 31/2020	
<b>Income</b>		
Bank Interests	1554.61	<i>All accounts (\$1537. from GICs)</i>
Donations	8483.10	<i>Foundation only</i>
Donations	772.99	<i>Moralea Milne Fund</i>
Donations	0.00	<i>Valerie Cochran Memorial Fund</i>
Fundraising	1225.00	<i>Nature Cards</i>
Fundraising	4259.71	<i>Arty Bird Cards</i>
Fundraising	2595.00	<i>Journals</i>
Membership	150.00	
Other	1596.00	<i>Victoria Foundation annual dividend</i>
	<b>20636.41</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>		
Bank Charges	103.05	<i>Benevity Wire Transfer fee/Cdn Helps fees</i>
Fundraising	3825.54	<i>Arty Bird Cards</i>
Fundraising	893.45	<i>Nature Cards</i>
Fundraising	2066.85	<i>Journals</i>
Gifts & Donations	3000.00	<i>HAT - Good Neighbour Project</i>
Gifts & Donations	200.00	<i>MCA donation/AGM speaker gift</i>
Insect Study	5476.00	<i>Summer student</i>
Meadow Project	2867.38	
Office Expenses	598.69	<i>Muse ad/stamps, envelopes/domain renewal</i>
Scholarships	3000.00	
Other	685.00	<i>Director's Insurance</i>
	<b>22715.96</b>	
<b>Bank Accounts</b>		
Chequing	24414.28	
VCMF	2855.87	
Moralea Milne MF	3764.91	
GIC - Chequing	25000.00	<i>Exp Aug 24/2021</i>
GIC - VCMF	7140.00	<i>Exp Aug 24/2021</i>
	<b>63175.06</b>	
<b>Metchosin Foundation Stewardship Fund</b>	<b>47202.45</b>	<i>@December 31/2020</i>

## Appendix C

### Generative Discussion

#### Speaker Notes (Morgan Yates)

##### Background & Context

The **Vision** of the Metchosin Foundation is "*healthy lands and waters - the foundation for a healthy community*". The Foundation's **Mission** is to undertake and support initiatives to improve environmental protection, stewardship and education.

We work locally, within the District of Metchosin and Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay) First Nation. Being a registered charity, the Foundation does not engage in political advocacy work. Instead, we seek to work through influence, example and collaboration.

One of our greatest strengths is being hyper-local. This allows us to network quickly and effectively - and it positions us to have an in-depth understanding of the lands and waters that we perceive to be the foundation for a sustainable local community.

A current challenge for the Foundation is the scale and scope of the *resources* that we can apply to the portfolio of initiatives we seek to support. There are three main ways in which we are trying to mitigate this "internal resource" challenge:

1. We recognize that by partnering and collaborating with other agencies, we can magnify our impact. Over the past 12 months, we have sought to learn more about and to network with a variety of agencies and organizations, to name a few, including:

- The Land Conservancy of BC or TLC
- The Bateman Foundation
- Victoria Foundation
- Vancity Community Foundation
- Pearson College
- Beecher Bay Learning Centre
- Metchosin ArtPod
- Rocky Point Bird Observatory

We've also expanded the collaborative, multi-year relationship that we enjoy with Habitat Acquisition Trust.

2. The second way in which we've been seeking to expand the scale and scope of available resources is through direct outreach to potential funders. Over the past year, we have *begun* connecting with private family foundations and niche philanthropic agencies. In addition, we've been spreading the word that, for those of us who love the natural areas of Metchosin, a lump sum bequest in an updated will is a great way to ensure that local environmental stewardship goals can be attained and sustained, *for the long-term*.

3. Thirdly, as we've been reaching out to potential partnering agencies and potential funders, we've become more deliberate about describing some of the *specific* local initiatives that **could be** brought to fruition, through collective action and access to additional resources.

Going from reasonably big, to bigger, to biggest, this is how could characterize 3 of our aspirational goals:

#1. To establish an enduring, customized conservation covenant on the most ecologically sensitive portions of the Boys & Girls Club Metchosin Wilderness camp property.

To provide a rough yardstick, achieving this goal would require a willing counterparty *and* an estimated \$25,000 for covenant drafting, registration and monitoring.

Next , going on to something bigger...

#2. acquiring or supporting the acquisition of a local acreage with stream frontage and established Garry oak trees, where the acquired property could be used as a *publicly-accessible* demonstration project for native ecosystems restoration.

Moving on to something bigger, still:

#3. *Continuing* to support the ongoing evaluation, led by our neighbours at Sc'ianew, of a potential, precedent-setting Indigenous Protected and Conservation Area (IPCA) initiative. This multi-year, multi-agency evaluation effort began more than two years ago, and is likely to continue for a similar length of time. Our Foundation has been honoured to be part of this work and we look forward to its continuation.

**Having articulated these aspirational goals, I'd like now to turn our focus to some *current realities* in our local geography.**

The past 12-months has brought news of a very large future residential development on the Langford side of Olympic View Golf Course, the widening of Highway 14 through Sooke, ongoing high-density development at neighbouring Royal Bay, in Colwood - and ongoing blasting and clearing at Centre Mountain. **The green spaces and waters of our neighbouring communities are under increasing pressure, making Metchosin's natural capital even *more precious*.**

Though they may see daunting, we can respond constructively to the challenges of environmental degradation and biodiversity loss. 106 years ago, Scottish planner and conservationist Patrick Geddes proposed that we should "think globally, [and] act locally". *The Metchosin Foundation provides one vehicle through which our community's residents can honor this simple but wise maxim.*

## **Discussion**

Members raised the following points for future consideration by Directors:

- Making watershed data available, including previous aquifer studies and future monitoring
- Potential UN Biosphere designation for Metchosin
- Having Metchosin qualify under the UN Climate treaty as an existing green belt with economic potential in tourism